FUNCTIONAL SWITCHING: TABLE 537.4

CAN A FUSE BE USED FOR FUNCTIONAL SWITCHING?

A common question — name the devices that can be used for functional switching, and where is the table? It is **not** in Guidance Note 3.

BS 7671 · Table 537.4

The **On-Site Guide** · Table J1 · pp.229–231 reproduces it. The right-hand column is functional switching, and some answers surprise people:

DEVICE	FUNCTIONAL SWITCHING?
Switch-disconnector	**Yes**
Isolating switch	**Yes**
Disconnector	**No**
Fuses	**No**
Luminaire connecting device	**No**
Luminaire supporting coupler	**No**

The other devices

— circuit breakers, RCDs, contactors — read the column in your own copy rather than reasoning it out.

It does not need a built-in test button.

A plain switch that turns something on and off in normal use is functional switching. The table tells you which devices qualify for which of the three switching duties — look it up rather than reasoning it out.

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