

# NFPA 70A

## *National Electrical Code*<sup>®</sup> Requirements for One- and Two-Family Dwellings

2005 Edition



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An International Codes and Standards Organization

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## NFPA 70A

### *National Electrical Code*® Requirements for One- and Two-Family Dwellings

#### 2005 Edition

#### Excerpted from the 2005 *National Electrical Code*® NFPA 70–2005

#### Preface

This 2005 edition of NFPA 70A is a compilation of electrical provisions for one- and two-family dwellings. The provisions assembled in this compilation have been extracted directly from the 2005 edition of NFPA 70, *National Electrical Code*® (NEC®), and have been editorially revised only where necessary to limit their application to one- and two-family dwellings. This compilation has been reviewed and approved by the National Electrical Code Committee through its Technical Correlating Committee. It is being provided for the convenience of inspectors, contractors, builders, and others who are primarily interested in only those NEC rules that apply to one- and two-family dwellings.

Only those wiring methods and materials commonly encountered in new construction at one- and two-family dwellings are included in NFPA 70A. In like manner, only current ratings up to and including 400 amperes (based on Table 310.15(B)(6)) and voltages up to and including 600 volts are covered in NFPA 70A. It is the intent that the rules covering wiring methods, any materials, or any type of equipment, such as motors, not specifically included in this document are to be covered by the applicable rules in the 2005 edition of the *National Electrical Code*.

Where a reference is made to an article or section not included in NFPA 70A, such as to Article 430 or 430.52, the reference is to that article or section as it appears in the 2005 edition of the *National Electrical Code*.

The numbering system for articles and sections of the 2005 edition of the *National Electrical Code* has been preserved in NFPA 70A, so that provisions in NFPA 70A bear the same numerical designation as they have in the NEC. The user of NFPA 70A should be aware, therefore, that there are gaps in the numerical sequence of provisions in NFPA 70A, and that these gaps are a natural consequence of the fact that NFPA 70A contains only selected provisions of the NEC.

This edition of NFPA 70A has been reviewed by the NEC Technical Correlating Committee, and the committee has determined, by way of an affirmative letter ballot, that the extracting and editorial revision of NEC text included in NFPA 70A has been achieved without altering the technical intent of the 2005 edition of the *National Electrical Code*.

As the 2005 edition of the *National Electrical Code* is the parent document for the extracted text contained in NFPA 70A, any request for a formal interpretation of any text in NFPA 70A will be processed in accordance with the NFPA Regulations Governing Committee Projects as a formal interpretation of the 2005 edition of the *National Electrical Code*.

Prior to this 2005 edition, the most recent previous edition of NFPA 70A was the 2002 edition.

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## Contents

## ARTICLE

90	Introduction . . . . .	70A-1
<b>Chapter 1 General</b>		
100	Definitions . . . . .	70A-5
	I. General . . . . .	70A-5
110	Requirements for Electrical Installations . . . . .	70A-10
	I. General . . . . .	70A-10
	II. 600 Volts, Nominal, or Less. . . . .	70A-13
<b>Chapter 2 Wiring and Protection</b>		
200	Use and Identification of Grounded Conductors . . . . .	70A-15
210	Branch Circuits . . . . .	70A-16
	I. General Provisions . . . . .	70A-16
	II. Branch-Circuit Ratings . . . . .	70A-19
	III. Required Outlets . . . . .	70A-21
215	Feeders . . . . .	70A-25
220	Branch-Circuit, Feeder, and Service Calculations . . . . .	70A-26
	I. General . . . . .	70A-26
	II. Branch Circuit Load Calculations . . . . .	70A-26
	III. Feeder and Service Load Calculations . . . . .	70A-27
225	Outside Branch Circuits and Feeders . . . . .	70A-30
	I. General . . . . .	70A-31
	II. More Than One Building or Other Structure . . . . .	70A-33
230	Services . . . . .	70A-34
	I. General . . . . .	70A-34
	II. Overhead Service-Drop Conductors . . . . .	70A-35
	III. Underground Service-Lateral Conductors . . . . .	70A-36
	IV. Service-Entrance Conductors . . . . .	70A-37
	V. Service Equipment—General . . . . .	70A-39
	VI. Service Equipment—Disconnecting Means . . . . .	70A-39
	VII. Service Equipment—Overcurrent Protection . . . . .	70A-40
240	Overcurrent Protection . . . . .	70A-41
	I. General . . . . .	70A-41
	II. Location . . . . .	70A-42
	III. Enclosures . . . . .	70A-43
	V. Plug Fuses, Fuseholders, and Adapters . . . . .	70A-43
250	Grounding and Bonding . . . . .	70A-43
	I. General . . . . .	70A-43
	II. System Grounding . . . . .	70A-45
	III. Grounding Electrode System and Grounding Electrode Conductor . . . . .	70A-47

