

ELECTRIC CHECK ON THE ELDERLY THIS WINTER

***FAULTY ELECTRICS IN THE HOME ACCOUNT FOR 20,000 HOUSE FIRES EACH YEAR,
CAUSING UPWARDS OF 70 FATALITIES.***

***PEOPLE OVER 65 ARE AT A GREATER RISK OFTEN BECAUSE THEY LIVE IN OLDER HOUSING
WITH POOR ELECTRICS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN CHECKED IN A WHILE.***

***IF YOU ARE LOOKING OUT FOR A LOVED ONE THIS WINTER MAKE SURE YOU CARRY OUT
AN ELECTRIC CHECK AS PART OF YOUR ROUTINE.***

Proportionately, older people suffer more fatal and non-fatal injuries from electrically-related house fires than the rest of the population.

People over 65 are particularly at risk because they often live in old or poor-quality housing that contains faulty electrics or old appliances.

Our campaign aims to ensure older people live safely in their own home.

Help reduce the risk of a problem occurring by carrying out visual electrical check when looking in on an elderly relative or neighbour this winter.

YOUR ACTIONS COULD HELP SAVE LIVES.

WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR

CHECK PLUG SOCKETS

Ensure that plug sockets are not damaged or scorched. Any burn marks around a socket are an indication that something might not be right. Call a registered electrician to investigate further.



DAMAGED CABLES OR WIRES

Check cables and wires of appliances for any signs of wear and tear. Cables should be in a good condition with no evidence of damage or fraying. They should have adequate protection with no bare wires visible.



CHECK ALL LIGHT FITTINGS

Ensure all lights are working as they should be. Check there are no signs of damage around the fittings and that lights are not tripping when switched on. Call a registered electrician if you discover any problems.

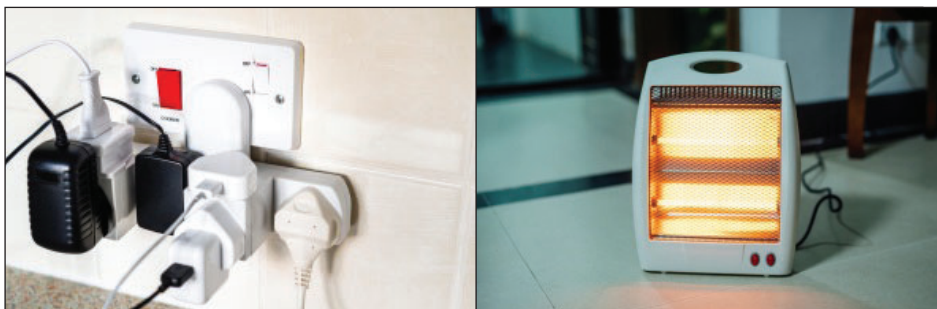


CHECK THE CONSUMER UNIT

The fusebox or consumer unit is the main electrical control point in a home. Carry out a quick check of the unit to ensure everything looks as it should. The consumer unit should have a main switch to switch off all the electrics in the home if necessary. It should also contain circuit breakers to maintain safety if there is an overloaded circuit.

CHECK ALL ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

Ensure all appliances are safe and appropriate for intended use. Check they have a European Standards Symbol (represented by a CE) or British Standards Kitemark. If in doubt, don't use them. Items such as electric blankets, portable heaters and electric fires should not be left plugged in for long periods. Try to avoid extensive use of extension sockets and unplug all electrical items when not in use or not required.



***MOST ELECTRICAL ISSUES IN THE HOME
ARE EASILY PREVENTABLE BY ENSURING
YOUR HOME IS REGULARLY CHECKED BY
A REGISTERED ELECTRICIAN***

For more information, or to find a registered electrician in your area visit

www.niceic.com | www.electsa.co.uk