



776 Jernee Mill Road Suite 128, Sayreville, NJ 08872
1-888-308-3879



Types of Breakers

Standard circuit breakers

Standard circuit breakers are better at protecting wiring and equipment than preventing fires and protecting people. That's why they have largely been replaced by GFCIs and AFCIs. There are only a few places left where standard circuit breakers can be used, typically for larger appliances such as furnaces, A/C condensers, dryers and stoves.

Ground fault circuit interrupter

GFCI breakers and outlets have been around for a while, and most people know they're required in bathrooms, kitchens and outdoors, but our experts are still finding violations, especially in these areas: garages, crawl spaces, storage/work areas in unfinished basements, wet bars (within 6 ft. of a sink), and sump pumps. And don't forget that GFCIs need to be readily accessible in order to be reset. This means they shouldn't be installed on the ceiling or buried under a hydro massage tub without an access panel.

Arc fault circuit interrupter

AFCIs are the new kid on the block. They used to be required only on bedroom circuits, but the NEC now requires AFCI protection in all living areas. AFCIs were designed with fire protection in mind. They're equipped with sophisticated electronics that can detect an arcing condition (like in a frayed lamp cord), which may not be detected by a standard circuit breaker until after a fire has started. AFCI protection is not just required for new construction; it's now also required where branch-circuit wiring is modified, replaced or extended into existing homes.