## ARTICLE

IV.	Enclosure, Raceway, and Service Cable Grounding . . . . .	70A-51
V.	Bonding . . . . .	70A-52
VI.	Equipment Grounding and Equipment Grounding Conductors . . . . .	70A-54
VII.	Methods of Equipment Grounding . . . . .	70A-57
280	Surge Arresters . . . . .	70A-59
285	Transient Voltage Surge Suppressors: TVSSs . . . . .	70A-59
	I. General . . . . .	70A-59
	II. Installation . . . . .	70A-59
	III. Connecting Transient Voltage Surge Suppressors . . . . .	70A-59
<b>Chapter 3 Wiring Methods and Materials</b>		
300	Wiring Methods . . . . .	70A-61
	I. General Requirements . . . . .	70A-61
310	Conductors for General Wiring . . . . .	70A-68
312	Cabinets, Cutout Boxes, and Meter Socket Enclosures . . . . .	70A-73
	I. Installation . . . . .	70A-73
314	Outlet, Device, Pull, and Junction Boxes; Conduit Bodies; Fittings; and Handhole Enclosures . . . . .	70A-76
	I. Scope and General . . . . .	70A-76
	II. Installation . . . . .	70A-76
320	Armored Cable: Type AC . . . . .	70A-82
	I. General . . . . .	70A-82
	II. Installation . . . . .	70A-82
330	Metal-Clad Cable: Type MC . . . . .	70A-83
	I. General . . . . .	70A-83
	II. Installation . . . . .	70A-83
334	Nonmetallic-Sheathed Cable: Types NM and NMC . . . . .	70A-84
	I. General . . . . .	70A-84
	II. Installation . . . . .	70A-84
338	Service-Entrance Cable: Types SE and USE . . . . .	70A-86
	I. General . . . . .	70A-86
	II. Installation . . . . .	70A-86
340	Underground Feeder and Branch-Circuit Cable: Type UF . . . . .	70A-87
	I. General . . . . .	70A-87
	II. Installation . . . . .	70A-87
342	Intermediate Metal Conduit: Type IMC . . . . .	70A-87
	I. General . . . . .	70A-87
	II. Installation . . . . .	70A-88
344	Rigid Metal Conduit: Type RMC . . . . .	70A-89
	I. General . . . . .	70A-89
	II. Installation . . . . .	70A-89

## ARTICLE

348	Flexible Metal Conduit: Type FMC . . . . .	70A–90
	I. General . . . . .	70A–90
	II. Installation . . . . .	70A–91
350	Liquidtight Flexible Metal Conduit: Type LFMC . . . . .	70A–92
	I. General . . . . .	70A–92
	II. Installation . . . . .	70A–92
352	Rigid Nonmetallic Conduit: Type RNC . . . . .	70A–93
	I. General . . . . .	70A–93
	II. Installation . . . . .	70A–93
356	Liquidtight Flexible Nonmetallic Conduit: Type LFNC . . . . .	70A–95
	I. General . . . . .	70A–95
	II. Installation . . . . .	70A–96
358	Electrical Metallic Tubing: Type EMT . . . . .	70A–97
	I. General . . . . .	70A–97
	II. Installation . . . . .	70A–97
362	Electrical Nonmetallic Tubing: Type ENT . . . . .	70A–99
	I. General . . . . .	70A–99
	II. Installation . . . . .	70A–99
380	Multioutlet Assembly . . . . .	70A–100

### Chapter 4 Equipment for General Use

400	Flexible Cords and Cables . . . . .	70A–101
	I. General . . . . .	70A–101
404	Switches . . . . .	70A–101
	I. Installation . . . . .	70A–101
406	Receptacles, Cord Connectors, and Attachment Plugs (Caps) . . . . .	70A–103
408	Switchboards and Panelboards . . . . .	70A–105
	I. General . . . . .	70A–105
	III. Panelboards . . . . .	70A–106
410	Luminaires (Lighting Fixtures), Lampholders, and Lamps . . . . .	70A–107
	I. General . . . . .	70A–107
	II. Luminaire (Fixture) Locations . . . . .	70A–107
	III. Provisions at Luminaire (Fixture) Outlet Boxes, Canopies, and Pans . . . . .	70A–108
	IV. Luminaire (Fixture) Supports . . . . .	70A–109
	V. Grounding . . . . .	70A–109
	VI. Wiring of Luminaires (Fixtures) . . . . .	70A–110
	VIII. Installation of Lampholders . . . . .	70A–111
	XI. Special Provisions for Flush and Recessed Luminaires (Fixtures) . . . . .	70A–111
	XIII. Special Provisions for Electric-Discharge Lighting Systems of 1000 Volts or Less . . . . .	70A–111
	XIV. Special Provisions for Electric-Discharge Lighting Systems of More Than 1000 Volts . . . . .	70A–112
	XV. Lighting Track . . . . .	70A–112

