



RESIDENTIAL KITCHEN REMODEL

A permit is required for kitchen remodels that include the removal & replacement and/or relocation of kitchen cabinets & countertops, sink, dishwasher, new/altered island, or replacement/alteration to the electrical & exhaust hood. A permit is not required for kitchen countertop replacement or re-facing of existing cabinets. If a permit is required, it must be obtained prior to the start of the remodel. ***This handout is for information & reference only, and is not a substitute for plans prepared for each project.***

The following is a list of the general requirements based on the **2025 California Residential Code (CRC)**, **2025 California Mechanical Code (CMC)**, **2025 California Electrical Code (CEC)**, **2019 California Plumbing Code (CPC)**, **2025 California Energy Code (CEnc)**, **2025 California Green Building Standards Code (CalGreen)**, **Rancho Cucamonga Local Ordinance No. 1048** and the **California Civil Code**. Contact the Building & Safety Division for any questions or additional information, including requirements for new/altered plumbing (**water, sewer, or gas lines**) or mechanical (**exhaust hood**).

Water Conserving Plumbing Fixtures, On and After January 1, 2014 [California Civil Code 1101.4(a)]

The California Civil Code requires that all existing non-compliant plumbing fixtures (**based on water efficiency**) throughout the house be upgraded whenever a building permit is issued for remodeling improvements even if the fixtures are not within the scope of work. **Residential buildings constructed and available for use that are registered as a historical site, certified that installation of water-conserving plumbing fixtures as not technically feasible or water service permanently disconnected on or before January 1, 1994 are exempt from this requirement (§1101.1(g) and 1101.7).** The following table shows the fixtures that are considered to be non-complaint and the type of water-conserving plumbing fixture that should be installed:

| Type of Fixture | Non-Compliant Plumbing Fixture | Required Water-Conserving Plumbing Fixture (max. rate) [CalGreen 4.303] |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Water Closet (Toilet) | More than 1.6 gallons/flush | 1.28 gallons/flush |
| Urinal | More than 1.0 gallon/flush | .125 gallons/flush for wall mount; .50 for others |
| Showerhead | More than 2.5 gallons/minute | 1.8 gallons/minute at 80 psi |
| Faucet - Bathroom | More than 2.2 gallons/minute | 1.2 gallons/minute at 60 psi |
| Faucet - Kitchen | More than 2.2 gallons/minute | 1.8 gallons/minute at 60 psi |

Plumbing

- The hot water valve shall be installed on the left side where two separate handles control are provided. [CPC 417.5]
- Traps for island sinks shall be roughed in above the floor and may be vented by extending the vent as high as possible, but not less than the drain board height and then returning it downward and connecting it to the horizontal sink drain immediately downstream from the vertical fixture drain. [CPC 909]



Kitchen Lighting Requirements [CEnC 150.0(k)]

- All installed luminaire (**lighting**) shall be high efficacy in accordance with **Table 150.0-A**. This also applies to permanently installed lighting in cabinets or under the cabinets.
- Cabinet (**in and under**) lighting shall be switched separately from other lighting systems.
- All recessed lighting shall be “**IC Rated and Airtight Certified**”.
- For occupancies with a horizontal (**floor/ceiling assembly**) fire-rated separation, the recessed fixtures shall be protected to the same rating of the separation (**1-hour**) OR be listed for the required fire protection. This generally applies to residential condominium construction where units are above or below other units. [CBC 714.4.2]

