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12 Easy Checks to Help Avoid Electrical Fires

- 1** Make sure that any **NEW** electrical appliances have a British or European safety mark
- 2** **ALWAYS** check that the correct fuse is being used to prevent overheating
- 3** **ENSURE** all necessary appliances are PAT tested at regular intervals
- 4** **ALWAYS** keep to one plug per wall socket and use an extension lead only when necessary
- 5** **CHECK** load of appliances when adding to an extension block – be prepared to leave sockets ‘empty’
- 6** **HIGH POWERED** appliances should always be plugged into their **OWN** separate wall socket
- 7** **UNPLUGGING** appliances whenever they are not being used helps reduce risk of fire
- 8** **REGULARLY** visually check cables for dangerous or loose wiring – replace if warm or discoloured
- 9** **INVESTIGATE** flickering lights and any overly warm appliances (including plugs) as soon as they are detected
- 10** **SECURE** portable heaters against walls wherever possible to stop them toppling over
- 11** Keep **ALL** heaters away from any soft furnishings
- 12** When **CHARGING**, follow the manufacturer’s instructions and look for CE marks to ensure compliance with European Safety Standards

