

Safety in the home and the workplace



What can I do to make my home and workshop power safe?

To reduce the likelihood of electric shock:

- 
- > All homes and workshops should be fitted with a safety switch also known as a Residual Current Device (RCD)
 - > Replace fuses with circuit breakers
 - > Turn off the power point before plugging in or pulling out the plug and hold the plug not the cord
 - > Turn off the light switch before replacing light bulbs
- > Ensure sufficient outlets are installed to keep extension leads to a minimum
 - > Check appliances for damage prior to use
 - > Never use damaged cords or extension leads
 - > Use safety plugs to prevent children from inserting objects into the sockets
 - > Always read the appliances manufacturers' safety and installation instructions and follow these carefully
 - > Ensure all electrical installation work and repairs are carried out by a licensed electrician.

What shouldn't I do at home or in the workshop?

- > Never use electrical appliances in wet areas or with wet hands
- > Don't use electrical appliances if liquid spills onto it – turn off the power, unplug it and have it checked by a qualified electrical repairs person before using it again

- > Never spray household cleaners on power points or switches
- > Don't leave portable appliances switched on at the power point when not in use.
- > Never use portable electric heaters in a bathroom. Have a fixed heater installed by a qualified electrician



- > Don't overload power points by using more than one adaptor or power board at a power point
- > If someone receives an electric shock, do not touch them until the power has been switched off. Call for help and contact **000** immediately and once safe to do so, administer first aid.

SAFETY FIRST

- > Educate children of the importance of electrical safety and the danger of damaging electrical equipment
- > Never clean an electrical appliance such as a blender or toaster when the power is on
- > Ensure Residual Current Devices are installed at home and in the workshop
- > Never touch a person receiving an electric shock, as people conduct electricity and by touching them, you may also receive an electric shock
- > In case of emergency, ensure all family members know the location of the main switchboard in order to disconnect the power.

