

# Extension Cord Letters Chart

The letters printed on the jacket, in each cord maker's own words.

| LETTER   | CAROL                        | SOUTHWIRE                                   |
|----------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <b>S</b> | Service (600 V)              | Extra hard service, 600 V *                 |
| <b>J</b> | Junior (300 V)               | Hard service, 300 V                         |
| <b>T</b> | Thermoplastic/vinyl          | Thermoplastic                               |
| <b>E</b> | Thermoplastic elastomer      | Thermoplastic elastomer                     |
| <b>O</b> | Oil-resistant                | Oil resistant (00: insulation too)          |
| <b>W</b> | Weather approved             | Outdoor (formerly W-A)                      |
| <b>P</b> | Parallel                     | Parallel cord (zip cord), always light duty |
| <b>V</b> | Type SV: vacuum cleaner cord | Vacuum cleaner cord, light duty             |
| <b>H</b> | Not listed                   | Heater cable                                |

\* Southwire: S means extra hard service only when it isn't followed by J, V or P.

Numbers: in 16/3, 16 is the wire gauge (AWG) and 3 the number of conductors.

Carol's W: water-, moisture-, damp- and sunlight-resistant. Southwire's W: a sunlight-resistant jacket and wet-location rated conductors.

SJTW: Carol calls it extra-hard-usage cord. OSHA classes it as junior hard service, approved for hard usage.

Use an extension cord outdoors only when it's marked for outdoor use. Keep plugs and connections off the ground and dry.

Sources: Carol (Prysmian) Cord & Cordset Catalog; Southwire Cord Solutions Catalog; OSHA; CPSC Publication 5032.

