

An introduction to Part M of the Building Regulations: Part USE OF BUILDINGS. It is estimated that 8.6 million people in the UK a assist with the facilities for people with disabilities, the Office of the Depu Building Regulations 2000 have issued Part M, which covers the en structures and facilities by disabled people, whether visiting, working or



M1 Access and Use

M2 Access to Extensions to Buildings other than dwellings

**M3** Sanitary conveniences in extensions to buildings other than dwellings

M4 Sanitary conveniences in dwellings

M1 refers to the access and use of a building, which includes the facilities within the building such as switches, socket outlets and other electrical devices.

#### **Access and Use**

M1 Reasonable provision shall be made for people to –

(a) gain access to; and

(b) use

the building and its facilities.





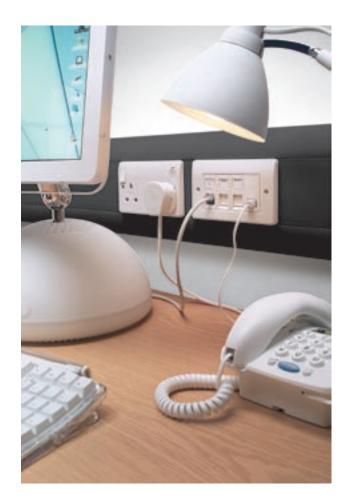
#### M ACCESS TO AND THE

re classified as disabled. To ty Prime Minister, under the try and use of all building dwelling in them.



Guidance for meeting the requirements of Part M of the Building Regulations is given in the associated publication Approved Document M. How the requirements in Part M should be applied may be subjective due to the large scope of the definitions within Approved Document M. How they are met will depend largely upon the building owner's, or specifiers appreciation, definition or understanding of the term disabled, and its implications.

MK Electric offer a wide range of products which will enable compliance with Part M. However, when it comes to specifying electrical accessories, the onus for following the regulations is on the specifier or contractor. Firstly, appropriate selection of products considered to meet the regulations must be made, secondly they must be installed and positioned to meet the regulations.





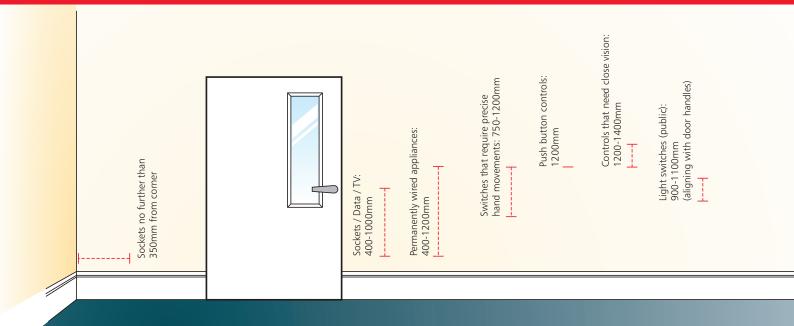
The requirements of Approved Document M regarding wiring devices are two fold, they encapsulate the design considerations and the provisions for meeting these considerations.

#### **Design Considerations**

Section 4.25-4.29 of M1 of Approved Document M outline the design considerations, some of the key points are:

- The key factors that affect the use of the switches, outlets and controls are ease of operation, visibility, height and freedom from obstruction
- A consistent relationship with doorways and corners will reinforce the ease with which people manipulate switches and controls
- All users should be able to locate a control, know which setting it is on and use
  it without inadvertently changing its setting
- Controls that contrast with their surroundings are more convenient for the visually impaired as are light switches that are activated by a large push pad
- It is an advantage if individual switches on panels and multiple socket outlets
  are well separated or in the form of large touch plates, to avoid the inadvertent
  selection of an adjacent control by visually impaired people and people with
  limited dexterity
- The colours red and green should not be used in combination as indicators
  of "on" and "off" for switches and controls. It may be useful to use text or a
  pictogram to clarify the purpose and status of multiple switches and controls





#### Provisions for meeting the design considerations

In addition, Section 4.30 of M1 of Approved Document M gives the provisions for meeting the design considerations.

