

2023 National Electrical Code Major Residential Changes



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NEW YORK ELECTRICAL INSPECTION AGENCY

2020 and 2023 NEC Changes – Residential Only

This list contains what we believe are the most important and relevant residential changes in the 2020 and 2023 NEC.
Please refer to the 2023 NEC for all references and current requirements.

- 1) **110.14(D)** (2020) – Torque info revised to clarify requirements using a torquing tool and other methods.
- 2) **110.26(A)(6)** (2023) – The floor in front of electrical equipment must be level and as flat as possible.
- 3) **110.29** (2023) – New definition to define In-Sight From was added (visible and not more than 50 ft)
- 4) ***xxx.2** (2023) - The NEC will be removing redundant text and standardizing the placement of information about reconditioning equipment in section xxx.2 of various articles.
- 5) ***210.2** (2020 & 2023) – GFCI and AFCI devices cannot be reconditioned.
- 6) ***210.8** (2020) – When measuring the distance of GFCI receptacles from a sink, the exclusion of not measuring through doors and doorways has been removed.
- 7) ****210.8(A)** (2020) – GFCI protection for personnel is now required on **all** 125-volt through 250-volt receptacles without restrictions to amperage in Bathrooms, Garages, Outdoors, Crawlspace, Basements (finished or unfinished), Kitchens (regardless of location), Within 6' of Sinks, Boathouses, Within 6' of Bathtubs and Shower Stalls, Laundry Areas, and Indoor Damp and Wet Locations.
- 8) **210.8(A) Exceptions** (2023) – Exceptions from GFCI protection of receptacles in areas listed in 210.8(A) are: Receptacles used for snow-melting equipment and not readily accessible, Receptacles supplying permanently installed security systems, listed Weight Supporting Attachment Fitting (WSAF), and receptacles located inside an exhaust fan in a bathroom (unless GFCI is required by the mfr).
- 9) ****210.8(D)** (2020) – GFCI protection is now required for specific appliances that are 150-volts or less and 60 amps or less (such as sump pumps and dishwashers) unless GFCI protection is provided by the manufacturer on the cord, within the appliance, etc. (Included in the NEC is a list of appliances)
- 10) **210.8(E)** (2020) - GFCI protection is required for the 125-volt, single-phase, 15- or 20-amp receptacle that is required to be within 25' of heating, air-conditioning, and refrigerating equipment for servicing.
- 11) **210.11(C)(3)** (2020) – Clarifies that in bathrooms, only the required dedicated receptacle must be 20-amps (at the countertop or work surface) and all other receptacles (if present) can be 15- or 20-amps.
- 12) **210.11(C)(4)** (2020 and 2023) – Clarifies that in garages, only the required dedicated receptacles must be 20-amps, all other receptacles (if present) can be 15 or 20-amps.
- 13) **210.23** (2023) – The NEC has added 10-amp branch circuits for LED lighting, dwelling unit exhaust fans in bathrooms and laundry areas, and gas fireplace units. (Not permitted for receptacles).
- 14) **210.52(C)** (2020) – Receptacles on a countertop or workstation cannot be counted as the required wall spaced receptacles.
- 15) ****210.52(C)** (2023) – Kitchen Islands and Peninsular receptacles are no longer required. One of three options are required for the receptacle, 1) Above the counter, 2) in the countertop, or 3) a provision for installing a future receptacle. Receptacles are no longer allowed to be installed on the side below the countertop on the Kitchen Island or Peninsular.
- 16) **210.52(E)(3)** (2020) – Receptacle outlets are required on decks whether attached to the house or not.
- 17) ***210.70** (2023) – A light switch or wall-mounted control cannot rely exclusively on a battery unless it has a backup that turns the lights on if the battery fails.
- 18) **215.15** (2023) – Barriers are required on the main load terminations of a feeder panels / subpanels.

