Adapt your electrical appliances for safe UK use

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Dangers of using foreign electrical appliances in the UK

Using foreign appliances in UK sockets is dangerous if their plugs have not been converted for UK use. This could cause a fire or electric shock.

- The plug and socket could overheat and start a fire
- The appliance cable could overheat and start a fire
- You could get an electric shock
- Lack of fuse protection increases the risk of fire

Do not put yourself or others at risk by using foreign electrical plugs in UK sockets
Benefits of using an EU conversion plug

The plug can be fitted easily, quickly and safely

- It will make the electrical appliance safe for use in UK sockets
- It will reduce the risk of fire
- It will reduce the risk of electric shock
What is a fuse?

- It is a safety device fitted in all UK 13 A plugs and EU conversion plugs.
- Its purpose is to protect the cable from taking too much electric current and overheating.
- It will cut off an electrical current in the event of a fault.

Further advice

- Always check that the type of conversion plug you use is suitable for the EU plug.
- Always follow the manufacturer’s instructions when fitting a conversion plug.
- Do not use travel adaptors long term. They are not a suitable or safe alternative for continuous use.
- We recommend you replace the appliance with a UK standard electrical product if the plug is not suitable for conversion.
How to convert an EU plug for safe UK use

1. 2 pin European converter plug guidance

2. 3 pin European converter plug guidance
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The Electrical Safety Council (ESC) is a charity committed to reducing deaths and injuries caused by electricity.