

Instantaneous water heaters

Safe use advice for electric instantaneous water heaters intended for household and similar use and intended for heating water below boiling temperature. Rated voltage is no more than 250V for single phase appliances and 480V for other appliances.

Appliances not intended for normal household use, but which nevertheless may be a source of danger to the public—such as appliances for use by lay persons in shops, light industry and on farms—are covered by this advice.

This advice is not intended to replace specific manufacturer's information but can be used as a general guide.

This advice does not cater for young children or people who are physically weak.

When using the appliances:

- Bare-element water heaters should be used with the correct water resistivity for the water supply to which the appliance may be connected;
- The appliance must be permanently connected to fixed wiring;
- It must be earthed, for earthed type only.
- If a pressure relief device is required for a closed water heater, the appliance may require fitting during installation, unless it is incorporated in the appliance.
- When bare-element water heaters cannot be emptied, the appliance is not to be installed in locations where freezing can occur.
- For open outlet water heaters used with a spray head, the spray head must be descaled regularly.
- Do not switch on open outlet water heaters if there is a possibility the water in the heater could be frozen.

You are urged to:

- Use the appliance only for its intended purpose.
- If the appliance is for indoor use only, do not use outdoors.
- Do not immerse the appliance in water unless it is designed for this purpose.
- Keep hands, fingers, feet, toes and hair away from dangerous moving parts, cutting blades and the like.
- Do not use electrical appliances in the rain.
- Make sure you have dry hands when operating an electrical appliance.
- Do not use a damaged appliance.
- An appliance may not be intended for use by children or people with an illness or disability without supervision.
- Young children should not be allowed to play with the appliance.

- Some appliances require special precautions for installation or user maintenance or both.
- The plug must be removed from the socket-outlet before any cleaning or maintenance is done.
- Do not place cord extension sockets or portable power outlet boards where they may be splashed or where moisture may get in.
- Ensure ventilation holes or outlets are not blocked or partially obstructed.
- If a fixed appliance does not have a supply cord and plug or other means for disconnection from the supply, a means for disconnection must be incorporated into the fixed wiring according to the Wiring Rules.
- If the supply cord or plug is damaged:
 - The manufacturer or its service agent or a similarly qualified person must replace the cord to prevent an accident.
 - Appliances with specially prepared cords must be replaced by a special cord or assembly available from the manufacturer or its service agent.
 - Other appliances that have a supply cord that cannot be replaced, should be scrapped.
- The appliance should be maintained in order to ensure a long, useful life and to protect the operator against electric shock or mechanical mishaps.
- A safety switch can enhance electrical safety when using electrical appliances