In total, 13 provisions are given, some of those are concerning the accessory mounting heights to give ease of access over control features:

- Wall mounted Sockets, Data, Telephone & TV points at 400-1000mm with a preference for the lower range
- Sockets no nearer than 350mm from room corners
- Switches for permanently wired appliances at 400-1200mm unless needed at a higher level for particular appliances
- Switches and controls that require precise hand movements at 750-1200mm
- Simple push button controls that require limited dexterity at 1200mm
- Controls that need close vision at 1200-1400mm so that readings may be taken by a person sitting or standing
- Light switches for use by the general public align horizontally with door handles within the range 900-1100mm







Black Edge plateswitch

Graphite Logic Plus plateswitch with contrasting white rocker

White Aspect plateswitch with contrasting charcoal rockers

Important points to consider when meeting the requirements of Part M are mounting heights, ease of operation and visibility.

Part M recommends a contrast of 30% Light Reflective Value (LRV) between a frontplate and wall. White has an LRV of 100 and black 0. MK has developed switches and sockets with graphite frontplates for contrast to walls with an LRV of 70 or more.

MK's cable management systems can also comply with Part M. Prestige Plus and Powerlink Plus are available in charcoal to provide a contrast to white wiring accessories. The main carrier cover can be ordered as a separate component, allowing for easy retro-fitting of a charcoal central compartment.

Some may consider this requirement refers to the complete product contrasting with the mounting surface, whilst others may consider it is the switch that should contrast with its frontplate. The regulation states that switches, outlets and controls will satisfy requirement M1 if:

h) front plates contrast visually with their background.

MK has ensured that their products can accommodate both contrast of frontplate and wall, and contrast of switch and frontplate to meet any requirement. Charcoal Avant Connection Unit with contrasting white rocker with neon, plus switched socket outlet with contrasting white rocker with red flash









White Prestige Plus with contrasting black Edge data and switched socket outlet

Charcoal Powerlink Plus with contrasting white switched socket, telephone and data outlets

Approved Document M is also specific about switches and controls that indicate they are either 'on' or 'off', but maintains that they should not use green and red indicators together. A recommendation is that switched socket outlets indicate that they are 'on'. A neon indicator that shows 'on' is recommended by The Disabled Living Foundation, an organisation that helps older and disabled people find equipment solutions that enable them to lead independent lives. Alternatively, all standard MK sockets have a red flash which is visible when the switch is in the 'on' position.

Light switches used by the general public are encouraged to have large push pads and be mounted at a height corresponding to the door handle, within the range 900mm and 1100mm. This would enable people with a physical disability or visual impairment to both locate and activate them easily. The Disabled Living Foundation advise that large push pads are beneficial, as they can be operated by a fist or elbow. Plateswitches with wide rockers are available in the Logic Plus range and some Decorative ranges of MK wiring devices.



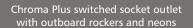
Graphite Logic Plus plateswitch with

Brushed Stainless Steel Aspect plateswitch with wide rocker



## Part M Specification Guide







Brushed Stainless Steel 6 module Grid Plus frontplate with contrasting graphite rockers



Metalclad switched socket outlet with outboard rockers

The provisions also require individual switches on multiple sockets and panels be 'well separated', or activated by a large push pad to prevent inadvertent operation. MK Socket outlets with outboard rockers are available and provide ease of use for those with visual impairment or limited dexterity. In addition, the MK Grid Plus range provides a varying degree of separation of switches.

Presence detection via Passive Infra Red detectors can eliminate the need of use of a switch or pull cord in some areas. The MK Link range offers a PIR presence detector, which can activate lighting, and incorporate an adjustable time delay from 'on' to 'off' and a light level detector.

