What Are They

Power Bars, Multi-Tap Receptacles and Multi-Plug Extension Cords are devices that are designed to allow users to plug more devices into a receptacle than just two devices.

Where Would I Use Them

These devices are ideal for home or office work station, where devices with little demand of electricity can all be plugged into, such as chargers for electronic devices, phones and a lighting fixture.

Where Would I Not Use them?

These devices are not to be used with appliances with relatively high load demands or where the simultaneous use of two appliances or devices (on the same circuit may overload the branch circuit, thus tripping the breaker. Examples of such appliances or devices are microwaves, vacuum cleaners, toasters, iron, steam-mops or portable space heaters. The worst appliances to use with multi-plug devices are appliances such as a space heaters where the device is used for a long period as opposed to intermittent use. They should also not be daisy changed , for example plugging a power bar into another power bar.

Can’t I just simple re-set the breaker?

Just because you can, it does not mean you should. Once a breaker trips, the ability for the breaker to trip the next time is diminished. Repeated reset will eventually lead to the breakers failure to trip, thus negating the safety feature of the breaker, which is protecting the circuit from overloading and causing a fire.