Electrical

- Countertop receptacles shall meet all of the following requirements: [CEC 210.8, CEC 210.52, CEC 406.12]
 - All receptacles shall be GFCI protected and tamper-resistant (**TR**).
 - Wall receptacle shall be provided at all wall countertop spaces with a minimum dimension of **12”** wide.
 - Be located so that no point along the wall line is more than **24”** measured horizontally from a receptacle in the countertop space.
 - Receptacles shall be located no more than **20”** above countertop.
 - Islands/peninsulas (**min. long dimension of 24” & short dimension of 12”**) shall have at least one receptacle mounted not more than **12 inches** below the countertop and where the countertop does not extend more than **6 inches** beyond its support base.
- All receptacles at the following location shall be GFCI protected and tamper-resistant (**TR**):
 - Within **6-ft** of the outside edge of the sink.
 - Supplying dishwashers.
- The GFCI shall be installed in a readily accessible location.
- Kitchen receptacles shall be supplied by circuits meeting all of the following requirements: [CEC 210.11(C), CEC 210.52, CEC 422.16]
 - Minimum of two **20-amp** small-appliance branch circuits shall be provided to serve all wall & floor receptacles, and countertop receptacles. No small-appliance branch circuit shall serve more than one kitchen.
 - A dedicated circuit is required for cord and plug connected range exhaust (**range**) hoods. Separate circuits may be required for the garbage disposal, dishwasher, and built-in microwave based on
 - the manufacturer’s requirements and the motor rating.
 - The existing electrical panel may need to be upgraded, or a sub-panel added, if the requirements above cannot be accommodated.
- All **120-V**, single-phase, **15-** and **20-amp** branch circuits supply outlets or devices installed in kitchens shall be AFCI protected. The AFCI shall be installed in a readily accessible location. [CEC 210.12]



PLAN CHECK SUBMITTAL CHECKLIST FOR INTERIOR RESIDENTIAL KITCHEN REMODELS TO EXISTING SPACE

Scope of Work:

- Where is the proposed work being done (*i.e. upstairs master bathroom, downstairs kitchen*)
- What is being replaced (*new sink, exhaust fan, etc.*)
- What existing items will remain (*shower, outlets, lights, switches, windows, door, etc.*)

Project Data:

- Address of Property
- Owner's name and contact telephone number.
- Construction type (*typically VB*)
- Occupancy class (*R-2 for multi family, R-3 for single family*)
- Applicable codes (*2025 CRC, CEC, CPC, CMC, CEnC, and local Ordinance No. 1048*)
- Automatic fire sprinkler status (*Yes or No*)

Plans:

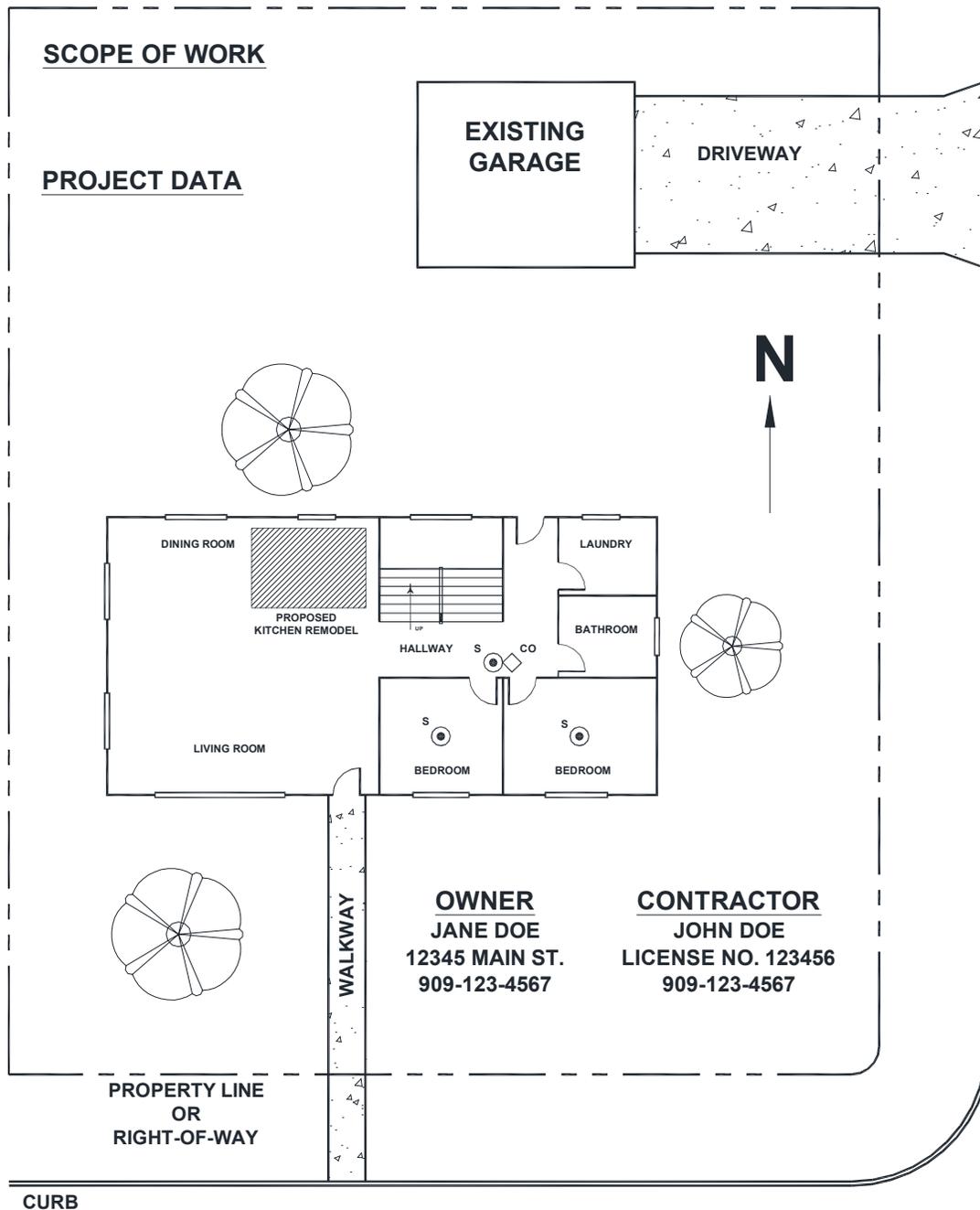
- Floor Plan of entire floor level showing location of proposed work.
- Floor plan of the space where work is proposed, include the following:
 - All fixtures and counters. Label each as proposed, to be replaced, or existing to remain.
 - All existing and proposed doors and windows.
 - All existing and proposed GFI outlets, switches, lighting and sprinkler heads.
 - Per **CRC 2025 CRC311.3**, when alterations, repairs, or additions occur requiring a permit which exceeds **\$1,000**, smoke alarms shall be provided. They may be battery operated per **CRC311.6** in the following locations per **CRC311.3**:
 - Inside each sleeping area.
 - Outside each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms.
 - On each story within a dwelling unit, including basement.
 - Smoke alarms shall be installed with **36"** of the horizontal path from the supply registers of an FAU or cooling system and not in the direct path of airflow.
 - Smoke alarms shall not be installed within **36"** horizontal path from the fan tip of a ceiling fan.
 - According to **CRC 2025 CRC310.2.2**, all alterations, repairs or additions occur requiring a permit, not previously required to be provided with carbon monoxide alarms, new carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed. They may be battery operated per **CRC311.6** in the following locations per **CRC311.3**:
 - Outside of each separate dwelling unit sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedroom(s).
 - On every level of a dwelling unit including basements.
 - Provide dimensions for the following:
 - Width of door
 - Overall room dimensions
 - Show all existing or proposed windows.
 - Distance in front of the toilet



