

PAT Testing Assessor

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About This Handout

This handout is designed for use by **PAT Testing Assessors** as a delegate resource. It covers the key knowledge areas, legislation, and practical skills required for the course. Delegates may retain this handout for future reference.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, delegates will be able to:

- Understand the legal requirements for portable appliance testing
- Carry out visual inspections of electrical appliances
- Use PAT testing equipment correctly
- Interpret test results and determine pass/fail
- Maintain accurate PAT testing records

Key Legislation & Standards

- Electricity at Work Regulations 1989
- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- IET Code of Practice for In-Service Inspection and Testing of Electrical Equipment

Core Knowledge — PAT Testing Assessor

Why PAT Testing Matters

Faulty electrical appliances are a leading cause of workplace fires and electric shock injuries. Regular inspection and testing helps identify defects before they cause accidents.

Types of Appliances

Class I appliances rely on earth connection for safety. Class II (double insulated) appliances do not require an earth. Class III appliances operate at safety extra-low voltage. Each class requires different testing procedures.

Testing Procedures

PAT testing involves a visual inspection followed by electrical tests including earth continuity, insulation resistance, and leakage current tests. Not all tests are required for every appliance.

Practical Skills & Key Points

- ✓ Carry out a thorough visual inspection of electrical appliances
- ✓ Set up and use a PAT tester correctly
- ✓ Perform earth continuity tests
- ✓ Perform insulation resistance tests
- ✓ Interpret test results and apply pass/fail criteria
- ✓ Complete PAT testing records and labels

Key Facts to Remember

- PAT testing is not a legal requirement but maintaining safe equipment is
- Visual inspection finds the majority of faults
- Test frequency depends on risk — higher risk environments need more frequent testing
- Records should be kept to demonstrate due diligence

