

2017 electrical code book

Book Concept: Decoding the 2017 National Electrical Code: A Survival Guide

Captivating and Informative Approach: Instead of a dry, technical manual, this book will present the 2017 National Electrical Code (NEC) as a compelling narrative, focusing on real-world scenarios and case studies. The structure will be less like a textbook and more like a detective story, unraveling the mysteries of electrical safety through engaging examples and clear explanations. Each chapter will focus on a specific area of the code, tackling common misconceptions and providing practical advice. The target audience is broad, encompassing homeowners, DIY enthusiasts, electricians, and even electrical inspectors, all needing a clear understanding of the 2017 NEC.

Ebook Description:

Is your next DIY project about to become a dangerous disaster? Are you overwhelmed by the dense jargon and confusing regulations of the 2017 National Electrical Code? Understanding electrical safety is crucial, whether you're installing a simple light fixture or tackling a major renovation. But navigating the 2017 NEC can feel like trying to decipher an ancient text. This book cuts through the complexity, making electrical safety accessible and understandable for everyone.

"Decoding the 2017 National Electrical Code: A Survival Guide" will equip you with the knowledge and confidence to tackle electrical work safely and legally.

Contents:

Introduction: Why the NEC matters and how this book will help you master it.

Chapter 1: Fundamentals of Electrical Theory: Basic concepts explained in an easy-to-understand way.

Chapter 2: Wiring Methods and Techniques: Step-by-step guides for common wiring tasks, with safety precautions highlighted.

Chapter 3: Branch Circuits and Overcurrent Protection: Understanding circuit breakers, fuses, and grounding.

Chapter 4: Wiring for Special Locations (Bathrooms, Kitchens, Outdoors): Navigating the specific requirements for high-risk areas.

Chapter 5: Services and Service Equipment: Understanding the main electrical panel and its components.

Chapter 6: Grounding and Bonding: The crucial role of grounding in preventing electrical shocks.

Chapter 7: Troubleshooting Common Electrical Problems: Practical solutions to everyday electrical issues.

Conclusion: Recap and resources for further learning.

Article: Decoding the 2017 National Electrical Code: A

Survival Guide

Introduction: Why the NEC Matters

The National Electrical Code (NEC) is more than just a book; it's a safety manual. It's a comprehensive set of standards designed to protect people and property from the hazards of electricity. Understanding and adhering to the NEC, specifically the 2017 edition, is crucial for anyone working with electrical systems, whether professionally or as a homeowner undertaking DIY projects. Failure to comply can lead to serious consequences, including electrical fires, electrocution, and costly repairs. This guide aims to demystify the 2017 NEC, making it accessible and understandable for everyone.

Chapter 1: Fundamentals of Electrical Theory

Understanding Electrical Basics: This chapter covers fundamental concepts like voltage, current, resistance, and power. It explains Ohm's Law ($V=IR$) and its applications in understanding electrical circuits. Simple analogies and visual aids are used to illustrate complex concepts, making it easy for beginners to grasp. We'll also discuss the differences between AC and DC current and their applications in residential wiring.

Key Concepts Covered:

Voltage (Potential Difference)

Current (Amperes)

Resistance (Ohms)

Power (Watts)

Ohm's Law

AC vs. DC Current

Chapter 2: Wiring Methods and Techniques

Safe Wiring Practices: This section covers various wiring methods, including the proper use of conduits, cable types (Romex, BX, etc.), and junction boxes. Detailed diagrams and step-by-step instructions provide clear visual guidance. It emphasizes the importance of using the correct tools and techniques to ensure safe and compliant installations. Specific attention is paid to wire sizing, color coding, and proper termination techniques.

Key Concepts Covered:

Conduit Bending

Cable Pulling Techniques

Junction Box Installation

Wire Termination Methods

Splicing Techniques

Chapter 3: Branch Circuits and Overcurrent Protection

Protecting Your Circuits: This chapter delves into the role of overcurrent protection devices like circuit breakers and fuses. It explains how these devices prevent overloaded circuits, which can lead to

overheating and fires. The chapter covers selecting the correct size of circuit breakers and fuses for different loads and the importance of proper grounding.

