FLY LEAD OR CPC? THE ONE THAT CATCHES PEOPLE OUT

WHICH GREEN AND YELLOW IS THE CPC?

Look at a metal accessory from the back and point out the cpc. Most people point at the short link from the back box to the front plate.

> That is not the cpc. It is a fly lead.

	WHAT IT IS	WHERE IT GOES
cpc	The circuit protective conductor	All the way back to the board and the MET
Fly lead	A short green-and-yellow link	Back box earth terminal to the front plate

How to make one.

A metal back box has a small earth terminal inside it. The fly lead is green-and-yellow and the **same size as the circuit cpc**, run from that terminal into one of the earth terminals on the accessory.

What it is for: if a fault made the box or the front plate live, the fly lead gives the fault a safe path, so touching the metalwork does not hurt you.

Plastic boxes often have an earth terminal too, and it is not pointless.

It is future-proofing. Plenty of people swap a plastic switch for a metal one without calling anyone — so if the terminal is there, terminate to it. If there is no terminal, leave the cpc safely in a connector block for whoever comes next.

✋ **Where it bites on an inspection.** Upgrading plastic accessories to metal means the back boxes now need fly leads. It is a common addition and it gets missed.

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