

Underground services: CAT and Genny

About 5 minutes · Read it out, then ask the questions at the end.

Why it matters. Striking a buried cable can cause severe burns or death. Gas and water strikes are dangerous too.

The hazards

- Live electricity cables
- Gas pipes
- Inaccurate or missing service drawings
- Services shallower than expected

Stay safe

- Get service plans before digging
- Scan with a CAT and Genny before and during digging, used by a trained person
- Mark the services found on the ground
- Dig trial holes by hand near located services
- Treat every service as live
- Use insulated tools when digging near cables
- If you strike a service, stop, move away, keep others away and report it

Ask the team

1. Have the service plans been checked for this area?
2. Who is trained to use the CAT and Genny?
3. What would you do if you hit a cable?

The law and guidance

Electricity at Work Regulations 1989. HSE HSG47, Avoiding danger from underground services.

General guidance to help you give a toolbox talk. It doesn't replace your site's risk assessments, method statements, permits or training. Check it against your own site rules before you give it.

Free toolbox talk from EW Group, 110V site temps specialists. www.ewgroup.co.uk · Bristol 0117 982 0005 · London 020 7476 0001

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Site: _____ Date: _____

Given by: _____ Company: _____

By signing, I confirm I attended this toolbox talk and understood it.

Name (print)	Company	Signature	Time

Keep this record with your site's training and briefing records.