



3 Green Lane, Wixams, Bedford, MK42 6DA

[www.Electrician-bedford.co.uk](http://www.Electrician-bedford.co.uk) | [info@electrician-bedford.co.uk](mailto:info@electrician-bedford.co.uk) | 01234 964912

## **No earth (CPC) on a lighting circuit.**

If you live in an older property and have had an electrician around to carry out some work or you have had an EICR carried out on the property, they may have told you that your lighting circuits don't have an earth (or CPC, which stands for circuit protective conductor).

### **So what does this mean for you and your home?**

Well, in an ideal situation you'd have the lighting circuits re-wired so there is an earth at all light fittings. Unfortunately, this can be intrusive and you'd likely sustain cosmetic damage. This can be minimised though using wireless switches.

Not everybody is in a position to be able to re-wire their lights though and thankfully you don't NEED to have it done, but there are certain rules that need to be followed. The main rule is that you're not allowed to have any metal (class 1) light fittings or switches. Class 1 fittings require an earth and if you don't have one in your circuit then we can't install the light to that circuit. You can still buy some nice decorative lights that are Class 2 which means they don't require an earth.

These lights are identified by a symbol that is a square within a square. The second rule is that you must have a warning label on your fuseboard stating that there is no earth present on the lighting circuits and that no class 1 light fittings are to be installed.

Generally Lighting circuits installed before 1966 didn't require an earth and most circuits have since been updated but if you're unsure whether your lights need re-wiring then please get in touch!