

To Killeen builders and city staff,

Below is the understanding of the new receptacle rules for Islands and Peninsulas according to the 2023 NEC, 210.52, (C), (2). Also, remember the state adopted the 2023 NEC as written effective September 1, 2024, and state law requires licensed electricians to wire per the state adopted NEC. Killeen adopted the 2023 NEC starting January 1, 2026.

1. As shown in the first picture below, the code no longer allows for receptacles to be placed on the side of kitchen Islands and Peninsulas due to safety hazards reported from plugged-in cooking appliances being accidentally pulled off the counter causing severe burns.
2. The second picture below, shows the three options the code allows if receptacles or plugs are to be installed. Any of the three options used will meet code. I think some builders will choose Option 3 and may make changes after the house has had its final inspection.



New Code Options:

- o Option 1 permits the installation of receptacle outlets above the countertop or work surface, but not more than 20 inches above. Islands and peninsulas with elevated backsplashes present an opportunity for using this option.
- o Option 2 permits installation of receptacle outlets within the countertop or work surface, provided a receptacle outlet assembly listed for the application is utilized.
- o Option 3 is utilized when no receptacle outlet is installed within the island or peninsula. In that case, the 2023 NEC requires a future provision to be made where a receptacle outlet could be installed at a later date. The junction box with protective flexible conduit for the NM-B cable is just one example of how this could possibly be done, but it is not required to be done this way per the 2023 NEC.



