

ELECTRICAL INSPECTION CHECKLIST

Compliant with NEC 2023 & Local Amendments

Client Name:

Property Address:

Inspection Date:

Technician Name:

License Number:

Inspection Type:

Inspection Purpose:

NEC Edition / Local Amendments:

Start / End Time:

1. SERVICE ENTRANCE & MAIN PANEL

Inspection Item	Pass	Fail	N/A	Priority	Notes / Action Required
Service entrance wires — no cracked insulation or sagging conductors					
Service mast securely attached; adequate clearance from windows/roofline					
No tree branches contacting service drop or mast					
Weatherhead intact — no cracks, missing covers, or water entry points					
Meter base condition and gaskets OK					
Clear working space in front of and around main panel (NEC 110.26)					Min 36" depth; width = equipment width or 30", whichever is greater
Panel cover securely fastened; dead-front intact					
All circuits clearly labeled (room or load description)					
Breaker sizes match conductor gauge — no oversized breakers					Oversized breaker = fire risk
No loose connections, heat discoloration, or double-lugged neutrals					
No unused open knockouts exposing live parts					
Main bonding jumper present and correct					
Neutral and EGC correctly terminated on respective bars					

Inspection Item	Pass	Fail	N/A	Priority	Notes / Action Required
No double-tapped breakers (two conductors under one lug not rated for it)					<i>Hard failure — code violation</i>
Accessible main disconnect present and reachable					<i>No accessible disconnect = hard failure</i>
Panel brand — flag Federal Pacific Stab-Lok, Zinsco, or Challenger equipment					<i>Documented trip-failure risk; replace regardless of age or condition</i>

2. SUB-PANELS & DISTRIBUTION BOARDS

Inspection Item	Pass	Fail	N/A	Priority	Notes / Action Required
Secure mounting; cover intact; no missing screws					
No moisture intrusion, rust, or corrosion					
Sub-panel location documented					<i>e.g., Garage west wall</i>
Feeder conductor size matches breaker rating					<i>Undersized feeders common in unpermitted additions</i>
Neutrals and grounds on SEPARATE bars — no bonding screw installed					<i>Code violation if bonded in sub-panel</i>
No loose connections, arcing evidence, or heat discoloration					
All breakers labeled; spare spaces identified					

3. BRANCH CIRCUITS & WIRING

Inspection Item	Pass	Fail	N/A	Priority	Notes / Action Required
No frayed or exposed wires in accessible areas (attic, basement, crawlspace)					
No splices made outside of junction boxes					
NM cable protected by conduit where required (garages, unfinished basements)					
Wire gauge matches breaker/fuse size throughout					
No warm cover plates or frequent tripping indicating overloaded circuits					
Pre-1972 homes: check for AA-1350 aluminum solid branch wiring					<i>Requires CO-ALR rated devices</i>
Conduit fastenings secure; intact fittings; proper bushings at panel entries					

Inspection Item	Pass	Fail	N/A	Priority	Notes / Action Required
Metallic conduit systems bonded to grounding network					
Junction box covers in place; no overfilled boxes; no open knockouts					

4. GFCI & AFCI PROTECTION

Inspection Item	Pass	Fail	N/A	Priority	Notes / Action Required
GFCI protection present: kitchens, bathrooms, garages, basements, laundry, outdoors					<i>Per NEC 210.8(A); applies to all basements, finished or unfinished</i>
All GFCI outlets tested — trip and reset confirmed					<i>Document any failures</i>
AFCI breakers present on required circuits per NEC 210.12(B)					<i>Kitchens, family rooms, dining/ living rooms, parlors, libraries, dens, bedrooms, sunrooms, recreation rooms, closets, hallways, laundry areas, and similar rooms, incl. finished basements</i>
AFCI breakers tested using manufacturer test button at panel					<i>Flag any that don't trip</i>
Panel schedule indicates GFCI- and AFCI-protected circuits					
Areas missing protection noted as upgrade recommendations					

5. OUTLETS, SWITCHES & LIGHT FIXTURES

Inspection Item	Pass	Fail	N/A	Priority	Notes / Action Required
All outlets tested for proper polarity and grounding					<i>Flag open ground or hot/neutral reversed</i>
No scorching around outlet slots					
Tamper-resistant receptacles installed where required (new construction and replacements)					
Switches operate smoothly — no sparking, buzzing, or sticking					
No warm or hot switch plates under normal load					<i>Heat = loose connection or undersized switch</i>
Light fixtures securely mounted; bulb wattage does not exceed fixture rating					<i>Overtapping causes insulation damage</i>