SAMPLE SITE PLAN

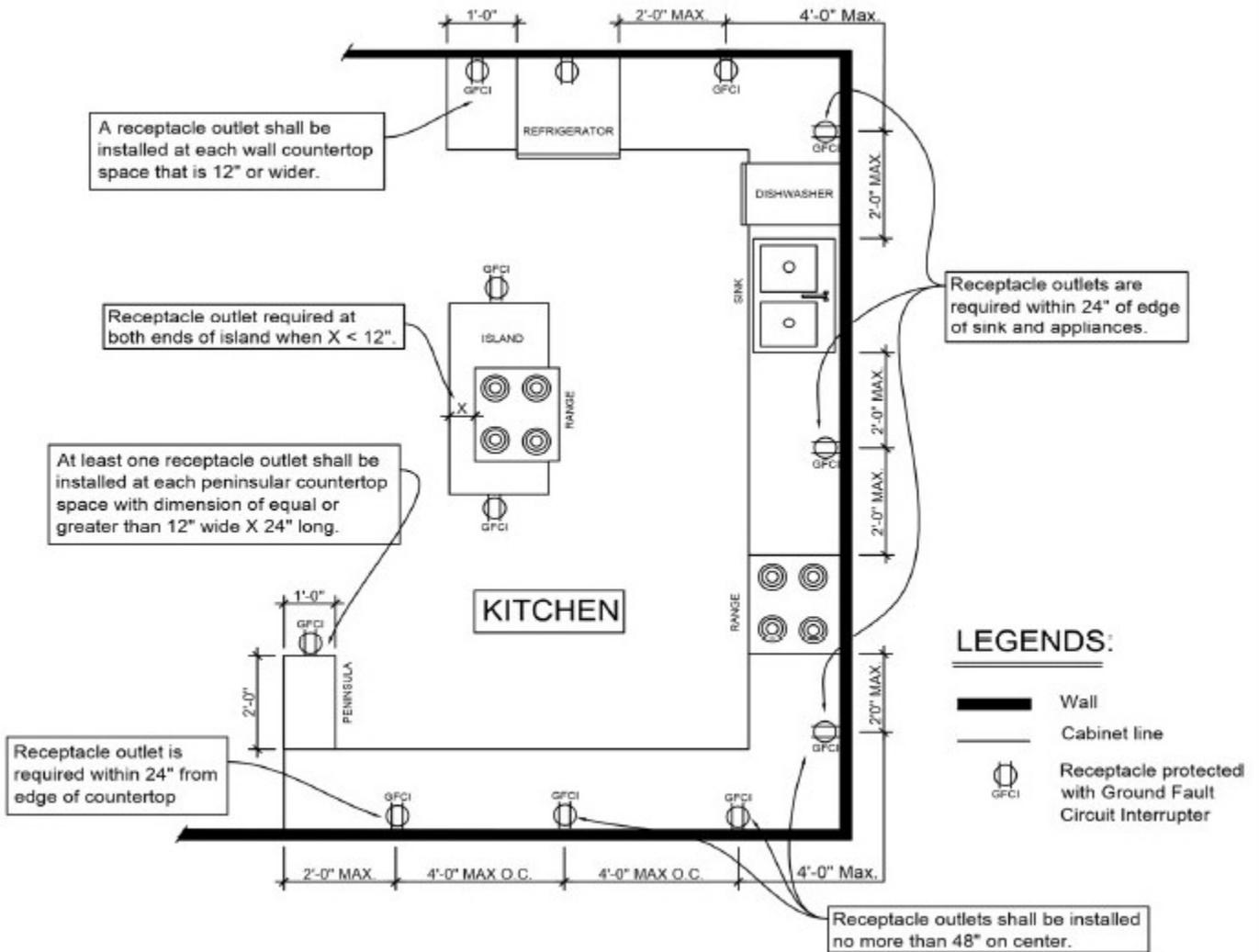
Minimum Format:

- 1/8" letter height.
- Property lines and directional arrow.
- 8-1/2"x 11" paper size (no graph paper).
- Layout drawn with black or blue ink.
- Lines drawn with a straight edge.





