RCD TESTING: WHERE TO CONNECT

WOULD YOU TEST THIS RCD FROM A CEILING LIGHT?

The book's preferred method (method 1) is between line and the protective conductor, on the **load side** of the RCD, with the load disconnected so it doesn't upset the result. Where method 1 can't give a conclusive result, or can't be done safely, Guidance Note 3 gives method 2 — upstream and downstream of the RCD, only where every line terminal is at least IP2X / IPXXB (p.98). You could take a light fitting down and probe its terminals — up steps, balancing probes, reaching for the test button. Don't.

Socket	At the RCD	Up steps
plug-in adapter hands free	earth lead on the bar L and N: load side	probes in a ceiling luminaire
✓	✓	✗

on an RCBO, line and neutral both come off its load side

A socket adapter wherever there's a socket on the RCD; otherwise at the RCD, on its load side.

✋ **Never walk away from a live board with the cover off** — not for a moment, not to reach a socket in the next room. Cover on, then go.

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