



Electrical safety

Electrical testing



How you can keep safe

We want everyone to keep safe in their homes. Electricity can become a serious danger and can result in serious injuries and even death when not used properly.

We send an electrician to survey your home every 5 years to make sure the electrical wiring is safe for you to use. If we see anything that may cause concern, we replace it while we are there.

Here are some things to help you identify what you should and should not do with electrical items:

always...

Follow the manufacturer's guidance for use and, where applicable, any charging safety guidance.

Use the correct rating of fuse.

Check electrical items and cables to make sure they stay in good condition and are not frayed or worn, before you use them.

Be aware of fake electrical goods bought cheaply – if you have paid a low price for a designer electrical item it may be a poor copy which could harm you. Check the item has a CE marking and buy your item from a high street shop or their website.

Stop using any electrical item that seems faulty, keeps cutting out or overheats.

Check the Electrical Safety Council website for more information, go to www.esc.org.uk/public.

Check your sockets regularly and if you see scorch/burn marks or they feel hot, do not use it and call Golden Lane Housing to fix it.

Check the electrical current rating of an electrical adaptor before you plug appliances in. Make sure that the total current used does not exceed the adaptor's rating.

Switch off appliances at the socket when not in use. Switch off appliances when you go to bed or when you go out unless they are meant to be left on, for example, your fridge.

never...

Overload sockets, and always make sure the equipment is not covered.

Leave electrical items in the standby mode and always unplug them when not in use.

Turn on washing machines, tumble dryers etc. when you are leaving the house.

Carry out any repairs or alterations to the wiring in your home.

Use electrical equipment in wet areas, and never attempt to change lightbulbs or plug-in or unplug electrical appliances with wet hands.

Change light bulbs without unplugging the lamp, or for fixed lights, make sure the electrical supply is turned off at the consumer unit first.

Overload plug sockets, adaptors or an extension lead. Try to keep to one plug to one socket.

Use water on an electric fire.

Put electric heaters near curtains or furniture and don't dry clothes on them or cover the air vents.

Trail cables under carpets or rugs, especially where you walk.