

Electrical Safety Tips for the Family: In the Home

- Never poke metal objects, such as forks, into jammed toasters or grills. Switch off, remove the plug and allow the toaster to cool down before attempting to remove the bread.
- Don't tape up broken plugs or frayed cables or flexes – have them replaced by an expert or purchase a new appliance.
- Don't over load sockets – consider the loads taken by each appliance.
- Never poke, touch, fiddle, tamper or play with household electrical appliances or electrical fittings.
- Never pull on electrical appliance cables – this can cause damage to the socket or break cables.
- Don't dismantle, assemble or attempt to repair electrical appliances, fittings or other equipment - have them replaced by an expert or purchase a new appliance.
- Don't touch hot things such as toasters, irons, cookers, kettles or fires – switch the item off, pull out the plug, and allow to cool.
- Don't put fingers into electrical sockets or empty light fittings – if the supply is on, you will receive a shock.
- Don't take mains electrical equipment, like hair dryers, fan heaters or radio cassette players into the bathroom – water and electricity do not mix, which is why there are no sockets in bathrooms.
- If a fuse blows in an appliance, this is generally a fault in the unit – contact an expert for advice.