



## These are the steps you should take if the breaker trips in your house.

# CONTRACTORS ROUNDTABLE

**If you trip breakers frequently or have other electrical problems, you should contact a licensed electrician to inspect and repair your wiring system. Tripping breakers can indicate faulty wiring, overloaded circuits, or damaged appliances that can pose serious fire and shock hazards.**

If the breaker trips in your house, you should follow these steps:

- **Turn off or unplug** the appliances or devices that are connected to the circuit that tripped the breaker. This will prevent overloading the circuit again when you reset the breaker.
- Locate your breaker panel and open it. The breaker panel is usually located in the basement, garage, or utility room. It may have a metal or plastic cover that you need to remove or open.
- Identify the tripped breaker. The tripped breaker will **have a switch that is in the middle or off position**. It may also have a label that indicates the circuit it controls.
- Reset the tripped breaker. You will need to flip the switch of the tripped breaker to the off position and then to the on position. You should hear a click when the breaker resets. Do not touch the metal parts of the breaker or the panel with your bare hands.
- Close or replace the cover of the breaker panel and turn on or plug in the appliances or devices that were connected to the circuit. **Check if they are working normally and if there are any signs of sparks, smoke, or burning smells. If there are, turn off or unplug them immediately and call an electrician for help.**