
BULLETIN 2009-007-EL

April 21, 2009

APPLICATION OF RULES 26-710(f); 26-712(b); 26-712(d)
OF THE CE CODE, Part I

This Bulletin clarifies provisions of the referenced Rules in respect to a number and locations of receptacles installed as follows:

- within 1 m of any wash basin in a bathroom or washroom;
- on a deck, balcony or porch that is not classified as a finished room or area; and
- at a kitchen island counter or peninsular counter space.

This Bulletin also clarifies provisions of Rule 26-712(d) in respect to types (single or duplex) receptacles of CSA configuration 5-15R or 5-20R intended to be used in a kitchen of a dwelling unit.

A common intent of referenced Rules is to protect persons and property against electric shock and fire hazards that could arise with the use of cord connected appliances in conjunction with the receptacles installed in accordance with these Rules.

Explanation and clarification of the application of the referenced Rules is provided as follows:

(1) Application of Rule 26-710(f).

Where a bathroom/washroom contains a vanity counter with a single wash basin, a duplex receptacle installed in conformance with Rule 26-710(f) would be sufficient for the purpose of this Rule, as any cord connected appliance is supplied by a manufacturer with an attachment plug at the end of a cord that is typically 1.5 m - 1.8 m long. Where a vanity counter contains more than one wash basin, the receptacle installed under provision of this Rule may not be sufficient - if any one of the multiple wash basins is located at more than 1.8 m from the receptacle. In this case, in order to meet the safety intent of this Rule without use of extension cords, the second receptacle must be installed. The distance between the most remote wash basin located on a common vanity counter and the receptacle must be measured horizontally along the floor line of the wall in front of or adjacent to the wash basin.

(2) Application of Rule 26-712(b).

It is intended by this Rule to require at least one duplex receptacle on each open or enclosed porch or balcony that is accessible from inside the dwelling, and that is constructed to accommodate the occupants of the dwelling unit and to allow use of a cord and plug connected electrical equipment on that porch or balcony by the occupants of the dwelling unit. It is not intended by this requirement to install a receptacle on a balcony, a deck or a porch with a depth of less than 1 m or with a usable area of less than 1.86 sq. m (20 sq. ft.).

(3) Application of Rule 26-712(d)(iv) and (v).

Discussion:

It is intended by item (iv) to be applied to a counter space of "**a permanently fixed island**". For the purpose of this requirement "**a permanently fixed island**" is a part of a kitchen cabinetry that is installed so, as to be permanently located in a specific part of the kitchen without being moved from one place to another, regardless whether it is structurally attached to the kitchen floor or not.

The intent of this Rule is to require a receptacle for usable counter space on peninsulas and islands (i.e. for the surface area where cord connected appliances can effectively be used). Where the area on peninsulas and islands is occupied by permanently installed objects such as sinks, drying racks, etc., the usable space for use of appliances could be reduced. If the remaining area of usable space is less than a long dimension of 600 mm and a short dimension of 300 mm, then a receptacle should not be required. It is intended by this rule that counter surfaces separated by sinks and built-in equipment should be considered as separate counter surfaces for the purpose of the requirements specified in Items (iv) and (v).

(3) Cont.) Application of Rule 26-712(d)(iv) and (v).

Conclusion:

"**A permanently fixed island**" is a part of a kitchen cabinetry that is located in a specific part of the kitchen without being moved from one place to another, regardless whether it is structurally attached to the kitchen floor or not.

The intent of the requirement in Item (iv) is that at least one receptacle (15 A split or 20 A T-slot) must be installed **at each permanently fixed island counter space**, provided that the space has a long dimension of 600 mm or greater and a short dimension of 300 mm or greater (excluding sinks, built-in equipment, and isolated work surfaces less than 300 mm long).

The requirement of Item (v) is intended to mandate that at least one receptacle (15 A split or 20 A T-slot) be installed **at each peninsular counter space**, provided that the space has a long dimension of 600 mm or greater and a short dimension of 300 mm or greater (excluding sinks, built-in equipment, and isolated work surfaces less than 300 mm long);"

It is intended by Items (iv) and (v) that where practicable the receptacles should be installed on a backsplash above the counter space. Where such installation is not practicable (no backsplashes, dividers, etc.), at least one receptacle specified in Item (iv) or (v) should be located below a **countertop**. It is not intended by these requirements to install a receptacle below a countertop where the countertop extends more than 150 mm beyond its support base.

(4) Application of Rule 26-712(d) in respect to use of single or duplex receptacles.

It is intended by this Rule to require use of **duplex** receptacles of CSA configuration 5-15R or 5-20R.

Installation of a **single** 15 A or 20 A receptacle may lead to unwarranted use of extension cords/power bars in order to accommodate portable cord connected appliances used in a kitchen, and this may lead to a reduction of safety. Thus, for the purpose of Rule 26-712(d) - installation of **single** 15 A or 20 A receptacles is not permitted.

(Original signed)

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