PART P: SCOPE AND DWELLINGS

IS A CARE HOME A DWELLING?

Part P applies to electrical installations in:

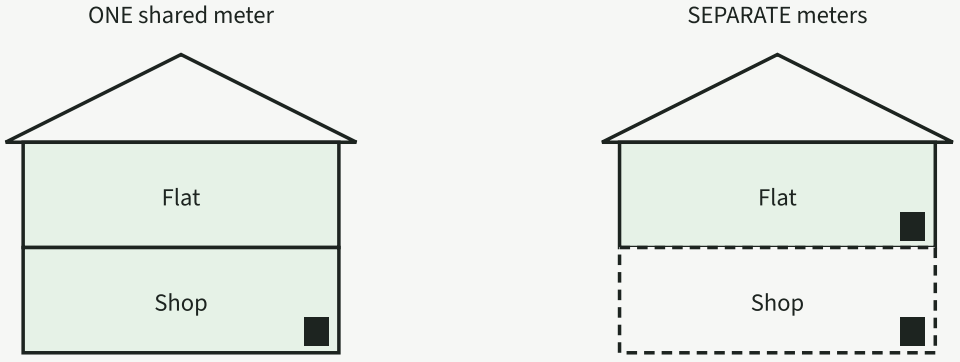
- Dwelling houses and flats
- Dwellings and business premises that share a **common supply**
- Common access areas in blocks of flats (corridors, staircases)
- Shared amenities of flats (laundries, gyms)
- Land belonging to the dwelling: **fixed garden lighting, pond pumps**
- Outbuildings: **sheds, detached garages, greenhouses**

Not "dwellings", so not covered by Part P:

- Hospitals · schools · care homes for the elderly
- Hotels · boarding houses · halls of residence · hostels

Other parts of the Building Regs still apply there, such as **A** for chasing walls and **B** for fire.

What is a dwelling? Generally taken as a home for **6 people or fewer**. That's a rule of thumb, not a legal limit.



Part P applies to BOTH

Part P: flat only, NOT the shop

Green shows where Part P applies. An example: fitting a shower circuit in the flat above a shop on a separate meter doesn't involve the shop at all.

Electrician's Guide to the Building Regs · 1.3.2 Scope of Part P · **p.22**

Electrician's Guide to the Building Regs · Figure: scope of Part P (houses, flats, shop with shared or separate meter) · **p.23**

Kitchens

In **Wales**, a kitchen counts as an area of increased risk, so it's treated as a special location. In England it isn't. A kitchen is *"a room or part of a room which contains a sink*

and

food preparation facilities". In open-plan areas, the kitchen may be taken to extend **3 m from the edge of the sink** or to a nearer dividing wall. A sink in an open-plan office doesn't make the office a kitchen.

A **skilled person** doesn't have to hold a particular qualification. BS 7671 defines one as someone with **adequate** education, training and practical skills to see the risks and avoid the hazards. You prove it through qualifications, site experience, signed-off work and paperwork.

BS 7671 · Part 2 Definitions · "Skilled person" KEY WORD: ADEQUATE

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