

AULA



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News Letter

AULA RENTALS
Sectional Title Management
and
Property Rental Specialists

May 2018

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Property Rentals

- Rental Specialists since 1991!
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Visit the Aula offices in:

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SAFETY AROUND THE HOME

Electricity surrounds us - shaping the universe in which we live and driving modern society of which we are a part. It permeates the physical world completely. Thus, to know more about it and to understand it further is important. The first and most critical aspect to learn about electricity is safety. Playing around with electricity can be dangerous. Make sure that you and your family know how to work with electricity safely.

CONDUCTING IMPORTANT ROUTINE SAFETY INSPECTIONS

Appliances needing repairs or replacement should be attended to immediately. Not doing so could result in an accident. In your home, breakages and excessive wear and tear on electrical equipment can occur frequently so you need to make regular inspections and take precautions to ensure your safety.

Here are some general points to look for when making an inspection:

- Breakages
- Wear/deterioration
- Signs of overheating
- Missing parts (screws, covers, switches)
- Faulty appliance controls
- Doors and covers not closed smoothly or adequately.
- Correct labelling when needed (eg. Electricity requirements)
- Loose Fixtures or fittings

It is also important to test your equipment regularly - switch it on and off and look for possible problems or faulty connections. Taking time to make sure you are using your equipment safely could save your life later on.

PLUGS AND ELECTRIC SOCKETS

In this day and age, plugs are an essential part of our lives as we depend on electricity for almost everything we do. Therefore, it is important for people of all ages to know how to use plugs safely. The following tips are for you to use when buying and using plugs.

- Broken plugs or loose wires are dangerous. Always use SABS approved plugs and make sure there are no loose wires.
- Do not overload plugs - it can cause a fire. A multi-plug adaptor will allow you to use as many appliances as needed without the risk of overheating.
- Do not pull a plug by the cord - it can expose bare wires. Pull it out by gripping the plug itself and make sure the power is switched off.
- Ensure that all wall sockets have their switches in the "off" mode, when not in use.
- Never put bare wires into sockets.

- Do not stick fingers into sockets.
- If there are babies in the house, ensure that wall sockets are covered with a safety cap, keeping the area safe for babies to play in.

CORDS

Cords, like plugs, are an essential part of our environment. Cords also represent a safety hazard and as such, the tips that follow should be used to minimise any potential dangers that cords can cause.

- Do not use frayed cords - replace worn and frayed cords on appliances immediately.
- Keep cords well away from hot stoves and other hot surfaces.
- Do not run electric cords under carpets and rugs.
- Do not join cords with tape.
- Do not run cords through hinges.
- Do not run cords where people can easily trip over them.
- Use SABS approved electrical wires or cords.

WATER

Since water is an excellent electricity conductor, it can cause electric shocks or short circuits very easily. The general rule is thus to keep water in and around the home, away from any electrical appliances and any wall sockets.

- Do not use electrical appliances in the bathroom.
- Never touch electrical appliances with wet hands.
- Never fill a kettle when it is plugged in.
- Never mow wet grass with an electric lawnmower.
- Never hold an electric appliance in one hand while touching metal objects such as taps, fridges or stoves with the other. This is because our bodies are made up of 70% of water and they thus become very good electricity conductors.

- Never use water to put out an electrical fire if the mains are not switched off. Use a dry chemical fire extinguisher instead.

GENERAL SAFETY

- Never change a light bulb without first making sure that the current is switched off.
- Do not use a fork or a knife or anything that is made of metal to remove toast from a toaster when it is plugged in.
- If you see sparks or smoke from an electrical appliance, it is telling you that something is wrong. Unplug it and call an electrician.
- Do not work on an electrical appliance unless you know exactly what you are doing and make sure it is not plugged in.

