

## Operating An Electric Blanket From A Generator

**QUESTION:** I started the Honda 2000 generator one night to power our electric blanket. It powered everything but the blanket. This is a new one with digital controls. Is this because most of us do not ground our generators?

**ANSWER:** I believe that is correct. I cannot verify this without actually checking the wiring of the blanket. However, electric blankets usually require a three-wire supply with a positive, neutral and ground wire source. Because of the missing ground, the aluminum trailer body is also floating and could therefore be a shock hazard in wet weather. The 120-volt AC power source should always provide the connection from neutral to ground. Every shore power connection has this ground either in the main or local supply box. An inverter provides the ground through an internal relay. A built in motorhome generator provides the ground and so should an add-on generator.

Get a three-wire plug and just connect the neutral side to the ground in the plug. Keep this plug connected to one of the 120 VAC outlets so your source voltage is always grounded. If you ever want to hook two generators together then be sure to remove the plug.