



2014 NEC Changes for Residential Applications

The 2014 National Electrical Code is expected to be adopted by the State of Colorado in July of 2014. As always, there are many changes between the 2011 and the 2014 editions. Below is a brief list of some changes that may have substantial impact in residential construction.

- Article 210.8(A)(7) expands the requirement for GFCI protection of receptacle outlets to **all** receptacles within 6 feet of **any** type of sink. This will now require any receptacle within 6 feet of kitchen sinks to have GFCI protection even if they are not a part of the kitchen, including receptacles for disposals and refrigerators. The wall receptacles on the back side of a peninsula with a prep sink, hand sink, kitchen sink, or bar sink may also fall into this 6 foot range and require GFCI protection.
- Article 210.8(A)(9) requires all receptacles within 6 feet of a shower stall or bathtub to be GFCI protected even if they are not in a bathroom. An adjoining closet, dressing table, or bedroom may fall in this range.
- Article 210.8(A)(10) requires all receptacles within a laundry room to be GFCI protected regardless of the presence or absence of a laundry sink.
- Article 210.8(D) requires that the dishwasher outlet (hardwired or cord and plug connected) shall be GFCI protected, even in the unlikely condition that the dishwasher is further than 6 feet from the sink.

Please also note that *all* test/reset buttons for *all* GFCI devices are required to be in a readily accessible location. Readily accessible locations shall be able to be reached quickly without the use of tools, removal of obstacles, climbing, or use of ladders. This may be more difficult for refrigerators, dishwashers, microwave ovens, and disposals unless protected by a GFCI breaker.

- Article 210.12(A) has been expanded to include AFCI protection for kitchen and laundry areas. This will include the 20 amp small appliance branch circuits serving the countertops, and the disposal, dishwasher, refrigerator and microwave receptacles. These areas will be both GFCI and AFCI protected.
- Article 210.12(B) exception has been changed to allow existing non-AFCI protected circuits to be extended up to 6 feet with no new devices or outlets added to the circuit.
- Article 210.52(G) requires at least one receptacle outlet be installed for each car space within the garage, and the circuit for the garage shall not supply outlets outside the garage.
- Article 314.27(A) now requires marking of the maximum weight allowed on the inside of outlet boxes listed for the support of luminaires or lampholders weighing more than 50 pounds. This will permit installers and inspectors to verify the information without seeing the outside of the outlet box.
- Article 404.2(C) has been changed and now requires that a grounded conductor only be provided at one switch location when multiple switches control the same lighting circuit. In essence, it is now allowed to use a dead-end three way again.
- Article 406.4(D) has been expanded to require AFCI receptacles to be placed in a readily accessible location.
- Article 406.9(B) requires that all receptacles in wet locations have listed "extra-duty" in-use covers.
- Article 406.12 has been reworded to clarify locations and exceptions for tamper-resistant receptacles. The exceptions now apply to hotel/motel guest rooms and child care facilities as well as dwelling units.
- Article 590.4(D)(2) has been changed to require extra-duty receptacle covers on all temporary installations.