TOUCH CURRENT

WHAT'S THE LIMIT FOR TOUCH CURRENT?

✋ **This is a live test.** The appliance must be running. Many dedicated PAT testers can't do it at all — they only do dead tests.

Touch current measures the current that would flow through a person touching the equipment, to Earth. It's an alternative where insulation resistance isn't appropriate.

Maximum	`5 mA for AC equipment`
Settling time	Take the reading after it has been stable for at least **2 seconds**
Applies to	The protective conductor current test is only for class I and class II **with functional earth** — not ordinary class II

For scale:
around 50 mA is enough to stop a heart. 5 mA is a tenth of that, which is why the limit sits where it does.

! **If your tester can't do a test that's needed, you don't skip it.** You bring in someone competent in inspection and testing — including live testing — to do it.

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