

A plug for buying and using the right plug at home and work

Make sure you're only buying and using safe equipment to charge your electric vehicle.

Follow our quick tips below and see over for more detail.

Only buy electric vehicle supply equipment (supply equipment) that is designed to fit your car and has been manufactured for use in New Zealand.

Never use a household adaptor like a multi-box, double plug, extension lead, or travel plug between your supply equipment and a wall socket.

Overseas supply equipment modified for use in New Zealand may not be safe even if it has been tagged or claims to comply with AS/NZS 3760.

Don't use supply equipment that has been modified to have a New Zealand plug fitted.

Never use faulty or damaged supply equipment.

Electric vehicles use electricity to charge

Electric vehicles (EVs) use electricity to charge, and like other electronics in your home, you need to make sure the equipment used to charge your car is safe.

The equipment needed to supply an electric vehicle with electricity ranges from cords with safety devices to wall mounted units, through to public charging stations.

Only buy supply equipment that is designed for use with your vehicle and for use in New Zealand

We recommend that you only buy supply equipment that is designed for your car, has been manufactured for use in New Zealand and has a New Zealand plug.

There's other supply equipment being sold by various retailers and online but it might not be safe or legal in New Zealand. Some supply equipment is being imported and then having a New Zealand plug fitted after it has arrived in the country. This type of modification can be dangerous and may be against the law.

If you wonder whether supply equipment has been modified – for example, if it has a plug that doesn't look right – don't use it.

If your electrician or a car dealer says that the modified equipment is safe to use because it complies with AS/NZS 3760 or it has had a tag or label applied, this isn't right. AS/NZS 3760 is intended for handheld power tools and extension leads and provides no guarantee of safety for EV supply equipment. If the equipment has been modified, don't use it.

You can check that supply equipment is safe by asking to see its declaration

Before buying any supply equipment, we suggest you request a copy of the supplier declaration of conformity for that equipment. This document is your assurance that the supply equipment is suitable for use in New Zealand. If the company can't provide a supplier declaration of conformity, don't buy it.

Using supply equipment to charge your vehicle

Never use any household adaptors like a multi-box, double plug, extension lead, or travel plug between your supply equipment and a wall socket. Using any of these adaptors can be a fire and safety risk.

Energy Safety is part of WorkSafe New Zealand.