INSPECTION: WHAT GUIDANCE NOTE 3 ADDS

WHICH LABELS DOES A HOME NO LONGER NEED?

Guidance Note 3 has its own inspection checklist (2.5.3), grouped by general items, switchgear, accessories and lighting controls. It's worth reading once in full. These points come up again and again:

- **You can't open every connection.** Inspect a **representative sample**, especially the larger connections on switchgear and busbars. Where a torque setting is given, use it.
- **Terminals are marked for the conductors they take.** No marking: any class of conductor. **r**: rigid only (class 1 and 2). **sol**: solid only (class 1). **f**: flexible only (class 5 and 6). Fine flexible strands in a screw terminal should ideally have a crimp ferrule.
- **Main switch on single phase for ordinary people**, such as homes, shops and offices: double-pole.
- **Distribution boards can have a rated diversity factor (RDF).** At 0.8, any mix of outgoing circuits can be loaded to 80% of their rating, as long as the total doesn't exceed the board's rating. That's why heavily loaded circuits get spread between lightly loaded ones.
- **A label for the first periodic inspection** should be there. It's on the checklist.
- **Sheathed cables into accessories:** no cores with the sheath removed showing outside the enclosure. Bare protective conductors of 6 mm^2 or less get sleeved green-and-yellow.

LABELS YOU NO LONGER NEED IN A HOME

NOTICE	IN A HOME
SPD notice at the board	Not required, **if** the information is recorded on the certificate with its Guidance for Recipients
Circuit chart fixed at the board	Not required to be fixed there, on the same condition. A copy of the schedule of circuit details near the board does the job
"Mixed wiring colours" notice	The regulation has been **deleted**. Nothing stops you fitting one, especially on additions and alterations

Guidance Note 3 · 2.5.2 · connections, terminal markings | **Guidance Note 3** · notices | **Guidance Note 3** · 2.5.3 · the checklist

Free section from Sparky Study Notes. The full Level 3 notes, 1,463 practice questions and the video lessons: sparkystudynotes.co.uk