



How To Change Blown Fuse Or Reset Circuit Breaker

Because the "blowing" of a fuse results from the overloading of an electrical circuit, many people think that the fuse box is a dangerous area to approach, as it controls the flow of so much electricity. Nothing could be further from the truth. Of course, it is always advisable to approach electrical apparatus with caution; but there should be no fear whatsoever attached to the common chore of changing a burnt fuse.

We would, however, like to give you a few pointers before we begin the actual procedure for that simple task. As far as fuses are concerned, the cardinal rule is Be Prepared. That is to say, you should make a list of all the different types and sizes of fuse in your fuse box, and make sure you have three or four of each on hand at all times. Because, if one "blows" on Sunday, you'll be whistling in the dark till Monday.

Now, if you really want to be secure when working around your fuse box, take our humbly, offered advice, and make the following chart:

1. Make a diagram of your fuse or circuit breaker box, as shown in Figure 54A.
2. Number each fuse or circuit breaker, both on the chart and beside each in the box, making sure that your numbers correspond exactly with one another.
3. Turn on all the lights in your apartment or house.
4. Now, one at a time, unscrew each fuse or trip circuit breaker and see which lights go off.
5. Mark down beside each fuse or circuit breaker in your chart the area of the house or apartment each controls See Figure 54B.
6. Once you have completed this, tape your chart beside the box in plain site.
7. From then on, if the power fails in your bedroom, say, you will know exactly which fuse or circuit breaker has disconnected and must be corrected by consulting the chart.

Procedure For Re-setting Fuse Or Circuit Breaker

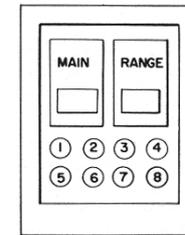
Utensils

A wooden platform (for the homeowner whose panel box may be in the basement where floors are often wet) made of three 2 by 6 by 24-inch planks to be set on the floor beneath the box and covered with a rubber mat 18 by 24 inches.

Flashlight

1. When current fails in a section of your house, consult the chart prepared above.
2. While standing on platform, unscrew that fuse and examine with flashlight. You will see a deep, gray "cloud" on the surface of the fuse.
3. Replace fuse with one of identical amperage. Never, never, under any circumstances, replace one fuse with another of higher amperage. It is the greatest fire hazard.
4. If a circuit-breaker needs to be re-set, trip it to the "off" position and then to "on" position. Power should be restored.
5. If fuses and circuit breakers repeatedly disconnect, consult a competent electrician.

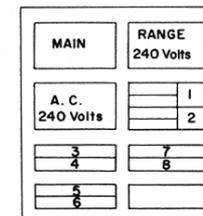
FUSE BOX DIAGRAM



A

1	BEDROOMS	5	GARAGE
2	BATHROOM	6	BASEMENT
3	LIVING-ROOM	7	
4	KITCHEN	8	

BREAKER BOX DIAGRAM



B

1	BEDROOMS	5	GARAGE	9	
2	BATHROOM	6	BASEMENT	10	
3	LIVING-ROOM	7		11	
4	KITCHEN	8		12	

Figure 54.
Fuse and Circuit Breaker Box Diagrams