Top 5 Common Homeowner Electrical Mistakes

1. Missing Arc Fault Protection. (AFCI) This is required for all outlets and devices on 15 and 20 amp 120 volt circuits, installed in a home excluding bathrooms and unfinished areas.

2. Not having the boxes made up and not using wire nuts or crimps on equipment grounds. The wire nuts or crimps are required to mechanically connect equipment ground wires because loose equipment grounds are a safety issue.

3. Outlet spacing incorrect. Outlets in a residential home need to be spaced out by the 6 ft/12 ft rule. This is to help avoid the need for extension cords.

4. Dedicated bathroom receptacle circuit feeding other outlets like a wet bar, hallway, or a nearby bedroom. This is not allowed. There has to be a 20 amp dedicated circuit that ONLY feeds bathroom outlets.

5. Missing tamper resistant outlets. All 15 and 20 amp, 125 and 250 volt non locking type receptacles that are installed at 5 ½ feet and lower need to be tamper resistant.
1. Missing Arc Fault Protection (AFCI)

2. Not having the boxes made up and not using wire nuts or crimps on equipment grounds

Code Violation
3. Incorrect outlet spacing

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5. Missing tamper resistant outlets