



06 April 2006

ELECSA – Building Regulations and electrical work in your house.

Dear Householder,

On the 1st January 2005, new Building Regulations came into force.

This letter is intended to inform you of these changes so that, should you have any electrical work completed in your house from the 1st January 2005, you are aware of what your requirements and responsibilities are. The reason for this change in the legislation is to reduce the number of deaths, injuries and fires caused by faulty electrical installations and also to make it harder for 'cowboy builders' to leave electrical installations in an unsafe condition.

You will be able to meet your commitments under the Building Regulations by ensuring that all high risk work defined below (known as notifiable works) is advised to your Local Authority Building Controls Department, **OR** by using a contractor who is registered with an approved self assessment scheme such as ELECSA. These installers will have been assessed by ELECSA as meeting the standards laid down by the Government guidelines and are able to self certify their work as meeting the Building Regulations.

The table below should help you identify work what is required to be notified.

<u>Electrical Definitions</u>	<u>Does not fall into the remit of Self Assessment</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House rewire and new circuits • Work returning to consumer unit • Work done in a kitchen or bathroom excluding replacement of e.g. light fittings or plugs • Work done outside the fabric of the house, e.g. permanent garden lights, power to sheds, remote garages • Ceiling heating, under floor heating • Swimming pool, saunas, spas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair • Replacement of installed unit • Maintenance work • Telephone cable (unless in swimming pool/spa etc) • Replacing light fittings or plugs <p>Therefore none of the above need self certification</p>

You should make sure that you know that much of the electrical work done in your house must either be completed by a "competent person" registered with a scheme like ELECSA, or is notified and inspected by the Local Authority Building Controls. ELECSA will notify your Local Authority and will also send you a certificate confirming what has been registered and where the work was done.

Who are ELECSA?

ELECSA is a Government appointed organisation and a joint venture between FENSA and the BBA to deliver an independent, no nonsense, certification scheme for competent tradesmen who undertake domestic electrical installation work. For more details, please visit our website at www.elecsa.co.uk

Yours sincerely

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