

210.52 Dwelling Unit Receptacle Outlets.

This section provides requirements for 125-volt, 15- and 20-ampere receptacle outlets. The receptacles required by this section shall be in addition to any receptacle that is as follows:

- (1) Part of a luminaire or appliance, or
- (2) Controlled by a listed wall-mounted control device in accordance with 210.70(A)(1), Exception No. 1, or
- (3) Located within cabinets or cupboards, or
- (4) Located more than 1.7 m (5½ ft) above the floor.

Permanently installed electric baseboard heaters equipped with factory-installed receptacle outlets or outlets provided as a separate assembly by the manufacturer shall be permitted as the required outlet or outlets for the wall space utilized by such permanently installed heaters. Such receptacle outlets shall not be connected to the heater circuits.

Informational Note: Listed baseboard heaters include instructions that may not permit their installation below receptacle outlets.

(A) General Provisions.

In every kitchen, family room, dining room, living room, parlor, library, den, sunroom, bedroom, recreation room, or similar room or area of dwelling units, receptacle outlets shall be installed in accordance with the general provisions specified in 210.52(A)(1) through (A)(4).

(1) Spacing.

Receptacles shall be installed such that no point measured horizontally along the floor line of any wall space is more than 1.8 m (6 ft) from a receptacle outlet.

(2) Wall Space.

As used in this section, a wall space shall include the following:

- (1) Any space 600 mm (2 ft) or more in width (including space measured around corners) and unbroken along the floor line by doorways and similar openings, fireplaces, stationary appliances, and fixed cabinets that do not have countertops or similar work surfaces.
- (2) The space occupied by fixed panels in walls, excluding sliding panels.
- (3) The space afforded by fixed room dividers, such as freestanding bar-type counters or railings.

(3) Floor Receptacles.

Receptacle outlets in or on floors shall not be counted as part of the required number of receptacle outlets unless located within 450 mm (18 in.) of the wall.

(4) Countertop and Similar Work Surface Receptacle Outlets.

Receptacles installed for countertop and similar work surfaces as specified in 210.52(C) shall not be considered as the receptacle outlets required by 210.52(A).

(B) Small Appliances.

(1) Receptacle Outlets Served.

In the kitchen, pantry, breakfast room, dining room, or similar area of a dwelling unit, the two or more 20-ampere small-appliance branch circuits required by 210.11(C)(1) shall serve all wall and floor receptacle outlets covered by 210.52(A), all countertop outlets covered by 210.52(C), and receptacle outlets for refrigeration equipment.

Exception No. 1: In addition to the required receptacles specified by 210.52, switched receptacles supplied from a general-purpose 15- or 20-ampere branch circuit shall be permitted in accordance with 210.70(A)(1), Exception No. 1.

Exception No. 2: In addition to the required receptacles specified by 210.52, a receptacle outlet to serve a specific appliance shall be permitted to be supplied from an individual branch circuit rated 15 amperes or greater.

(2) No Other Outlets.

The two or more small-appliance branch circuits specified in 210.52(B)(1) shall have no other outlets.

Exception No. 1: A receptacle installed solely for the electrical supply to and support of an electric clock in any of the rooms specified in 210.52(B)(1) shall be permitted to be served by a small-appliance branch circuit.

Exception No. 2: Receptacles installed to provide power for supplemental equipment and lighting on gas-fired ranges, ovens, or counter-mounted cooking units shall be permitted to be served by a small-appliance branch circuit.

(3) Kitchen Receptacle Requirements.

Receptacles installed in a kitchen to serve countertop surfaces shall be supplied by not fewer than two small-appliance branch circuits, either or both of which shall also be permitted to supply receptacle outlets in the same kitchen and in other rooms specified in 210.52(B)(1). Additional small-appliance branch circuits shall be permitted to supply receptacle outlets in the

kitchen and other rooms specified in **210.52(B)(1)**. No small-appliance branch circuit shall serve more than one kitchen.

(C) Countertops and Work Surfaces.

In kitchens, pantries, breakfast rooms, dining rooms, and similar areas of dwelling units, receptacle outlets for countertop and work surfaces that are 300 mm (12 in.) or wider shall be installed in accordance with **210.52(C)(1)** through (C)(3) and shall not be considered as the receptacle outlets required by **210.52(A)**.

For the purposes of this section, where using multioutlet assemblies, each 300 mm (12 in.) of multioutlet assembly containing two or more receptacles installed in individual or continuous lengths shall be considered to be one receptacle outlet.

(1) Wall Spaces.

Receptacle outlets shall be installed so that no point along the wall line is more than 600 mm (24 in.) measured horizontally from a receptacle outlet in that space. The location of the receptacles shall be in accordance with **210.52(C)(3)**.

