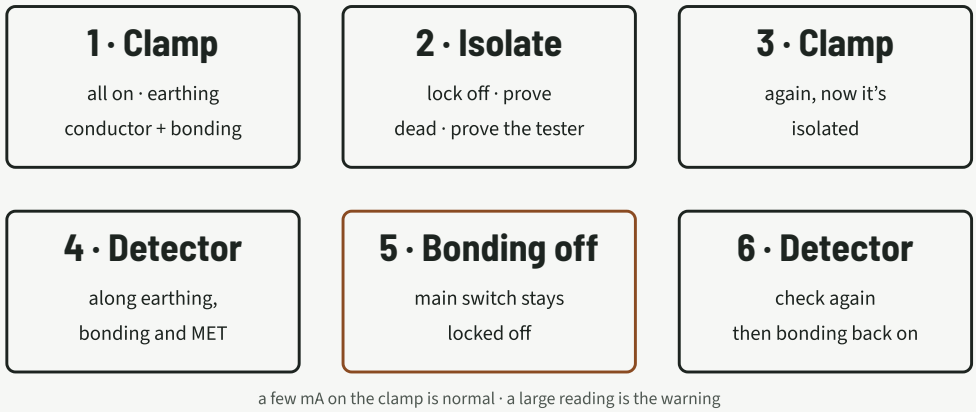
SAFE ISOLATION ON A PERIODIC, WITH THE OPEN-PEN CHECKS

WHY CLAMP THE EARTHING CONDUCTOR BEFORE YOU SWITCH OFF?

On a TN-C-S supply the PEN conductor can come loose from the star point. The circuits stop working, but they're still live — and everything bonded to the MET can sit at a dangerous voltage: the board case, the pipes, the sink. So the isolation below checks for it before you trust anything is dead.



Clamp, isolate, clamp, detect, disconnect the bonding, detect, reconnect the bonding. The bonding comes off because a neighbour's open PEN can arrive through the pipes in the ground.

- **Turn the loads off first**, then the main switch. It's rated to switch on load, but there's no need to make it — and later you can bring circuits back one at a time.
- Ask before you switch anything off. It's someone's home.
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> ✋ **With the main bonding off, the installation is less safe, not more.** The main switch stays off and locked until it's back on.

Guidance Note 3 · Section 3 · safety in inspection and testing

Guidance Note 3 · Appendix D · neutral current diversion

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