

Circuit Breaker AFCIs | Advanced Technology for the Modern Home

Applying technology to improve the electrical safety of the modern home is a wise investment for both the homeowner and the community at large. Circuit breaker arc-fault circuit interrupters, or AFCIs, can provide enhanced protection from fires resulting from damaged or unsafe home wiring conditions. Typical household fuses and standard circuit breakers do not respond to early arcing and sparking conditions in home wiring. By the time a fuse or standard circuit breaker opens a circuit to defuse these conditions, a fire may already have begun.

AFCI circuit breakers represent the latest technological advancement for home electrical systems.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, fire safety officials recommend the use of AFCIs in all dwellings.

Effective

AFCI circuit breakers are **intelligent devices** containing advanced technology that will detect an arc fault in home wiring and automatically shut down the electricity when it senses a hazard.

The National Fire Prevention Association publishes the National Electrical Code® (NEC) to protect people and property from electrical hazards. The NEC has required AFCI protection for bedroom wiring since 2002 and has since expanded to require AFCI protection for the wiring of living, dining, and family rooms as well as kitchens, laundry, hallways, and closets.

Available

Several companies manufacture AFCI circuit breakers for consumers to choose from. AFCI circuit breakers can be purchased at **electrical supply houses, home improvement stores, and online.**

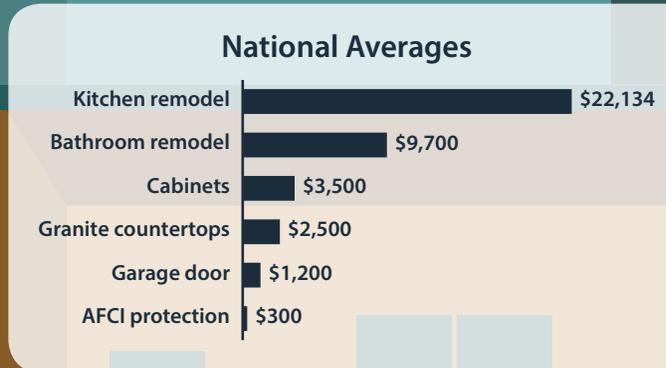
Affordable

The average cost for an AFCI circuit breaker is **\$38***, and the average lifetime cost to protect a new 2,000 square-foot, four-bedroom home is **\$300.**

Compatible

AFCI circuit breakers work extremely well with **new appliances** that meet U.S. product safety standards.

AFCI circuit breakers should be installed by a person trained and qualified in electrical wiring methods.



Source: HomeAdvisor.com

AFCI vs GFCI

AFCIs and GFCIs provide different but **critically important protection**. AFCI circuit breakers address fire hazards whereas GFCIs address **electric shock hazards**. A common way to provide both types of protection is to use a dual function breaker that combines Class A 5mA GFCI and combinations type AFCI protection against both arc faults and ground fault in one device.

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, both AFCI and GFCI circuit breakers are important safety devices.

For more information go to www.afcisafety.org

*NEMA blind survey for 2017 HUD Manufactured Housing Construction Standards.

