# Electrical safety checklist

#### **Equipment safety**

Check electrical equipment and extension leads for damage before you use them.

If you find damaged electrical equipment or extension leads throw them out after you disconnect and cut off the cord and plugs at each end.

Turn off the power before touching, cleaning or maintaining any electrical equipment—especially equipment used in or near water.

Before purchasing new electrical equipment look for the regulatory compliance mark (RCM) to show it meets Australian safety requirements.

Only maintain, service and operate electrical equipment in accordance with manufacturers' instructions.

## **Overhead powerlines and underground cables**

Make sure there are no crops or trees planted under powerlines or around poles
 and their supporting stay wires.

Clearly mark power poles and their supporting stay wires on your property to avoid accidental damage. Contact your electricity provider for advice.

Ensure private power poles on your property are maintained to keep them in good condition. Contact your electricity provider for advice.

Don't store or move irrigation pipes under powerlines.

] Don't operate or park vehicles or equipment under powerlines.

Contact relevant authorities and the landowner about any underground cables that have been installed near any proposed excavation or before post driving.

Call Before You Dig Australia on 1100 or visit **byda.com.au** for current information about any underground essential services (this does not include private property).

De-energise supply (you may need to contact your energy provider or licensed electrician) and visually locate cables by potholing using non-mechanical excavation (hydrovac or hand tools) to prove the exact location.

### Shocks and tingles

If you get a shock or tingle from electrical equipment, taps or other metal fittings don't ignore it—it's a sign something's not right.

If you get a shock or tingle from using electrical equipment, **STOP** using it immediately. Either get a licensed electrician to check the equipment or throw them out.

If you get a shock or tingle from taps or other metal fittings call Energex (13 19 62), Essential Energy (13 20 80), Rio Tinto – Weipa Operations (1800 820 711), or Ergon Energy (13 16 70) **immediately** and ask them to check your property. **This is a free service. DO NOT TOUCH** anything until it has been checked.

### Safety switches

- Ensure safety switches are installed on all circuits to protect your family from electric shock.
- Press the 'Test' or 'T' button on each safety switch every three months (do this when you get your rates bill).

### For more information

🔇 Electrical Safety Office 1300 362 128

- **Electricalsafety.qld.gov.au**
- **(f)** Facebook.com/electricalsafetyoffice











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