



One of the main questions we are asked by campers is "how can I connect to and use mains electricity in my tent?"

Basic Guidance on Electric Hook-up for Tents

'Can I use mains electricity in my tent?' YES!

A typical EHU for use in tents consists of:

A unit consisting of single or triple 13 amp socket(s), a box with a transparent cover housing an MCB (mains circuit breaker) and RCD (residual current device). This in turn is connected to cable with a 3 pin site plug at the opposite end. These are sold complete in camping shops. Home made units, often consisting of little more than a mains cable and 3 pin socket are **NOT A SAFE OPTION FOR CAMPERS.** Use of non-approved equipment can result in tripping out the whole campsite's supply.

Typical Mobile Mains Unit, or Electric Hook Up (ELU)



BE AWARE OF HAZARDS:

- Water and electricity **do not mix**
- Your tent may leak and will certainly suffer with condensation
- Mixing even small amounts of water with electrical supply equipment and appliances results in risk of electrocution or fire, which is why you need a purpose made unit with proper protection.
- Proprietary hook up equipment is designed to resist damp conditions, but is only fully effective when appliance plugs are **not** inserted and covers are over the sockets
- Most domestic electrical appliances are not designed for the damp outdoors
- Supply leads in a confined space can present a trip hazard

DO:

- ✓ Use only proprietary hook-up equipment purchased from a reputable dealer with safety devices including an RCD and an IP rating of 44 or greater (resistance to water ingress - all of our outdoor fittings are up to this standard).
- ✓ Keep hook-up equipment off the ground and close to the appliances
- ✓ Use only when someone is present otherwise switch off and remove plugs, ensuring covers are over sockets
- ✓ Test the operation of the Circuit Breaker before plugging the appliances in
- ✓ Be prepared to stop using electricity when conditions in the tent are damp

DON'T:

- ✗ NEVER use a household extension cable, even with an RCD plug, instead of proprietary hook-up equipment
- ✗ Do NOT use household plug adaptors - only one appliance per socket
- ✗ Do NOT allow children to be involved in the installation and operation of electricity
- ✗ Do NOT use ordinary domestic appliances such as kettles, toasters, heaters - campsite supply can only cope with low wattage appliances. If you use domestic versions you will trip the supply. Also, most domestic electrical appliances are not designed for the damp outdoors.

WHAT ELSE MIGHT I NEED?



UK Conversion Lead - Allows conversion of a site lead to a UK plug, ideal for connecting your Mobile mains unit to your home supply



Mains tester - for testing your equipment or testing for reversed polarity, especially on continent.



Continental Conversion Lead - Converts your unit to standard 2 pin continental mains plug