



Protecting electrical appliances

Last updated: July 2015

One of our main priorities is to ensure an uninterrupted supply of electricity. However, it is technically infeasible to design and build a network that is not subject to some level of power cuts and voltage fluctuations.

Some electrical appliances like telephones, computers, alarm systems and clock radios have an internal power supply which operates all the time and as a result can be more sensitive than others if there is a power cut.

Top tips

Fit a UPS device

The fitting of an Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) or a similar device can protect computers, fax machines and telecommunications equipment from damage by over-voltage or under-voltage. These protection devices should meet the National Standards set by the British Standards Institution.

Three-phase equipment can be fitted with protection that disconnects all phases of supply in the event of low voltage or loss of power.

Seek professional advice

Installations, appliances, fuse boards and wiring should comply with BSC 7671 'Requirements for Electrical Installation Contracting'. Any alterations should be made by an electrical contractor who is a member of a recognised regulatory body.

What you can do?

Safe and effective use of electricity also depends on the quality of your household electrical installation including wiring. There are steps you can take to protect your electrical appliances:

- Purchase electrical equipment that complies with the British Standards Institution.
- Give attention to where the items are stored and how they are ventilated.
- Unplug electrical items when you experience an interruption to your electricity supply.
- Replace batteries in alarm systems every five years.
- Fit surge protection devices to sensitive appliances. These can be purchased from your local DIY store or electrical retailer.

As most power cuts are outside of our control we do not pay for any type of loss or damage to this equipment. You should ensure that your house insurance covers all electrical appliances.



Sign up to our free newsletter at

www.nienetworks.co.uk/contact-us