# POCKET GUIDE 8

## PART P - NOTIFIABLE OR NOT?

This guide provides a quick reference to whether certain common items of electrical installation work in a dwelling or associated garden, conservatory or outbuilding in England and Wales need to be notified to a building control body.

A company registered with a Part P self-certification scheme, such as the NICEIC Domestic Installer scheme, is not required to notify a building control body prior to carrying out 'notifiable work'. However, such a registered company



out 'notifiable work'. However, such a registered company would need to notify the self-certification scheme operator on completion of the notifiable work.

For items of work not covered here, see Approved document P to find out if they are notifiable. In cases of doubt, it may be simpler to notify the work.

The requirements of the Building Regulations and the issuing of electrical installation certification apply irrespective of whether an item of electrical work is notifiable or not.

## EXAMPLES OF NOTIFIABLE WORK

#### Anywhere in a dwelling or its surroundings:

- a complete new installation or rewire
- changing a consumer unit
- installing
  - a new final circuit (eg for lighting, heating, socket-outlets, a shower or a cooker)
  - extra-low voltage<sup>1</sup> lighting (other than pre-assembled CE marked sets)
  - a solar photovoltaic power supply
  - electric ceiling or floor heating
  - an electricity generator
  - power or control wiring for a new central heating system.

#### Within a kitchen<sup>2</sup> or special location<sup>3</sup>:

 modifying a final circuit (eg adding a lighting point, fused connection unit or socket-outlet).

### Within a special location3:

- installing telephone or extra-low voltage<sup>1</sup> wiring and equipment for the purposes of communications, information technology, signalling, control or similar purposes
- installing a prefabricated equipment set (e.g. for lighting) and associated flexible leads with integral plug and socket connections<sup>4</sup>.

#### Outdoors:

- installing garden lighting or power (eg a supply to a garden shed, detached garage, other outbuilding, electric gate or pond pump)
- installing a socket-outlet
- installing a lighting point or other fixed current-using equipment (eg an air conditioning unit or a radon fan)<sup>5</sup>.

See footnotes overleaf



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## **EXAMPLES OF NON-NOTIFIABLE WORK**

## Anywhere in a dwelling or its surroundings:

- installing prefabricated 'modular' wiring systems <sup>4</sup>
- replacing a damaged cable for a single circuit, on a like-for-like basis 6
- replacing an accessory, such as a socket-outlet, control switch, ceiling rose or a fused connection unit
- providing mechanical protection to an existing fixed installation<sup>7</sup>
- installing or upgrading main or supplementary equipotential bonding
- fitting or replacing an item of current-using equipment (such as a cooker) to an existing suitable circuit.

### Within a garden shed, detached garage, or other outbuilding:

 modifying a final circuit (eg adding a lighting point, fused connection unit or socket-outlet).

## Footnotes for both NOTIFIABLE WORK (see overleaf) and NON-NOTIFIABLE WORK (see above)

- 1 Extra-low voltage is defined in BS 7671 as 'normally not exceeding 50 V a.c. or 120 V ripple-free d.c., whether between conductors or to earth'.
- A kitchen is defined in The Building (Amendment) (No.3) Regulations 2004 as 'a room or part of a room which contains a sink and food preparation facilities'. (A utility room, though it may contain a sink, does not fall within the definition of a kitchen if it does not contain food preparation facilities.)
- 3 'Special locations' include locations containing a bath, shower, swimming pool, paddling pool or a hot air sauna.
- 4 The installation of prefabricated 'modular' systems (for example kitchen lighting systems and armoured garden cabling) linked by plug and socket connectors is not notifiable, provided that the products are CE-marked and that any final connection in a kitchen or special locations is made to an existing suitable connection unit or point.
- 5 Notification is not required if wiring to such outdoor equipment; (i) is not a new circuit, and (ii) passes directly through an outside wall into the equipment, and (iii) is not an extension to a special location or kitchen circuit.
- 6 A like-for-like basis includes the condition that the replacement cable has the same current-carrying capacity and follows the same route.
- 7 If the circuit protective measures and current-carrying capacity of conductors are unaffected by increased thermal insulation.



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