

CLIENT HELP SHEET

Understanding EICR codes

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Produced by Precision Electrical Services

This helpsheet has been put together by Precision Electrical Services to help our customers understand the coding used in Electrical Installation Condition Reports (EICRs). These codes are a standard part of the report and help to highlight the condition of your electrical system, what's safe, and what needs attention.

EICR Code C1: Danger Present – Immediate Action Required

A C1 means there is an immediate danger present. This could be a serious risk of electric shock or fire. It's the most urgent code and means action is needed straight away to make things safe.

Example:

An exposed junction where live connections can be touched. This is a clear shock hazard and could be fatal if someone made contact.

Recommendation:

Urgent remedial work is needed without delay to remove the danger.

EICR Code C2: Potentially Dangerous – Urgent Remedial Action Required

A C2 means the issue isn't dangerous right now, but it could become hazardous under certain conditions. It's something that should be sorted as soon as possible to avoid future risks.

Example:

A cable that's too small for the size of fuse it's connected to. It might be okay at the time, but if the circuit is overloaded, the fuse might not protect the cable properly, which could lead to overheating and fire.

Recommendation:

The fault should be rectified promptly to keep the installation safe in all conditions.

EICR Code C3: Improvement Recommended – Non-urgent but Advisable

A C3 means the installation doesn't meet the latest regulations, but it's not dangerous. These are recommendations to help improve safety and bring things up to modern standards.

Example:

Poorly labelled fuse board making it hard to isolate circuits, or a plastic consumer unit that shows no signs of damage. While newer metal units are preferred for fire resistance, older ones may still be safe if in good condition.

Recommendation:

Improvements are advisable, but not essential for the installation to be considered safe.

Code FI: Further Investigation Required

FI means the inspector has found something that needs more investigation to work out what's going on. Further testing is needed before they can confirm what needs doing.

Example:

Low insulation readings on a circuit. This might point to ageing cables, damp, or poor connections – but more testing is needed to know for sure.

Recommendation:

The issue should be properly tested or inspected further before deciding on any necessary work.

Why Accurate EICR Coding Matters

Understanding these codes helps ensure:

- Safety First: Any dangerous issues can be put right quickly to protect people and property.
- Better Maintenance: Spotting and fixing problems early can keep your system running safely for longer.
- Cost Savings: Sorting out smaller issues early can help avoid bigger (and more expensive) problems later on.

We hope this guide has been helpful. If you've had an EICR carried out and would like advice on what the codes mean for your home or business, feel free to get in touch – we're always happy to help.

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