



City of Garden Ridge

9400 Municipal Parkway
Garden Ridge, Texas 78266
(210) 651-6632
Fax (210) 651-9638

MINIMUM ELECTRIC REQUIREMENTS OF THE CITY OF GARDEN RIDGE

The following electrical work standards and provisions are Incorporated as part of City Ordinance # 20 and apply to all electrical work performed In the City of Garden Ridge, Comal County, Texas.

1. Temporary Electrical Service. Temporary electrical service will not be provided for construction of a building or structure until the electrical permit has been obtained. Temporary services will be for a duration of one hundred and eighty (180) days and may be extended where conditions warrant.
2. Permanent Electrical Service. Permanent electrical service will be provided when the final electrical inspection Is completed and any discrepancies are corrected, and all other Ordinances of the City of Garden Ridge, Comal County, Texas, applicable to the construction project have been complied with. Upon completion of these requirements, the Electrical Inspector will notify the City Public Service Board (CPSB) to make the final electrical hookup. Initial connection to a permanent meter loop will normally be a Temporary On Permanent Set (TOPS), pending completion of all electrical and other required work.
3. All single phase services end branch circuits will be protected by over current devices of an automatic type or suitable substitute. Screw type fuses are not authorized.
4. The means for disconnecting all conductors within a building or structure must be mounted on the outside of the building or structure. The owner of the property may padlock the disconnecting means to a commercial building.
5. It shall be unlawful and considered a violation of this code for any unauthorized person to remove the Utility Company Seal on a metering device or by bridging or making connections ahead of metering devices resulting In unmetered electrical energy to be delivered or be available for any purpose.
6. Metal shielded cable, either flexible or rigid, shall not be used unless the conductors are pulled on the Job, and acceptable fill ratios are observed in accordance with the National Electric Code, or thirty-six (36) Inches or less in length and their specific application is approved by the inspector.
7. Open wiring of the type know as "knob & tube" is not authorized under any conditions.
8. No more than eight (8) outlets may be Installed on anyone circuit. A switch Is not considered an outlet for purposes of this calculation.
9. No wire smaller than # 12 copper will be used in any installation except control wiring as defined in the National Electrical Code and absolutely no aluminum wiring will be used.
10. Open wire Is approved for temporary installations only so long as a temporary construction loop is the sole source of available service.
11. Temporary construction meter loops may not be physically attached to a building or structure to which it provides service.
12. Permanent meter loops must have a rigid riser of 1-1/4" for 100 AMP's and 2" for 200 AMP's. Larger services will require proportionately larger risers. The service head (weather proof must be no lower than 12-1/2" above final grade and no higher than 18". The Inspector is responsible for providing a detailed illustration of the manner in which meter loops are to be assembled and secured. Any structure with over five (5) 110 volt branch circuits shall have a minimum of a 100 AMP entrance service and a minimum of No. 2 THW conductors.
13. Permanent meter loops intended to service mobile homes, barns or other structures not intended for residential



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purposes will be mounted on a utility pole unless specifically authorized by the Inspector. The service entrance conductors from the meter may be run overhead or underground provided all NEC requirements and those of this code are satisfied.

