



NOTICE TO ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

May 7, 2018

INTERPRETATION ON RECEPTACLES FOR DWELLING UNITS: KITCHEN COUNTER WORK SURFACES ISLAND AND PENINSULA COUNTER SPACES

Canadian Electrical Code Rule 26-724

CEC Rule 26-724 prescribes the requirements for arrangement of receptacles on kitchen counter work surfaces and on island and peninsula counter spaces.

KITCHEN COUNTER - 26-724 (d) (iii)

Prior to the 2012 Edition of the Code this rule required receptacles to be installed in or on the wall behind counter work surfaces. The language of the rule has since been revised (2012 CEC) to require receptacles along the counter work surfaces regardless if there is a wall behind the counter or not. An example of this would be if there is a window that extends down to the top of the counter leaving no space to install receptacles in or on the wall. Receptacles are still required in this situation.

There are now “pop-up” or surface mount products available that will make it possible to comply with this rule.

ISLANDS AND PENINSULAS – 26-724 (d) (iv) and (v)

For the purposes of these two sub rules, the term “*continuous long dimension*” is interpreted to mean a space that is not interrupted by sinks, ranges and other types of built-in equipment. Please see the Appendix B note to the rule. Any interruption to a *continuous long dimension* will result in a new island or peninsular surface and additional receptacles will be required.

A *permanently fixed island counter space* is interpreted to mean an island counter that is mechanically attached to the structure, meaning it cannot be moved without the removal of nails, screws, and brackets.

Should you have questions regarding this interpretation, please call your local inspection department.