Approved Document M recommends pull cords for emergency alarm systems be coloured red, and that all pull cords should be fitted with 50mm bangles to aid grip. The emergency pull cord should be fitted with two bangles, one at a height of 100mm above the floor and one at a height of 800mm to 1000mm above the floor, and located as close to a wall as possible. MK pull cords are available in red for emergency use, and can be used in conjunction with red bangles for ease of visibility, identification and use.

Where wall mounted light switches can not be provided, such as in bathrooms or toilets, pull cords fitted with 50mm bangles to aid grip are recommended. The lighting pull cord should be set between 900mm and 1100mm above the floor. The bangles should be visually contrasting with their background and distinguishable visually from any emergency assistance pull cord. MK provide a white pull cord which can be used in conjunction with a graphite bangle.

White Pull cord with graphite bangle



Red Emergency Pull Cord with 2 red bangles





# Product Selector

IMAGE	LIST NO.	DESCRIPTION
LOGIC PLUS		
	K2476 GRA	2G 13A Graphite Switched Socket Outlet with Outboard Rockers & Neons
•	K2476 WHI	2G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Outboard Rockers & Neons
	K2476 CE WHI	2G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Outboard Rockers & Neons & 'Clean Earth' facility
	K2476 D1 RED	2G 13A Red Switched Socket Outlet with Red Outboard Rockers & Neons
	K2476 D1 WHI	2G 13A Switched Socket Outlet with Red Outboard Rockers & Neons
	K2746 D2 WHI	2G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Green Outboard Rockers
	K2657 GRA	1G 13A DP Graphite Switched Socket Outlet & Neon
	K2746 GRA	2G 13A DP Graphite Switched Socket Outlet with Outboard Rockers
	K2757 GRA	1G 13A DP Graphite Switched Socket Outlet with White Rocker
	K4781 GRA	1G 10AX SP 2 Way Graphite Plateswitch with Wide Rocker
	K4782 GRA	2G 10AX SP 2 Way Graphite Plateswitch with Wide Rocker
	K4785 GRA	1G 10AX SP Intermediate Graphite Plateswitch with Wide Rocker
• 🗆 •	K4870 GRA	1G 10AX SP 1 Way Graphite Plateswitch with White Rocker
• •	K4871 GRA	1G 10AX SP 2 Way Graphite Plateswitch with White Rocker
	K4872 GRA	2G 10AX SP 2 Way Graphite Plateswitch with White Rocker
• 1 •	K2751 D1 RED	1G 13A DP Red Switched Socket Outlet
	K2657 D1 RED	1G 13A DP Red Switched Socket Outlet with Neon
· 1	K2757 D1 WHI	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Red Rocker
• 1	K2757 D2 WHI	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Green Rocker
	K4781 WHI	1G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Wide Rocker
	K4782 WHI	2G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Wide Rocker
	K4783 WHI	3G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Wide Rocker
	K4785 WHI	1G 10AX SP Intermediate Plateswitch with Wide Rocker
GRID PLUS		
• 🗖 6	K3631 GRA	1 Module Frontplate Graphite
	K3632 GRA	2 Module Frontplate Graphite
° 0 0	K3633 GRA*	3 Module Frontplate Graphite

IMAGE	LIST NO.	DESCRIPTION
* 0 0 °	K3636 GRA	6 Module Frontplate Graphite
**************************************	K3638 GRA	8 Module Frontplate Graphite
• 🕒 •	K3631 WHI	1 Module Frontplate White
	K3632 WHI	2 Module Frontplate White
• 0 0 0 •	K3633 WHI	3 Module Frontplate White
• 0 0 0 •	K3636 WHI	6 Module Frontplate White
•0000• •0000•	K3638 WHI	8 Module Frontplate White
Î	K4881 GRA	10A SP 1 Way Switch Graphite
į	K4882 GRA	10A SP 2 Way Switch Graphite
Î	K4891 GRA	20A SP 1 Way Switch Graphite
K4896 GRA		20A DP 1 Way Switch Graphite
K4896N GRA		20A DP 1 Way Graphite Switch & Neon
K4880 GRA †		1 Module Blank Insert Graphite

