

NEC (NFPA 70)

National Fire Protection Association

The National Electrical Code is the installation baseline nearly every electrical inspection in the United States is measured against. On site it shows up as the questions an inspector asks at rough-in and again at final: is the box fill right, is the equipment grounding conductor continuous, is every circuit protected and identified.

What it covers

- Conductor sizing, protection and support
- Box fill, mounting depth and accessible splices
- Grounding and bonding continuity
- Overcurrent protection and circuit identification
- Working clearance at panels and equipment

What a field inspection looks at

- Photograph rough-in wiring, box fill and grounding before the walls close. After cover, a defect is a demolition bill.
- Panel schedules photographed legible, with the directory filled in rather than promised.
- Working clearance measured and shown in frame, not asserted in a note.

Adoption varies by jurisdiction. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction enforces before you run a walk against it.