



HOW TO PROTECT YOUR ELECTRONICS FROM SPIKES, BROWN-OUTS AND LIGHTNING

Simplified -protect your satellite, camera and all electronics from your electricity provider

- Get a simple Receptacle Checker local hardware store. Average cost is \$8, check every outlet for ground and correct wiring
- Obtain + install a Whole-House-Surge protector (Google Ditek Whole-House-Surge)
- Add a UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply) and install for your most valued equipment especially for satellite modems.
- All 3 are important. And please use a qualified Electrician if your island has one.

You need read no further unless you need more details....

Long Version -protect your satellite and audio electronics from your electricity provider

The following is our best attempt to inform you how to protect your electronics from surges and dips in voltage (brown-outs) in difficult areas like St Croix USVI, BVI, Puerto Rico (especially Vieques PR and ST Croix USVI), and Mexico-Belize, and other areas.

- Get a simple Receptacle Checker from Home Depot or Lowes or local hardware store, and check each and every outlet for correct wiring, and that is HAS a ground. Cost average us \$8. Without a ground there is zero potential for protection if you use electricity. Purchasing all those cheap so-called surge protectors do not have much or any value. They are too far away from the actual ground rod just for starters.... don't believe what they claim. (Google outlet checker home depot)
- Obtain a Whole-House-Surge protector, and have installed (this actually has more value than having either insurance or warranty). (Google Whole-House-Surge protector home depot)
- Add a UPS (Uninterruptible Power Supply) and install for your most valued equipment. This is listed 3rd because it is not as important as the first two above

This advice has absolutely helped a lot of our customers from having to replace their equipment every few years. We don't sell these items but it greatly helps keep your equipment from being damaged. We can source them if you decide that you need them, but the message here is don't go cheap on protecting your expensive or important electronics and/or electrical items. Hopefully you have a local dealer that you should count on knows what he's doing - most do not. In fact, most electricians do not believe or want to be bothered with this nonsense you are reading. In the 80s and 90s you almost could not get a electrician to agree, but I have recently learned that they are now a requirement and part of the code is many parts of the USA.

Following is the lightning and whole house surge protection letter I previously used in the 1980s and 90s. I used it hundreds of times after fluctuation in the electricity in order to help them get replacement equipment, but that is not why.

Letter to your insurance company if you do not take the above steps

Due to the nature of the damage discovered within the above-named units it is apparent that the cause of failure was an internally induced power line spike. Lightning or surge effects may weaken or damage a number of internal electronic components. These components may fail at any time after restoration of power to the



affected equipment. Some may fail immediately while others may require from several minutes to several weeks or months to complete a deterioration to the failure point.

Since weakened components are difficult to detect prior to absolute failure, repairs to lightning or surge damaged equipment are unwarrantable. Further, once reasonable surety of such damage is established, the item should be replaced as it has been rendered unstable and equipment referenced in this letter due to the cost of repairs would exceed replacement of same.

Sincerely,

Mel Berry
Owner
Houston Media Systems

*NOTE: In order to prevent this from happening in the future we recommend that you purchase a surge suppressor and UPS.