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## Essential tips for buying electrical appliance

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**CONSUMERS** must stay vigilant when purchasing or using electrical appliances. Safety should always come first as defective or substandard products can pose serious risks, including electric shocks, fires and even fatalities.

To ensure quality and compliance with safety regulations, always check that electrical and electronic products are Sirim-certified or approved by other recognised international standards.

A recent tragic incident highlights the dangers of unsafe electrical usage – an 18-year-old was electrocuted while charging his phone using a socket in a bus.

This underscores the need for stricter guidelines and enforcement for charging ports on public transport to protect passengers.



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BY BULBIR SINGH

#### Guidelines

➤ **Choose Sirim-approved products:** Sirim certification ensures products meet Malaysian safety and quality standards. Home appliances such as refrigerators, microwaves, kettles, lighting equipment, extension cords and adaptors must have Sirim approval before they can be legally sold.

➤ **Buy from authorised dealers:**

Avoid uncertified sellers and unverified imports that may not comply with safety regulations. Purchasing from reputable dealers ensures after-sales support and warranty coverage.

➤ **Compare brands and models:** Stay informed about the latest models and their features. Compare different brands, specifications and prices to make informed decisions.

#### ➤ Read product documentation:

Review booklets and brochures provided by manufacturers to understand the appliance's features, safety instructions and warranty terms.

#### ➤ Be cautious with discounts:

Discounted or clearance items may have defects, scratches or have been used as display units. Inspect them carefully before purchasing.

#### ➤ Check warranty and servicing:

Confirm if the product comes with a warranty or guarantee period. Find out where and how the appliance can be serviced if it becomes faulty.

#### ➤ Ask about delivery and installation:

Check if the price includes delivery, installation and servicing. Opt for dealers with reliable after-sales support.

#### ➤ Use licensed installer:

For appliances requiring specific voltage or safety settings, always hire a



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trained professional for installation. Do-it-yourself installations can be hazardous.

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