



## Keep our children safe

Keep out of areas marked "DANGER - HIGH VOLTAGE."

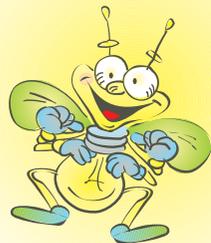
**Beware of the dangers of touching power lines.** If kites or model airplanes touch overhead power lines, even touching their string or control wire may cause serious injury.

**Never push objects or fingers into electrical outlets or empty light sockets - you can never be sure if they are live.** To resist the temptation, always keep bulbs in light sockets and use plug caps in unused outlets.

## Protect your equipment

**Protect all electronic equipment such as TV's videos, stereos, microwave ovens and computers with surge suppressors.**

A surge suppressor is a device which limits voltage surges to a level which your equipment can withstand and diverts the excess energy to ground, thereby protecting your equipment from harmful energy. For more information on surge suppressors, please refer to our brochure on "Protecting Your Equipment" or visit our website.



THE BARBADOS  
**LIGHT & POWER**  
COMPANY LIMITED

*We are there...*

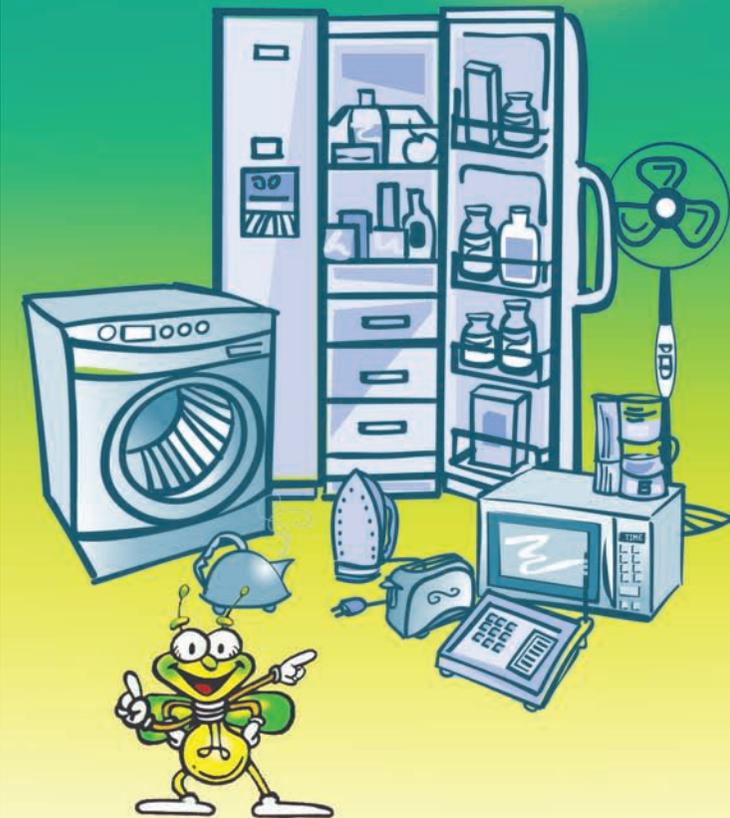
[www.blpc.com.bb](http://www.blpc.com.bb)

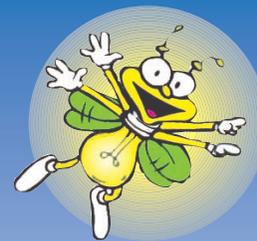


THE BARBADOS  
**LIGHT & POWER**  
COMPANY LIMITED



# Play It Safe Around Electricity





# Use Electrical Appliances Safely

## Look for stamp of certification.

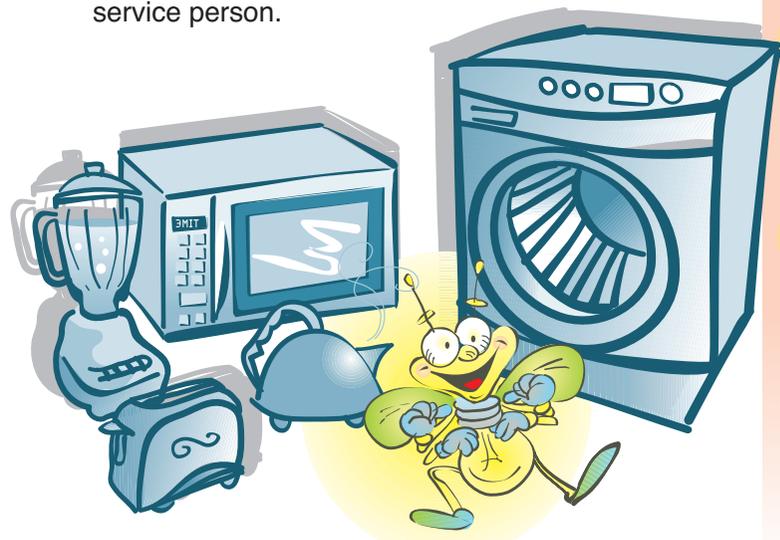
Before buying an electrical appliance, make sure that it has been certified by a standards testing body, e.g. UL, CSA.

