

TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

MOUNTING HEIGHT CONSUMER UNITS

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(First Issue)

QUESTION

At what height should consumer units with multi-rows of circuit breakers be mounted?

CONSIDERATIONS

- The location of consumer units should permit reasonable access by users for the purpose of testing the RCDs at regular intervals, and in case of emergency.
- Approved Document M1 - Access to and use of buildings states that 'Consumer units should be mounted so that the switches are 1350-1450 mm above floor level'.
- The British Electrotechnical and Allied Manufacturers' Association (BEAMA) recommend that for a multi-row consumer unit, where compliance with the mounting heights of ADM1 cannot be achieved for all switches, the consumer unit should be mounted such that the bottom row of switches are located between 1350 - 1450 mm so that they are out of the reach of children to avoid interference and inappropriate operation.

ANSWER

Where multi-row consumer units are used they should be mounted with the bottom row of switches (measured to the switch) located between 1350 - 1450 mm above floor level.