What appliances can you use?

Nearly all Club sites supply a maximum 16 amps (see note 1), which means at any one time the total of all appliances in use at an individual pitch, must not exceed 16 amps. We request that you limit the use of electricity during periods of high demand by using low wattage appliances. The list to the right is shown as a guide to the amount electricity appliances use.

From these ratings you can gauge that at 230 volts an appliance of 1 kW (1000 watts) uses about 4.3 amps, so you can work out the others. Fuses used in plugs should be the size recommended by the appliance manufacturer. Before replacing any blown fuse ascertain the cause. Never increase the size of the fuse above the rating specified.

Use of mains electricity will not affect your outfit's normal 12 volt electrical system directly; it may keep an on-board battery charged up (through a suitable charger) to help keep the 12 volt electrical system working. All electrical equipment used in your outfit should preferably be double insulated and show the BEAB or CE Approval sign.

Appliance	Wattage	Approximate Ampage
Kettle	750W	3.3 amps
Toaster & Iron	1300W (1.3 kW)	5.6 amps
Microwave Cooker	1200W	5.2 amps
Colour TV	50W	0.2 amps
Battery Charger	100W	0.4 amps
Refrigerator	125W	0.5 amps
Table Lamp	60W	0.2 amps
Blown Air Heater	Due to the high wattage for these systems it is recommended, where possible, they are limited to 500W	
Air Conditioning		

Notes:
1. Check the Sites Directory & Handbook for sites which offer less.
2. British Electrotechnical Approvals Board or Conformité Européenne (indicating compliance with relevant European Directives).

How to Connect and Disconnect

ALWAYS in this order

Connection

1. Check your caravan isolating switch is at 'OFF'.
2. Uncoil the connecting cable from the drum (a coiled cable with current flowing through it may overheat).
3. Take your cable and insert the connector (female end) into the caravan inlet.
4. Insert the plug (male end) into the site outlet socket and turn it clockwise until it locks.
5. Switch your caravan isolating switch to 'ON'.
6 Preferably insert a polarity tester into one of the 3-pin sockets in the caravan to check all connections are correctly wired. Never leave it in the socket. The supply must not be used if the polarity is incorrect.

Disconnection

1. Switch your caravan isolating switch to 'OFF'.
2. At the site supply socket, press the release button and withdraw the plug.
3. Disconnect the cable from the caravan.

If...

1. If at any time you do not receive power or have any other electrical problem which you do not understand a qualified electrician may be needed, particularly if there is a fault that keeps recurring.
2. If you overload your mains system a circuit breaker will disconnect your supply, which only site staff may reconnect.
3. Please be aware if you connect faulty appliances to the system the safety devices may disconnect not only your power, but also to other outfits.
4. Should a fault occur do not investigate anything unless you have disconnected from the supply. The trip in your van may need to be reset; know where to find it.
5. If your cable is damaged, never cut, rejoin or tape-up and never wrap any connection in polythene sheets as the condensation that forms will easily conduct live electricity.

Hooking up to the Mains

A practical guide for connection to electrical hook-ups

THE CARAVAN CLUB

Introduction

The diagram and notes overleaf show the equipment you need and how to connect and disconnect your caravan or motorhome. All Club Sites and most others in the UK that are equipped for mains (see note 1) will be to international recommendations (see note 2), but abroad this may not be the case.

To be safe, an outfit's mains wiring installation should be carried out by an electrical expert (see note 3) and you should ideally have an inspection and written report once every three years (by an appropriately qualified contractor – see note 4). A new outfit will have mains wiring installed correctly if it has a National Caravan Council (NCC) certificate (note 3).

The supplies on all Caravan Club sites are correctly protected against earth faults by a Residual Current Device (RCD – note 6) and against over currents by miniature circuit breakers. On other sites, check before use that a similar standard of safety is provided.

The supply must be taken into the caravan by means of a lidded recessed inlet device; do not take a lead through a window to electrical equipment inside the outfit.

Where site equipment is not to IEC Standard, as often occurs aboard, replace your plug with the type necessary for that site and make certain it is correctly wired up. Adaptor cables must be used with care – refer to The Club's Caravan Europe guide.

Note for motorhome owners:
Please do not leave your mains cable connected and trailing across the pitch when leaving the site for the day. This is highly dangerous for other site users.

