

# Christmas Lights Safety

Below are some simple safety guidelines that should be followed in order to help keep your family safe this Christmas.

## What should I do before putting up my Christmas lights?

- ▶ Inspect old Christmas lights and electrical wires for any sign of damage or wear and tear
- ▶ Check all globes are properly fitted and don't use sets with missing globes, to prevent other conductive items being placed inside the light socket
- ▶ Choose lights and fittings design for external use only when decorating outdoors
- ▶ Read the manufacturers' safety and installation instructions and follow these carefully
- ▶ Only purchase lights which meet Australian safety standards
- ▶ Check you have a safety switch on your meter box, or have a licenced electrician install one.



## Tips on putting up your Christmas lights

- ▶ Position lights away from tinsel and flammable decorations as the heat from lights could start a fire if they are left on for a long time
- ▶ Never attach Christmas lights or electrical leads to or near overhead powerlines, power poles or streetlights
- ▶ Take care not to overcrowd power points or use double adaptors, and keep power points and adaptors out of reach of children
- ▶ When decorating the outside of your house choose lights and light fittings designed for external use
- ▶ Take care not to string lights or electrical leads on or near overhead powerlines or the point where the overhead powerlines connect to your house
- ▶ Be aware of the location and height of powerlines when carrying and setting up ladders, Christmas trees and decorations
- ▶ Wear non-slip footwear and safety equipment when climbing ladders and installing lights on the roof and other hard to reach areas.

### SAFETY FIRST – MAKE ELECTRICAL SAFETY A HIGH PRIORITY

- ▶ Remember to unplug your Christmas lights before going to bed
- ▶ Educate children of the importance of electrical safety and the danger of damaging electrical equipment
- ▶ Store and pack Christmas lights in accordance with manufacturer's instructions
- ▶ Don't install, move or adjust Christmas lights while they are turned on
- ▶ Ensure smoke detectors are installed in your home and are in good working order

For more tips on how to stay safe around the electricity network, visit [essentialenergy.com.au/safety](https://essentialenergy.com.au/safety)