



Powell Home Inspections

Buyer Home Inspections & Consultations **Web:** www.powellhomeinspections.com

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"Zinsco-Sylvania" Electric Fire Hazard?



Powell Home Inspections Recommends having "Zinsco-Sylvania" Electrical Panels, inspected by licensed Master Electricians.

Based on all information available, we believe that all "Zinsco-Sylvania" panels/ breakers are potential <u>latent fire hazards</u> unless proven otherwise by a licensed electrician/ electrical inspector, on a case by case basis.

(Please read the information below)

These circuit breakers do not offer the level of overcurrent and fire protection provided by most other electrical panels and circuit breakers. This means homes with this equipment are at greater risk of fire or other electrical hazard.

Where Zinsco electrical panels and Zinsco circuit breakers are in use, arcing, contact-point burn, and even circuit breaker case blow-out have been observed in the field. A principal Zinsco circuit breaker (or Sylvania circuit breaker for those Sylvania panels using the Zinsco product) point of failure appears to be at the point of contact where the circuit breaker contacts clip onto the electrical panel bus, combined with the use of an aluminum electrical panel bus.

Due to the high number of proven and documented failures associated with Zinsco-Sylvania electrical panels and breakers, we recommend inspection by a licensed electrician or electrical inspector.