



KITCHEN COUNTERTOP RECEPTACLE REQUIREMENTS

This quick code summary for kitchen receptacle requirements has been developed to eliminate any confusion regarding code requirements and to help the customer's project become code compliant with the Oregon Residential Specialty Code, thereby reducing the possibility of additional costs of materials, labor, and additional inspection fees to the customer due to incorrect installations.

Kitchen countertop receptacles are GFCI protected and are electrically supplied by a minimum of two 20 amp small appliance branch circuits. These two circuits shall also supply wall and floor receptacle outlets in the pantry, breakfast room, dining room, or similar areas as well as refrigeration equipment. Exceptions include switched receptacles from general purpose branch circuits, additional branch circuits for refrigeration equipment, receptacle outlets for electric clocks in these rooms, and receptacle outlets for supplemental equipment and lighting on gas-fired ranges, ovens, or counter-mounted cooking units. Wall counter spaces that are 12 inches and wider shall be served by receptacle outlets. No point along the wall line shall be more than 24 inches, measured horizontally, from a receptacle outlet in that space. Receptacle outlets are not required behind a sink or range unless specific conditions occur. **See Figures 1 and 2.**¹ Countertop spaces separated by refrigerators, ranges, and sinks are considered separate spaces, and when the space is at least 12 inches wide, the spacing requirements mentioned above shall apply.

Peninsular counter spaces shall be served by at least one receptacle outlet when the short dimension of the peninsula is at least 12 inches and the long dimension, measured from the connecting edge, is at least 24 inches. **See Figure 1.**¹

Island counter spaces shall be served by at least one receptacle outlet when the short dimension is at least 12 inches and the long dimension is at least 24 inches. If the counter space behind an installed range top or sink is less than 12 inches, the range top or sink is considered to divide the island into two separate countertop spaces and a receptacle outlet is required at each end of the island. If the countertop space behind the range top or sink is greater than 12 inches, then only one receptacle is required to serve that island. **See Figure 1.**¹

Receptacle outlets shall be located above a countertop space by not more than 20 inches. An exception allows receptacles to be mounted below the countertop not more than 12 inches beneath the surface with a maximum inset from the countertop edge to the support base of 6 inches. **See Figure 3.**¹

Please call the City of Beaverton's Building Division at (503) 526-2493 if you have additional questions.

ORSCE35-210.52(C)(5)
See Figure 3.

¹ Figures 1, 2, and 3 are shown on the reverse side of this handout.
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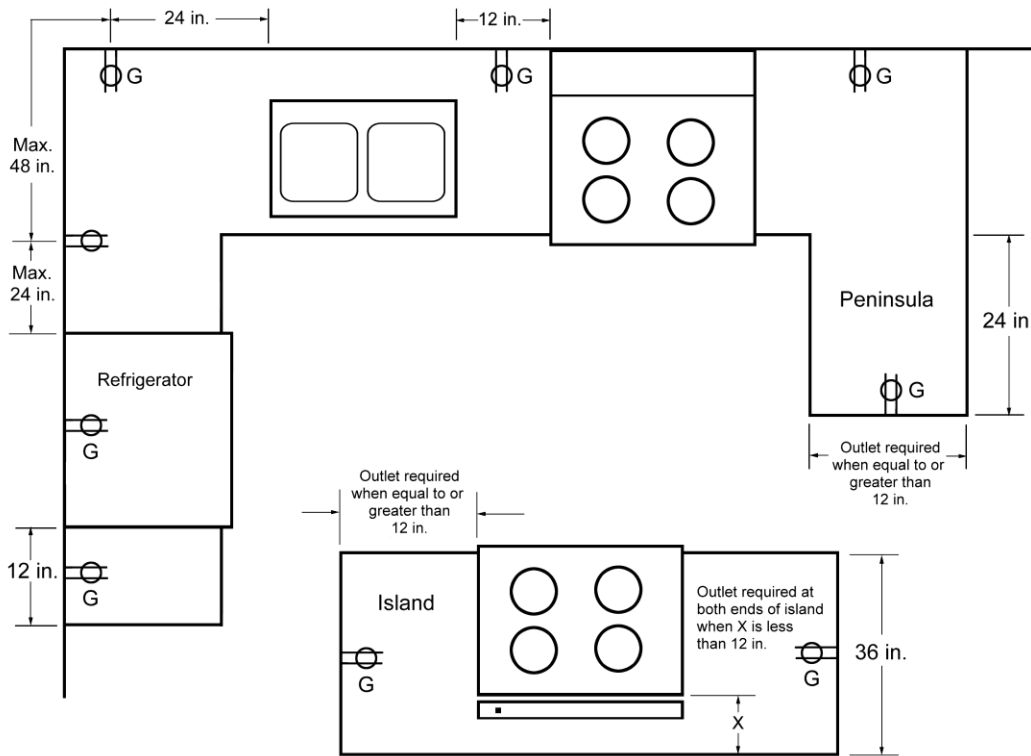