14. On brick, rock or masonry structures, meter bases, meter cabinets and service panels must be surface mounted.
15. Service panel disconnecting means and meter bases shall be located so that the center of the operating handle(s) shall be not less than three (3) feet nor more than six (6) feet above final grade. On apartment buildings and commercial structures where space limitations require, the meter bases and service panels may be installed in two tiers as near as possible to the immediate preceding requirement of this paragraph. The meter base must, in all events and situations, be between five (5) and six and one-half (6-1/2) feet above final grade.
16. Driven or buried grounding rods shall be the preferred method of grounding each service unless specifically approved by the Electrical Inspector. The rod will be copper clad or galvanized and be not smaller than 5/8" by eight (8) feet. Measured resistance shall be 15 ohms or less.
- 17. All electrical conductors must clear all gas pipes by at least six (6) inches. Electrical conduit or EMT must not touch gas pipes or other electrical conductors. Conductors, conduits or EMT's must not touch any water piping.
18. Metallic boxes; where non-metallic sheathed cable is used, will be provided with suitable clamps which will be tightened to hold firmly without damaging the cable. The cables will be secured within seven (7) to twelve (12) inches of each box by approved staples, straps or fittings.
19. The minimum sized conductors for an electrical range shall be # 6 copper.
20. All electric conductors in hospitals, nursing homes, schools, churches, theaters and other structures intended for public gathering shall be installed in conduit or electrical metallic tubing.
21. All electric conductors in structures used for commercial purposes other than apartments will be installed in conduit or electrical metallic tubing.
22. Any building or structure that is converted to a place of public gathering or a commercial use except apartments will be electrically wired in conduit or electrical metallic tubing prior to electrical service being provided.
23. Outlets supplying electricity to the following appliances shall be on a separate receptacle circuit: Attic fans, garbage disposal units, dishwashers, dryers, washing machines, deep freezers, electric water heaters, electric ironers, electric bathroom heaters, motor operated heating units, window type air conditioning units, electric ovens, electric cook tops, trash compactors, refrigerators, and any other fixed motor driven appliance. Each duplex electrical outlet in the kitchen shall be a separate circuit. Unless otherwise approved, the maximum size overload protection on domestic lighting and wall outlets will not exceed 20 AMPs. Equipment tested above will require wire sizing and overload protection in accordance with the need and provisions of the NEC.
24. Sheds, outbuildings, ~accessory buildings or ~accessory equipment may be electrically served from the primary building provided such service is run overhead at least twelve (12) feet above grade or buried eighteen (18) inches, unless in rigid conduit or encased in two (2) inches of red dyed concrete.
25. No service conductors, nor other conductors, shall be installed nor operated over any sidewalk, driveway or alley, unless they are a minimum of twelve (12) feet above such service.
26. All receptacles will be installed with proper polarity.



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27. Before final Inspection, all circuitry in interior and exterior distribution panels shall be completely and accurately labeled.
28. Electrical contractors will place their label inside the main distribution panel. The label will include the contractor's name, address, telephone number, and the Garden Ridge Electrical Permit Number.
29. Where the air conditioner compressor unit is not within sight of the main circuit breaker controlling it's circuit, a separate safety disconnect will be provided which is visible from the unit.
30. EMT will not be used in contact with the earth.
31. Receptacle outlets will be as specified In the National Electric Code 210-52.
32. The use of three (3) conductor cable with two (2) insulated hot conductors and one (1) uninsulated neutral/ground conductor with a nonmetallic outer covering for all panel feeders from outside disconnecting means for residential use is permitted.
33. Feeders to a range, wall mounted oven, counter mounted cooking unit, or clothes dryer may originate at a lighting and power panel.
34. The neutral conductor shall not be interrupted by switches, fuses, or breakers, except as provided by the NEC for fuel dispensing facilities.
35. The use of ground fault Interrupters (GFI) is required in accordance with the National Electric Code.
36. All distribution panels, wall receptacles, ceiling and switch boxes will be grounded.
37. All ceiling outlets will be provided with a neutral pig tail.
38. For swimming pools, spas, hot tubs and similar projects, all metal parts located within five (5) feet of water will be bonded together. A # 8 solid bare copper wire will completely encircle the pool area and will be bonded to the reinforcing bars, mesh, wet & dry niches, lighting fixtures, ladders, deck box, diving boards, and any other metal in the area. All supplying circuits must be GFI protected as specified in the N.E.C.
39. Any conduits, either metal, plastic or PVC, being run underground to a tree for the purpose of a GFI outlet or a switch, or both, for pool equipment or tree lights will not be affixed directly to the tree. The conduit as well as the boxes for said purpose will be required to have a 1" x 4" cedar board backing.
40. Conduit raceways in concrete slabs for the purpose of floor outlets, kitchen island outlets, etc., will be "schedule 40" PVC. Carflex or ENT may be used. ALL RACEWAYS MUST BE ONE (1) INCH OR LARGER IN SIZE. All to comply with NEC article #352.