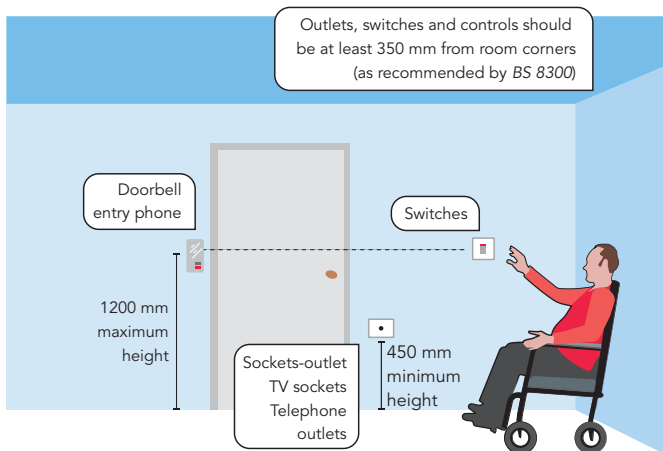


MOUNTING HEIGHTS OF ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT IN DWELLINGS

Notes

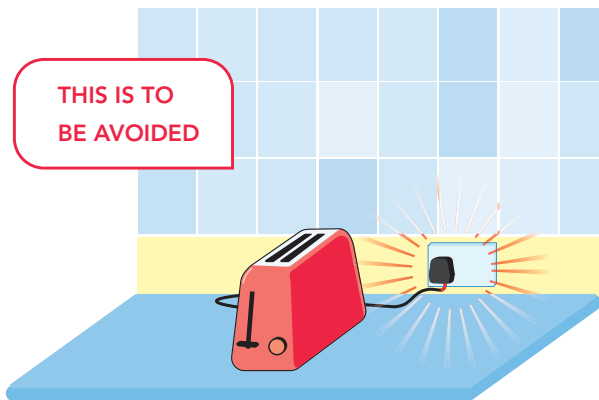
- (1) This Guide explains the requirements of *BS 7671* and Part M of the Building Regulations for England and Wales* relating to the mounting heights of equipment in dwellings.
- (2) Part M of the Building Regulations for both England and Wales require reasonable provision to be made for people to gain access to, use a building and its facilities. Guidance on meeting the requirements of Part M is given in Approved Document M*.
- (3) Section 8 of Approved Document M, which applies to new dwellings, includes the objective of assisting people whose reach is limited to use the dwelling more easily by locating wall-mounted switches and socket-outlets at suitable heights.
- (4) A way of satisfying the above objective, as suggested in Approved Document M, is to provide switches and socket-outlets for lighting and other equipment in habitable rooms at appropriate heights between 450 mm and 1200 mm from finished floor level (see diagram).
- (5) Additionally, the mounting height of wall-mounted socket-outlets and other accessories is required to be sufficient to avoid them suffering wetting or impact, such as may result from floor cleaning (Regulation Groups 522.3 and 522.6 of *BS 7671*). [Continued overleaf >>](#)



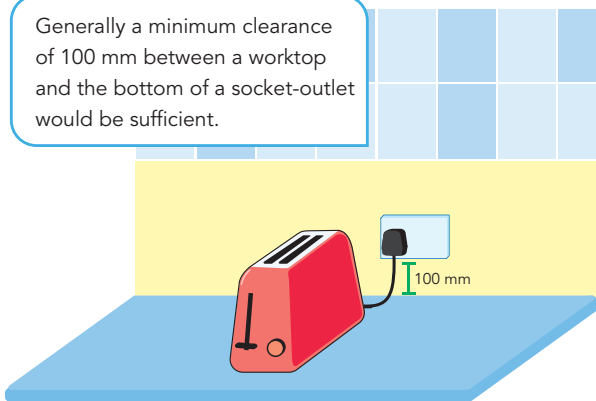
Currently (2018) the requirements of the Building Regulations for electrical equipment mounting height for England and Wales correspond. However, due to devolution of the government in Wales and the giving of powers to the Welsh Ministers the Building Regulations and therefore Approved Documents in Wales may be subject to future changes.

MOUNTING HEIGHTS OF ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT IN DWELLINGS

**THIS IS TO
BE AVOIDED**



Generally a minimum clearance of 100 mm between a worktop and the bottom of a socket-outlet would be sufficient.



>> Continued

(6) Regulation 553.1.6 requires that a wall-mounted socket-outlet is at a sufficient height above the floor or any working surface to minimise the risk of mechanical damage to the socket-outlet or to an associated plug and flexible cord during insertion, use or withdrawal of the plug.

See illustrations above regarding socket outlets above working surfaces. The minimum height above the floor to the bottom of a socket-outlet is 450 mm (see note 4 and diagram overleaf).

(7) If a dwelling is rewired there is no requirement to provide the measures described in note 4; however, it would be desirable to provide them.