

## PAT TESTING (PORTABLE APPLIANCE TESTING)

**PAT testing is a process used to evaluate the safety of electrical appliances that have a plug, lead or socket. These appliances are often movable or portable and are used in various environments, including workplaces, schools, homes and commercial buildings.**

**The primary objective of PAT testing is to ensure that portable electrical appliances are safe to use and do not pose a risk of electric shock, fire or other hazards.**

### What is included in our PAT Testing?

During PAT Testing, the following checks will be completed:

- Physical damage checks such as frayed cords, loose connections or cracked casings.
- Correct wiring and polarity.
- Insulation resistance to detect potential electrical faults.
- Earth continuity to ensure proper grounding.
- Leakage current to identify any current flowing through the appliances protective earthing conductor.

Based on the results of the testing, appliances are classified as either 'Pass' or 'Fail'. Passed appliances are deemed safe for use, while failed appliances may require repairs, replacements or further investigation to address identified issues.

### How often should you carry out PAT Testing?

The frequency of PAT testing depends on various factors, including the type of appliances, its usage and the environment in which it operates.

Appliances in low risk environments typically require PAT testing every 2-4 years eg offices/shops. Medium risk environments require more frequent testing often 1-2 years eg educational institutions or hotels and high risk environments require testing every 3-6 months eg construction sites.

Some appliance manufacturers may provide specific guidelines. It is essential to conduct a risk assessment of the workplace and its electrical appliances to determine appropriate testing frequency.