<sup>\*</sup> product available from March 2006

<sup>†</sup>product available from January 2006

CEILING ACCESSORIES				
	03190RCD1WHI	6A SP 2 Way Ceiling Switch with 3M Red Cord & 2 x Red Bangle		
c	03191D1WHI	6A SP 1 Way Ceiling Switch with 2M White Cord & 1 x Graphite Bangle		
c	03192D1WHI	6A SP 2 Way Ceiling Switch with 2M White Cord & 1 x Graphite Bangle		
<b>2</b>	09420SSD1S2T9	3M Red Cord With Joint Union & 2 x Red Bangle		
C	8329SSWHID1S2T9	2M White Cord With Joint Union & Graphite Bangle		
ASPECT	ASPECT			
	K24357*	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet		
	K24657*	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Neon		
	K23471*	1G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Large Rocker		
	K23472*	2G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Large Rocker		
	K23473*	1G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Wide Rocker		

## **Product Selector**

IMAGE	LIST NO.	DESCRIPTION
	K24331*	1 Module Frontplate
	K24332*	2 Module Frontplate
	K24333*	3 Module Frontplate
	K24346*	6 Module Frontplate
0000	K24348*	8 Module Frontplate

<sup>\*</sup> add appropriate finish code:

 $\textbf{BSS} \ \text{Brushed Stainless Steel} \quad \textbf{PBR} \ \text{Polished Brass} \quad \textbf{POC} \ \text{Polished Chrome} \quad \textbf{WHI} \ \text{White}$ 

CHA Charcoal CHM Champagne SCR Satin Chrome

CHA CHAICUAI	CHIVI Champagne	SCN Sauli Cilionie
EDGE		
	K14357*	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet
	K14657*	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Neon
• •	K13471*†	1G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Large Rocker
•□□•	K13472*†	2G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Large Rocker
•	K13473*†	1G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Wide Rocker
• [] •	K14331*	1 Module Frontplate
	K14332*	2 Module Frontplate
• 0 0 0 •	K14333*	3 Module Frontplate
• 0 0 0 •	K14346*	6 Module Frontplate
•0000•	K14348*	8 Module Frontplate

<sup>\*</sup> add appropriate finish code:

**BSS** Brushed Stainless Steel **PBR** Polished Brass

**SAA** Silver Anodised Aluminium **POC** Polished Chrome **WHI** White

**BLA** Black **PBZ** Polished Bronze **ABR** Antique Bronze

**BBR** Brushed Brass **GLD** Gold Plated <sup>†</sup> product available from February 2006

product available from rebraary 2000			
ALLOY			
	K5357*	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet	
• 🛮 •	K5331*	1 Module Frontplate	
	K5332*	2 Module Frontplate	
• 0 0 0 •	K5333*	3 Module Frontplate	
* 11			

<sup>\*</sup> add appropriate finish code:

BNI Brushed Nickel BLN Black Nickel POC Polished Chrome

IMAGE	LIST NO.	DESCRIPTION	
ALBANY PLUS			
Compared to the control of the contr		2G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Outboard Rockers & Neons	
	K2497CE*	2G 13A Switched Socket Outlet with Outboard Rockers & Neons & 'Clean Earth' facility	
	K2497D6*	2G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Red Outboard Rockers & Neons	
• I •	K2958*	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet	
• 1 •	K2458*	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Neon	
•	K4761*	1G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Wide Rocker	
•	K4762*	2G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Wide Rocker	
€ Control of the con		1 Module Frontplate	
(i)	K3432*	2 Module Frontplate	
•0 0 0 •	K3433*	3 Module Frontplate	
• 0 0 0 •	K3436*	6 Module Frontplate	
•0000•	K3438*	8 Module Frontplate	

\* add appropriate finish code:

