

Onboard Electrical Outlet Information

European Ships





The "Schuko" plug is the German standard, and also used on our ships. It has a deep plug head with two grounding clips on the *sides* of the plug instead of an additional prong contact. The Schuko connection system is symmetrical. "Schuko" is an abbreviation for the German word *Schutzkontakt*, which means "protective contact," referring to the grounded nature of the plug's electrical supply. The socket accepts Europlug, as seen below.

Russian, Ukrainian & Egyptian Ships









The countries of the former Soviet Union as well as Egypt use a standard plug and socket similar (but NOT identical) to the Schuko plug; it is commonly known as the "Europlug." This two-wire plug is ungrounded and has two round, 4 mm pins, which usually converge slightly. This is probably the single most widely used international plug. It will work with any socket that accepts 4 mm or 4.8 mm round contacts spaced 19 mm apart. It is possible to mate Russian plugs with Schuko outlets, but Schuko plugs will not work with Russian sockets as the outlets have hole diameters (4 mm) smaller than the pins of Schuko plugs (4.8 mm). Because Europlug sockets are not as deep as Schuko plug sockets, the pins on some Europlug adapters may not be long enough to reach the contact on the Schuko sockets.

Chinese Ships





This plug, used in China, Australia, New Zealand, and Papua New Guinea, has a grounding pin and two flat pins forming an upside-down V shape. Wall sockets almost always have switches on them for extra safety.

An adapter with just the two flat pins in a V shape should work fine, but will lack the grounding function.

Southeast Asian Ships







The "Europlug" is used in Southeast Asia as well. It is a two-wire plug, ungrounded, with two round, 4 mm pins. It will work with any socket that accepts 4 mm or 4.8 mm round contacts spaced 19 mm apart.