

# The Part "P" Regulations and how they apply to you

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# Disclaimer

This presentation is my interpretation of the Building Regulations and the 16<sup>th</sup> edition Wiring Regulations in force in England and Wales on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2006.

Don't go to Court based solely on what I tell you tonight.

It is your house that might burn down and it is your life at risk if you choose to carry out work on a 230v electrical installation.



# The part "P" regulations

- What does Part "P" cover ?
- What work can you do ?
- What work can a "Domestic Electrical Installer" do ?
- Imminent changes



# What is part "P" ?

- Part P = one part of the Building Regulations 2000 for England and Wales
- Apply to electrical installations – now !!
- BS 7671: 2001(2004) – 16<sup>th</sup> edition Wiring Regulations
- Other "parts" cover structure, fire safety, ventilation, disabled access etc.



# What does part "P" apply do

- Electrical work
  - In a dwelling
  - In the common parts of a multiple dwelling
  - In a building that receives its electricity from a source within a dwelling or common supply
  - In a garden or on land associated with a dwelling including outbuildings



# Why ?

- Faulty electrical installations cause
  - 10 deaths
  - 750 serious injuries
  - 12,500 house fires
- every year



# What work can you do – 1 ?

- Only “Non-notifiable minor work”
  - Replacement on a “like-for-like basis” of switches, sockets and fittings
  - Replacement of a single cable (same type and route)
  - Addition of extra light fittings to an existing circuit
  - Addition of extra sockets or fused spur to existing ring
  - Installing additional earth bonding
- EXCEPT if in a “special location” e.g. kitchen, bathroom, shower room, swimming pool etc.



# What work can you do – 2 ?

- BUT it must still comply with Part P
- It must still comply with BS 7671 (wiring regs)
- It must still have the inspection and testing carried out\*
- It must still have a “Minor Works Certificate” issued\*
- \* Must be done by a “Competent Electrician”



# What are the regulations – 1 ?

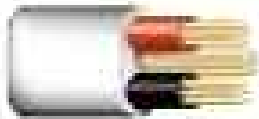
- Cable colours

## Single-phase installations

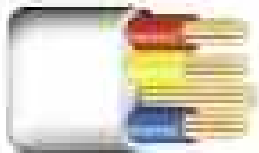
The fixed installation colours of red phase and black neutral are replaced by brown phase and blue neutral, respectively. These are the colours that have been used in appliance flexible cables for many years. The protective conductor is still identified by the colour combination green-and-yellow.

### Existing

Cannot be used after 31 March 2006



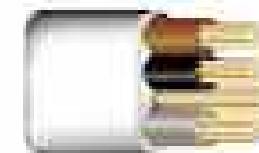
Twin flat  
6242Y



Triple flat  
6243Y

### New (harmonised)

May be used from 31 March 2004



# What are the regulations – 2 ?

- Cable size
  - 1.5/1.0mm for lighting circuit
  - 2.5/1.5mm for socket outlets
- Cables through joists
  - Max hole dia =  $0.25 \times$  joist depth
  - Holes in zone  $0.25$  to  $0.4 \times$  span
  - Holes minimum  $3 \times$  diameters apart
  - Max notch depth =  $0.125 \times$  joist depth
  - Notches in zone  $0.07$  to  $0.25 \times$  span