Electric Hook-ups on Club Sites

These notes are applicable to Caravan Club sites in the UK – different requirements may exist elsewhere. This leaflet has been compiled with your safety in mind.

Properly equipped and connected, you will be safe: if not, you risk a severe or even fatal shock.

Safety is your responsibility. The Caravan Club and any other site management can only be responsible up to the socket outlet to which you connect. You are responsible for the connector cable, plugs and all electrical equipment in your outfit.

The Caravan Club cannot accept responsibility for any accident arising from the use by you of any unsafe or unsuitable electrical equipment connected to the site socket outlet.

The Site Staff cannot (since they are not qualified electricians) provide any services relating to the supply of electricity from the site socket outlet to your outfit, beyond the connection and disconnection of the supply at the socket outlet. The Site Staff may refuse to offer a supply if they consider the installation to the outfit to be unsafe.

The Caravan Club cannot accept any responsibility for loss, injury or damage caused by any assistance provided to members save in respect for the connections or disconnection of the supply from the socket outlet.

Site Socket Outlet

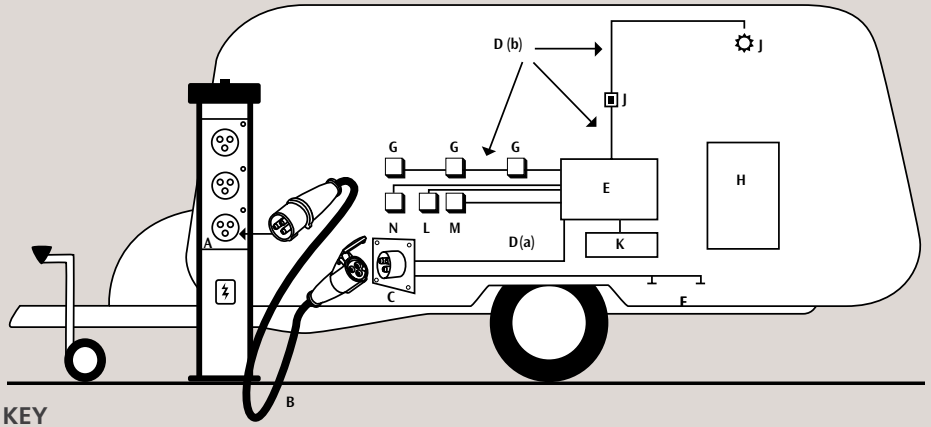
BS EN 60309-2 (corresponding to IEC 309/ CEE17 maximum 16 amp, 3 pole socket with recessed tubes. Tubes not pins at live outlet for safety).

NB: some sites may have overhead cables: take care if you have high aerials on your outfit not to let them touch.

B* CONNECTING CABLE harmonised code H07RN-F or H05VV-F or equivalent (BS6007 or 6500) 25 metres maximum (+ or – 2 metres) long of three core cable (live (brown), neutral (blue) and earth (green/yellow)) each core of 2.5mm² section. Shorter cables may not reach from the bollard to your van on some sites and extra connector cables to add length are not allowed. The Club cannot accept responsibility for any damage or injury caused by the use of extra connector cables. It is recommended that the cable is coloured orange for visibility in long grass.

Technical Notes

1. Mains supply across Europe has been harmonised to a nominal 230V AC.
2. The recommendations of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), the equivalent electrical authority to the International Standards Organisation (ISO).
3. In accordance with BS7671
4. By a contractor certified by the government-authorised 'Competent Person Scheme' to work on electrical installations. See www.competentperson.co.uk for details.
5. National Caravan Council. This confirms that the caravan or motorhome complies with relevant legislation, technical design and safety standards and industry recognised best practise. Whether NCC-certified or not, a new vehicle should be supplied with an official electrical installation certificate.
6. Residual Current Device (RCD) previously called a Residual Current Circuit Breaker (RCCB) or Earth Leakage Circuit Breaker (ELCB).



KEY

A	Site socket outlet
B	Connecting cable
C	Caravan inlet
D	Wiring systems
D (a)	Supply to isolating switch
D (b)	Wiring to appliances
E	Isolating Switch/RCD/Fuse box
F	Bonding
G	Socket outlets for accessories and appliances
H	Notices
J	230V luminaire (lights) if fitted
K	12V power supply/battery charger unit
L	Space heater
M	Spur socket outlet for electric water heater
N	Refrigerator (may be on same circuit as D(b))