*Exception No. 1: Receptacle outlets shall not be required directly behind a range, counter-mounted cooking unit, or sink in the installation described in **Figure 210.52(C)(1)**.*

*Exception No. 2: Where a required receptacle outlet cannot be installed in the wall areas shown in **Figure 210.52(C)(1)**, the receptacle outlet shall be permitted to be installed as close as practicable to the countertop area to be served. The total number of receptacle outlets serving the countertop shall not be less than the number needed to satisfy **210.52(C)(1)**. These outlets shall be located in accordance with **210.52(C)(3)**.*

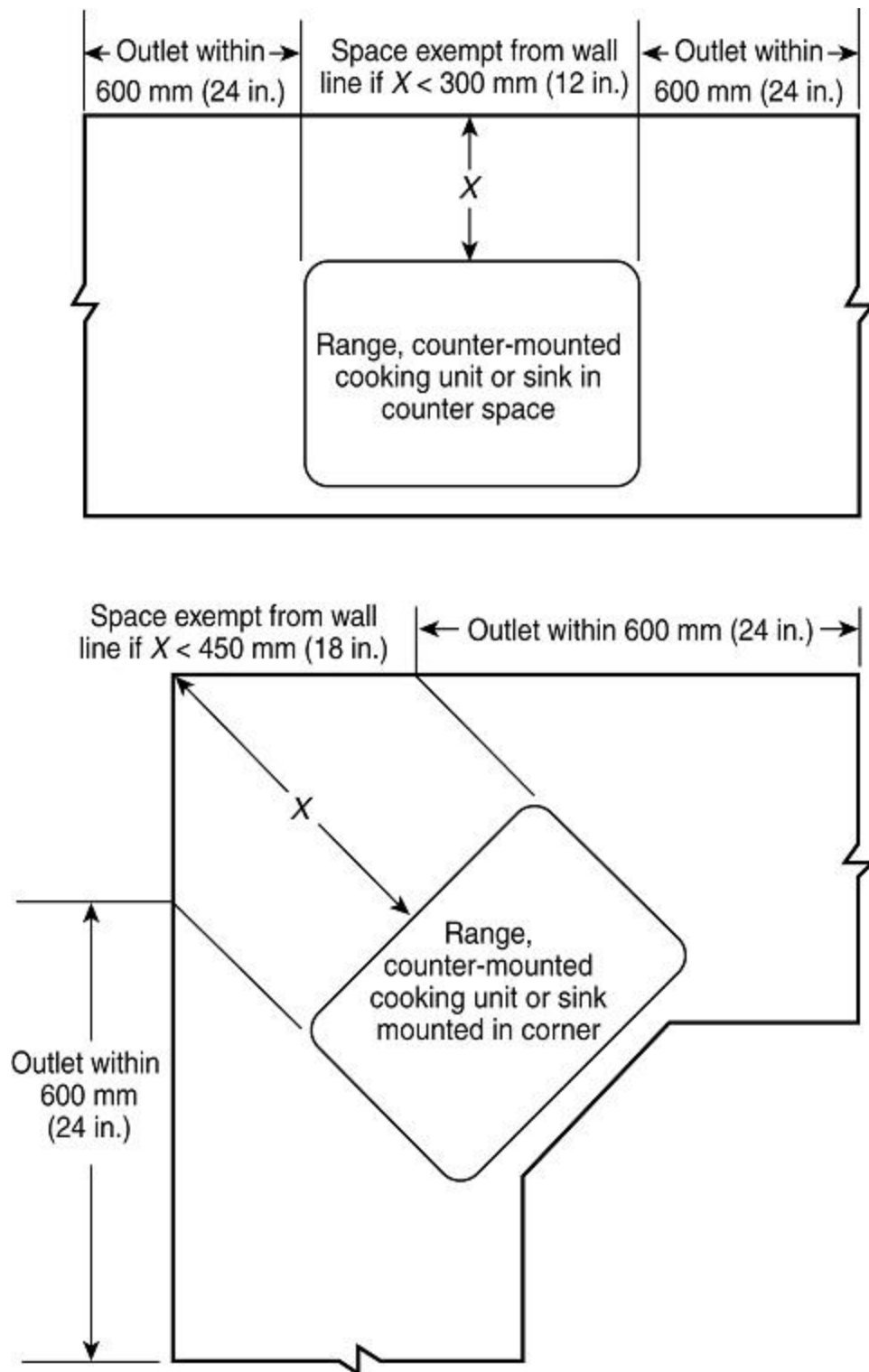


Figure 210.52(C)(1) Determination of Area Behind a Range, Counter-Mounted Cooking Unit, or Sink.

