



'TIS THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY... CAREFUL! AROUND 350 PEOPLE VISIT A&E EACH YEAR DUE TO ACCIDENTS CAUSED BY CHRISTMAS LIGHTS¹.

SO, TO MAKE SURE YOUR FESTIVE CHEER DOESN'T TURN INTO FESTIVE TEARS, WE'VE PUT TOGETHER THIS GUIDE ON HOW TO PUT UP YOUR OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS WITHOUT ANY MERRY MISHAPS.



STILL GLOWING STRONG?

If your Christmas lights have been gathering dust in the loft all year, they might be worn or damaged. So it's a bright idea to give them the once over before you put them up.

- What to check when Christmas lights go out
- How to replace a bulb on a string of lights
- How to fix a string of Christmas lights



BUY THE RIGHT LIGHT

If you do need to replace your lights with new ones, there are a few things you need to consider first, from safety standards to outdoor suitability.

- Buyers' guide to outdoor Christmas lighting
- Top tips for Christmas lights
- Christmas light safety standards



LEDs ARE A WISE CHOICE

You want your Christmas lights to burn bright, not burn the house down! Because LEDs are cooler, they won't overheat and catch fire like traditional lights can.

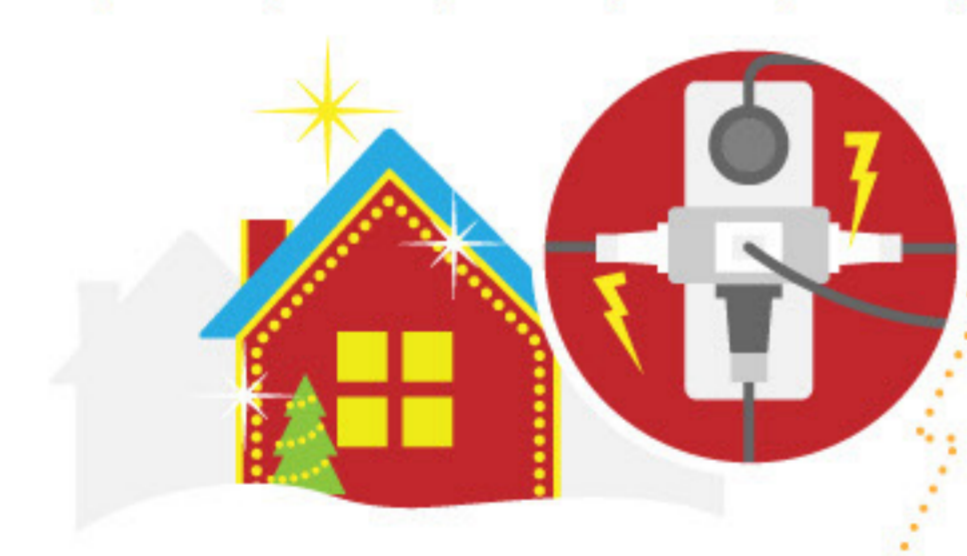
- The benefits of using LED lights at Christmas
- LED Christmas Lights vs. Traditional Christmas Lights
- Your guide to LED Christmas lights



DECK THE WALLS

Once you've got your lights sorted it's time to put them up, which is an accident waiting to happen. Here's how you can avoid being highly strung.

- How to use ladders safely
- How to hang Christmas lights on a two-storey building
- A contractor's secrets to hanging holiday decor
- The essential tool kit guide for Christmas



MORE DAZZLE, LESS FRAZZLE

We all like to outshine our neighbours when it comes to our Christmas light display. Just be careful not to overload your circuit.

- Prevent electrical overload with your Christmas lights
- How many things can you plug into an electrical outlet?
- 13 expert tips for dazzling Christmas lights



LOOKING AFTER YOUR LIGHTS

Once your lights are up and working you can relax, right? Wrong! There are still a few precautions you need to take:

- How to stay safe at Christmas
- Christmas lights safety



WHAT GOES UP MUST COME DOWN

As tempting as it might be to leave your lights up till next year, there comes a time when you have to take them all down again.

- When to take down your Christmas decorations
- 8 ways taking down the Christmas decorations will ruin your day
- 5 ways to store Christmas lights to avoid detangling next year

We hope that this guide will help you to avoid any Christmas catastrophes. We wish you a very merry (and safe) festive season.

¹Source: Home Accident Surveillance System, 2002

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