



Key Legislation: Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 | IET Code of Practice

KEY STATISTICS



70

Deaths from electrical accidents in UK workplaces per year



£1.3 billion

Annual cost of electrical fires to the UK



30%

Of workplace fires caused by electrical faults



95%

Of electrical accidents preventable with regular PAT testing

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Understand the legal requirements for electrical safety under the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989

Conduct a visual inspection of portable appliances

Perform PAT testing using a portable appliance tester

Interpret PAT test results and make pass/fail decisions

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

1 Visual Inspection
Check for damaged cables, bent pins, cracked casings, burn marks

2 Earth Continuity
Test earth continuity for Class I appliances — must be less than 0.1Ω

3 Insulation Resistance
Apply 500V DC — Class I >1MΩ, Class II >2MΩ

4 Functional Check
Switch on and check appliance operates correctly