## ARTICLE

411	Lighting Systems Operating at 30 Volts or Less . . . . .	70A–113
422	Appliances . . . . .	70A–113
	I. General . . . . .	70A–113
	II. Installation . . . . .	70A–114
	III. Disconnecting Means . . . . .	70A–116
	V. Marking . . . . .	70A–116
424	Fixed Electric Space-Heating Equipment . . . . .	70A–117
	I. General . . . . .	70A–117
	II. Installation . . . . .	70A–117
	III. Control and Protection of Fixed Electric Space-Heating Equipment . . . . .	70A–118
	IV. Marking of Heating Equipment . . . . .	70A–119
	V. Electric Space-Heating Cables . . . . .	70A–120
	VI. Duct Heaters . . . . .	70A–121
	VII. Resistance-Type Boilers . . . . .	70A–122
	IX. Electric Radiant Heating Panels and Heating Panel Sets . . . . .	70A–122
440	Air-Conditioning and Refrigerating Equipment . . . . .	70A–124
	I. General . . . . .	70A–124
	II. Disconnecting Means . . . . .	70A–125
	III. Branch-Circuit Short-Circuit and Ground-Fault Protection . . . . .	70A–126
	IV. Branch-Circuit Conductors . . . . .	70A–127
	V. Controllers for Motor-Compressors . . . . .	70A–127
	VI. Motor-Compressor and Branch-Circuit Overload Protection . . . . .	70A–128
	VII. Provisions for Room Air Conditioners . . . . .	70A–129
445	Generators . . . . .	70A–129

### Chapter 5 Special Occupancies

550	Mobile Homes, Manufactured Homes, and Mobile Home Parks . . . . .	70A–131
	I. General . . . . .	70A–131
	III. Services and Feeders . . . . .	70A–131
590	Temporary Installations . . . . .	70A–133

### Chapter 6 Special Equipment

680	Swimming Pools, Fountains, and Similar Installations . . . . .	70A–137
	I. General . . . . .	70A–137
	II. Permanently Installed Pools . . . . .	70A–139
	III. Storable Pools . . . . .	70A–146
	IV. Spas and Hot Tubs . . . . .	70A–147
	VII. Hydromassage Bathtubs . . . . .	70A–148
690	Solar Photovoltaic Systems . . . . .	70A–149
692	Fuel Cell Systems . . . . .	70A–149

## ARTICLE

**Chapter 7 Special Conditions**

702	Optional Standby Systems . . . . .	70A–151
	I. General . . . . .	70A–151
	II. Circuit Wiring . . . . .	70A–151
	III. Grounding . . . . .	70A–151
725	Class 1, Class 2, and Class 3 Remote-Control, Signaling, and Power-Limited Circuits . . . . .	70A–152
	I. General . . . . .	70A–152
	II. Class 1 Circuits . . . . .	70A–153
	III. Class 2 and Class 3 Circuits . . . . .	70A–153
760	Fire Alarm Systems . . . . .	70A–155
	I. General . . . . .	70A–155
	II. Non-Power-Limited Fire Alarm (NPLFA) Circuits . . . . .	70A–156
	III. Power-Limited Fire Alarm (PLFA) Circuits . . . . .	70A–156
 <b>Chapter 8 Communications Systems</b>		
800	Communications Circuits . . . . .	70A–159
	I. General . . . . .	70A–159
	II. Wires and Cables Outside and Entering Buildings . . . . .	70A–159
	III. Protection . . . . .	70A–160
	IV. Grounding Methods . . . . .	70A–160
	V. Communications Wires and Cables Within Buildings . . . . .	70A–161
820	Community Antenna Television and Radio Distribution Systems . . . . .	70A–163
	I. General . . . . .	70A–163

