

Re: Bought a house with a Fuse Box. Should I replace with a Circuit Breaker?

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From: Kitchen Man (nannerbac_at_yahoo.com)

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Date: Sat, 19 Feb 2005 15:28:48 -0700

On Fri, 18 Feb 2005 10:56:41 -0800, "Larry Brasfield"
<donotspam_larry_brasfield@hotmail.com> wrote:

>
>> *My question is, should I upgrade the fuse box and replace it with a
>> circuit breaker. If I did so, would I need to replace every wire in my
>> entire house or could I just run a ground wire up to every outlet and
>> install a 3 prong outlet?*
>
>*That is a question about local code. From a safety
>standpoint, your separate ground wire should work
>provided the diameter is larger (smaller AWG). If you
>are going to get into the walls, why not just install regular
>3-wire romex?*

That was my thought as well. If you're going to go through the trouble to pull wires, you might as well replace the old stuff. Replacing the old wire can make the job easier; the old stuff can be used in place of a "snake" to pull in the new wire as the old is pulled out. The big problem with that approach is having large enough diameter holes to accommodate the attachment point of the new wire to the old. You've got to make a good solid attachment, and don't overuse force if the cable pull gets stuck. I'd make it a two-man job, one pulling the old wire, one guiding the new.

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Al Brennan