Receptacles



Joseph Gascho

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My guess would be that those who've earned degrees in decoration had lectures learning how to camouflage receptacles. Ugly boxes with six holes.

But had they taken physics they might instead have told the owners paying them to paint them purple, add yellow stripes, make then as prominent as the Degas' on the walls.



The standard height for wall outlet boxes is about 12 inches from the top of the floor covering to the bottom of the receptacle box.



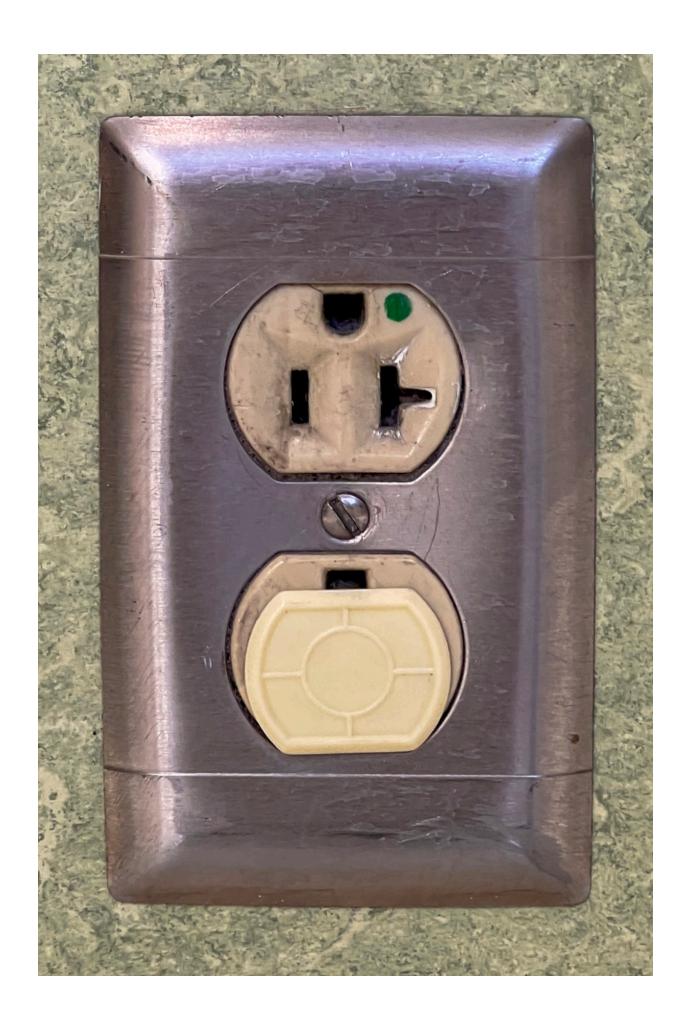
The US National Electrical Code, Section 210.52, states that there should be an electrical outlet in every kitchen, bedroom, living room, family room, and any other room that has dedicated living space. They must be positioned at least every twelve feet measured along the floor line.



You never know if there's enough. You never know if there is more. You never know what lies behind closed dorrs.



Flat against the wall
a foot above the floor
painted so they blend
into the trappings of the room,
demurely resting patiently
until the prongs are pushed,
quiet as they liberate
the energy
that lights the lamp
the writer needs
to pen her poem.



Someone trying to protect the innocent? Or attempting to prevent a radio from blaring out the news?



What would Freud have said about envy?
But what did Freud know about receptacles?







Muses every one of them delivering messages from power plants and Midwest windmills and Hoover Dams and Three Mile Islands in their prime.



Sad sometimes that when you're grounded you don't get a shock.

Two-prong outlets were standard in homes built before the 1960s.

They are safe to use as long as they are working properly, according to the National Electrical Code.

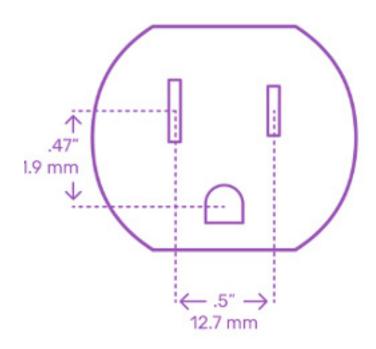
Test the two-prong outlet with a circuit tester to ensure it is safe to use for your small household appliances..





Conduits carrying energy. Useless ugly without energy.







The equipment grounding wire is connected to the grounding prong at the receptacle outlet, which is connected to an equipment grounding wire in the branch circuit wiring back to the main electrical panel.

There, the equipment grounding wire is connected to the home's grounding system and Earth. This ensures that under normal operating conditions, the appliance is "grounded" and should not pose a hazard for electrical shock.





One receptacle outlet slot is bigger than the other to keep you safe from a rogue wire in your hairdryer, vacuum or coffee maker.



If the two slots are parallel, it is a 15 amp outlet. If one slot is 'T' shaped and the other is straight, it is a 20 amp outlet that will also accept 15 amp plugs. If the two slots are perpendicular the outlet is 20 amp only.







Marys visited by Gabriel and God mounted on the wall.