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- 19) ****215.18, 225.42, 230.67** (2020 & 2023) – Surge protection is required on service or feeder supplies in a dwelling unit.
- 20) **220.5(C)** (2023) – When calculating a floor area, garages, unused, and/or unfinished areas are no longer excluded from the calculation.
- 21) ***225.41** (2023) – An emergency disconnect is required on dwelling units supplied by feeders.
- 22) ***230.71** (2020) – Only one service disconnect means can be installed in the same panelboard.
- 23) ****230.85 (A) and (B)** (2020) – An Exterior Emergency Disconnect is required on one- and two-family dwelling units. (See NEC 230.85(B) for the 3 options)
- 24) **230.85 (E)** (2023) – Exterior Emergency Disconnect must be marked as: “Emergency Disconnect, Service Disconnect”, “Emergency Disconnect, Meter Disconnect, Not Service Equipment” or “Emergency Disconnect, Not Service Equipment”
- 25) **240.2** (2020) – Equipment providing ground-fault protection of equipment, GFCI devices, molded-case circuit breakers cannot be reconditioned.
- 26) **242.2** (2023) – Surge protective devices (SPD) cannot be reconditioned.
- 27) **250.64(B)(2) and (B)(3)** (2020) – When PVC is used for protection from physical damage of a Grounding Electrode Conductor, only Schedule 80 may be used.
- 28) **300.4(G)** (2023) – Protective fittings or bushings to raceways containing insulated conductors 4AWG or larger, must be installed prior to the installation of conductors.
- 29) **300.5 Table** (2023) – Added EMT to the table allowing it for underground locations.
- 30) **300.15(F)** (2020) – Revision to clarify that listed devices can conceal splices behind drywall.
- 31) **314.5** (2023) – Clarification is made to describe the type of screws used with boxes and conduit bodies.
- 32) **334.30** (2020) – NM cable must be stapled within 12” of a box and cannot exceed 18” in cable length.
- 33) **404.14(D)(3)** (2023) – Snap Switches using screwless (push-in) terminals cannot be greater than 15-amps and only use solid 14 AWG conductors unless listed and marked for other types.
- 34) **404.16** (2023) – Switches, snap switches, switching devices, and molded-case switches cannot be reconditioned and must be replaced when damaged.
- 35) **406.2** (2023) – Receptacles, attachment plugs, cord connectors, and flanged surface devices cannot be reconditioned.
- 36) **406.3(D)** (2023) – Receptacles installed using screwless terminals (push-in terminals) cannot use conductors larger than 14 AWG solid copper wire, unless listed and marked for other types of conductors.
- 37) **406.4(D)(7)** (2020) – Controlled switches that are no longer controlled must be replaced with unmarked receptacles.
- 38) **406.5(G)(2)** (2020) – Receptacles located under a sink cannot be mounted face up.
- 39) ***406.9(C)** (2020) – Receptacles located in damp or wet locations (bathtub and shower spaces) now have a restricted “zone”.
- 40) **406.12** (2020) – Tamper Resistant receptacles are required in attached and detached garages and accessory buildings to dwelling units.

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- 41) 408.4(A)** (2020) – Circuit directories at panels can now be in “approved adjacent locations.”
- 42) 408.43** (2020 and 2023) – Panelboards cannot be installed in the face-up or face-down position.
- 43) 410.16** (2020) – Revised to specify the requirements for luminaires in clothes closet storage spaces.
- 44) 410.118** (2020) - Clarifies that a luminaire cannot be used to access an outlet, pull box, or junction box that is not associated with the wiring for that luminaire.
- 45) 422.16(B)(2)** (2020) – Bushings, etc. are required when the flexible cord for a built-in dishwasher passes through an opening.
- 46) 422.18** (2023) – Prohibits metal parts on ceiling paddle fans from areas (or zones) over tubs and shower spaces.
- 47) 424.48** (2023) – Allows heating cables to be installed in walls with specific protections and limitations.
- 48) 440.8** (2023) – Mini-split cooling systems cannot be installed in tub or shower zones.
- 49) 440.11** (2023) – On Air Conditioning equipment, the lifting cover on the disconnect must be locked to unqualified persons.
- 50) *440.14** (2023) – The disconnect for A/C’s must meet the working space requirements of 110.26(A).
- 51) *445.18 (A) and 445.19** (2023) – Disconnecting means for a generator is required and can be located inside the generator.
- 52) 445.19(C) (2023)** – An emergency shutdown is required on installed generators on one- and two-family homes and must be located outside the dwelling unit.
- 53) 550.13(B)** (2020) – GFCI protection is required in various areas for Mobile and Manufactured Homes
- 54) 550.32(A)** (2023) – On mobile homes, service cannot be installed in or on the home, and must be within sight from.
- 55) *625.54**(2020) – All receptacles used for EV charging must be GFCI protected.
- 56) 625.56** (2020) – WP enclosures are required for EV charger receptacles installed in wet locations.
- 57) **680.4** (2020) – The AHJ can inspect existing and aging pools for hazards
- 58) 680.12(B)** (2023) – Pool equipment rooms, vaults, and pits must have at least one GFCI protected 15- or 20-ampere general purpose receptacle.
- 59) *680.21(C)** (2020 & 2023) – On pools, GFCI protection is required on all replaced or repaired motors (except for low-voltage motors not requiring grounding).
- 60) *680.21(D)** (2020) – GFCI protection is required when motors on older pools are being replaced.
- 61) 680.22(A)(5)** (2020) – At least one GFCI receptacle is required in pool equipment rooms.
- 62) TIA** – Watch for **Tentative Interim Amendments (TIA)**. TIA’s are changes to the already adopted National Electrical Code (NEC) that cannot wait until the next code cycle and may affect code requirements in the printed version of the NEC.

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63) *2025 Energy Conservation Construction Code of New York State

- a. ****Section R404.2** - Permanently installed lighting in habitable spaces must be controlled by either a dimmer switch or an automatic lighting control, and
- b. ****Section R404.3** - Newly installed permanently installed exterior lighting over 30 watts shall:
 - Be controlled by a manual on/off switch that also allows automatic shutoff,
 - Automatically shut off when sufficient daylight is present, and
 - Not include override controls unless the override automatically returns to normal operation within 24 hours.

* Indicates that we believe this is a significant change.

** Indicates that we believe this is a very significant change.

Note: This does not include all the changes in the 2020 NEC and 2023 NEC and please refer to the 2023 National Electrical Code for the complete requirements and any additional information.

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