Guidance on Electric Hook-up for Caravans & Tents at Stubcroft Farm

OUTDOOR POWER USE ONLY - 10 AMP MAX - SEE CHART BELOW

This guide is intended for both new and experienced caravanners & campers using Electrical Hook-ups (EHUs). Our hook-ups are protected by the latest Residual Current Breaker with Overcurrent (RCBO). **They are for your safety and will only trip in the event of a fault occurring in your connecting lead, caravan or appliance or if they are overloaded**. The most common cause of a trip is running too many appliances at one time such as water & space heaters, electric cookers domestic kettles etc. overloading the supply especially when temperatures are colder. Outdoor hook-ups are not like domestic ring mains. Caravans & Campervans are designed to use gas for high energy uses such as heating & cooking.

Caravans & Campervans must have a consumer unit with RCD and should be checked by a qualified electrician or Gas Safe fitter each year. Only use approved 25m orange CE cables and run cables around the edge of the field away from vehicle or walkways. Cable connections should be via approved connectors, covered against rain and supported off the ground.

To avoid overload trips ensure that the total wattage of the equipment in use does not exceed 10A. (see chart below) Each item will have the wattage marked on it. Beware of using domestic kettles, electric cookers or fan heaters, they have high load demand. Special low wattage appliances are available from camping & caravan dealers but they take a long time to boil and traditional whistling kettles on a gas hob are the best option. To calculate the current (amps) divide the wattage by the voltage (240v)



Setting up: After pitching your unit when you arrive, turn everything in your van off, including the main isolating switch, connect your cables then switch on. When you leave, first switch off your isolating switch, then disconnect the cable. Motor caravanners should not leave cables lying around when off pitch. For units with the new grey “interlock” switch, this needs to be set in the safe position to insert your blue plug then switch to the “on” position which locks the plug in place. To remove the plug the grey switch must be set to the “off” position.

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO RESET THE SUPPLY YOURSELF It will only trip if overloaded or if there is a safety earth current leakage (short circuit) both of which are potentially dangerous! If you regularly overload the circuit there may be a charge for restoring your supply or the supply may be withdrawn.



- Must be waterproof, have integral RCD (Residual Current Device) and MCB (Miniature Circuit Breaker) IP44 Weatherproof Unit
- Purchase units designed for caravan / camping use and do not attempt to cut corners buying cheaper equipment
- Do not use normal household appliances, purchase appliances designed for camping use.
- Do not attempt to ‘make your own’ unless you are suitably qualified to do so and fully understand the technical implications.



A typical EHU for use in tents consists of: A blue IP44 3 pin waterproof socket connected to a 25m orange lead with a **waterproof** consumer unit with safety RCD or RCBO. These are sold at most reputable camping outlets. You cannot sensibly expect to pay less than £50.00 so if a unit is selling for less than this, treat it with caution, it is your family’s safety at risk. Unsafe units will be disconnected.

How much power?

This chart shows how many watts or amps appliances use. It is a guide and power ratings may vary. Add up the wattage or amps for each appliances in use. Appliances shown in red are not recommended - they will probably overload the supply & cause it to trip. The total should not exceed 10A..

Appliance	Watts	Amps	Appliance	Watts	Amps
Domestic Kettle	3000	13	Microwave	1000	4.5
Camping Kettle	750	3.1	Water Heater	2000	9
Electric Heater	2000 - 3000	9-13	Electric Toaster	2000	9
Television	120	0.5	Refrigerator	200	0.7
Air Conditioner	2000	9	Light Bulb	60	0.5
Hair dryer	2000	9	Laptop computer	50 -100	0.5
Electric Grill/Hob	3000	13	Music /Phone	50	0.5