

## Assessing the frequency of PAT testing

The frequency of inspection & testing required will vary depending on the following:

- The environment – Equipment in a benign environment is likely to suffer less damage than equipment in an arduous environment.
- The users – If users report damage promptly hazards will be avoided. Conversely, if equipment is likely to receive unreported abuse, more frequent inspection & testing is required.
- The equipment construction – The safety of Class 1 equipment is dependent upon a connection with earth. Class 2 equipment is not dependent upon a fixed earth.
- The equipment type – Appliances that are hand-held are more likely to be damaged than fixed appliances.

The following table provides guidance on the initial frequencies of inspection & testing. However, the frequency must depend upon the factors listed above and should be kept under constant review.

The IEE Suggested Initial Frequency of Inspection & Testing (PAT Testing) of Class 1 Equipment.

Type of premises

Type of equipment

Formal visual inspection

Combined inspection & testing

Offices & Shops

Stationary equipment

24 months 48 months

IT equipment

24 months

48 months

Movable equipment

12 months

24 months

Portable equipment

12 months

24 months

Hand-held equipment

6 months

12 months

Hotels

Stationary equipment

24 months

48 months

IT equipment

24 months

48 months

Movable equipment

12 months

24 months

Portable equipment

12 months

24 months

Hand-held equipment

6 months

12 months

Equipment used by the public

Stationary equipment  
Monthly  
12 months  
IT equipment  
Monthly  
12 months  
Movable equipment  
Weekly  
6 months  
Portable equipment  
Weekly  
6 months  
Hand-held equipment  
Weekly  
6 months  
Industrial including commercial kitchens  
Stationary equipment  
None  
12 months  
IT equipment  
None  
12 months  
Movable equipment  
Monthly  
6 months  
Portable equipment  
Monthly  
6 months  
Hand-held equipment  
Monthly  
6 months  
Schools  
Stationary equipment  
None  
12 months  
IT equipment  
None  
12 months  
Movable equipment  
4 months  
12 months  
Portable equipment  
4 months  
12 months  
Hand-held equipment  
4 months  
12 months  
Construction sites 110V equipment  
Stationary equipment  
Monthly  
3 months  
IT equipment  
Monthly  
3 months  
Movable equipment  
Monthly  
3 months  
Portable equipment

Monthly  
3 months  
Hand-held equipment  
Monthly  
3 months