HIGH DEMAND ELECTRICAL · FREE TOOLS

HOME ELECTRICAL SAFETY CHECKLIST

A room-by-room self-check for Sydney homeowners, landlords and tenants. Spot the warning signs early, know what's safe to check yourself, and know when to call a licensed electrician.

PROPERTY ADDRESS	CHECKED BY	DATE
_____	_____	_____

How to use this checklist

1. Walk through each section and tick **OK** or **Action** for every item. Use N/A where it doesn't apply.
2. Only **look, listen and test** — never open a switchboard, power point or light fitting yourself. In NSW, all electrical work must be done by a licensed electrician.
3. Any item marked **Action**, or anything on the red-flag list (page 4), should be inspected by a licensed electrician.

☐ OK ☐ Action needed LEVEL 2 Needs a Level 2 ASP electrician

01 SWITCHBOARD & SAFETY SWITCHES

	OK	ACTION
Safety switches (RCDs) are fitted Look for switches with a "T" or "Test" button. Ideally every power and lighting circuit is protected.	☐	☐
Safety switches trip when tested Press the "T" button every 3 months. It should switch off instantly. Reset it afterwards.	☐	☐
No old ceramic (rewireable) fuses White ceramic fuse holders mean an older board that usually needs upgrading.	☐	☐
Circuits are clearly labelled You should be able to tell which breaker controls which part of the house.	☐	☐
No burning smell, buzzing, heat or scorch marks Check with the door open — don't touch anything inside the board.	☐	☐
Breakers don't trip repeatedly Frequent tripping points to an overloaded circuit or a fault.	☐	☐
Board is free of asbestos warnings and water damage Boards in pre-1990 homes may have asbestos backing. Leave it undisturbed and have it assessed.	☐	☐

02 POWER POINTS & SWITCHES

	OK	ACTION
No cracked, loose or broken outlets or switch plates	☐	☐
No discolouration, heat or burn marks Feel the cover plate gently while something is plugged in. Warm is a warning sign.	☐	☐
Plugs fit firmly and don't fall out	☐	☐
No sparks, crackling or tingles when switching	☐	☐
Enough outlets — no permanent double adaptors Relying on adaptors usually means you need extra power points.	☐	☐

03 LIGHTING

	OK	ACTION
No flickering or dimming lights Especially when large appliances (aircon, oven, dryer) start up.	☐	☐
Globes are within the fitting's wattage rating	☐	☐
Old halogen downlights are clear of insulation Check from the roof space if safe. Upgrading to LED reduces heat and fire risk.	☐	☐
Fittings are secure with no exposed wiring	☐	☐

04 CORDS, APPLIANCES & POWER BOARDS

	OK	ACTION
Leads and plugs are undamaged No fraying, exposed copper, taped joins or bent pins. Bin anything damaged.	☐	☐
Power boards have overload protection and aren't daisy-chained	☐	☐
Cords aren't run under rugs, through doors or across walkways	☐	☐
Heaters and high-draw appliances plug straight into the wall	☐	☐
Appliances aren't on any product recall list Check productsafety.gov.au, including Infinity/Olsent cable recalls.	☐	☐

05 KITCHEN, BATHROOM & LAUNDRY

	OK	ACTION
Power points are well clear of sinks, basins and taps	☐	☐
Wet-area circuits are protected by a safety switch	☐	☐
Exhaust fans run quietly and aren't clogged with lint or grease	☐	☐
No portable heaters or hair tools left near water	☐	☐

06 OUTDOORS, GARAGE & POOL

	OK	ACTION
Outdoor power points are weatherproof with lids that close	☐	☐
Only outdoor-rated extension leads are used outside	☐	☐
Pool and spa equipment is in good condition and RCD protected	☐	☐
EV charger, solar isolators and inverter show no faults Check inverter display for error lights. Never open isolators yourself.	☐	☐

07 OVERHEAD SERVICE & POWER POLE

The mains cable and any pole on your property are usually **your** responsibility. Look from a safe distance only.

	OK	ACTION
Service line is clear of trees and branches LEVEL 2 Never trim near lines yourself. Keep well clear.	☐	☐
Private power pole is straight, with no rot, cracks or termite damage LEVEL 2	☐	☐
Cable isn't sagging low over driveways or walkways LEVEL 2	☐	☐
Point of attachment (where the cable meets the house) is secure LEVEL 2	☐	☐

08 SMOKE ALARMS & BACKUP POWER

	OK	ACTION
Working smoke alarm on every level of the home Required by law in NSW. Ideally interconnected and hardwired with battery backup.	☐	☐
Alarms tested monthly and under 10 years old Check the date on the back. Replace the whole unit at 10 years.	☐	☐
You know where the main switch is and how to turn it off	☐	☐
Generators connect through a proper changeover switch or inlet Never back-feed a generator through a power point. It can kill line workers.	☐	☐

RED FLAGS: STOP AND CALL AN ELECTRICIAN

- Burning or "hot plastic" smell from a power point, switch or switchboard
- Sparks, smoke or crackling sounds
- Tingles or small shocks from taps, appliances or switches
- A safety switch that won't reset or doesn't trip when tested
- Scorched, melted or discoloured outlets or plugs
- Water near the switchboard, power points or light fittings
- Lights dimming badly when appliances turn on
- Damaged, sagging or fallen overhead service lines

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Fire, smoke, or someone receiving a shock. Don't touch them — switch off power at the main switch if safe.

Fallen wires

Stay at least 8 metres away. Call your network: Ausgrid 13 13 88 · Endeavour 131 003 · Essential 13 20 80.

NOTES & ITEMS TO FIX

TICKED "ACTION"? WE'LL FIX IT.

Licensed Level 2 ASP electricians across Greater Sydney. Safety inspections, switchboard upgrades, safety switches, power poles and 24/7 emergency call-outs.

highdemandelectrical.com.au

This checklist is a general visual guide for homeowners and does not replace a professional electrical safety inspection. Do not attempt any electrical work yourself. In NSW, electrical work must be carried out by a licensed electrician, and work on overhead service lines and private poles requires a Level 2 Accredited Service Provider. © High Demand Electrical · ENGNET PTY LTD · NSW Licence 397193C · Level 2 ASP accredited.