

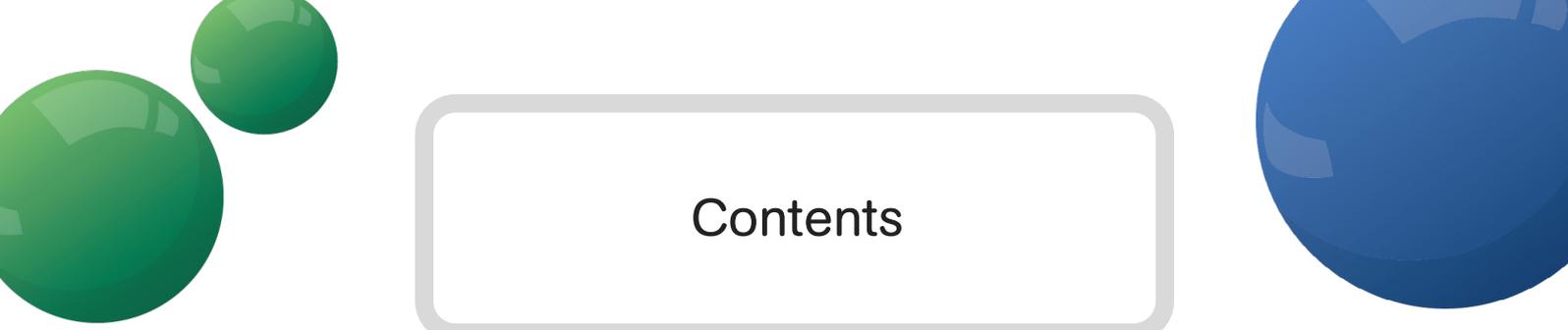
COVID-19

Lockdown guide for installers

Guidance for England and Wales



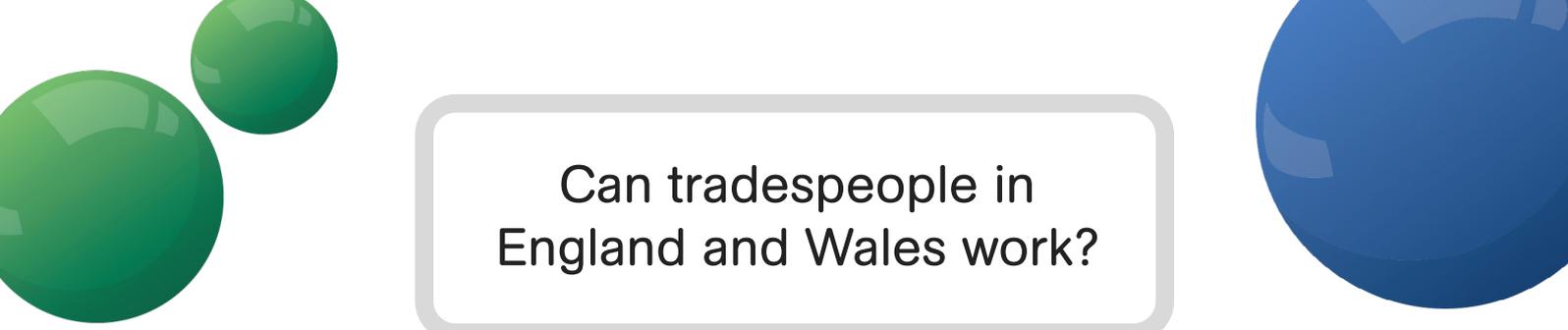
DGCOS • HICS • HIES



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We have produced this guide to help installers navigate their way through the current lockdown.

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Can tradespeople in England and Wales work?

From 6 January, a national lockdown applies in all of England and Wales. Government have published guidance that states you can only leave home for work purposes where it is unreasonable for you to do your job from home.

“Where it is necessary for you to work in other people’s homes - for example, for nannies, cleaners or tradespeople - you can do so. Otherwise, you should avoid meeting for work in a private home or garden, where COVID-19 Secure measures may not be in place.” - [National Lockdown: Stay at Home](#)

Tradespeople are advised to frequently check the Government’s official pages for any changes to how and where you can work.

[Working safely during coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - Guidance - GOV.UK](#)

How to protect yourself, your staff, and your customers

It is important to ensure that **you, your staff, and your customers** are all protected whilst working.
Below are steps on how you can ensure you all remain protected during coronavirus.

- Complete a COVID-19 risk assessment and share it with all your staff.
- Increase your cleaning. Make sure you are regularly cleaning surfaces or any tools you are using. Ensure that everyone is using hand sanitiser and washing their hands regularly.
- Remind your customers and staff to wear face coverings where it is required to do so by law.
 - Ensure everyone is social distancing.
- Take part in NHS Test and Trace by keeping a record of all your staff and contractors for 21 days.
- Watch out for those displaying coronavirus symptoms. If you, your staff or a customer are displaying a persistent cough, a high temperature or has lost their sense of taste or smell, they should be isolating.
- No work can be carried out by any tradesperson or engineer who has coronavirus symptoms, however mild.

Working in consumer's homes

To ensure safe working whilst in consumer's homes, please follow the below guidance:

- **Ensure you have explained safety measures** to your customer prior to entering their home.
- **Steer clear of crowded areas in the home.** Any busy locations in the house should be avoided where possible.
- Tradespeople should wear **face masks and other relevant personal protective equipment (PPE)** whenever possible.
- **Limit contact with your customers.** You should also try to bring your own food and drinks, take breaks outside, and avoid sharing items such as pens or tools.
 - When working in a household with people at **higher risk**, take extra measures to avoid contact.
 - Ensure all staff and customers are kept up to date with how **safety measures** are being used.
- **No work can be carried out in any household which is isolating or where an individual is being shielded, unless it is to remedy a direct risk to the safety of the household, such as emergency plumbing or repairs, and where the tradesperson is willing to do so.**

Social distancing

You **must** maintain social distancing in the workplace wherever possible.

