FUNCTIONAL TESTING, AND WHICH DEVICES HAVE A TEST BUTTON

WHICH DEVICES HAVE NO TEST BUTTON?

Functional testing is done **manually** — you operate the thing and watch it work. Switches on and off; test buttons pressed. And the test buttons are not where people assume:

DEVICE	TEST BUTTON?	HOW YOU CHECK IT
RCD	Yes	Press the test button
RCD socket outlet	Yes	Press the test button
RCBO	Yes	Press the test button — often small, and marked T
AFDD	Yes	Press the test button — and read its indicator to the maker's instructions
SPD	**No**	The **window**: green good, red replace

Do not walk past the RCBO's button.
It is doing the work of both a breaker and an RCD, and its test button is often small and tucked away — easy to miss. The SPD is the odd one out: no button at all.

✋ **Green or red, on an SPD.** The status window is the check. Red means it has reached the end of its life (its internal disconnector has operated), so it is replaced. An AFDD is different: test it with its test button and read its indicator to the maker's instructions.

AFDDs usually are not separate units.
For most circuits the arc fault detection is **incorporated** with a circuit breaker or an RCBO, so you are not buying a standalone device. And it is surge **protective** device, not surge protection device.

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