

## 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.



- 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.



## For more information

Essential Energy's Public Safety team is available to facilitate Electrical Awareness sessions and discuss any questions relating to electrical safety.

For more information on electrical safety please call Essential Energy:

General enquiries 13 23 91

Power outages 13 20 80

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## 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

## 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.

*Be safe, because they need you*

