

2020 AND 2023 NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE® (NEC) UPDATES

230.67 Surge Protection

Article 230.67 of the 2020 National Electrical Code® (NEC) requires all services supplying dwelling units to be provided with a surge protective device (SPD), as an integral part of equipment or located immediately adjacent. The SPD must be a Type 1 or Type 2 SPD. This requirement applies to residential service equipment being replaced as well.

The 2023 NEC expands upon Article 230.67 in the 2020 NEC. Whereas the 2020 NEC required SPDs in “dwelling units”, the 2023 NEC added dormitory units, guest rooms and guest suites of hotels and motels, as well as areas of nursing homes and limited-care facilities used exclusively as patient sleeping rooms to areas requiring an SPD.



NEC Article: 230.67 Surge Protection

A. SURGE-PROTECTIVE DEVICE

All services supplying the following occupancies shall be provided with a surge-protective device (SPD):

1. Dwelling units*
2. Dormitory units
3. Guest rooms and guest suites of hotels and motels
4. Areas of nursing homes and limited-care facilities used exclusively as patient sleeping rooms

B. LOCATION

The SPD shall be an integral part of the service equipment or shall be located immediately adjacent thereto.
EXCEPTION: The SPD shall not be required to be located at the service equipment as required in 230.67(B) if located at each next level distribution equipment downstream toward the load.

C. TYPE

The SPD shall be a Type 1 or Type 2 SPD.

D. REPLACEMENT

Where service equipment is replaced, all of the requirements of this section shall apply.

E. RATINGS

SPDs shall have a nominal discharge current rating (I_n) of not less than 10kA.

* As per the NEC, a dwelling unit is a single unit, providing complete and independent living facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, cooking, and sanitation.



TYPE 1

Type 1 SPDs: Intended for installation between the secondary side of the service transformer and the line side of the service equipment, as well as the load side. Protect against external surges caused by lightning or utility capacitor bank switching. Type 1 devices can automatically be used in Type 2 applications.



TYPE 2

Type 2 SPDs: Intended for installation on the load side of the service equipment. Generally serve a branch circuit and protect against residual lightning energy, motor driven surges and other internally generated surges.



TYPE 1

SURGE PROTECTIVE CIRCUIT BREAKERS

- An easy-to-read LED indicator light displays protection status and also remains lit, even after a breaker is tripped
- Designed for easy in-panel installation and provides effective surge protection for the entire home
- Even when the breaker trips, surge protection is still provided
- ONLY for use with Leviton Load Center Panels

TYPE 1

SURGE PROTECTIVE PANELS

TYPE 2

- Leading surge and short circuit current ratings
- Feature NEMA 4 and 4X Outdoor Ratings



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