



Do I need to update my mains board?

According to the **BS7671** regulations, there are several reasons why you might need to upgrade your mains board. Here are some of the most common reasons:

1. **Consumer unit construction:** Since the introduction of the 18th edition, all domestic installations must have a metal consumer unit installed, unless the consumer unit is installed within a non-combustible enclosure ¹. If your current consumer unit is made of plastic, it is recommended that you upgrade to a metal one.
2. **Additions and alterations to an installation:** If you are making any additions or alterations to your electrical installation, you must ensure that they meet all relevant requirements of BS 7671, including, where appropriate, the special requirements contained in Part 7, Special Installations or Locations ². You must also inspect and test any upgrading of the existing installation and of the addition or alteration before being put into service, as required by Chapter 61 of BS 7671 ².
3. **Safety concerns:** If your current mains board is old or outdated, it could pose a safety hazard. Old wiring, for example, could be the cause of frequent power outages or blown fuses ³. In such cases, it is recommended that you upgrade your mains board to improve the overall safety of your home or office.
4. **A Periodic inspection is unlikely to fail die to an olds mains board (fuse board) if in good working condition.** However it is the equivalent of driving an old car, with no ABS, 1 wing mirror and no seat belts in the rear. All perfectly fine at the time of production, but a lot of improvements have been made in regards to safety and fire protection with new consumer units. I doubt many people would go to car forecourt and ask for an car with safety spec of a 60s 70s 80s or even 90s Car. So please consider this when looking at improving the safety of your home.