Understanding Wire Gauge

- Gauge refers to the size of the wire
- The thinner the wire, the higher the gauge number
- The thicker the wire, the lower the gauge number



- The lower the gauge, the more electrical current (amps) the wire can carry
- The lower the gauge, the longer distance the wire can be run from an electrical source

How to Select the Right Extension Cord

1. Look up the amp rating on the power tool or appliance.

Extension Cord Selector

EQUIPMENT	AMP RATING	
Circular Saw	12-15	
Power Drill	3-7	
Hedge Trimmer	2-3	
Weed Trimmer	2-4	
Chain Saw	7-12	
Leaf Blower	6-12	
Bug Killer	1-2	
Lawn Mower	6-12	

- 2. Determine the maximum distance the tool or appliance will be from the electrical outlet.
- 3. Use the Extension Cord Selector chart below to identify the proper gauge.

Extension Cord Selector

MAXIMUM DISTANCES	UP TO 10 AMPS	UP TO 15 AMPS	
0' to 25'	16 Gauge 14 Gauge		
25' to 50'	16 Gauge	14 Gauge	
50' to 75'	16 Gauge	12 Gauge	
75' to 100'	16 Gauge	12 Gauge	

Extension Cord Performance Guide

	FROGHIDE® Ultra flex® rubber	LIFETIME PLUS® SUPER FLEX®	ALL WEATHER Blue	SAFETY Orange®
Low-Temp Flex	Excellent	Good	Good	Fair
Room-Temp Flex	Excellent	Very Good	Very Good	Good
Oil Resistance	Excellent	Very Good	Very Good	Fair
Cap/Cord Bonding	Excellent	Very Good	Very Good	Good
Abrasion Resistance	Excellent	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good
Chemical Resistance	Excellent	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good
Heat Softening	Excellent	Fair	Fair	Fair
Water Resistance	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Flame Resistance	Excellent	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good



