

# Use caution around electricity

To most of us, electricity is simply flicking a switch or turning a dial to light up a room, cook supper or get instant entertainment. We take it for granted—that is, until there's a power failure and we have to scramble to find flashlights, candles and matches in the dark.

Making your home safe takes a deeper understanding. Start by remembering that the electricity in our homes is part of a powerful system made up of power lines and generators. It generally enters our homes through lines to a main switch at 120 to 240 volts. The main switch is clearly marked with an "on" and "off" position and controls all the power in the house.

All lighting or general use circuits in a home are protected by either "circuit breakers" in newer homes or fuses in older ones. You should always disconnect the power by moving the main switch to the "off" position when changing fuses or doing electric work around the house. Never open the door of the main switch—if you sense something is wrong, call your electricity supplier.

The panel box or fuse box from the main switch is the one that splits the power into circuits that go into all the rooms in your home. If you overload a circuit, say by plugging too many things in, the fuse may blow or the circuit breaker may trip, stopping the flow of power to that particular area.

### In the basement

If you're looking for the breaker panels or fuse boxes in a home, you'll usually find them in the basement. Fuse boxes require the right type and size of fuses. Overloading circuits could cause power loss, or lead to a fire.

If you detect rust in the fuse box, or if a fuse repeatedly blows for no apparent reason,

if there is overheating, discoloration of fuses, or flickering lights, contact an electrician to solve the problem.

### Fuse changing

- Use a flashlight if the area where the fuse box is located is dark.
- Never change a fuse while standing on a wet floor.
- Unplug appliances on the overloaded circuit and turn off the main switch.
- Install the proper size fuse—most lighting and general use circuits are fused at 15 amps.
- Keep the fuse box or breaker panel cover closed to protect children and prevent dirt from accumulating.

### Other safety tips

- Never touch power lines yourself or with any equipment. Take extra care when working near them. Before doing any digging, call your local hydro company to locate underground power lines. Cutting through one is dangerous and could black out an entire area.
- When planting trees around your home, make sure they won't grow up into power lines. Don't attempt to prune or fell any trees near power lines yourself. Call your local hydro company. A tree falling into a power line can be dangerous.
- Power tools should have a three-prong plug or double insulation. Keep them in good condition and never use power tools on wet grass or other wet surfaces. If you need an extension cord, use a proper, three-prong, grounded cord.
- Teach your children to play safely away from hydro lines, electrical outlets and appliances.

—Ontario Real Estate Association



**Mary Maan\***  
\*Sales Rep.



**Johnson Associates**  
HALTON LTD., REALTOR

**(905) 877-5165**  
Local/Toronto



**Tony Maan\***  
\*Sales Rep.

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**360 Guelph Street, Georgetown**



**FEATURE HOME**



**EXECUTIVE LIVING \$549,900**

For this absolutely immaculate home just north of Georgetown and two minutes from Ballinafad. Located on private 10 acres. This 5000 square foot home boasts 4 fireplaces, 5 bathrooms and 1 bedroom that is so large it has a multitude of uses eg. Teenagers, Parents, Nanny Suite, or large office. Two oak circular staircases. Absolutely stunning finished basement with a hot tub, patio walkout to backyard and staircase leading up to the 3 car garage. Unbelievable kitchen that is large enough for any size of entertaining and 2 walkouts (one to a 70x16 deck and one to the garage for convenience). The nanny suite upstairs has plans available to convert it to an apartment as well as roughed in for a kitchen. Open concept over the entry that could be a music conservatory or lounging area. Ceramics throughout. The list is endless. Call for a personal tour of this spectacular home. Call **Donna Rae\***.



**\$263,900**

Starting from the nicely landscaped yard you will be truly impressed. You will be delighted with how beautifully decorated this home is beginning at the front door and continuing right through to the large kitchen. Ceramics, hardwood and plush carpet throughout this 3 bedroom home adds to its charm. The ensuite off the master has a bathtub as well as a separate shower. The backyard is picture perfect with its large deck with built-in flower boxes and benches with plenty of yard left over. Call quickly, **Donna Rae\***.



**\$219,900**

Fantastic buy for this immaculate home on a very quiet crescent in Georgetown. This street is walking distance to George Kennedy School, St. Francis of Assisi School and the Georgetown Mall. This is a 4 level home with 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and a finished basement. Very private backyard. Interlocking driveway and walkway. Hardwood floors throughout. Eat-in kitchen overlooks the family room boasting a gas insert and don't forget the central air for the months ahead. Fantastic price for this great home.



**\$268,000**

Vendor has reduced the price on this immaculate 4 bedroom home. Be sure you call to come out and inspect this great value. The master bedroom boasts a lovely ensuite. The eat-in kitchen has a separate breakfast area with a patio walkout to the private backyard. Central air just in time for July and August. Central vac. Gas fireplace in the family room. Main floor laundry room with walkout to double car garage. Some genuine California shutters. Nice sized front porch for sitting. Desirable street close to 10th Line making for easy access to Steeles Ave. for commuting. I would be pleased to give you a personal viewing so call **Donna Rae\*** and we'll arrange a time.



**BRAND NEW LISTING \$264,900**

Immaculate 4 bedroom home on a nice street in Georgetown South Subdivision. Living room, dining room as well as a cozy family room boasting a corner fireplace. Main floor laundry room with walkout to garage. Eat-in kitchen with separate breakfast area and a walkout to a fabulous backyard. The landscaping of the backyard is ready for you to bring lounging furniture and sit back and enjoy. Don't miss out on this truly nice home. Call **Donna Rae\***.