



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT • BUILDING INSPECTION DIVISION
500 Castro Street • Post Office Box 7540 • Mountain View, California 94039-7540
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AFCI & GFCI GUIDE FOR ONE-TO-TWO FAMILY DWELLINGS

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

Three (3) sets of plans **wet-signed** by the designer/architect, contractor, or homeowner responsible for preparing the plans. All plans submitted (*at minimum include existing and new floor plans, site plan*) shall be a minimum plan size of 11" x 17" and **must be legible** to facilitate digital imaging for permanent record.

If the property resides within an HOA (*Homeowners Association*), a signed letter of authorization for improvements shall be required. Also, for exterior fixtures review and approval from Planning Division must be obtained prior to submitting to the Building Division for permit. Planning Division can be reached by calling (650) 903-6306.

The following list of general code requirements based on the adopted 2016 California Codes and local ordinances are provided for general information. If you have any questions contact the Building Inspection Division at (650) 903-6313 during regular business hours.

BASIC CODE REQUIREMENTS

- **Arc-Fault Circuit interrupted** (AFCI) is a device intended to provide protection from the effects of arc fault by recognizing characteristics unique to arcing; it functions to de-energize the circuit when an arc fault is detected (Article 100 – Definitions).
- 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 (CEC 210.12A): Family rooms, dining rooms, living rooms, parlors, libraries, dens, bedrooms, sunrooms, recreation rooms, closets, hallways or similar rooms and areas.
- **Ground-Fault Circuit-Interrupter** (GFCI) is a device intended for the protection of personnel, it functions to de-energize a circuit or portion thereof within an established period of time when a current to ground exceeds the values established for a Class A device (Article 100 – Definitions).
- The GFCI shall be installed in readily accessible location (CEC 210.8).
- All 125-volt, single-phase, 15 and 20 ampere receptacles installed in dwelling units shall be GFCI in the following locations (CEC 210.8A):
 - Bathrooms
 - Garages, and also accessory buildings that have a floor located at or below grade level not intended as habitable and limited to storage areas, work areas or similar use
 - Outdoors
 - Crawl spaces: At or below grade level
 - Unfinished basements
 - Kitchens: Where the receptacles are installed to serve the countertop surfaces
 - Sinks: Where receptacles are installed within 6 ft. of the outside 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, and vanity area
- Laundry areas
- Receptacles in **Damp** or **Wet locations**. Receptacles installed outdoors shall have an enclosure for the receptacle that is waterproof (CEC 406.9).



GFCI REQUIRED LOCATIONS

OTHER RELATED HANDOUTS

1. Smoke Detector requirements
2. Carbon Monoxide Detector req.