

## Client Help Sheet

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Hidden danger in a home

### **D.L.R ELECTRICAL TOP TIP!!**

Have you undertaken a construction project on your home lately? Perhaps an extension or walls knocked down? Were heavy vibrating tools and/or plant equipment being used to carry out these modifications?

### **NOW MORE THAN EVER IS THE TIME FOR AN EICR!**

I have lost count of the times I have seen loose connections inside electrical accessories and consumer units as a result of the building these are installed inside continuously vibrating.

When you plan a project, make sure to allow for an EICR at the end of the project in your total budget. It's a scary thought how many loose connections are out there after renovation projects... maybe it's not a bad shout to get a gas inspection too?...

## ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION CONDITION REPORT'S (EICR'S)

### Why you should consider having a home safety check (EICR)?

An Electrical Installation Condition Report or EICR is a safety check conducted by an electrician to report on the state of the electrical installation in your home - think of it like a MOT for a building.

For privately owned domestic properties, it's not a statutory requirement to have an EICR, it's just a good idea. It's advisable that the electrical installation of your property is tested and inspected at regular intervals and no longer than once every ten years.

For rented domestic properties, from the 1st July 2020 EICRs are legally required, at least, every five years. Prior to 2012 the EICR was known as a Periodic Inspection Report or PIR.

### So, why should you consider having an EICR?

To ensure your electrical installation is safe!

### A few examples...

- As part of the EICR your electrician will conduct a visual inspection to look out for damaged or broken plug sockets, switches, light fittings etc.
- The electrician will do a thorough inspection of your circuit protection inside your fuse board as this is the heart of the electrical installation and protects everything.
- To determine if electrical devices are installed in the right locations For example, socket outlets shouldn't be installed inside most bathrooms.

## Understanding the codes

**Code C1 - Danger present:** With this issue there's a risk of injury and immediate remedial action is required to remove the dangerous condition.

**Code C2 - Potentially dangerous condition:** Urgent remedial action required, this should declare the nature of the problem, not the remedial actions required.

**Code C3 - Improvement recommended:** This code more often than not implies that while the installation may not comply with current regulations, it perhaps complied with previous regulations. The defect might be deemed safe, but its level of safety could be improved

**Code FI- Further investigation required:** The inspector could not reach a conclusion on the day of the test and perhaps may need to look further into the defect by performing tasks which were previously not agreed with the client e.g. lifting of floorboards to locate a potentially dangerous electrical connection

ANY INSTALLATION AWARDED A SINGLE C1, C2 OR FI ON THE REPORT WILL RESULT IN AN UNSATISFACTORY RESULT BEING AWARDED

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*Dom Robinson is a qualified electrician with over 10 years experience in the electrical industry. Dom owns and runs D.L.R Electrical, who specializes in **domestic electrical** installations. Having qualified in 2013, he holds a range of testing and installation qualifications*

*D.L.R Electrical is based in Cambridge and serves Cambridge and the surrounding areas. Please visit our Web Page at [www.dlrelectrical.com](http://www.dlrelectrical.com) for more information*



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