BSS Brushed Stainless Steel MCO Matt Chrome SAB Satin Brass

CHROMA PLUS			
	K1259 PCR	2G 13A Non Standard Switched Socket Outlet with Outboard Rockers	
	K1529 PCR	2G 13A Non Standard Switched Socket Outlet with Outboard Rockers & Neons	
	K2497 PCR	2G 13A Switched Socket Outlet with Outboard Rockers & Neons	
	K2497CEPCR	2G 13A Switched Socket Outlet with Outboard Rockers & Neons & 'Clean Earth' facility	
	K2947 PCR	2G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Outboard Rockers	
	K2947CEPCR	2G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Outboard Rockers & 'Clean Earth' facility	
• I •	K2958 PCR	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet	
• I	K2458 PCR	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Neon	
•	K4761 PCR	1G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Wide Rocker	
•	K4762 PCR	2G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Wide Rocker	
• •	K3431 PCR	1 Module Frontplate	
	K3432 PCR	2 Module Frontplate	



IMAGE	LIST NO.	DESCRIPTION
• 0 0 0 •	K3433 PCR	3 Module Frontplate
•	K3436 PCR	6 Module Frontplate
•0000•	K3438 PCR	8 Module Frontplate
GROSVENO	R PLUS	
•	K4731 POB	1G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Wide Rocker
	K4731 POB B	1G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Black Wide Rocker
•	K4732 POB	2G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Wide Rocker
•	K4732 POB B	2G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Black Wide Rocker
* I	K4357 POB	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with White Insert and Rocker
	K4357 POB B	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Black Insert and Rocker
• •	K4331 POB	1 Module Frontplate
	K4332 POB	2 Module Frontplate
• 0 0 0•	K4333 POB	3 Module Frontplate
• 0 0 0 •	K4346 POB	6 Module Frontplate
•0000•	K4348 POB	8 Module Frontplate
SAVOY PLUS	5	
*	K5731 PBS	1G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Wide Rocker
•	K5731 PBS B	1G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Black Wide Rocker
•	K5732 PBS	2G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Wide Rocker
•	K5732 PBS B	2G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Black Wide Rocker
* I .	K5357 PBS	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with White Insert and Rocker
	K5357 PBS B	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Black Insert and Rocker
• 🗆 •	K5331 PBS	1 Module Frontplate
	K5332 PBS	2 Module Frontplate
• 0 0 0 •	K5333 PBS	3 Module Frontplate

IMAGE	LIST NO.	DESCRIPTION
• 0 0 0 •	K5346 PBS	6 Module Frontplate
•0000•	K5348 PBS	8 Module Frontplate
METAL CLA	D PLUS	
	K2945 ALM	2G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Outboard Rockers
	K2945 D6 ALM	2G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Outboard Red Rockers
	K2977 ALM	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet
• 1	K2977 D6 ALM	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Red Rocker
• I •	K2477 ALM	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Neon
• I •	K2477 D6 ALM	1G 13A DP Switched Socket Outlet with Red Rocker and Neon
•	K3781 ALM	1G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Wide Rocker
•	K3782 ALM	2G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch with Wide Rocker
• 🗆 •	K3491 ALM	1 Module Frontplate
	K3492 ALM	2 Module Frontplate
• 0 0 0 •	K3493 ALM	3 Module Frontplate
• 0 0 0 •	K3496 ALM	6 Module Frontplate
•0000•	K3498 ALM	8 Module Frontplate
MASTERSEA	\L	
	56400*	1G 10AX SP 1 Way Plateswitch IP56
	54601*	1G 10AX SP 2 Way Plateswitch IP56
	56402*	2G 10AX SP 1 Way Plateswitch IP56
	56406*	1G 10AX DP 1 Way Plateswitch IP56

\* add appropriate finish code: GRY Grey WHI White

MK have highlighted a selection of new and existing products which will assist you in meeting the requirements of Part M. For a comprehensive list of relevant MK products, including Prestige  ${\bf P}$ Plus, Powerlink Plus and Link please refer to the MK Catalogue, MK Specification Guide or the website, at www.mkelectric.co.uk. Please note a number of finish and insert options (black/ white), modules and mounting frames are also available.



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