

YOUR GUIDE TO Electrical Safety



Our Assets

Warrington Housing Association

Your Guide to: Electrical Safety

With so many things going on in the home, from cooking and gardening, to decorating, it's not surprising that most accidents happen there. With these little pointers we can make our homes a safer, more secure place.

We carry out electrical safety checks every time a new tenant moves into one of our properties and guidance states that we should carry out electrical safety checks on the wiring, switches, light fittings and sockets in your home no more than 10 years

Electricity

Please report any problems with the electrical installation of your home to us immediately

Electricity can be very dangerous and must be treated with respect. As we use it so often we can sometimes forget how dangerous it can be

Using Appliances

- Check all appliances before use to ensure the electricity cable and plug has not become worn or damaged.
- Switch off electrical items that are not in use at the socket and ensure that when you are away from home for any length of time you unplug and switch off any electrical items. Items left plugged in can be a fire risk if left on standby and they also waste energy.
- Use appliances as advised and always read the instructions. If an appliance appears faulty, don't use it!

Dos!

- Report any problem with the electrical installation of your home to us straight away. Do not use items with cords which are damaged or showing the wires. Either repair or replace them.
- Use an RCD (Residual Current Device) when using electrical equipment outside i.e. Hedge trimmers, lawnmowers, power tools.
- Allow electrical inspections to take place. Regular checks are the best way to be sure that electrical installations are safe

Don't!

- Don't do it yourself! Do not carry out DIY repairs on electrical installations or appliances
- Don't overload sockets, do not attempt to plug too many devices in to one socket, and over using extension leads.
- Do not bring mains powered portable devices into the bathroom, use any electrical appliance with wet hands



Your Guide to: Electrical Safety

- Do not remove a plug from a wall plug socket by pulling the cord. Always pull the plug.

Other Issues

- Always follow safety warnings provided with electrical appliances.
- Never drill holes or fix nails in walls without knowing what is behind them.
- Never put anything in the microwave that is made of metal, or has a metallic finish.
- When using a cable drum extension lead fully unwind the cable to avoid overheating.
- Use the correct wattage light bulb for all light fittings and shades.
- Don't use tape to secure cables together.
- It is a good idea to keep a torch handy in case of a power cut. Keep it somewhere you can easily locate it in the dark.
- If you have young children in your home, make sure you use safety covers on any sockets within reach.
- Sometimes a new appliance can trip a circuit breaker, check the consumer unit, if it has tripped, unplug the appliance and reset the circuit breaker and try again, if this happens again, your appliance may be faulty.



Produced by
Warrington Housing Association
the Gateway, 89 Sankey Street,
Warrington, Cheshire, WA1 1SR

Tel: 01925 246810
www.wha.org.uk

Follow us on:



Our Assets

Warrington Housing Association