

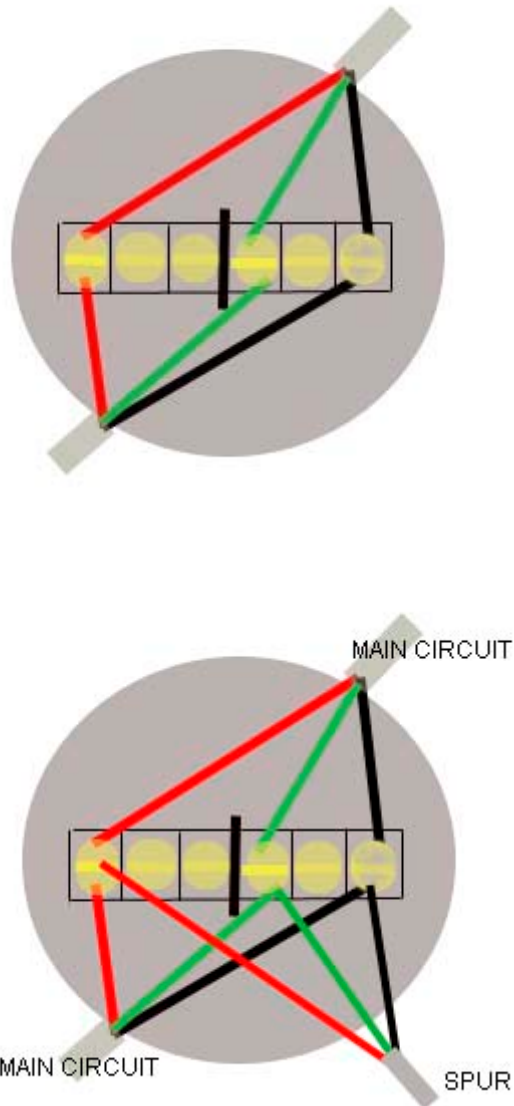
WIRING A JUNCTION BOX

Part P of the new building regulations could involve a check on any additional circuitry by qualified electricians when you sell your home. This can affect your sale, you could be breaking the law and your house insurance may not be valid. Please be absolutely sure you know what you are doing and get all of your work checked by a qualified electrician.

Junction boxes can be used to connect additional sockets to circuits, add lighting points, extend circuits, and in general they are a way of getting power from an existing source and taking it somewhere else. They can also be used for repairs.

Junction boxes are rated in amps to protect them, you and the circuit. Make sure you have the right box for the right job. A **ring main** or **radial circuit** will need a 30 amp junction box, **a lighting circuit** (although you can buy 5amp junction boxes) will need a 20amp junction box. Junction boxes come with either 3, 4, 5 or 6 terminals so work out which you will need to complete your project. To use junction boxes to add **lights and switches** please see our project.

Double checking that the power is off connect your junction box as shown below.



Junction boxes must be fixed solidly to a firm, suitable surface and must be accessible. This does not mean they have to be visible and can be fixed in floor or roof voids. Accessible means to a builder or electrician who can easily remove part of the floor or ceiling etc. Junction boxes may not be buried in plaster.

Please also check the rules very carefully for ring mains and radial circuits. You are limited in the length of cable you are allowed to use in both circuits and long spurs could make you exceed the limit. If this is the case you are asking the circuit to use much more energy than the circuit is designed for. More energy = more heat and cables can catch fire. Part P of the new building regulations could involve a check on any additional circuitry by qualified electricians when you sell your home. This can affect your sale, you could be breaking the law and your house insurance may not be valid. Please be absolutely sure you know what you are doing and get all of your work checked by a qualified electrician.