

2020 NEC: SOME SIGNIFICANT CHANGES FOR RESIDENTIAL PROJECTS

1. **210.8 (A)** - requires GFCI protection to include the 240 volt receptacles for **ranges** that are within 6' from the edge of sinks and for 240 volt receptacles located in laundry rooms for the **dryers**.
2. **210.8(A)(5)** - requires **all receptacles in a basement** (*either finished or unfinished*) to be GFCI protected. This would be for new houses or basement finishes.
3. **210.8(A)(11)** - requires GFCI protection for all **indoor wet or damp locations** - this is not just for areas with a sink but could be for mud rooms without sink or with outlets outside of the 6' dimension or even a room where dogs may get washed down. *The significant change book says the AHJ needs to write up a policy on what a damp or wet location actually are.*
4. **210.8(B)(2)** - requires GFCI protection for all areas defined as "**kitchen**" and areas with a sink and permanent provisions for either food preparation or cooking.
5. **210.8(E)** - **GFCI protection is required** for all outlets required by Section 210.63 (indoors and outdoors) receptacles required for the expressed purpose of providing **maintenance workers** with the necessary access to power for the use of portable tools on the described equipment.
6. **210.8(F)** requires **GFCI protection for all exterior receptacles for 125 volt through 250 volt** - this will now include the AC condensers or heat pumps - and will include these units when hard wired.
7. **210.11(C)(3)** - change to **branch circuit** requirements for baths.
8. **210.11(C)(4)** - this allows **garage receptacles** to be installed (other than the minimum ones required for each bay in garage) on a different *15 amp circuit*. The receptacles required for each *garage bay shall be on separate 20 amp circuit*.
9. **210.52(C)** - changed to clarify that **outlets** installed on counter tops or work surfaces cannot be used to meet the wall spacing requirement.
10. **210.52(C)(1), (C)(2), (C) (3)** - has changed to use the square footage of **islands** and **peninsulas** for *how many outlets are required*.
11. **230.67** - all new dwellings will require a surge protector device
12. **230.85** - now requires that there needs to be an **emergency disconnect** at a readily accessible outdoor location for dwelling units.
13. **314.27(C)** was changed concerning **ceiling boxes for paddle fans** -334.30 now says the *maximum length of Romex* from opening in box to the first staple cannot exceed 18" - there still is the 18" maximum length to the staple.
14. **406.5** - will not allow **receptacles** to be face up in cabinet under sinks
15. **406.9(C)** - was changed and expanded area where **outlets** are allowed by **bathtubs or showers**.
16. **406.12** - was changed to now require **tamper resistant outlets** in attached and detached garages and accessory buildings along with common areas of multifamily dwelling units.
17. **408.43** - will not allow **panelboards** to be installed face up
18. **410.2 and 410.16** - added the word **clothes** to section to clarify that these requirements only apply to a clothes closet.
19. **547.5(G)** - expanded **GFCI protection** for agriculture buildings.

This list does not include all of the changes in the 2020 NEC.