



Be Bright

Stay Safe

Stop!
Think before
you dig!



Your life can be lost within seconds if you come into contact with electricity.

Every year, people are killed or seriously injured when they come into contact with high voltage electricity.

This can have a far-reaching and devastating effect on family, friends and colleagues.

Distractions, working long hours, rushing to get the job done, can all impact on how we work and our safety.

Taking time to plan, being prepared and focusing on the way we work can help keep us safe.

WOODEN POLES
CAN CARRY
TELEPHONE AND
ELECTRICITY WIRES.
NEVER ASSUME
THE WIRE IS A
TELEPHONE WIRE



LINES CAN BE
RE-ENERGISED
AT ANY TIME



**400,000
VOLTS**

ELECTRICITY SYSTEMS CARRY
VOLTAGE UP TO 400,000 VOLTS.
**EVEN 230 VOLTS (DOMESTIC
VOLTAGE) CAN BE LETHAL**

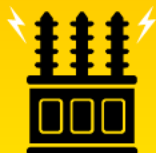
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**RUBBER BOOTS
WILL NOT PROTECT YOU!**

OUR NETWORK DISTRIBUTES ELECTRICITY THROUGH
UNDERGROUND CABLES, PYLONS, OVERHEAD POWER
LINES, SUBSTATIONS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT



National power cut helpline

**POWER CUT?
CALL 105**

OR CALL US 24 HOURS A DAY ON
0800 31 63 105

TAKE NOTICE
OF ANY YELLOW
'**DANGER OF DEATH**'
WARNING SIGNS.
AND STAY WELL
AWAY!



REMEMBER
ELECTRICITY
CAN
JUMP GAPS



**OVERHEAD
POWER LINES**
ARE OFTEN
UNINSULATED
(BARE)



**CABLES ARE
OUT OF SIGHT**
ALWAYS REQUEST
CABLE PLANS
BEFORE STARTING
WORK



**TOUCHING ANYTHING IN
CONTACT WITH ELECTRICAL
EQUIPMENT, EVEN THE LOWEST
OF VOLTAGES, CAN BE FATAL**



**CARRY OBJECTS AND EQUIPMENT
HORIZONTALLY AND AT LOW
LEVEL TO THE GROUND**



The electricity network is designed to keep you safe. But how safe are you when you are working?

UK Power Networks is the country's biggest electricity distributor, making sure the lights stay on for more than eight million homes and businesses across London, the South East and the East of England.

The safety of our customers and staff is our top priority.

Underground cables carry a powerful electrical charge which can be conducted through machinery and equipment with fatal consequences. Anyone working close to live underground cables should take the time to read this simple leaflet and identify the precautions they should be taking.



WATCH OUR EXCAVATION ANIMATION BY SCANNING THE QR CODE WITH YOUR PHONE CAMERA.



Keep well away - Electricity can kill



Remember:

- The depth and location of cables and services shown on the plans may have changed because of subsequent site alterations
- Be aware that not all cables and services may be shown on the plans
- Cables do not run in straight lines. Underground cables may be deflected around underground obstacles and can change depth
- Wear Personal Protective Equipment to minimise the harm of electric shock and burns



How can we help?

If you work or live in the UK Power Networks area contact us or look on our website. We provide free information and advice about the precautions and safe working practices to be followed when working close to electrical equipment.

Further advice and guidance is available from the Health and Safety Executive (HSE):

HSG85 - Electricity at Work – Safe Working Practices

GS6 - Avoiding Danger from Overhead Power Lines

HSG47 - Avoiding Danger from Underground Services

What to do in an emergency

If a mains electricity cable is damaged:

- **STOP WORK IMMEDIATELY**
- Notify UK Power Networks: Dial 105
- If you damage a cable, stay calm, keep clear, and call for help
- Call the emergency services if anyone is injured or there is a fire. Anyone who has received an electric shock should go to hospital as damage may have occurred to the heart
- Always treat the cable(s) as live even if they are not sparking
- Never remove anything that is stuck or in contact with the cable
- Stay clear - keep everyone away until assistance arrives



To request your FREE vehicle cab stickers visit www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/internet/en/safety/


If you are unsure who your network operator is then please visit www.energynetworks.org




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You could be in danger when carrying out your everyday trades activities such as digging, construction and demolition.

 **Contact UK Power Networks or Line Search Before U Dig (LSBUD) in advance of the works to obtain relevant cable plans or to request disconnections. The cable plans will only show the indicative route and not the route into the property**


 **Ensure the cable plans are shown to and understood by those on site BEFORE starting work**

 **Confirm the cable location by using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT) before digging commences. Once found, mark cable positions with spray paint or similar**


**For cable plans visit
www.linesearchbeforeudig.co.uk
or www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk**

 **Complete a risk assessment and ensure it covers electrical hazards**

 **Use spades and shovels with insulated handles in preference to forks and picks**

 **Look around for anything in the vicinity that would have an electricity service such as street lights, CCTV cameras, or meter boxes and identify where the cables are**

 **Look for electrical wires, cables and equipment near to where you are going to work and check for warning signs and any other hazards**

 **Contact UK Power Networks to agree a safe method of work if there is a cable encased in concrete,
DO NOT BREAK OPEN**

 **Make sure everyone on site is aware of the presence and location of electrical cables**

 **Before demolishing a building make sure supplies are disconnected, preferably well clear of the work area. For guidance on how to arrange a disconnection visit www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk**

NATIONAL POWER CUT HELPLINE

**POWER CUT?
CALL 105**



**ADD THIS NUMBER TO YOUR
TELEPHONE CONTACTS LIST**



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@UKPowerNetworks



/ukpowernetworks

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Or call us
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If you are unsure who your network operator is then please visit
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 what3words



To report broken or damaged electrical equipment or in an emergency call 0800 31 63 105 or 105 and use what3words to help us locate you faster.

