



PLEASE FOLLOW THESE STEPS BEFORE REPORTING AN ELECTRICAL PROBLEM

THE MOST COMMON CAUSE OF HOMEOWNERS PROBLEMS ARE DUE TO A PLUG THAT IS KINKED BEHIND A DRESSER OR COUCH. THIS CAUSES THE WIRES TO FRAY INSIDE THE CORD, AND THE CIRCUIT TO TRIP.

IF YOUR CIRCUIT BREAKER TRIPS

- 1. TURN OFF ALL LIGHT SWITCHES.**
- 2. UNPLUG EVERYTHING THAT IS PLUGGED IN THAT ROOM.**
- 3. RESET BREAKER.**
- 4. PLUG IN ITEMS ONE AT A TIME. IF THE CIRCUIT TRIPS AGAIN, GENERALLY THERE IS A PROBLEM WITH THE PRODUCTS WIRING AND SHOULD DISCONTINUE USE.**

WHAT IS AN ARC FAULT BREAKER?

It is a new type of circuit breaker with additional circuit protection, which mitigates the effects of an arcing fault.

HOMEOWNER INSTRUCTIONS FOR A 2-POLE INDEPENDENT TRIP

1. For circuit breaker BRANCH/FEEDER ARC FAULT CIRCUIT INTERRUPTER (AFCI) Listing mark is on front of breaker.
How do you locate an Arc Fault Breaker inside the panel?
2. Look for the circuit breaker that has a label on its front that reads “ARC FAULT BREAKER”. The label and the “TEST” buttons can be seen without removing the front trim on the panel board.
3. Homeowner to use the “TEST” buttons one at a time on the front of the ARC FAULT breaker to test the Arc Fault test circuit by tripping the breaker. The breaker handles move to either the middle position or “OFF”. First push or move one of the test the Arc fault test circuit by tripping the breaker. The breaker handles must trip otherwise the breaker must be replaced. Restore power by moving each of the breaker handles firmly to the “OFF” position and then moving each of the breaker handles firmly to the “ON” position. Next test the other half of the breaker. Push or move the remaining test button. Breaker handles must trip, otherwise it must be replaced. A qualified electrician must be used to replace a breaker. After testing restore power.
4. Test regularly, at least once per month, following the test method outlined above.

What do you do if an Arc Fault Breaker trips?

5. If the breaker handle trips (handle moves to “OFF” position or to a mid-position) remove all loads from the receptacles in this branch circuit. Restore power to the breaker to see if it will stay “ON”. If the breaker trips again, have an electrician check the permanent electrical wiring by first turning off any wall switches that control light fixtures or outlets.

The fault could be arcing, poor insulation, short wires, wet connections, wet conduit, a neutral lead pinched to a ground metal box, receptacle leakage, or other faults which could cause safety features of the circuit breaker to open the circuit. If the breaker stays on, then switch the breaker to the “OFF” position and reconnect one of the loads.

First connect a 120-volt 40-watt or higher light bulb load to one of the circuits. Turn the breaker “ON” and switch on that load. If the breaker trips with just this load connected, then please call an electrician to resolve. If the breaker remains “ON”, and the load operates normally, add additional loads. This process should be continued until the breaker trips or stays on. The load, which has been added last and caused a trip, should be examined for possible faults. The fault could be among those listed above.

The total load on the breaker should also be calculated to determine if a possible overload condition exists before reusing the device (see Note A below). Loads suspected of having faults should not be restored to service. If the breaker remains "ON" with all the original loads reconnected, push the breaker handles to the "OFF" position, wait 1 or 2 minutes, and move the handles to the handles to the handles to the "ON" position. Breaker tripping would indicate that inrush currents are too high. Reduce load until breaker can stay on.

Note A: Possible overload conditions can be checked by adding the currents drawn by various loads (watts/120) and comparing the sum to the breaker handle rating.

If you have questions regarding this information, please contact your original electrical contractor.