(2) Island and Peninsular Countertops and Work Surfaces.

Receptacle outlets, if installed to serve an island or peninsular countertop or work surface, shall be installed in accordance with **210.52(C)(3)**. If a receptacle outlet is not provided to serve an island or peninsular countertop or work surface, provisions shall be provided at the island or peninsula for future addition of a receptacle outlet to serve the island or peninsular countertop or work surface.

(3) Receptacle Outlet Location.

Receptacle outlets shall be located in one or more of the following:

- (1) On or above, but not more than 500 mm (20 in.) above, a countertop or work surface
- (2) In a countertop using receptacle outlet assemblies listed for use in countertops
- (3) In a work surface using receptacle outlet assemblies listed for use in work surfaces or listed for use in countertops

Receptacle outlets rendered not readily accessible by appliances fastened in place, appliance garages, sinks, or rangetops as covered in **210.52(C)(1)**, Exception No. 1, or appliances occupying assigned spaces shall not be considered as these required outlets.

Informational Note No. 1: See **406.5(E)** for installation of receptacles in countertops and **406.5(F)** for installation of receptacles in work surfaces. See **380.10** for installation of multioutlet assemblies.

Informational Note No. 2: See Informative Annex J and ANSI/ICC A117.1-2009, *Standard on Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities*, for additional information.

(D) Bathrooms.

At least one receptacle outlet shall be installed in bathrooms within 900 mm (3 ft) of the outside edge of each sink. The receptacle outlet shall be located on a wall or partition that is adjacent to the sink or sink countertop, located on the countertop, or installed on the side or face of the sink cabinet. In no case shall the receptacle be located more than 300 mm (12 in.) below the top of the sink or sink countertop. Receptacle outlet assemblies listed for use in countertops shall be permitted to be installed in the countertop.

Informational Note: See **406.5(E)** and **406.5(G)** for requirements on installation of receptacles in countertops.

(E) Outdoor Outlets.

Outdoor receptacle outlets shall be installed in accordance with **210.52(E)(1)** through (E)(3).

(1) One-Family and Two-Family Dwellings.

For a one-family dwelling and each unit of a two-family dwelling that is at grade level, at least one receptacle outlet readily accessible from grade and not more than 2.0 m (6 1/2 ft) above grade level shall be installed at the front and back of the dwelling.

(2) Multifamily Dwellings.

For each dwelling unit of a multifamily dwelling where the dwelling unit is located at grade level and provided with individual exterior entrance/egress, at least one receptacle outlet readily accessible from grade and not more than 2.0 m (6 1/2 ft) above grade level shall be installed.

(3) Balconies, Decks, and Porches.

Balconies, decks, and porches that are within 102 mm (4 in.) horizontally of the dwelling unit shall have at least one receptacle outlet accessible from the balcony, deck, or porch. The receptacle outlet shall not be located more than 2.0 m (6 1/2 ft) above the balcony, deck, or porch walking surface.

(F) Laundry Areas.

In dwelling units, at least one receptacle outlet shall be installed in areas designated for the installation of laundry equipment.

Exception No. 1: A receptacle for laundry equipment shall not be required in a dwelling unit of a multifamily building where laundry facilities are provided on the premises for use by all building occupants.

Exception No. 2: A receptacle for laundry equipment shall not be required in other than one-family dwellings where laundry facilities are not to be installed or permitted.

(G) Basements, Garages, and Accessory Buildings.

For one- and two-family dwellings, and multifamily dwellings, at least one receptacle outlet shall be installed in the areas specified in **210.52(G)(1)** through (G)(3). These receptacles shall be in addition to receptacles required for specific equipment. Receptacles supplying only a permanently installed premises security system shall not be considered as meeting these requirements.

(1) Garages.

In each attached garage and in each detached garage with electric power, at least one receptacle outlet shall be installed in each vehicle bay and not more than 1.7 m (5½ ft) above the floor.

Exception: Garage spaces not attached to an individual dwelling unit of a multifamily dwelling shall not require a receptacle outlet in each vehicle bay.

(2) Accessory Buildings.

In each accessory building with electric power.

(3) Basements.

In each separate unfinished portion of a basement.

(H) Hallways.

In dwelling units, hallways of 3.0 m (10 ft) or more in length shall have at least one receptacle outlet.

As used in this subsection, the hallway length shall be considered the length along the centerline of the hallway without passing through a doorway.

(I) Foyers.

Foyers that are not part of a hallway in accordance with **210.52(H)** and that have an area that is greater than 5.6 m² (60 ft²) shall have a receptacle(s) located in each wall space 900 mm (3 ft) or more in width. Doorways, door-side windows that extend to the floor, and similar openings shall not be considered wall space.