

# Quick Home Switchboard Safety Checklist

## BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Before you perform this check, ensure all electrical devices are switched off at the socket.

**This should include, computers, TV's, home theatres and any other entertainment device.**

Step	Clues (How, where...)	If Yes	If No
1. Can you find the switchboard?	<i>For stand-alone homes, this is generally located either on side walls or within the garage. For apartments, it could be in a cupboard, laundry, living room or perhaps the kitchen!</i>	Go to step 2	Call a licensed electrician
2. Are there any loose/flying cables in switchboard that could potentially be live?	<i>Look for cables with exposed conductors or any damaged components.</i>	Call a licensed electrician	Go to step 3
3. Can you find the Residual Current Device (RCD) in your switchboard?	<i>Look for a device with a test button on it marked with 'T' – <b>look for big ones and little ones!</b> (see images below for different type of RCDs with test buttons highlighted in red).</i>	Go to step 4	Call a licensed electrician to upgrade your switchboard to help improve and protect your family from potential electric shocks.
4. Are all RCDs within your switchboard working?	<i>Press 'T' button on the RCD. Does it switch off the RCD and disconnect power?</i>	Go to step 5	Urgently call a licensed electrician as the RCD is not working and your electrical system is not protected against electrical shocks!
5. Do you have a Surge Protection Device (SPD) installed in your switchboard?	<i>SPD will look like a breaker but will be without a lever on it (see image below).</i>	<p>Congratulations your home has basic protection. Please call a licensed electrician to learn how you can further enhance the electrical safety for your home with an Arc Fault Detection Device (AFDD).</p> <p><b>AFDDs are particularly important in wooden homes or those with low mobility occupants like children or the elderly.</b></p>	Call a licensed electrician to upgrade your switchboard, help improve and protect your valuable electronics against voltage spikes and surges.

