

# Recommended Initial Frequencies of Inspection of Electrical Installations\*



Type of Installation	Routine check Sub-clause 3.5	Maximum period between inspections and testing as necessary	Reference (see key below)
1	2	3	4
<b>General installation</b>			
Domestic general	--	Change of occupancy / 10 years	
Domestic rented	1 year	Change of occupancy / 5 years	1,2,10
Residential - halls of residence, nurses accommodation etc	1 year	Change of occupancy / 5 years	1,2,10,11
Commercial	1 year	Change of occupancy / 5 years	1,2,3,4
Educational establishments	6 months	5 years	1,2,6
Industrial	1 year	3 years	1,2
Offices	1 year	5 years	1,2
Shops	1 year	5 years	1,2
Laboratories	1 year	5 years	1,2
Hospitals General Areas	1 year	5 years	1,2
Hospitals - Medical Locations	6 months	1 year	9
<b>Buildings open to the public</b>			
Cinemas	1 year	1-3 years	2,6,
Church installations	1 year	5 years	2
Leisure complexes (excluding swimming pools)	1 year	3 years	1,2,6
Places of public entertainment	1 year	3 years	1,2,6
Restaurants and hotels	1 year	5 years	1,2,6
Theatres	1 year	3 years	2,6,7
Public Houses	1 year	5 years	1,2,6
Village halls/Community centres	1 year	5 years	1,2
<b>Special installations</b>			
Agricultural and horticultural	1 year	3 years	1,2
Caravans	1 year	3 years	7
Caravan Parks	6 months	1 year	1,2,6
Highway power supplies	as convenient	6-8 years	
Marinas	4 months	1 year	1,2
Fish farms	4 months	1 year	1,2
Swimming pools	4 months	1 year	1,2,6
Emergency lighting	Daily / monthly	3 years	2,3,4
Fire alarms	Daily / weekly	1 year	2,4,5
Launderettes	Monthly	1 year	1,2,6
Petrol filling stations	1 year	1 year	1,2,6
Construction site installations	3 months	3 months	1,2

## Reference Key

- 1 Particular attention must be taken to comply with SI 2002 No 2665 – Electricity, Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations 2002 (as amended).
- 2 Electricity at Work Regulations 1989, Regulation 4 & Memorandum of guidance (HSR25) published by the HSE.
- 3 BS 5266-1:2011 Emergency Lighting. Code of practice for the emergency lighting of premises.
- 4 Other intervals are recommended for testing operation of batteries and generators.
- 5 BS 5839-1: 2013 Fire Detection and fire alarm systems for building. Code of practice for design, installation, commissioning and maintenance of systems in non domestic premises.
- 6 Local Authority Conditions of Licence.
- 7 It is recommended that a caravan is inspected and tested every three years, reduced to every year if it is used frequently (see Regulation 721.514.1 and fig 721 - Instructions for electricity supply).
- 8 The person carrying out subsequent inspections may recommend that the interval between future inspections be increased or decreased as a result of the findings of their inspection.
- 9 Medical locations shall have their isolating transformer equipment inspected and tested for functionality as well as alarms etc; every third year the output leakage current of the IT isolating equipment shall be measured.
- 10 The Landlord & Tenant Act 1985 requires that properties under the Act have their services maintained. Periodic inspection and testing is the IET recognised method of demonstrating this.
- 11 The Management of Houses on Multiple Occupation (England) Regulations and the Managements of Houses on Multiple Occupation (Wales) Regulations.

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