Portable Appliance Testing for Employers and Accommodation providers.

You may have heard about testing of portable appliances in the workplace or rented/guest accommodation.
Unfortunately, as with any specifically technical subject, there's a lot of misinformation surrounding it, and people willing to take advantage of that.
I've heard of business owners being approached and requested for their testing information. Only your Insurers and the Health and Safety Executive would ever do this - anybody else is winding you up.

There is **no direct legal requirement** to have your portable appliances tested at specific intervals, **however you do have a duty to maintain electrical equipment so that it is safe** and poses no danger to employees or other users.

If you are competent in checking electrical equipment, you can do much of this yourself, or allocate someone who is.
If you feel you're not sufficiently certain, and/or you'd prefer someone else took that responsibility, that's when you get someone in to do the job.

PAT Testers.
There are lots of them out there. They do <u>not</u> have to be qualified electricians. They only need be trained in the testing methods and tools.

How Much is it?
It's not as expensive as you might fear. Typically around £1 per item tested.

Why would I do it?
Safety of your employees and customers, and your business reputation.
Your (liability) insurance company might require it, or may offer a discount if it's done, as testing reduces your liability.

I'd be happy to give advice freely to anyone wondering how this might apply to them. If you decide to have your equipment tested, I am qualified to do so. :)
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