



## AFCI & GFCI GUIDE

FOR ONE-TO-TWO FAMILY DWELLINGS

### SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

A permit is required to install new receptacle outlets. Permit shall be obtained prior to the start of the work.

One electronic set of plans, digitally signed by the designer/architect, contractor, or homeowner responsible for preparing the plans. All plans submitted (*at minimum, include existing and new floor plans*) shall be on a minimum plan size of 11" x 17" and **must be legible** to facilitate digital imaging as a permanent record after the project is completed.

Exterior modifications to buildings require Planning review and approval prior to submittal to the Building Division.

If the property is overseen by a Homeowners Association a letter of authorization signed by the HOA, is required.

The following is a listing of the general code requirements based on the **2022** California Codes & Mountain View Municipal Code. This handout is intended to provide general information. If you have questions, please contact the Building Division at (650) 903-6313 or email us at [building@mountainview.gov](mailto:building@mountainview.gov)

### BASIC CODE REQUIREMENTS

1. Arc-Fault Circuit-interrupted (AFCI) is a device intended to provide protection from the effects of arc fault by recognizing characteristics unique to arcing and by functioning to de-energize the circuit when an arc fault is detected (Article 100 – Definitions).
2. Dwelling units. All the receptacles installed in the following locations, shall be GFCI (CEC 210.8(A)):
  - Bathrooms
  - Garages, and also accessory buildings that have a floor located at or below grade level not intended as habitable rooms and limited to storage areas, work areas and area of similar use
  - Outdoors
  - Crawl spaces at or below grade level
  - Basement
  - Kitchens, where the receptacles are installed to serve the countertop surfaces
  - Sinks, where receptacles are installed within 6 ft. from the top inside edge of the bowl of the sink
  - Boathouses
  - Bathtubs or shower stalls, where receptacles are installed within 6 ft. of the outside edge of the bathtub or shower stall
  - Laundry areas
3. All 120-volt, single-phase, 15 and 20 ampere branch circuits supplying outlets or devices installed in dwelling units shall be AFCI in the following locations: Kitchens, family rooms, dining rooms, living rooms, parlors, libraries, dens, bedrooms, sunrooms, recreation rooms, closets, hallways, laundry areas or similar areas (CEC 210.12(A)).
4. The Arc-Fault Circuit-Interrupter shall be installed in readily accessible location (CEC 210.12).
5. For dwelling units that are a grade level, at least one receptacle outlet readily accessible from grade and not more than 6 ½ feet above grade level shall be installed at the front and back of the dwelling (CEC 210.52(E)(1)).
6. The general provisions for receptacles outlets shall comply with the requirements in the CEC 210.52(A)(1)-(2).
7. At least one receptacle outlet shall be installed in: Bathrooms, outdoor, balconies, decks and porches, laundry area, basements, garages and accessory buildings (in addition to receptacle required for specific equipment), hallways (10 ft. or more in length), foyers (not part of the hallway and with area greater than 60 sf<sup>2</sup>), etc. (CEC 210.52(D)-(I)).
8. Receptacles installed outdoors or in other damp locations shall have an enclosure for the receptacle that is weatherproof when the receptacle is covered (CEC 406.9(A)).

9. Receptacles of 15-20 amperes, 125 and 250 volts installed in a wet location shall have an enclosure that is weatherproof whether or not the attachment plug cap is inserted (CEC 406.9(B)(1)).
10. Protection for floor receptacles. Standpipes of floor receptacles shall allow floor-cleaning equipment to be operated without damage to receptacles (CEC 406.9(D)).
11. All 15 and 20 amperes, 125 and 250 volts non-locking type receptacles, specified in the CEC 406.12, shall be listed tamper-resistant receptacles.
12. Per the Mountain View City Code SEC. 8.51(C) a minimum of 200 amps service disconnect shall be required for one family dwelling and SEC. 8.51(D) a minimum of 125 amps service disconnect shall be required for other than one family dwelling.



**AFCI & GFCI REQUIRED LOCATIONS**

**OTHER RELATED HANDOUTS**

- Smoke Detector & Carbon Monoxide requirements
- Self-Certification – Smoke & Carbon Detectors