**A "double-tapped breaker" occurs when two wires are connected to a single circuit breaker terminal, which is a safety hazard and a code violation because breakers are designed for a single connection.**

Here's a more detailed explanation:

A double-tapped breaker happens when two wires, or conductors, are connected to a single circuit breaker terminal, even if they seem to fit.

* **Why it's a problem:**
  + **Loose connections:** Breakers aren't designed to hold two conductors, and these connections can loosen over time, leading to arcing, overheating, and potential fire hazards.
  + **Overloading:** If the circuit is overloaded, the breaker might not trip properly, further increasing the risk of overheating and fire.
  + **Code violations:** Electrical codes strictly prohibit double-tapped breakers due to the safety risks they pose.
* **How to identify:**

Look for two wires connected to a single breaker terminal inside the electrical panel.

* **How to fix:**
  + **Separate the wires:** The most common fix is to add another breaker and connect one of the wires to it.
  + **Use a pigtail:** You can also use a pigtail (a short wire) to connect the two wires together and then attach the pigtail to the breaker.
  + **Replace with a tandem breaker:** In some cases, you can replace the breaker with a tandem breaker, which is designed to handle two wires.
  + **Professional help:** It's best to consult with a licensed electrician for proper diagnosis and repair.