

When and where are GFCI OUTLETS/CIRCUITS required by the NEC? (NEC - National Electric Code)

A. This is how the requirements for GFCI's have progressed over the years. **Keep in mind that all previous years plus the new requirements make up the current code.**

1968 NEC

GFCI's First permitted as one of the methods of protection for underwater swimming pool lights. Class B GFCI's were developed for use with fixtures prior to 1968 NEC

1971 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Within 20 feet of the pool wall, For underwater pool lights, power to storage pools, construction sites effective 1974

1975 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Dwelling unit bathrooms, Outdoor receptacles on dwelling units

1978 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Dwelling unit garages, health care facilities (wet locations), mobile homes: outdoors, bathrooms, RV's bathrooms, tub and shower area, 6 feet of sink, exterior of RV, RV Site equipment, Marinas and boatyards, fountains (lighting and submersible equipment), cord and plug-connected fountains, Lighting within 5 feet of a pool

1981 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Within 10 feet of a spa or hot tub, within 5 feet of a therapeutic pool, supplies to an indoor spa or hot tub.
Other Requirements: Outdoor portable signs, lighting over a spa or hot tub, therapeutic pools

1984 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Replacement receptacles, hotel/motel bathrooms,
Other requirements: Electrically operated pool covers

1987 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements:
Basements, kitchen sinks (within 6 feet of),
boathouses, commercial garages.
Other requirements: High-pressure spray washers, hydro-massage bathtubs

1990 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Crawl spaces

1993 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Wet bar sinks, all bathrooms, roof tops, elevator machines rooms, elevator car tops, elevator pits.

Other requirements: Spa's and Hot Tubs

1996 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements for Dwelling units: All outdoor receptacles, all kitchen counter top receptacles, all unfinished accessory buildings, all temporary wiring for construction, remodeling, maintenance, repair, demolition or similar activities.

All receptacles within 5 feet of a hydro-massage bath tub

1999 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Temporary wiring added 30 amp 125 volt receptacles, spa and hot tub specified self contained packaged and field assembled units must have GFCI protection, fountains, electric signs located within a fountain.

Carnival, Circus and Fairs – All 15 and 20 ampere 125 volt receptacles that are in use by personnel must be protected by listed GFCI device. Also permitted to be a part of the cord set

2002 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacle Requirements: Kitchens other than dwelling units. A kitchen is defined as any area with a sink and Permanent facilities for food preparation and cooking. All bathroom / restroom areas in airports, commercial buildings, industrial facilities, and non-dwelling occupancies. Roof tops of all non-dwelling occupancies that have heating and air condition equipment.

2005 NEC

15-20 Amp 120 volt Receptacles Requirements: Within 6 feet of the outside edge, in any direction of any laundry sink, bar sink or vegetable sink. All Outdoor Public Spaces that is accessible to the public.