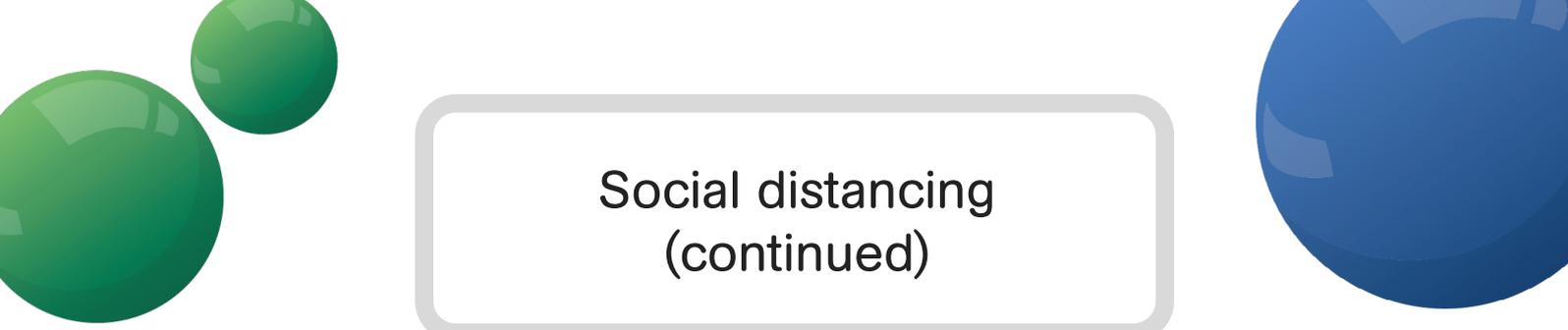
Sometimes it is not possible to maintain social distancing guidelines (2m, or 1m with risk mitigation where 2m is not viable) while working in the home, where you cannot maintain social distancing guidelines ensure that extra attention is paid to equipment, cleaning, and hygiene.

This can help to reduce risk.

Working materials, such as tools, should be assigned to an individual and not shared. If they need to be shared, please ensure that they are shared by the least amount of people possible.

Social distancing must be applied to all parts of a business, not just the consumer's home.

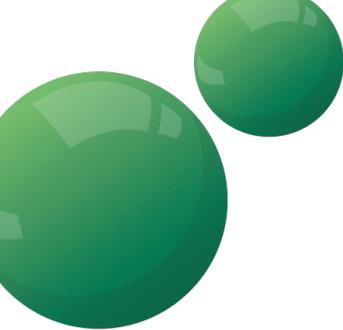
Please ensure social distancing is enforced in any other work settings such as communal entrances and exits, break rooms, vans, and other similar settings.



Social distancing (continued)

How to ensure social distancing measures will be followed:

- Speak to members of the household before your visit and ask that **social distancing guidelines are maintained**.
 - Ask households to **leave all internal doors open** as this will minimise contact with door handles.
- **Identify busy areas across the household** prior to your visit and avoid these where possible or minimise your time and movement within these areas.
 - **Limit the number of workers** within confined spaces.
- If workers must be in close proximity, please enforce a **fixed pairing system**. For example, during 2-person assembly or maintenance.



Keeping work areas clean

To keep work areas clean, **please follow the below guidance:**

- **Frequently clean** any tools/objects and surfaces that are touched regularly.
- Speak with the householder to **arrange methods of safely disposing waste.**
- **Remove all waste and belongings from the work area** at the end of a job.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and face coverings

If you are already using PPE in your work activity to protect against non-COVID-19 risks, you should continue to do so.

Face coverings do not act as a replacement for the other measures of managing risk against Coronavirus. Workers must still minimise time spent in contact with others, using fixed pairings and/or teams, maintain hygiene and cleanliness by increasing hand and surface washing.

People are encouraged to wear face coverings and if you do choose to wear one, it is important to ensure the face coverings are worn properly and hands are washed prior to putting them on and after taking them off.

“Unless you are in a situation where the risk of COVID-19 transmission is very high, your risk assessment should reflect the fact that the role of PPE in providing additional protection is extremely limited.

However, if your risk assessment does show that PPE is required, then you must provide this PPE free of charge to workers who need it. Any PPE provided must fit properly.”

[Working safely during COVID-19 in other people’s homes](#)

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and face coverings (continued)

Please note, **some people do not have to wear a face covering for health, age or equality reasons.**
For those who choose to wear face coverings, please follow the below guidance:

- Before putting a face covering on, or taking a face covering off, **wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser.**
 - **Avoid touching your face** or face covering.
- If your face covering becomes damp or if you have touched it, **please try to replace it.**
 - **Wash hands regularly** even when you have a face covering on.
 - Ensure you are **changing and washing your face covering daily.**
 - Maintain **social distancing.**

Useful links

[COVID-19 Risk Assessment](#)

[Face coverings](#)

[Mental health and wellbeing](#)

[Safer travel guidance](#)

[Maintaining records of staff, customers and visitors to support NHS Test and Trace](#)

[Ventilation and air conditioning during COVID-19](#)

[Working safely during coronavirus](#)

[Staying COVID-19 secure notice](#)



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