

ELECTRICAL FIRE RISKS IN OLDER HOMES

Talk 1: Old Services, Panels and Circuit Breakers





PowerCheck
Experts in Old Home Electrical Safety







**A well kept 1930s home,
service upgraded in the 1960s to 100 amps...**



... but
deterioration
can go unnoticed



Extreme Risk

Due to age & exposure to weather

Rare occurrence but extremely dangerous



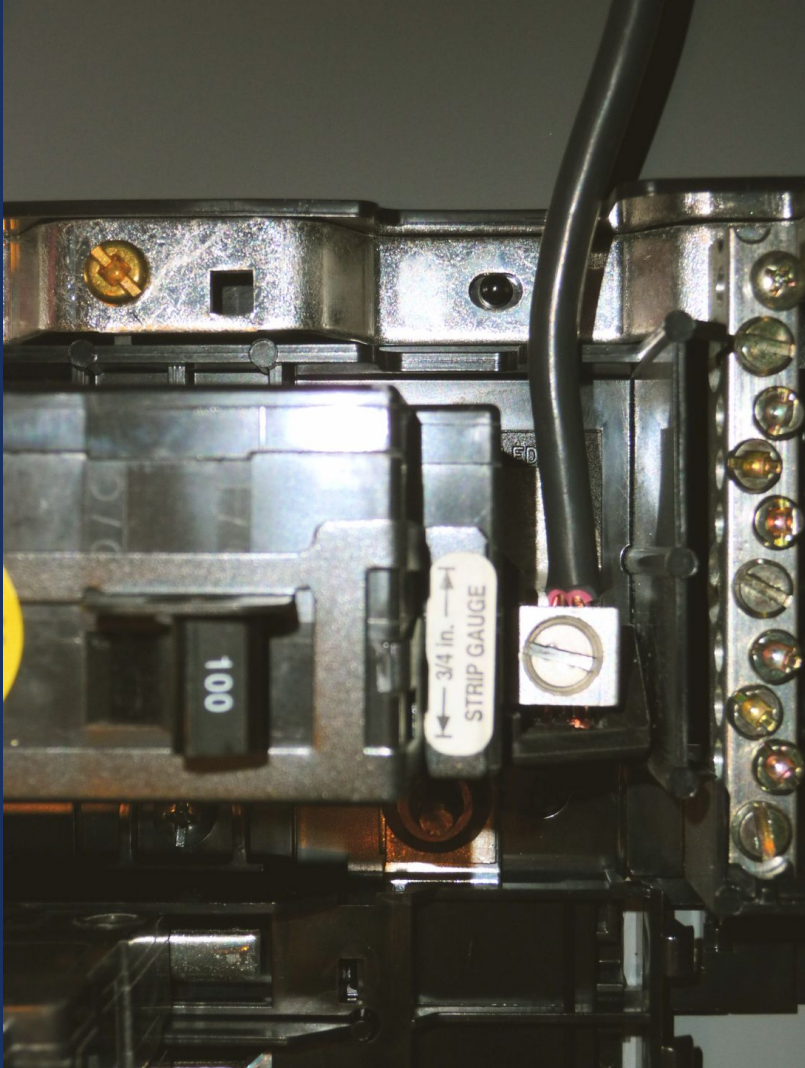
House is not grounded due to plumbing repairs:

In pre-1960s houses the copper water pipe provided the grounding.

In 10% of houses the grounding is broken

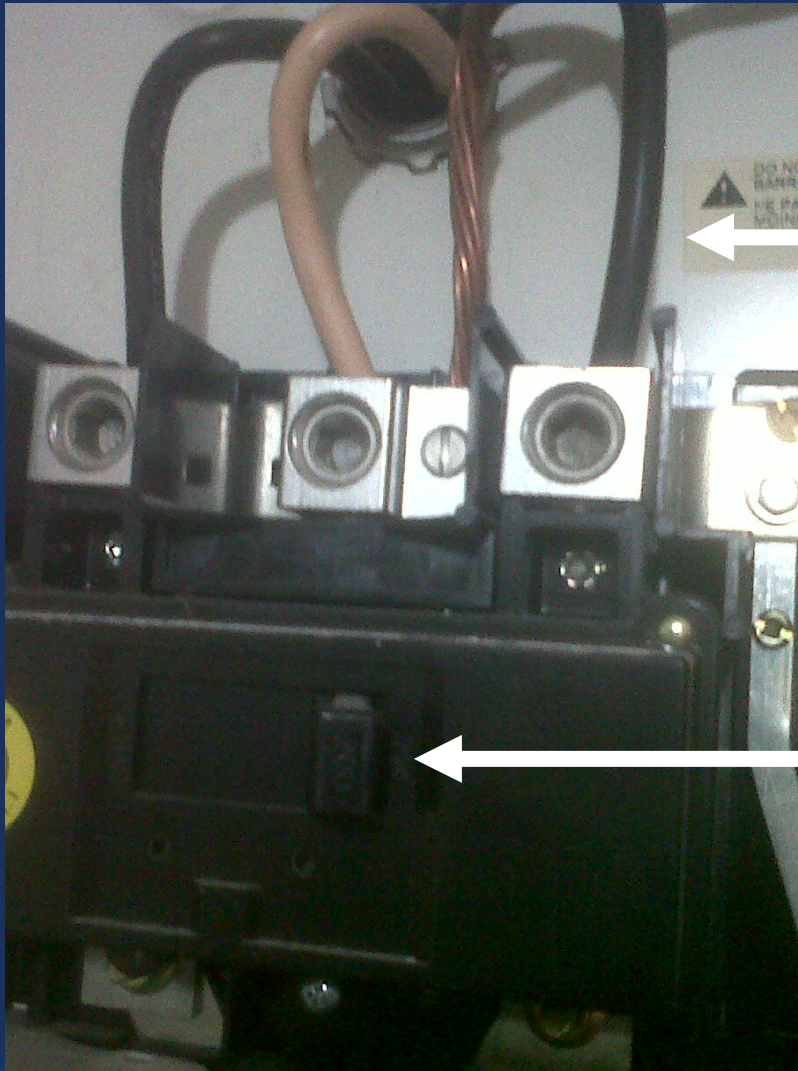


House not
grounded
due to
deterioration



Illegal panel install

100 amp panel on
60 amp service



Illegal panel install

60 amp conductors

200 amp circuit breaker

In houses built pre 1972 we see
an illegal panel install in more
than 10% of houses



Circuit breakers oversized

In houses pre 1975 we see one or more circuit breakers oversized in 20% of houses





Circuit breakers have exceeded expected service life

In houses built pre 1975 we
see circuit breakers are
broken, expired or with loose
connections in more than half
the houses

SUMMARY

Key causes of electrical fires in old houses are due to:

1. Age
2. Deterioration
3. DIY work
4. Lack of maintenance

What is the main indicator for HIGH Risk homes?

Age of house

