



# Part P and how it affects you



## What is Part P of the Building Regulations?

In 2005 government introduced an electrical safety requirement into the Building Regulations for England and Wales. As a result of this, there is now a legal requirement to ensure that certain types of fixed electrical installation work carried out in dwellings (houses, flats etc.) comply with the Building Regulations.

The law states that anyone carrying out electrical installation work in a dwelling must ensure that the work is designed and installed to provide protection to persons from fire or injury.

The requirements detailed in Part P apply not only to new construction but also to any alterations and additions to existing installations, including full or partial rewires.

Full details about the requirements of Part P can be found on the Department for Communities and Local Government web site: [www.communities.gov.uk](http://www.communities.gov.uk)

## What work in a dwelling is covered by this Law?

All electrical installation work in a dwelling must comply with the Building Regulations, including work in a garden, conservatory or outbuilding. In addition, except for some types of minor work, work has to be notified to the Local Authority Building Control or otherwise be carried out by a 'registered installer'.

For full details of the type of work that is covered by the requirements refer to the Electrical Safety Council's website:

**[www.electricalsafetycouncil.org.uk](http://www.electricalsafetycouncil.org.uk)**

## Who is responsible for ensuring that the electrical work carried out meets the requirements of Part P?

It is a legal requirement for homeowners and landlords to prove that all electrical installation work complies. Failure to comply with the requirement is a criminal offence. Local authorities also have the power to require the removal or alteration of work that does not comply with the Building Regulations.



## What needs to be done when electrical installation work is needed in my property?

There are two options for you:

- To notify Local Authority Building Control about the electrical installation work before it starts; or
- Employ an installer registered with one of the government-approved Part P schemes



The Electrical Safety Council recommends that you use a registered installer for electrical installation work. For further details of approved scheme operators see the back page of this leaflet.

## Advantages of you using a registered installer are:

- There will be no Building Control charges to pay
- The installer can deal with all the requirements on your behalf
- The installer will arrange for you to receive a certificate confirming that the work complies with the Building Regulations.
- You have access to a formal complaints procedure if the work doesn't comply with the Building Regulations.
- You have the option to take out an insurance-backed warranty which is a form of guarantee if the work is later found not to comply with the Building Regulations.

## How will I benefit from Part P of the Building Regulations?

If you use a registered installer, you can expect to have safe electrical installation work done as the installer will be working to the UK national standard, which is BS 7671. On completion of the work, certificates confirming that the installation work is safe will be provided to you in the form of:

- An Electrical Installation Certificate or Minor Works Certificate confirming compliance with BS 7671
- A Building Regulations Compliance Certificate confirming compliance with the Building Regulations.

## Is it important who carries out electrical installation work in my property?

**Yes** it is important that electrical installation work is carried out only by persons who are competent. Such persons are those that have the necessary knowledge, skill and experience to enable them to avoid dangers to themselves and others that electricity can create. It's easy to make an electrical circuit work – it's far harder to make the circuit work safely.

The Electrical Safety Council strongly recommends that you use a registered installer to carry out any electrical installation work you need done.

Registered installers should work to the UK national safety standard and will issue a detailed certificate, including a schedule of test results, confirming the new work carried out is safe to use. This includes any alterations and additions to an existing installation.

**How do you find a Registered Installer?** The following organisations are approved by government for the registration of installers to carry out domestic electrical installation work in compliance with Part P:



**BRE Certification Ltd**  
working in partnership with the  
**Electrical Contractors' Association**

Phone: 0870 609 6093  
[www.partp.co.uk](http://www.partp.co.uk)



**British Standards Institution**  
Phone: 01442 278 577  
[www.kitemarktoday.com](http://www.kitemarktoday.com)



**ELECSA Ltd**

Phone: 0870 749 0080  
[www.elecsa.org.uk](http://www.elecsa.org.uk)



**NAPIT Registration Ltd**

Phone: 0870 444 1392  
[www.napit.org.uk](http://www.napit.org.uk)



**NICEIC Group Ltd**

Phone: 0870 013 0382  
[www.niceic.com](http://www.niceic.com)

For a full and up to date list of government-approved scheme operators, visit the Department for Communities and Local Government website at:  
[www.communities.gov.uk](http://www.communities.gov.uk)



The Electrical Safety Council  
[www.electricalsafetycouncil.org.uk](http://www.electricalsafetycouncil.org.uk)

18 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LB Telephone: 0870 040 0561