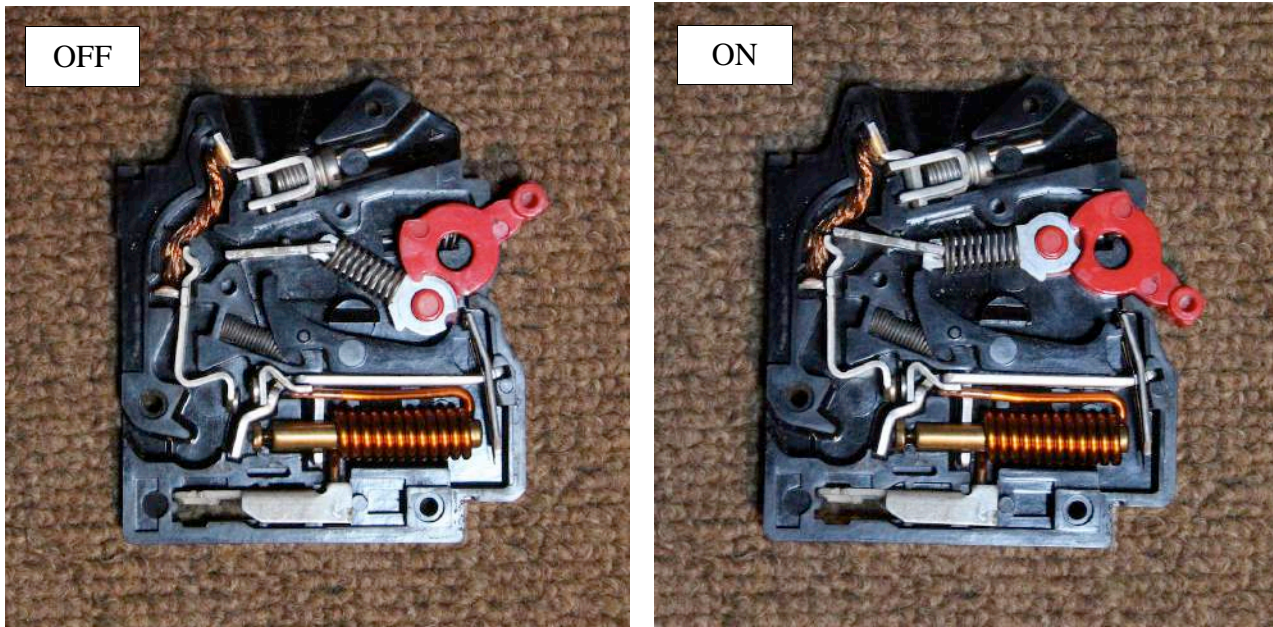


Devices for Household Electrical Safety

Circuit Breaker

A circuit breaker is an automatically operated electrical switch designed to protect an electrical circuit from damage and/or fire caused by overload or short circuit. Standard single-pole breakers in US are 15 or 20 amps.



Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI)

A ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) is a device that shuts off an electric circuit when it detects that current is flowing along an unintended path, possibly through water or through a person. It works by measuring the current leaving the hot side of the power source and comparing it to the current returning to the neutral side. If they are not equal, this means that some of the current is flowing along an unintended path, and the GFCI shuts the power off. By detecting small leakage currents (typically 5–30 milliamperes) and disconnecting quickly enough (<300 ms), GFCI may prevent electrocution. When the problem is corrected, the GFCI can manually be reset by pushing the reset button.

