

SAFETY CHECKLIST

ISOLATING SWITCHES FOR HOUSEHOLD AND SIMILAR FIXED ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS

This checklist outlines simple measures to help you to safeguard against being deceived into buying counterfeit and / or non-compliant products.

Table 537.4 in BS 7671 of the IET Wiring Regulations, helps identify BS EN 60669-2-4 and BS EN 60947-3 as the appropriate product standards suitable for isolation. This checklist will focus on isolating switches conforming to BS EN 60669-2-4 for household and similar fixed electrical installations, typically used for applications such as extractor fans, showers and cookers.

It is critical to note that, BS 7671 requires that devices for isolation shall be of a type for which the isolation function is explicitly recognized by the relevant product standard or as identified in Table 537.4. Regulation 537.2.1 refers.

CHECK 1 – Does the isolating switch conform to the correct product safety standard?

(a) Does the manufacturer’s information state conformity to BS EN 60669-2-4 or is the switch marked with BS EN 60669-2-4¹

¹ BS EN 60669-2-4 does not require the product to be marked with BS EN 60669-2-4.

(b) Can the manufacturer issue a declaration of conformity to BS EN 60669-2-4?

Note: Other parts of the BS EN 60669 series do not cover isolating switches.

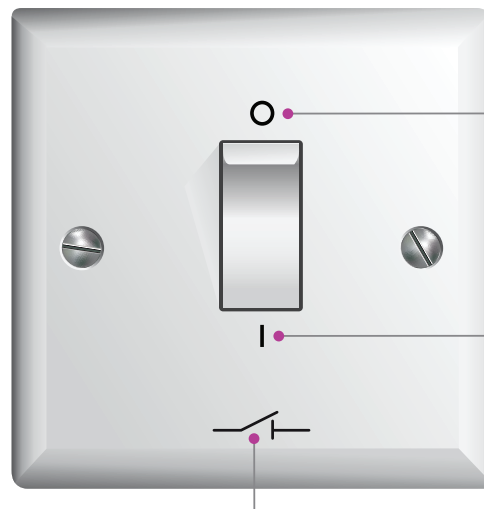
CHECK 2 – Is the required short-circuit protection information available?

The manufacturer must provide reference(s) of one or more short-circuit protection devices (SCPDs) in their catalogue and/or in the instructions which are provided with the isolating switch for the declared rated conditional short-circuit current I_{nc} .

CHECK 3 – Is the isolating switch correctly marked?

Isolating switches conforming to BS EN 60669-2-4 must be marked with the symbols for isolating function and for the closed (on) and open (off) position. These markings must be visible from the front after installation. The isolation function symbol may be included in a wiring diagram or combined with symbols of other functions, provided that it is visible from the front.

Example: isolating switch marking in accordance with BS EN 60669-2-4 visible from the front after installation.



Required symbol for "open" position (off)... O

The words "on", "off" and "isolator" can also be marked but are not required.

Required symbol for "closed" position (on)... I

Required symbol for Isolation function

Well known brands, trademarks and certification marks don't escape the notice of the counterfeiter seeking a quick profit. Only purchase isolating switches from an authorised supplier. Your safety and that of the end user are your responsibility. If you are in doubt check with the brand owner/certification body.

If you have any concerns or suspicions about the authenticity and/or the claims being made in respect of the isolating switch, the following courses of action should be considered to safeguard your customers and your business. Ask your supplier for documentary evidence of conformity. Check with relevant test authorities, where appropriate or

contact BEAMA on 0207 793 3020 or info@beama.org.uk or visit beama.org.uk