

To ensure electrical appliances remain safe to use throughout the tenancy, regular basic safety checks should be carried out.

There are a number of things that you should pay attention to when checking appliances (visual inspections) such as ensuring:

- Appliances are not subject to a product recall (visit www.electricalsafetyfirst.org.uk/recall to check the appliances in your property)
- Flexible cables are in a satisfactory condition and show no signs of deterioration (e.g. fraying, splitting, cuts or heavy scuffing)
- Flexible cables are securely attached to the appliance and plug (no visible coloured wires)
- All covers are in place and in a satisfactory condition (a damaged casing could lead to a shock or fire risk)
- The plug casing is not cracked and the pins are not bent.
- There is no tape applied to the lead to join leads together
- There are no loose parts or screws
- There are no signs of overheating, such as burn marks or staining on the plug
- Equipment is not being stored in dusty or wet environments
- No part of the appliance is damaged or missing
- Cables are not trapped under furniture or in floor boards.

For more information on testing electrical appliances go to: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/electricity/faq-portable-appliance-testing.htm>