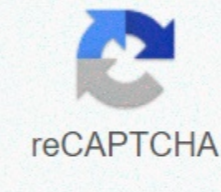




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Electrical symbols for blueprints

Each engineering office uses their own set of symbols; However, the symbols below are quite common across many offices. See the symbol sheet for special symbols used in a particular set. Article Updated: April 07, 2019 By Meg Escott If you want to make sense of electric symbols on your drawings, you've come to the right place. The location of business for all the electrical elements in your home can have a significant impact on the design of your home. If you'd like a free pdf of all the blueprint and floor plan symbols go ahead and sign up below. I've included the symbols (along with a bit of explanation) and a checklist. Here goes... Most of the electrical symbols used on drawings have become standard. Some architects or designers may use slightly different symbols. Always check with the key on your drawings. A few points of explanation... You'll notice that some of the symbols have a subscript (the small writing at the bottom of the symbol) that helps explain what the outlet is for. You can some across a symbol with a subscript that is not explained here. If so, it must be explained somewhere in the key to the plan. All outlets refer to sockets unless they are contained in square which means they are floor outlets. Wall and floor plug outlet symbols Tips for mobile browsers - these tables are best seen with your phone in the landscape position. Single outlet Duplex outlet Multiple sockets (number denotes number of sockets) Duplex outlet with switch Quad outlet 220 volt outlet GFCI outlet (more explanation below) Special Power Outlet (some examples below) Refrigerator outlet Clothes washer outlet Dishwasher outlet Dryer outlet (note 220v) outlet Range Floor outlet GFCI stands for Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter - or circuit breaker for short. These shops are required in places with water - so it's bathrooms and kitchens and maybe outside - especially near a swimming pool. It is so that if you drop your hairdryer in the bath, you will not electrocute anyone! General business General business is where a wire is required to operate a fixture where the fixture will be connected instead of connected. The small horizontal line to the left of the circle indicates that the outlet is wall mounted. A circle without the horizontal line indicates that the outlet is mounted in the ceiling. Light outlet Drain Blanked (unused) outlet Fan outlet Intersection box Lamp holder Lamp holder with draw contact Pull switch symbol Watch outlet symbol Circuits and panels Power panel Branch circuits hidden in ceiling or wall branch circuits hidden in floor branch circuits exposed Several electrical symbols... Push button symbol Bell symbol Buzzer symbol Thermostat symbol Smoke detector symbol Carbon monoxide detector symbol Panic button symbol Electrical symbols checklist Make sure you are satisfied the location of the outlets - check against your planned furniture layouts. Make sure they are set at the right height. Are you happy with the of the main fuse box? Is it available? Because the last thing you want is to fight with a torch and rise if a fuse blows. More house plan symbols for you... Below is a number showing the most commonly used residential electric blueprint symbols. You can find other home symbols on the Blueprint Symbols page. The most commonly used electric blueprint symbols including plug sockets, switches, lights and other special symbols such as doorbells and smoke alarms are shown in the figure below. Note: The explanations for common electrical household items such as three-way switches and lit duplex connectors are below the figure. Remarks: Duplex Plug Outlet: A standard two-socket connector outlet for connectors. Split Duplex Plug Outlet: Typically used in kitchens or anywhere the loads on a given outlet will be high. The two sockets on the duplex outlet are on separate switches at the electrical panel. This reduces the likelihood that two appliances connected to the same outlet tour are connected to the switch. On and off Duplex connector output: This outlet can be turned on and off with a switch. Often used for lamps. Togg switch: A regular light switch. 3-way switch: A bit confusing, but that means there are two switches in the home to control the same element (typically a light or group of lights). For example, you can have two entrances to your living room and a switch at both entrances to turn on the light in the living room. You will need 3-way switches at both entrances to the living room for this electrical circuit to work. The term 3-way actually describes the inner workings of the physical switch, which is different from a standard switch switch. 