

ARE YOU USING ELECTRICITY SAFELY?



It's hard to imagine life without electricity. But, as we get more comfortable using it, we can also get more complacent. Electricity is a dangerous product.

Always take care when using electrical equipment to keep you and your family safe.

To avoid electrocution, **always:**

- Turn off an appliance that is not in use and before removing its plug from a power point;
- Use only one double adaptor per power point; and
- Stop using an appliance immediately if it becomes faulty and get it checked by a licensed electrical contractor before using it again.

Never:

- Touch an electrical appliance if you are wet or near water;
- Leave electrical appliances unattended around children;
- Use a metal object on or in an appliance; or
- Insert objects into power points. Safety covers prevent or discourage children from doing this and are available from department, hardware and children's stores.

Damaged or worn cords are the most common cause of electrical accidents. To be safe:

- Take care not to stretch or damage an electrical cord;
- Hold the plug, not the cord, to remove it from a power point;
- If a cord is wound on a reel, unwind it before use to avoid it overheating; and
- Check electrical and extension cords regularly and replace those that are damaged or worn.



HORIZON
POWER

Report any electrical incidents or faults immediately to Horizon Power by telephoning **13 23 51**.

Dial **000** in emergency situations.

www.horizonpower.com.au

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WATER AND ELECTRICITY DO NOT MIX

Water and electricity is a particularly dangerous mixture. Water conducts electricity and an electric shock in a wet area increases the risk of death, especially when combined with little clothing and bare feet.

To avoid electrocution:

- Never touch an appliance if you are wet or near water; and
- Always ensure your hands are dry before touching appliances or switches.

Take special care:

Indoors

- Always clean up water spills on the floor;
- Avoid using electrical appliances in the bathroom;
- Never use or leave electrical appliances where they can fall into water;
- Only clean or submerge appliances in water if the manufacturer's instructions clearly state that it is safe to do so;
- If liquid spills into an electrical appliance, unplug it and have it checked by a licensed electrical contractor before using it again; and
- Always wear dry footwear when using electrical appliances, such as washing machines.

Outdoors

- Never use portable appliances, power tools or extension leads in water or when it is raining;
- If you have a generator make sure it is on a dry surface. Do not allow it to get wet or use it in wet conditions. It should also have an isolation switch;
- Ensure outdoor power points are weatherproof, approved and suitable for outdoor use. A licensed electrical contractor should be used to install these for you;
- Only use party lights that are suitable for outdoor use and string them away from pools and other water sources;
- Do not use electrical appliances within 3,5 metres of a swimming pool; and
- If your house is not fitted with a RCD, use a portable safety switch when using electrical appliances outdoors.

If anybody in your home or business gets an electric shock or a tingling feeling from taps or water pipes, switch off the power at the main switch and call Horizon Power immediately on **13 23 51** as this can be very dangerous.

In emergency situations, dial 000.

