

UNIVERSITY OF STRATHCLYDE - RESIDENCE SERVICES

ELECTRICAL SAFETY

It is important that you use electricity safely. The following guidelines are designed to protect yourself and others from fire and electric shock.

Electrical equipment in the UK operates between 220 – 240V and frequency of 50Hz using a 3 pin plug.



UK 3 pin plug

Adaptors

If you are an international student you have several options:

- You can wait until you arrive in Glasgow and buy your appliances here which will have the appropriate plugs fitted e.g. hairdryers, GHD's and rice cookers.
- If you bring your own electrical equipment with you, then it is essential that you use a worldwide adaptor which meets UK standards BS5733 AND BS1363. You can purchase these from Amazon. The adaptor must be fused in order to comply with our requirements.



USA/Canada

If you bring electrical equipment in from the United States or Canada it is possible you will require step down transformers as US power operates at 110/120V 60Hz. It is important to be aware of the wattage of your equipment as it will not operate if it exceeds the wattage limit of the transformer.



45w Voltage Transformer



100w step down transformer

These must be used in conjunction with Universal Adaptors. Again, these can be purchased from Amazon.

Extension Leads

Many students have multiple appliances. It is possible to use an extension lead. The loading on these must not exceed 13 amps. If you wish to use one it must not have more than 4 sockets and **must be** fused . The extension lead should be surge protected and conform to BS1363A.



You must not overload your sockets – one extension lead per socket. Never connect an extension lead onto another extension lead.

In order to assess if you are overloading your sockets go to www.electricalsafetyfirst.org.uk

and check the Socket Overload Calculator. This will show what you can plug into your extension lead safely. This site will also give you more information about electrical safety.

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