RCBO BOARDS: FREEDOM, AT A PRICE

WHY NOT AN RCBO ON EVERY CIRCUIT?

The simple board (main switch plus a busbar) can take **CBs or RCBOs** in any mix, and comes in 5-way, 10-way, 12-way and much bigger sizes. These "RCBO boards" are now **very popular**.

- **The benefit:** each circuit that needs RCD protection gets its **own** RCD. In a house, the downstairs sockets and downstairs lights both need 30 mA protection. If something plugged into a socket trips its RCBO, **only that circuit** goes off and the lights stay on.
- **The cost:** the enclosure is simple, but you pay for an **RCBO on every circuit**.

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OUR EXAMPLE: A THREE-BEDROOM HOUSE

Circuits needing 30 mA RCD protection:
  1  downstairs socket ring final
  2  upstairs socket ring final
  3  kitchen ring final
  4  downstairs lighting
  5  upstairs lighting
  6  cooker circuit (cooker switch with a socket on it)
  7  shower (room containing a bath or shower)
= 7 circuits, all needing 30 mA

→ 7 RCBOs, plus a spare or two
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That's where the cheaper, long-established alternative comes in: the **split-load board**.

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