

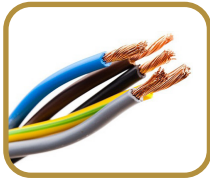
ELECTRICAL INSPECTION

Important reasons to have an electrical inspection each year.



CHECK THE ELECTRICAL SERVICE PANEL

The panel and its components must be reviewed for age, dark or smoky residue, and wear and tear. If the panel contains out-dated round fuses, these should be replaced by a licensed electrician with circuit breaker switches. If the service panel is rusty or worn, it should be replaced as well.



WIRING

In general, a home that contains round fuses at the service panel may give clues to the general age of the home's wiring. Older homes built before 1950 may contain knob-and-tube wiring. Homes built between 1965 and 1973 may contain aluminum wiring. Both types of wiring have unique safety and performance characteristics and could be more challenging to insure.



WET AREA OUTLETS

Wet areas, including bathrooms and kitchens, must have ground fault circuit interrupters installed. Additionally, light switches must be several inches away from water. Outside outlets also must GFCIs installed. In general, GFCIs must be installed in any area where water could be present



INTERIOR OUTLETS AND LIGHTING

Interior outlets, light switches, appliance cords and GFCIs must be routinely tested and visually inspected. Loose outlets must be tightened or replaced and cords must fit snugly. Outlets should be visually inspected for black smoke and cool to the touch.