

Disconnection of built-in kitchen appliances

(January 2016) (First issue)



Question

Is it acceptable to locate the means of disconnection for a built-in kitchen appliance within the kitchen base unit housing that appliance?

Considerations

- A built-in appliance should be capable of being disconnected before carrying out maintenance and repair. Removal of the appliance from its housing may not be necessary when carrying out such work. Means of disconnection located within the housing may therefore be difficult to access and operate.
- BS 7671 'Requirements for electrical installations. IET Wiring Regulations' does not specifically require the provision of a local means of disconnection to be provided for appliances.
- Many manufacturers of built-in appliances recommend that a means of disconnecting the appliance should be accessible when the product is installed.

Answer

Best practice should be adopted when providing a means of electrical disconnection for built-in kitchen appliances i.e.

- Such means of disconnection should not require the removal of the appliance from its housing to access and operate.
- Disconnection should be local to the appliance to enable that appliance to be isolated without affecting the use of other electrical appliances or equipment on the same circuit.
- Such isolation should be reasonably accessible and in compliance with the appliance manufacturer's recommendations where provided.