SAMPLE KITCHEN COUNTER RECEPTACLES LAYOUT





Kitchen Hood Ventilation

- Local exhaust system shall be installed in the kitchen and vented to the outdoors (**recirculation prohibited**) with a minimum exhaust rate as indicated in the table below. [**CEnC 150(o), Section 5 of ASHRAE std. 62.2**]

| Application | Intermittent | | Continuous | |
|-------------|----------------|--|----------------------|-------------------------|
| | Min. Flow Rate | Notes | Min. Flow Rate | Notes |
| Kitchen | 100 cfm | Vented range hood required of exhaust fan flow is less than 100 cfm. | 5 air changes per hr | Based on Kitchen Volume |

- Ducts used for kitchen range ventilation shall be of metal and have smooth interior surface. Aluminum flex duct is prohibited. A backdraft damper shall be provided. [**CMC 504.3, 504.1.1**]
- Upper cabinets shall be a minimum of **30"** above cooking top. Cabinets and kitchen range hood shall be installed with the minimum clearances as required by the range/cooktop manufacturer’s installation instructions. [**CMC 921.3.2**]

Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms [CRC R314, R315**]**

- Smoke alarms shall be installed in each sleeping room, on the ceiling or wall outside each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms, on each story of a multistory unit, in habitable attics, and in basements. [**CRC R310.3**]
- Smoke alarms shall be listed and labeled in accordance with **UL 217** and installed in accordance with the provisions of **NFPA72**. Alarms shall be tested and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions. Alarms that no longer function must be replaced.
- Carbon monoxide alarms are not required if there is no fuel-burning appliances or fireplace in the unit and where the garage is detached from the unit. [**CRC R311.6**]
- Carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed on the ceiling or wall (**above the door header**) outside each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms, on each story of a multistory unit, in basements, and in bedrooms where a fuel-burning appliance is located within the bedroom or its attached bathroom. [**CRC R311.3**]
- Carbon monoxide alarms (**including smoke & carbon monoxide combination alarms**) shall be listed and labeled in accordance with **UL 2034 (and UL217 for combo alarms)** and installed & maintained in accordance with **NFPA720 & manufacturer’s instructions**.
- In multi-family buildings, all required carbon monoxide alarms shall be equipped with the capability to support visible alarm notification in accordance with **NFPA 720**



Energy (Title-24)

- All exterior walls exposed during construction shall be insulated with min. **R-15**. [**CEnC 150.2(b), 150.0(c)**]
- All roof/ceilings exposed during construction shall be insulated with min. **R-19**. [**150.2(b), 150.0(a)1**]
- All accessible joints, penetrations, and other openings in the building envelope about the area of work
- shall be caulked, gasketed, weather stripped, or otherwise sealed. [**110.7**]

Green Building Standards

- Adhesives, sealants, caulks, paints, & coatings shall comply with the VOC limits. [**CalGreen 4.504.2.1 & 4.504.2.2**]
- Aerosol paints & coatings shall meet the Product-Weighted MIR Limits for ROC. [**4.504.2.3**]
- Minimum 80% of the installed resilient flooring shall comply with one or more certified products per **Section 4.504.4**.
- Interior use of hardwood plywood, particleboard, and medium density fiberboard composite wood
- products shall comply with the formaldehyde limits per **Table 4.504.5**.
- New framing shall not be enclosed when the framing members have a moisture content exceeding 19%. [**4.505.3**]

Permit Approval Requirements

- Submit your application online at the [Online Permit Center](#).
- Upload the following with your application:
 - Site Plan (**not required to be to scale**) to show the property lines at all sides, outline of the existing structures on the lot, location of the public streets, alleys, & easements, and north arrow. Approximately, identify/highlight the location of the area of work.
 - Floor Plan with dimensions about the remodeled area. Partial floor plan is allowed, but plan must show adjacent rooms/areas. Show all the proposed work on the plan.
 - If the kitchen layout will be changed, then provide an existing floor plan and proposed floor plan. If walls are being demolished, then show the existing framing layout to determine if the wall is bearing or non-bearing. Engineering may be required if bearing.

Inspections

A minimum of two inspections are required for kitchen remodels. A rough electrical inspection should be scheduled after the electrical boxes are installed and before any devices are connected. Any other structural, mechanical, or plumbing alterations should also be scheduled for a rough inspection. The final inspection should be scheduled after all the work is completed.

Approved by: _____
Signature

Michael Frasure, CBO
Building & Safety Services Manager