## ARTICLE

	II. Cables Outside and Entering Buildings . . .	70A–163
	III. Protection . . . . .	70A–164
	IV. Grounding Methods . . . . .	70A–164
	V. Cables Within Buildings . . . . .	70A–165
830	Network-Powered Broadband Communications Systems . . . . .	70A–167
	I. General . . . . .	70A–167
	II. Cables Outside and Entering Buildings . . .	70A–168
	III. Protection . . . . .	70A–169
	IV. Grounding Methods . . . . .	70A–170
	V. Wiring Methods Within Buildings . . . . .	70A–172

**Chapter 9 Tables**

## TABLE

1	Percent of Cross Section of Conduit and Tubing for Conductors . . . . .	70A–175
2	Radius of Conduit and Tubing Bends . . . . .	70A–175
4	Dimensions and Percent Area of Conduit and Tubing (Areas of Conduit or Tubing for the Combinations of Wires Permitted in Table 1, Chapter 9) . . . . .	70A–176
5	Dimensions of Insulated Conductors . . . . .	70A–180
5A	Compact Aluminum Building Wire Nominal Dimensions and Areas . . . . .	70A–181
8	Conductor Properties . . . . .	70A–182
<b>Annex C . . . . .</b>		70A–183
<b>Annex D . . . . .</b>		70A–195
<b>Index . . . . .</b>		70A–205





## NFPA 70A

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*Throughout this document the term “this Code” refers to the compilation of requirements for electrical installations in one- and two-family dwelling units contained therein that have been extracted from NFPA 70-2005, National Electrical Code® (NEC®).*

## ARTICLE 90 Introduction

**90.1 Purpose.**

**(A) Practical Safeguarding.** The purpose of the *NEC* is the practical safeguarding of persons and property from hazards arising from the use of electricity.

**(B) Adequacy.** This *Code* contains provisions that are considered necessary for safety. Compliance therewith and proper maintenance results in an installation that is essentially free from hazard but not necessarily efficient, convenient, or adequate for good service or future expansion of electrical use.

FPN: Hazards often occur because of overloading of wiring systems by methods or usage not in conformity with this *Code*. This occurs because initial wiring did not provide for increases in the use of electricity. An initial adequate installation and reasonable provisions for system changes provide for future increases in the use of electricity.

**(C) Intention.** This *Code* is not intended as a design specification or an instruction manual for untrained persons.

**(D) Relation to Other International Standards.** The requirements in this *Code* address the fundamental principles of protection for safety contained in Section 131 of International Electrotechnical Commission Standard 60364-1, Electrical Installations of Buildings.

FPN: IEC 60364-1, Section 131, contains fundamental principles of protection for safety that encompass protection against electric shock, protection against thermal effects,

protection against overcurrent, protection against fault currents, and protection against overvoltage. All of these potential hazards are addressed by the requirements in this *Code*.

**90.2 Scope.**

**(A) Covered.** This *Code* covers only those wiring methods and materials most commonly encountered in new construction at one- and two-family dwellings.

**(B) Not Covered.**

- (1) This *Code* does not contain all of the rules necessary to cover mobile homes and manufactured homes, recreational vehicles, park trailers, floating dwelling units, buildings containing more than two dwelling units or buildings used for other than dwelling purposes. For those installations, the 2005 *National Electrical Code* (NFPA 70-2005) shall apply.
- (5) This *Code* does not cover installations under the exclusive control of an electric utility where such installations
  - a. Consist of service drops or service laterals, and associated metering, or
  - b. Are located in legally established easements, rights-of-way, or by other agreements either designated by or recognized by public service commissions, utility commissions, or other regulatory agencies having jurisdiction for such installations, or
  - c. Are on property owned or leased by the electric utility for the purpose of communications, metering, generation, control, transformation, transmission, or distribution of electric energy.

FPN to (5): Examples of utilities may include those entities that are typically designated or recognized by governmental law or regulation by public service/utility commissions and that install, operate, and maintain electric supply (such as generation, transmission, or distribution systems) or communication systems (such as telephone, CATV, Internet, satellite, or data services). Utilities may be subject to compliance with codes and standards covering their regulated activities as adopted under governmental law or regulation. Additional information can be found through consultation with the appropriate governmental bodies, such as state regulatory commissions, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and Federal Communications Commission.

**(C) Special Permission.** The authority having jurisdiction for enforcing this *Code* may grant exception for the installation of conductors and equipment that are not under the exclusive control of the electric utilities and are used to connect the electric utility supply system to the service-entrance conductors of the premises served, provided such installations are outside a building or terminate immediately inside a building wall.

**90.3 Code Arrangement.** This *Code* is divided into the introduction and nine chapters, as shown in Figure 90.3.