

In addition to the measures described in this brochure, you can also play your part by being observant and notifying BL&P and/or your electrician about any changes observed regarding your power supply.



Lights intermittently flickering off/on or bright/low? -

Call our Trouble Calls (24 hrs) at 436 -9000.

▪ **Signs of corrosion at your service entrance, meter or panel? -**

Have your electrician inspect.

▪ **Do you live in a salt prone area?**

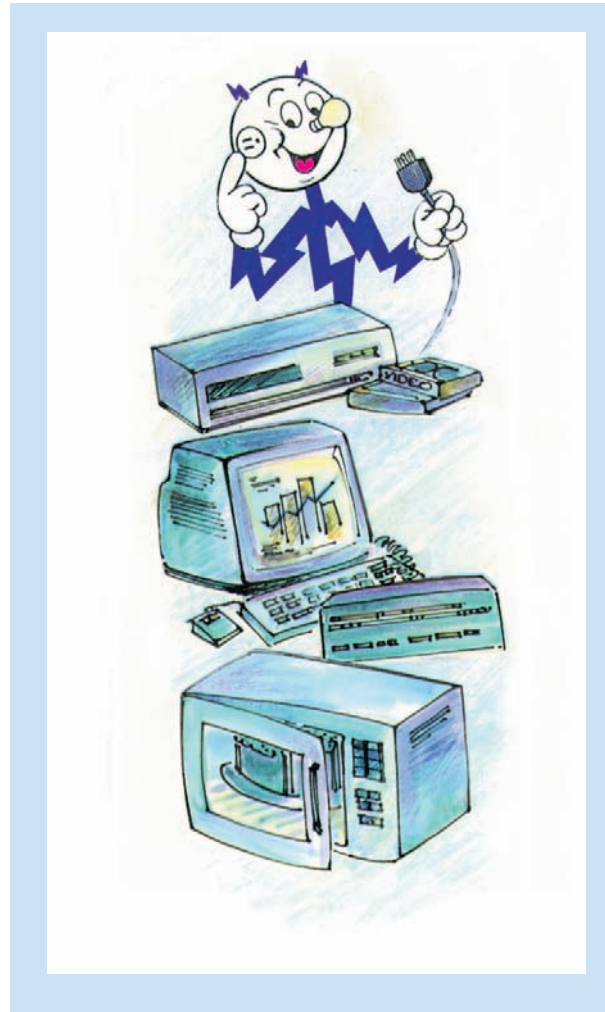
Have your electrician inspect your socket base for corrosion every 2 to 3 years. This is done in conjunction with BL&P who will arrange to isolate the service for inspection.

▪ Do not plug 3 wire grounded suppressors into 2 wire extension cords or adaptors by cutting off the ground pin

▪ If you make changes in your wiring, use a qualified electrician who will ensure that the work is properly carried out. A reinspection by the Government Electrical Engineering Dept is required when modifications are carried out.

Motorised equipment (such as washing machines, fridges, freezers, etc.) intended for 60 Hz is normally rated at a lower voltage by manufacturers for use on 50 Hz supply. You risk shortening the life of your equipment if you exceed this voltage. Step-down transformers (usually 115/105 V) are readily available at retail outlets and should be used with your 60 Hz motorised equipment. Make sure these are appropriately sized.

We hope that you will use the foregoing as a guide towards protecting your appliances and electronic equipment in the home. It is the first step towards extending the useful life of your equipment so that you can derive maximum satisfaction.



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Do you own a TV, video, stereo, microwave oven, or personal computer?



Do you plug them directly into your wall socket?



if you have answered yes to both questions above, it is time to protect your equipment NOW!

PROTECT ALL ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT SUCH AS

- TV's,
 - VIDEOS,
 - STEREOS,
 - MICROWAVE OVENS,
&
 - COMPUTERS
- ## WITH SURGE SUPPRESSORS.

WHAT IS A SURGE SUPPRESSOR?

It 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.

WHY DO YOU NEED A SURGE SUPPRESSOR?

Surges are short term voltage increases above the regular household voltage. They occur whenever any switching activity takes place, whether inside or outside the home. Examples of externally generated surges are lightning, power interruptions, or even a neighbour's workshop compressor cycling on and off. Surges are generated internally when appliances, such as vacuum cleaners, refrigerators, air conditioners, etc. are switched on or off.

In fact, over the course of a year THOUSANDS of such disturbances will occur which are beyond the control of the power company. They can cause damage to your equipment either over time or instantaneously if the energy level is high enough. All modern electronic circuitry with its dependence on semiconductor devices is more susceptible to damage from surges.

Remember surges are not new - they have been around for as long as there has been electric power. It is the technology which has changed to give us great features, lower costs and low power consumption but also puts equipment at risk of damage due to surges. That is why surge suppressors are required.

Note:

The effectiveness of a surge suppressor to protect against surges is reduced where the customer's earthing system has a high resistance to ground. Customers should ensure all connections are tight and adequate ground rods are installed to obtain as low an earth resistance as possible. Check with a qualified electrician.

UPS - UNINTERRUPTIBLE POWER SUPPLY

Normally the surge suppressor is all that will be required in a domestic household, but it will not protect against outages. A **UPS** is a more specialised and expensive device which offers surge protection and also maintains power to equipment during an outage by means of batteries. Its cost is justified in some computer environments where loss of data is critical.

BUYING A SURGE SUPPRESSOR

There are many brands of surge suppressors in the stores. Some are better than others. Look for one stamped:

UL Listed 1449 for three protection modes L-N,L-G,N-G

This means that the device is rated to suppress voltage surges based on defined standards. The device should have an indicator light to let you know when it's protective circuits are functioning correctly. This is different from a power on light which only indicates that the unit is getting power from the mains.

Better models indicate whether your circuit is wired correctly and others have built in filters. These are useful features especially for computers but of course, they are more expensive than the basic models.

It should provide enough outlets that more than one piece of equipment can be plugged in simultaneously, e.g. TV and video.

Please consult your electronics dealer or **BL&P** for further details.

GENERAL POWER QUALITY TIPS

IT IS UP TO YOU TO ENSURE THAT YOUR EQUIPMENT IS PROTECTED AT ALL TIMES FROM UNPREDICTABLE AND UNAVOIDABLE DISTURBANCES BY USING A **SURGE SUPPRESSOR**

