

ANNEX C: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON THE RESIDUAL CURRENT CIRCUIT BREAKER REQUIREMENT

1. Does the requirement to install a RCCB apply to all residential types i.e. HDB flats and private housing (landed properties and condominiums)?

This requirement is applicable to all residential premises. Homeowners without RCCB will be given a grace period of two years from 1 July 2023 to install a RCCB.

2. Who will enforce the requirement?

EMA or its appointed agent will conduct random enforcement checks after the 2-year grace period, focusing on pre-1985 private residential premises, as well as selected pre-1985 HDB flats. Any residential premise found without an RCCB will be issued a written warning and would be given another 8 weeks to install an RCCB.

3. What if homeowners have an RCCB installed, but it is found to be faulty or do not protect all electrical circuits in their home, will they still be penalised?

Homeowners found with a faulty RCCB in their home will not be penalised. Flat owners should test their RCCB regularly to ensure that it is working well. Should the RCCB be faulty, flat owners should engage a LEW to install the new RCCB.

HDB flat owners may contact HDB if they need help to locate their RCCBs to conduct the checks.

4. Why is the RCCB requirement only made in the Electricity Act now?

Since July 1985, all new residential premises are required to be installed with RCCBs. Residential premises built before July 1985 that have undergone substantive renovations or electrical installation works, on or after July 1985, were also required to comply with this requirement.

Residential premises built before 1985 and have not undergone any substantive renovation, electrical rewiring or upgrading work would not have installed the RCCB. To enhance electrical safety of these premises, it is hence necessary to introduce this requirement.