Inspection Item	Pass	Fail	N/A	Priority	Notes / Action Required
No exposed live parts at lamp holders or fixture wiring					
Damp/wet-location fixtures appropriately rated and sealed					<i>Bathrooms, exteriors, covered porches</i>

6. GROUNDING & BONDING (NEC ARTICLE 250)

Inspection Item	Pass	Fail	N/A	Priority	Notes / Action Required
Grounding electrodes present and in good condition (ground rods, UFER, metal water pipe)					
Grounding electrode conductor properly sized and securely connected					
If metal water pipe used as electrode: connection is street-side of meter					
Metal water and gas piping bonded to grounding system					
Metallic raceways and enclosures connected to EGC					
Bonding jumpers in place across mechanical joints (flex connectors, dielectric unions)					
Sub-panel: neutrals and grounds separated; EGCs on dedicated bars					

Note: smoke detector, CO detector, and related life-safety items below follow NFPA 72 and the IRC/IFC, not the NEC.

7. SURGE PROTECTION, SMOKE & CO DETECTORS

Inspection Item	Pass	Fail	N/A	Priority	Notes / Action Required
Listed SPD installed at main panel or meter base					<i>Check indicator lights — SPDs degrade silently</i>
SPD properly wired and grounded					
Point-of-use strips UL-listed; not daisy-chained; not visibly damaged					
Smoke detectors: inside each bedroom, outside sleeping areas, every floor incl. basement					
Hardwired interconnected detectors where required (new construction)					
Smoke detector manufacture/expiration dates within 10-year lifespan					

Inspection Item	Pass	Fail	N/A	Priority	Notes / Action Required
CO detectors outside sleeping areas and on each level with fuel-burning appliances					
CO detector units within 5–10-year service life; test buttons confirm alarm					
Missing detectors flagged as urgent safety issue					

8. HVAC, MAJOR APPLIANCES & DEDICATED CIRCUITS

Inspection Item	Pass	Fail	N/A	Priority	Notes / Action Required
Disconnecting means present and accessible near outdoor condenser and air handler					
HVAC wiring — no damage, UV deterioration, or pest damage on outdoor runs					
Breaker/fuse sizing matches equipment nameplate (MCA and MOCP)					<i>Mismatch = code violation</i>
Dryer and range receptacles/cords undamaged; proper conductor gauge					
240V circuits correctly wired with appropriate gauge conductors					
Dishwasher, microwave, garbage disposal — appropriate circuits and grounding					
No heat discoloration or scorched insulation at appliance connections					
Dedicated circuit present for EV charger, where installed					<i>Required per NEC 625</i>
Dedicated circuits present for refrigerator, sump pump, and medical equipment, where applicable					<i>Common best practice; verify against local amendments</i>
Shared circuits causing nuisance tripping or load-related dimming noted					

9. OUTDOOR, GARAGE & DAMP LOCATIONS

Inspection Item	Pass	Fail	N/A	Priority	Notes / Action Required
All exterior receptacles: weather-resistant, in-use covers, GFCI-protected, securely mounted					
Landscape lighting — no damaged transformers, exposed conductors, or deterioration					

Inspection Item	Pass	Fail	N/A	Priority	Notes / Action Required
Exterior wiring runs — no UV damage, missing staples, or contact with sharp edges					
GFCI outlets installed in garages and unfinished basements					
No open junction boxes in garage or basement					
No extension cords used as permanent wiring (code violation)					
Shower/above-tub fixtures rated for damp or wet locations					
Enclosures have intact gaskets; no corrosion or rust					

10. FINAL ASSESSMENT & PRIORITIZED ACTION PLAN

Overall System Condition:

☐

Satisfactory

☐

Needs Non-Urgent Upgrades

☐

Hazardous — Immediate Attention Required

Inspection Item	Examples	Timeframe	Items Found
URGENT	Exposed wires, double-tapped breakers, no accessible main disconnect, missing CO detectors, open live parts	Immediate (0–7 days)	
NEAR-TERM	Missing GFCI/AFCI coverage, minor code violations, aging devices	30–90 days	
LONG-TERM	Panel capacity upgrade, whole-house surge protection, service upgrade	6–12 months	

Inspector Signature:

License #:

Next Inspection Due:

This checklist is a field reference tool. Always verify requirements against the applicable NEC edition and local amendments in your jurisdiction. Panel covers and live conductor work must be performed by a licensed electrician. Smoke, CO, and life-safety items follow NFPA 72 and the IRC/IFC rather than the NEC.