**Follow manufacturers' instructions.** Before using a new appliance, read the accompanying instructions.

**Unplug appliances before cleaning.** Never operate plugged-in appliances with wet hands or immerse them in water to clean.

**Unplug heat producing appliances (toasters, kettles, irons, etc) when not in use.** On/off switches can fail.

**Have defective appliances checked.** If an appliance sparks, overheats or stalls, pull the plug and have it checked by a dealer or appliance service person.



## Safety Indoors

**Have wiring inspected by a qualified electrician at least every three to five years.** When your home was built, the entire electrical installation was inspected to make sure it met local electrical requirements. Over time, wires become loose, corrosion sets in and the electrical load increases as you add appliances. Regular maintenance is necessary to keep your wiring safe.

**Know where your main circuit breaker is located.** In case of emergency, learn how to turn it off and make sure its access is not blocked by furniture etc.

**Check for outlets with loose fitting plugs which can overheat and lead to fire.**

**Check the wattage of all bulbs in lighting fixtures to make sure that they do not exceed the recommended wattage for the fixture.**

**Do not paint or wrap plastic around light bulbs to change their colour.**

**Pull the plug, not the cord, when disconnecting appliances.** Pulling the cord will wear it quickly and create a shock hazard. Also, if the appliance comes with a detachable cord, attach it to the appliance before plugging it into the outlet.

**Keep cords away from heat and water.** These can damage insulation and present a shock hazard.

**Cords under carpets are a fire hazard.** A rug can conceal a damaged cord. Also, don't run electric cords through doorways or where they will get excessive wear.

**Change all cords, which are frayed, cracked or melted.**

**Use only extension cords, which match the current rating of the appliance cord.**

**Remember that an extension cord is designed for short term use and should not replace permanent wiring.**

**Choose the right cord for the appliance.** Power tools should have either a three-prong plug or double insulation. Use a three-prong plug for major appliances, rubber cords for heating appliances and moisture resistant cords and plugs for outdoor equipment.

**Never break off the ground (third) pin on a plug to allow it to fit a two-prong outlet.** Replace the two-pronged outlet instead, making sure the third prong is properly grounded. As a temporary measure, you may use a grounded adaptor.

**Eliminate "octopus" connections.** Plugging more than one multi-outlet strip into your electrical outlet can be a fire hazard. It usually indicates that your home wiring is outdated for your needs and that you should have more outlets wired in.



## Safety Outdoors

**Never touch a downed wire.** Even if it appears dead, touching it could be fatal. If your car hits a pole and dislodges wires onto your car, stay inside until the utility crew safely removes the wire from your car. If there is fire and you must get out, jump with both feet together and without touching the car and the ground at the same time. Roll away or shuffle away using small steps and do not return to the car for any reason.

**Don't bring appliances near water or immerse them in water.** Electric radios, TV's, clocks and other appliances should be kept clear of swimming pools, bath tubs, etc. Never use power tools such as electric weed trimmers on wet grass or other wet surfaces.

**Don't touch power lines.** Get help when installing a CB, TV or any other antenna. To touch or go near to a power line with a ladder or antenna could cause serious injury. Antennas should be installed away from direct contact with power lines – a distance of at least the height of the antenna plus 3 metres.

**Check that the earth (ground) wire outside the house is securely connected to the rod.**

**Be especially careful when digging.** Call The Barbados Light & Power to locate underground cable during the planning stages to avoid dangerous contact with underground high tension cables.

**Plant trees well clear of the path of power lines.** Check trees for power lines before climbing. If you do have a tree growing into lines, do not attempt to prune or fell it yourself. Call The Barbados Light & Power at 436-9000 for assistance.