



## Plugging in Some Love

I just looked up the top 100 gifts to give for Valentine's Day and, sadly, appliances did not make the list, again. I thought for sure they would this year! I mean, what better way to say, "I love you" than to give that mixer, electric fry pan, etc. (Unless you have seen the movie, "Father of the Bride.")

Yet, if you can't give the perfect appliance without some negative consequences, I can actually think of one way . . . more better . . . to say I love you . . . and it will still involve appliances!

Make your kitchen safe by conducting an inspection of the appliances you DO HAVE. And, when you do, you will have peace of mind that not only are your appliances safely working but you did something even bigger . . . you showed you cared.

Take a few minutes to do these inspections and know that every time you plug in your appliances, you are really plugging in some love!

- |   |   |
|---|---|
|  Are all counter top appliances unplugged when not in use?   | Unattended, plugged-in appliances may create an unnecessary risk of fire.   |
|  Are all appliance cords placed so they will not come in contact with a hot surface (e.g., oven, range burner, toaster)? | Cords can melt or burn from excess heat. This can expose wires, which could lead to an electrical shock or fire.  |
|  Are all appliances located away from the sink?  | Relocate away from the sink area. If you can't relocate them, make sure the appliances are plugged into GFCI-protected outlets.   |
|  Have you ever received even a slight shock (other than one from static electricity) from any appliance?                 | A shock indicates an extremely hazardous wiring condition. There may be an internal electrical short or ground fault that could seriously injure someone who simply touches the appliance |
|  Is the top of an area above the cooking range free of combustibles (e.g., potholders, paper, plastic utensils)?         | Using the range area for storage of combustibles may result in fires or burns.  |

Source: [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)