What kind of plug is this, anyway?

The AC plug on your new Furman product is a 20 amp plug. The blades are perpendicular, to distinguish it from the more familiar 15 amp plug, which has parallel blades. All products that are rated at 20 amps must use the perpendicular blade plug to obtain a UL (Underwriters' Laboratory) listing for safety. We do not wish to inconvenience our customers by using an unfamiliar plug—but we have no choice.

So where do I plug it in?

You must plug it into a 20 amp circuit with a 20 amp outlet. Recognized 20 amp outlets have one T-shaped socket hole that can accept either a parallel or perpendicular blade. According to the National Electrical Code, if you want to plug in 20 amp loads, your electrical wiring, circuit breakers, and outlets must all be rated at least 20 amps. So if you don’t have 20 amp outlets, you should call in an electrician to upgrade the wiring of your home or business location.

Is there any alternative?

You can use an adaptor to adapt to a 15 amp outlet, IF you don’t draw more than 15 amps. Furman has adaptors available (part number ADP-1520). They are $18 each or three for $40, including shipping and handling (California residents please add 7.75% sales tax). You may order by phone by calling us at (707) 763-1010 on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pacific time. Please have your credit number ready.

The ADP-1520 is UL and CSA compliant.

OK, suppose I use an adapter with a 15A outlet and then I draw 20 amps anyway. What will happen?

Probably nothing, since most commercial and residential circuits are at least 20 amps. However, some residences do use 15 amp circuits; if you attempt to draw more than 15A through one, you will trip the breaker. To see if this will be a problem, check your electrical sub-panel to see the size of the breaker installed in the circuit you want to use. In a business location, your local fire inspector may not allow the use of adaptors.

Let’s cut to the chase. Can I cut the plug off and replace it with a 15A plug?

You can do whatever you want with your unit once you purchase it. We do not condone such an action since your unit is rated at 20A. Your fire inspector also may not allow such an electrical code violation. As a courtesy, however, if you do replace the plug but make no other changes to the unit, we will continue to honor the warranty (except in the unlikely event that you have a problem caused by installing the new plug improperly.) However, we will assume no additional liability for safety or legal problems beyond what is explicitly stated in the Limited Warranty.