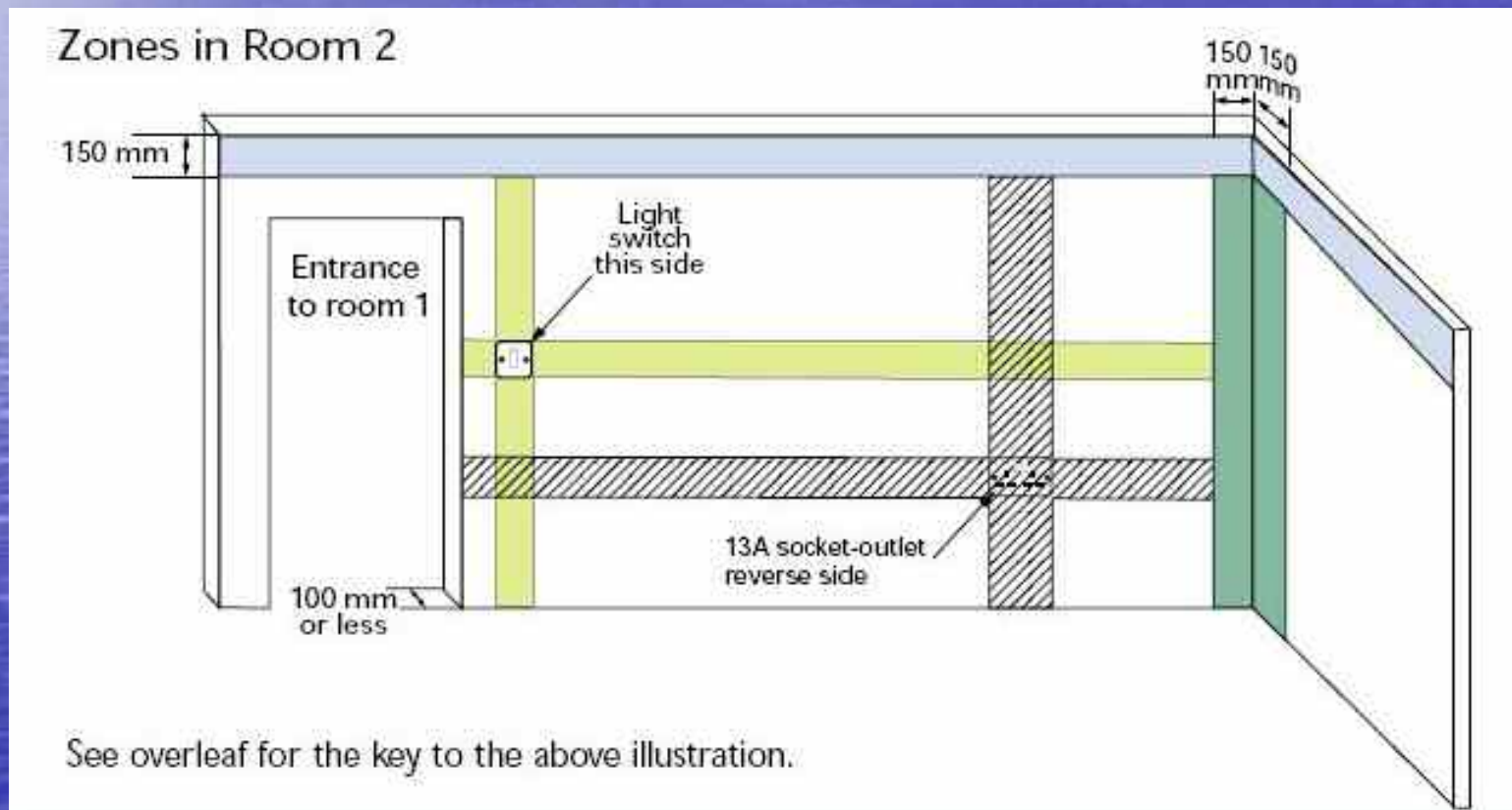
# What are the regulations – 3 ?

- Cables in walls
  - If less than 50mm deep, either
    - Enclosed in earthed metal conduit
    - Vertical or horizontal within 150mm of top or corner
    - Vertical or horizontal direct to accessory
- Use next cable size up if in >5cm thermal insulation



# What are the regulations – 3 ?

- Cables in walls



# What work can a “Domestic Electrical Installer” do?

- Almost anything in terms of replacement
- Installation of new equipment including those in “special locations” e.g. kitchens, bathrooms & shower rooms
- Installation of additional fittings
- Re-wire of property
- Self-certification (or notify local Building Control)
  
- Only domestic property
- Not test and certify existing installations (except “Minor Works” as previously detailed)



# The Future.....

- Problems may be encountered when trying to sell a property without the appropriate certificate
- "Seller's Pack"



# “Seller’s pack”

- More correctly called “Home Information Pack”
- Voluntary after July 2006
- Probably compulsory after June 2007
- A “home inspection” will cover wide range of items including an electrical installation test (and also such items as drainage, dampness, roof, walls etc.)



# Questions ???

- Acknowledgements :
  - Text and presentation by Peter Burton
  - Some material from The IEE and NICEIC
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