Key Concepts Covered:

Circuit Breaker Types and Operation

Fuse Types and Operation

Calculating Load Requirements

Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs)

Arc Fault Circuit Interrupters (AFCIs)

Chapter 4: Wiring for Special Locations

High-Risk Areas: Special considerations are needed when wiring bathrooms, kitchens, and outdoor locations due to the increased risk of moisture and potential hazards. This section explains the specific requirements of the NEC for these areas, including the use of GFCIs, AFCIs, and weatherproof fittings. Clear examples and illustrations are provided to guide readers through the installation process.

Key Concepts Covered:

Bathroom Wiring Requirements

Kitchen Wiring Requirements

Outdoor Wiring Requirements

Wet Location Fittings

Swimming Pool Wiring

Chapter 5: Services and Service Equipment

The Main Electrical Panel: This chapter explains the components of the main service panel, including the meter, service conductors, and the main breaker. It covers the importance of proper grounding and bonding at the service entrance. It also discusses service upgrades and the procedures for safely working with the main panel.

Key Concepts Covered:

Service Entrance Requirements

Metering Equipment

Main Breaker and Panel Sizing

Grounding and Bonding

Service Upgrades

Chapter 6: Grounding and Bonding

Electrical Safety Net: Grounding and bonding are crucial for preventing electrical shocks and protecting against equipment failures. This chapter explains the principles of grounding and bonding, and how these techniques work to ensure safety. It also covers the use of grounding electrodes and the proper connection methods.

Key Concepts Covered:

Grounding Electrode System

Equipment Grounding
Bonding
Ground Fault Protection

Chapter 7: Troubleshooting Common Electrical Problems

Solving Electrical Issues: This chapter provides practical guidance on troubleshooting common electrical problems, such as tripped breakers, flickering lights, and dead outlets. It teaches readers how to safely diagnose and resolve these issues, using step-by-step procedures and helpful illustrations. Emphasis is given on when to call a qualified electrician.

Key Concepts Covered:

Diagnosing Circuit Problems
Testing Outlets and Switches
Troubleshooting Lighting Circuits
When to Call a Professional

Conclusion:

Mastering the 2017 NEC doesn't have to be daunting. By understanding the fundamental principles and following the guidelines outlined in this book, you can confidently approach electrical work, ensuring both safety and compliance. Remember, when in doubt, consult a qualified electrician.

FAQs:

1. What is the NEC and why is it important? The NEC is a nationally recognized standard for safe electrical installations. Compliance ensures safety and prevents fires and electrocution.
2. Is this book for beginners? Yes, the book is written for a wide audience, including beginners with minimal electrical knowledge.
3. Does this book cover all aspects of the 2017 NEC? No, it focuses on the most relevant aspects for homeowners and DIY enthusiasts.
4. Can I use this book to become a licensed electrician? No, this book is for educational purposes and does not replace formal electrician training and licensing.
5. What tools do I need to perform the tasks described in the book? The book will provide a list of necessary tools for each task.
6. Is it safe to perform electrical work myself? Only if you have the proper knowledge and skills. Always prioritize safety and consult a professional when necessary.
7. Where can I find the full 2017 NEC document? The full code can be purchased from the NFPA (National Fire Protection Association).
8. What if I encounter a problem not covered in the book? Consult a qualified electrician.

9. Are there updates to the NEC after 2017? Yes, the NEC is regularly updated. This book focuses specifically on the 2017 edition.

Related Articles:

1. Understanding Grounding and Bonding in Electrical Systems: A deep dive into the importance of grounding and bonding for electrical safety.
2. Safe Wiring Practices for Homeowners: Practical tips and techniques for safe residential wiring.
3. Troubleshooting Common Electrical Problems: A Step-by-Step Guide: Detailed troubleshooting procedures for various electrical issues.
4. GFCI and AFCI Protection: Essential Safety Devices: A comprehensive guide to Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs) and Arc Fault Circuit Interrupters (AFCIs).
5. Wiring Special Locations: Bathrooms, Kitchens, and Outdoors: Specific requirements for wiring in high-risk areas.
6. Introduction to Electrical Theory for Non-Electricians: Simplified explanations of basic electrical concepts.
7. Choosing the Right Circuit Breakers and Fuses: Guidance on selecting appropriate overcurrent protection devices.
8. Understanding Electrical Schematics and Drawings: How to interpret electrical diagrams and plans.
9. The Importance of Regular Electrical Inspections: Why regular inspections are vital for maintaining electrical safety.

Additional Resources

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