

Steve's Tip 5
Neutral to Ground Bonding Plug

Southwire recommends that if you are not qualified, through training or experience, to working on energized 120/240-volt electrical equipment, please seek the assistance of a qualified technician.

I get frequent questions concerning the operation of a portable generator with one of our Surge devices that has voltage protection. Our devices will see an open ground when then are used with a portable generator. This is because a portable generator has a floating ground by its very nature of being portable. So, to use with one of our voltage protection devices, you need to trick it with a **“Neutral to Ground Bonding Plug”**. Our manufactured version is a Model 44400 and can be purchased at most RV retailers. However, these plugs are quite easy to make yourself and detailed information can be found on the internet if you google **Neutral to Ground Bonding Plug**. To make one yourself, purchase a blank 15-20-amp 120-volt replacement plug at your local hardware store. Open the plug to get to the screw connections. Connect the neutral blade to the ground blade with a small piece of wire. Do not connect the power blade to anything! Close up the plug and insert it in a 15-20-amp 120-volt receptacle on your portable generator. Now you are good to go. I have included a photo of a typical N-G Bonding Plug below.

Please refer to the more detailed explanations and fabrication instructions on the internet. My above descriptions are more for an explanation of what is going on and how to correct the situation and should not be used as fabrication instructions!

