

How many strands are too many?

Before you begin decorating, verify how many strands of lights can be safely connected end to end (as a general rule, it's three), according to CableOrganizer.com.

If you're planning to decorate outdoors, make sure you use lights and decorations that are rated for outdoor use. Putting indoor-only products outside can result in electric shock and fire hazards.

When hanging lights outdoors, reduce the risk of electric shock by using ladders made of nonconductive materials, such as wood. Every so often, check light wires to make sure they're not warm to the touch. Always turn off decorations before going to bed or leaving the house.

