

# National Electrical Code® 2020



## Major Changes to the Code

The National Electrical Code®, which has been **adopted by all 50 states**, sets the minimum standard for safe electrical design, installation, and inspection to keep people and property protected from electrical hazards. The NEC® is **revised every three years** using public input, commentary, and technical sessions. With the introduction of the 2020 code, there have been 15 NEC® revisions since 1977, the year the median American home was built.

### 1 Surge Protection is Required for Dwelling Units **NEW**



New and replaced service equipment supplying dwellings are now required to be protected by listed **Type 1 or Type 2 Surge-Protective Devices**. These protect electrical devices and appliances that may not be protected by point-of-use SPDs. It is estimated that the average home has **\$15,000** worth of equipment that can be damaged by surges.

#### Type 1 SPD

Permanently connected SPDs intended for installation between the **secondary of the service transformer** and the **line side of the service disconnect overcurrent device**.

#### Type 2 SPD

Permanently connected SPDs intended for installation on the **load side of the service disconnect overcurrent device**, including SPDs located at the branch panel.

### 2 Ground Fault Circuit Requirements **NEW**

**GFCI protection** is now required in all 125-volt through 250-volt receptacles supplied by single-phase branch circuits rated 150-volt or less to ground in eleven\* locations of a dwelling. Dryer and range receptacles, common 250-volt receptacles in homes, require GFCI protection.

\*Locations listed in NEC section 210.8(A)(1) through (A)(11)



New GFCI requirements include protection in non-dwelling locations and marinas. For more information on new 2020 NEC® requirements visit **ESFI.org**.

### 3 Outdoor Emergency Disconnects for Dwelling Units **NEW**



**Outdoor emergency disconnects** are now required for new construction, home undergoing renovation, and homes having their service replaced. This **allows first responders to respond to emergencies**, such as a house fire, without potential electrical hazards. Emergency disconnects may be a service disconnect, a meter disconnect, or listed disconnect switches or circuit breakers on the supply side of each device disconnect suitable for use as service equipment.

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