

GFCI Receptacle Wiring Guide

A general installation guide for GFCI receptacles used in standard U.S. wiring systems. Suitable for product-page downloads where a dedicated GFCI guide is needed.

Scope	GFCI receptacles with LINE and LOAD terminals.
Best for	Bathroom, kitchen, laundry, garage, outdoor, and other GFCI product pages.
Not for	Standard non-GFCI receptacles or switch products.

Overview

A GFCI receptacle does not wire exactly like a standard outlet because it has distinct LINE and LOAD terminals. The LINE side receives incoming power. The LOAD side is optional and is only used when the installer wants downstream outlets to receive GFCI protection.

This general guide follows the standard installation logic in your uploaded GFCI manual: power off, identify LINE versus LOAD, connect conductors by terminal color, mount the device, and complete TEST and RESET checks after power is restored.

Recommended tools and materials
Voltage tester or multimeter
Flat and Phillips screwdrivers
Wire stripper and cutter
Needle-nose pliers
Wire connectors if a grounding pigtail is needed
Wall plate and mounting screws

General Wiring Steps

Step	Action
1	Turn off the breaker and confirm the box is not energized.

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2	Remove the old outlet and identify the cable that brings power from the panel. That cable is the LINE cable.
3	If a second cable continues power to other receptacles, identify it as the LOAD cable. Use the LOAD terminals only if downstream GFCI protection is required.
4	Connect the incoming hot wire from the LINE cable to the brass LINE terminal.
5	Connect the incoming neutral wire from the LINE cable to the silver LINE terminal.
6	If downstream protection is needed, connect the outgoing hot wire to the brass LOAD terminal and the outgoing neutral wire to the silver LOAD terminal.
7	Connect the grounding conductor to the green grounding terminal. Add a grounding pigtail if the box arrangement requires it.
8	Fold the wires carefully into the box and mount the GFCI receptacle with the wall plate.
9	Restore power. Press RESET as required by the device, then verify that the receptacle has power.
10	Press TEST to confirm the GFCI trips properly, then press RESET again to restore service. If LOAD wiring was used, check that the downstream receptacles also lose power during the trip test.

Important installation notes

- Do not reverse LINE and LOAD connections.
- A GFCI may not reset or protect properly if the terminals are wired incorrectly.
- Use the LOAD side only when downstream protection is intentionally required.
- Follow all local code requirements, especially for wet or damp locations.

Final checks before use

- RESET restores power normally after the trip test.
- TEST causes the device to trip correctly.
- Indicator light behavior matches the product instructions.
- Any downstream receptacles on LOAD lose power when the GFCI is tripped and recover after reset.