



Oregon

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Building Codes Division Statewide Interpretation

PROGRAM: Electrical Program
SUBJECT: GFCI Requirements for laundry plug installed in bathroom
SOURCE: 2005 National Electrical Code, Oregon Residential Specialty Code
REFERENCE: Section 210.8(A)(1), E35-210.8(A)(1)
DATE OF ISSUE: Re-Issue April 1, 2005
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QUESTION: Must a 125 volt 15 or 20 ampere receptacle installed in a bathroom for laundry purposes be protected by a GFCI? What if the receptacle is located behind folding or sliding doors in the bathroom?

ANALYSIS:

The 2005 National Electrical Code, Section 210.8(A)(1) and Section E35-210.8(A)(1) of the Oregon Residential Specialty Code require that all 125-volt, single phase, 15 and 20 ampere receptacles installed in bathrooms shall have GFCI protection. There are no exceptions allowed by code, therefore all 125 volt, 15 and 20 ampere receptacles located in bathrooms, must be GFCI protected even if they are located behind a folding or sliding door. The key issue in code is the terminology "bathroom". If the laundry area is accessible from a location other than the bathroom and contains separation from the bathroom through the use of doors or other approved means, then the laundry facility is not located in the bathroom.

DETERMINATION:

All 15 – 20 ampere, 125-volt receptacles located in the bathroom must be GFCI protected. No exceptions are granted by code.