4-way switch: As above with the three-way switch, but here three switches will typically control a light or group of lights. If you had three entrances to a room, you might want a light switch at each entrance. For this circuit, you need to purchase a four-way switch and two three-way switches. Double pole switch: Typically used to change sockets and appliances on 240 volt circuits. No part of this site may be reproduced or copied without written permission. Illegal Internet copies of Copyscape are detected. drawings Christmas 17, 2020 Heating and air conditioning systems, plumbing, power sockets and wires (including lighting) and other mechanical systems are typically described in MEP plans (mechanical, electrical, plumbing) and installed by specialists in their field. While builders do not need to understand everything in MEP plans, builders should be aware of how these systems will work and where wires and pipes will be located. The architects also provide information on outlets and switches in their power and data plans — which are part of the plan package — although these are generally not as comprehensive as MEPs' plans. Some elements of these plans will have more direct consequences for builders like recessed lighting, ceiling fans, and a small framework) for support. Of the different systems at MEP levels, you will want to pay special attention to the electrical elements and their location. Jordan Smith explains in his introduction to Reading Blueprint's course: The homeowner will interact with electric much more than they will interact with things like plumbing lines or HVAC channel work. There will be many points throughout the house where the homeowner will interact with light switches, with appliances and other things being carried through the electrical system. So the architect attaches great importance to the electrical design. While the installation of wires and outlets will be left to an electrician, here are common blueprint symbols. These will typically also be listed in an explanation, so it is not necessary to remember them all. Common electrical symbols and illumination symbols 1. Duplexes A circle out of the wall and connected to it by two parallel lines represents a typical outlet (or container) with two sockets. Abbreviations and numbers next to duplex provide additional information. For example, GFCI indicates a ground fault switch (an electrical outlet with a built-in fast-acting switch that prevents electric shocks and will typically be used with electrical outlets near water, in bathrooms and kitchens). The number 220 next to a duplex indicates that it is a 220-volt outlet commonly used for appliances that require 220 volts, like ovens and dryers. Finally, if you see a square around a duplex or a quad (it's a four-socket outlet) indicating that it's a floor container. 2. Lights and fans The basic symbol of most lights is a circle and, as with duplexes, variations on how it is drawn and abbreviations next to it convey additional and essential information. The key on the floor plans explains the special symbols used on any project. For example, half of the circle may be black in the shade to indicate that it is an LED wall washer; the letter W next door indicates that it is intended for a wet area (like a bathroom). A recessed light is sometimes represented by a diagonal slash across the circle, but in other planes, the letter R is used next to the circle to indicate that it should be recessed. Not all lights are represented by circles, however. A line with semicircles at each end can be used for cabinet lighting, and a line with small circles on each side is often used for strip lighting. Ceiling fans are often also represented by a circle, but with two angled lines stretching out of it, symbolically representing (at least in a very loose way) the blades of a fan. A ceiling fan can also be indicated by a circle with three blades extending from it. As Jordan explains, the lighting symbols are of particular concern to builders because you have to make sure that you put blocking - that is, framing members - in all these places support ceiling fans and fixtures. 3. Switches When you see something resembling a dollar sign of a plan, although Only one vertical line, that's the common symbol for a switch. (Sometimes the line is omitted and you will only see an S.) If it has no other notation next to it, an S alone represents the most basic of switches, a single-pole one, but of course there is a large selection of contacts in modern houses. Three- or four-way switches, where a light is controlled by multiple contacts, are indicated by a small number next to S. Dimmer, fused, remote-controlled and weather-resilient contacts, to select a few examples, are typically indicated by abbreviations next to S. 4. Appliances Outlet for larger appliances is often indicated by a triangle. Abbreviations next to them will indicate which appliance they are intended for: CD (dryer), CW (laundry machine), DW (dishwasher), R (refrigerator), etc. A TV is typically indicated by the letters TV in a box. 5. Wire Runs Curved dotted lines on a floor plan connecting switches and fixtures indicate (roughly) the route of wiring throughout the house. These wire runs are not precisely located on the floor plan - and they don't have to be. It will be a task for a master electrician to figure out the most appropriate location for wires. The dotted lines on the floor plan are mostly for you, as a developer, to better understand how the future homeowner will live in space and what contacts will correspond to which lights or other fixtures. At the points where you see one dashed line skip another, it doesn't necessarily mean that they will meet at the exact location. Instead the plan just shows you that the two wire runs will pass by each other at some point in the room. MT Copeland offers video-based online classes that give you a foundation in building fundamentals with real world applications. Classes include professionally produced videos taught by practicing craftsmen, and supplemental downloads like quizzes, drawings, and other material to help you master the skills. Sign up for our mailing list to receive the latest news and early access to our classes. Your information will not be shared. Shared.

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