



Why choose a registered electrician?

A properly installed and well-maintained installation can significantly reduce the possibility of accident or injury. So, it is important that any electrical installation work is carried out by people who have the knowledge, skills and experience needed to avoid the dangers that electricity can create.

Not convinced? See below for more great reasons to always choose a registered electrician!

- They're regulated by the UK and Scottish Governments, as appropriate
- They work to the BS7671 safety standard
- Their work is regularly assessed
- They're insured, so you're protected
- It's a legal requirement for certain electrical work
- It's the simplest route to help comply with building regulations

What should you do when choosing an electrician?

- Be clear about the work you want done and, unless it is minor,
- Check that the electrician is registered with a government-approved scheme as NAPIT.
- Ask for public liability insurance of at least £2 million and professional indemnity in case of safety certificates (EICR, upgrading or changing fusebox where Building Control needs to be notified)

We recommend that you give your electrician a written summary of work required, which will simplify the quotation process and give you and your electrician a clear record of what has been agreed. By using it:

- The electrician will know exactly what work is required
- The electrician will be aware of any special instructions in advance
- The electrician will be able to give you options if there is more of one way of providing the work that you require
- Once you have agreed a quote, you can ask the electrician to sign the bottom of the summary as confirmation of what has been agreed (over the email)
- It can help to avoid a dispute as all parties are clear as to what has been ordered.
- Agreed deposit is a form of safety for both parties (electrician will deliver work on agreed time and date and for approved quote)

Are you a registered member of one of the Government approved schemes?

Start by checking that the individual is a registered member of one of the Government approved schemes. Choosing a registered electrician means you will get additional protections should something go wrong. Contact the scheme directly if you want to check the individual's registration.

Could I see your paperwork?

Some people feel embarrassed about checking qualifications of the person they are employing, but if you are working with a tradesperson who is unwilling to show you evidence of their qualification and registration status then this could be a warning sign.

Who else will be working in my home?

When you employ a builder or a kitchen fitter to do some work in your home, they will often need to bring in an electrician for certain work. But do you know if the electrician they have hired is up to the job? It's easy to assume the tradesman in charge will check qualifications and registration. But don't leave it to chance – ask to see proof of everyone's ability yourself.

Is your project falls into Building Regulations?

When you are planning electrical work in your home, check whether it comes under the requirements of the Building Regulations for your area. If it does, you should use an electrician registered with a government-approved scheme who will take care of everything on your behalf and notify your local authority before the work is started.

The Building Regulations in England & Wales are different to those in Scotland. There are no Building Regulations for domestic electrical work in Northern Ireland, although we still recommend that you use a registered electrician.

Take Care When Selecting An Electrician!!