Figure 1

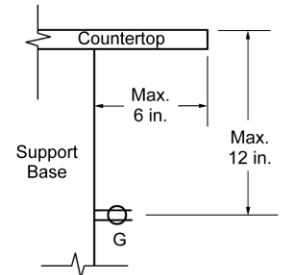


Figure 3

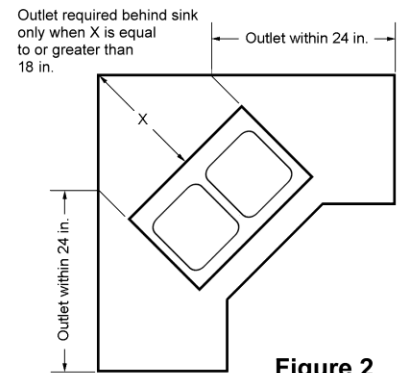


Figure 2

- Kitchen countertop receptacles are GFCI protected and are electrically supplied by a minimum of two 20 amp small appliance branch circuits. ORSC E35-21 0.8(A)(6) E35-21 0.11 (C)(1)
- Wall counter spaces that are 12 inches and wider shall be served by receptacle outlets. ORSC E35-210.52(C)(1)
- Countertop spaces 12 inches and wider that are separated by refrigerators, ranges, and sinks are considered separate spaces, and receptacle spacing requirements apply. ORSC E35-210.52(C)(4)
- Receptacle outlets shall be installed such that no point along the wall line shall be more than 24 inches, measured horizontally from a receptacle outlet in that space; therefore, the maximum receptacle spacing is 48 inches on center. ORSC E35-210.52(C)(1) **See Figure 1.**
- A receptacle outlet is required behind a corner sink only when the distance from the countertop corner to the edge of the sink is equal to or greater than 18 inches. ORSC Figure E35-210.52 **See Figure 2.**
- At least one receptacle shall serve a peninsular countertop space when the short dimension of the peninsula is 12 inches or greater, and the long dimension is 24 inches or greater. ORSC E35-210(C)(3) **See Figure 1.**
- Island counter spaces shall be served by at least one receptacle outlet when the short dimension is equal to or greater than 12 inches, and the long dimension is equal to 24 inches or greater. ORSC E35-210.52(C)(2) **See Figure 1.**
- When a range top or sink is installed in an island and the counter space behind the range top or sink is less than 12 inches, the range top or sink is considered to divide the island into two separate countertop spaces, and a receptacle is required at each end of the island. ORSC E35-210.52(C)(2) **See Figure 1.**
- If the countertop space behind the range top or sink in an island is 12 inches or greater, then only one receptacle is required to serve that island. ORSC E35-210.52(C)(2) **See Figure 1.**
- Receptacle outlets shall be located no more than 20 inches above a countertop. ORSC E35-210.52(C)(5)
- Receptacles can be mounted below the countertop but not more than 12 inches below the surface with a maximum inset from the countertop edge to the support base of 6 inches.