

Working with electricity

Electricity powers almost every part of a store, but it can be deadly if mishandled. Shocks, burns, and fires can result from faulty wiring, cords, or unsafe appliances.

Managing the risk

- All electrical work must be carried out by qualified electricians.
- Test and maintain electrical systems and equipment regularly.
- Train workers to report damaged cords or unsafe appliances immediately.
- Avoid overloading sockets and extension leads.

Do

- Report and remove damaged cords immediately.
- Keep sockets free from water and overloads.
- Allow only qualified electricians to carry out electrical work.
- Maintain inspection logs.
- Test and tag appliances regularly.

Good practice

- Keep a log of electrical inspections and repairs.
- Test and tag portable appliances.
- Train workers to spot and report hazards early.

Don't

- Attempt DIY electrical fixes.
- Ignore exposed wires or sparks.
- Overload sockets with multiple plugs.
- Leave faulty equipment in service.
- Assume workers will recognise hazards without training.

Employee checklist

- Inspection log maintained.
- Faulty equipment removed.
- Workers trained to report hazards.
- Only qualified electricians used.