Safety advice for hospitality venues in East Hampshire

Electrical safety in outdoor settings

Make sure your outdoor space is electric safe

BEFORE THE SUMMER ARRIVES

If your venue offers outdoor hospitality it's your responsibility to make sure **all outdoor electrical equipment is safe and regularly maintained** to prevent danger.

You should arrange for a competent person to **carry out an electrical inspection** of all existing electrical equipment and appliances. To ensure everything is in good condition and suitable for outdoor use, particularly if it has been stored or not used for some time.

All new electrical installations must be compatible with any existing equipment, making sure electrical circuits and sockets are not overloaded. Only use lights and heaters **specifically designed for outdoor use**, and **regularly check equipment** for damage or water ingress.

By checking for visible signs of damage or faults most electrical defects can be managed economically.

Fixed installation and electrical appliances should be maintained in accordance with the **Electricity at Work Regulations 1989**.

FREQUENCY OF TESTING

Venue	Recommended routine checks	Maximum period between inspection & testing
Places of public entertainment, Public Houses, restaurants & hotels	**1 year**	**5 years**

EAST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Electrical safety & you

www.hse.gov.uk/electricity

ELECTRICITY CAN KILL

In September 2018, a seven-year-old boy died after being electrocuted in a pub beer garden. Harvey Tyrrell was electrocuted after he touched unsafe lighting in the garden of a pub in Harold Wood, Essex. The pub owner pleaded guilty to Harvey's manslaughter and to stealing electricity from an unmetered supply and was jailed for 9 years.

Before you install or use any outdoor electrical equipment

- **Check that it is not damaged**
- **Only select equipment that is suitable for outdoor use**
- **Ensure existing electrical installations are in good condition and compatible with any new equipment you intend to fit**
- **Check that electrical circuits and sockets are not overloaded**
- **Ensure equipment is only connected to a socket protected by a suitable RCD**
- **Ensure sockets are in good condition, suitable for use outside, and in a location where they won't be accessed or damaged by customers**
- **Consider using extra-low voltage or solar equipment to provide a safer environment**