



9. Electrical Safety Policy

Scope

Sheddit! Mens' Shed is not responsible for the electrical supply to the Shed or to any outlets provided within it prior to Sheddit! occupying the premises. Any work required on this infrastructure is to be referred to the Landlord.

NOTE

Sheddit! are however responsible for the following:

The ring main circuit fed from the distribution board provided by the landlord and any lighting/13 amp sockets procured and installed by Sheddit!

Sheddit! is responsible for providing distribution and connectivity to all machines whether they be self-standing, movable or portable, secured to benches or hand held powered machines.

This document fulfils the requirements for electrical appliances and cables etc beyond the supply socket only with the exception of those items in 'NOTE' above.

Equipment connectivity

As Sheddit! do not have any 'hard wired' electrical equipment, all electrical equipment is connected by standard 3-pin 13 amp plug and socket. Care is to be taken that any cable run on the floor should be contained in rubberised floor protection to reduce wear and tear on the cable and to eliminate any tripping hazard.

Electrical equipment used outside is to be connected using the orange cable with the in-line RCD fitted. Use of this lead will give added protection to users. Care is to be taken when working outside not to obstruct our landlord's right of way or access to and egress from the workshop.

Identification

All plugs will carry an appropriate label to aid identification of the appliance to which they connect.

Maintenance and Testing

There are no laws in the UK that commit to testing the frequency or the need for PAT testing and it is not a requirement that a qualified electrician is required for such tests; The law simply requires an employer to ensure that their electrical equipment is maintained in order to prevent danger.

There is no mandatory time interval for testing, however as Sheddit! use in the main power tools in a workshop environment, it is prudent to carry out a visual inspection on a six-monthly basis with a combined inspection and test, annually.



9. Electrical Safety Policy

The Sheddit! Committee have decided that if we have electricians as members and they volunteer for this task, they can certify if an item whether used in the shed, put up for sale internally or through a website or other sales venue, is electrically safe and fit for use. **This is especially important because of the dangers associated with donated electrical items that have no maintenance history.**

They are named at the end of this chapter.

This does not absolve all Sheddit! members from their responsibility to report defects when identified (intermittent operation, cut or damaged cables etc). Any such report will require the equipment to be withdrawn from use until it is repaired and released by the persons listed below.

Repair and or rewiring of machines or plugs can only be carried out or supervised by one of the persons listed below. The decision to send an item for repair externally or to scrap an item will be made by the Sheddit! committee acting on the advice of one of the persons listed below.

Persons qualified to inspect, test and certify electrical equipment

John Wiltshire