

	Rule	2012	2007	2002	1997	1993	1990	1987	1984	1981	1977	1973	7th NBS Edition 1971	6th NBS Edition 1961
	NESEC Rule 234C1 & 234C2, Table 234-1 Rows 1a(1) & (2), Horizontal Clearances to Window or Building (passing by but not attached):													
	Unguarded - Supply cables of 0 to 750V meeting Rule 230C2 or 230C3, clearance of 5.0 feet.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Unguarded - Effectively grounded Neutral conductor, clearance of 4.5 feet.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	<i>Footnote 2: Guarded supply clearance may be reduced by 2 feet (3.0 feet for supply or 2.5 feet for neutral, respectively).</i>	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Unguarded - Supply cables of 0 to 750V meeting Rule 230C2 or 230C3, clearance of 3.0 feet.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Communication service drops, cables and messengers, clearance of 4.5 feet.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Communication service drops, cables and messengers, clearance of 3 feet.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Footnote 1: For guarded windows and buildings not requiring maintenance or where available space will not permit, the clearance may be reduced by 2 feet:	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	NESEC Rule 234C1 & 234C2, Table 234-1 Row 2a, Horizontal Clearances to Signs (passing by but not attached):													
	Readily accessible, supply cables of 0 to 750V meeting Rule 230C2 or 230C3, clearance of 5.0 feet.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Readily accessible, effectively grounded neutral conductor, clearance of 4.5 feet.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Not readily accessible, supply cables of 0 to 750V meeting Rule 230C2 or 230C3, clearance of 3.5 feet.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Effectively grounded neutral conductor, clearance of 3.0 feet. (From 2002 forward added 'not readily accessible'.)	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Supply cables of 0 to 750V meeting Rule 230C2 or 230C3, clearance of 3.5 feet.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Supply cables of 0 to 750V meeting Rule 230C2 or 230C3, clearance of 3.0 feet.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Communication service drops, cables and messengers to portions readily accessible to pedestrians, clearance of 4.5 feet.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Communication service drops, cables and messengers to portions not readily accessible to pedestrians, clearance of 3 feet.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	NESEC Rule 234C1 & 234C2, Table 234-1 Row 2b, Vertical Clearances to Signs (passing by but not attached):													
	Over/Under walkways - supply cables of 0 to 750V meeting Rule 230C2 or 230C3, clearance of 11.0 feet	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Over/Under walkways - effectively grounded neutral conductor, clearance of 10.5 feet	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Over or under - supply cables of 0 to 750V meeting Rule 230C2 or 230C3, clearance of 3.5 feet	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Over or under - supply cables of 0 to 750V meeting Rule 230C2 or 230C3, clearance of 3.0 feet	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Over/Under non-walkways - effectively grounded neutral conductor, clearance of 3.0 feet	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Communication service drops, cables and messengers over or under catwalks and other surfaces upon which personnel walk, clearance of 10.5 feet.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Communication service drops, cables and messengers over or under other portions of such installations, clearance of 3 feet.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	Communication service drops, cables and messengers, clearance of 3 feet.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	NESEC Rule 235C1b, Clearance between Supply service drop (0-750V) and Communication service drop within the span including the attachment to the building:													
	ALL <i>Exception: The minimum clearance is 12 inches. No requirement prior to 1981.</i>	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	NESEC Rule 235E1, Table 235-6 Row 5b, Clearance between Supply service drops and Communication messenger in the span:													
	NOTE: Code adopted in 2012 to cover clearance between a Supply Service Drop that originates in the Power space at the pole or span that drops by Communications that are attached pole to pole (Power is pole/span to structure, Communications is pole to pole).													
	Examples: Supply service drop feeding a Garage in an alley, Phone Booth, Pump house, etc (the structure being fed is typically located below Communications).													
	ALL The minimum clearance is 30 inches. No requirement prior to 2012.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	NESEC Rule 235H1, Clearance at the pole between separate communication messengers (supporting communication cables):													
	The spacing between communication messengers should not be < 12 inches except by agreement between the parties involved. No requirement prior to 2002.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	COMM <i>Note: Pole owner added as an agreeing party in 2012 (...except by agreement between the parties involved including the pole owner).</i>	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	NESEC Rule 235H2, Clearance between communication utilities anywhere in the span:													
	The clearance between communication utilities shall not be < 4 inches except by agreement between the parties involved. No requirement prior to 2002.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	COMM <i>Note: Pole owner added as an agreeing party in 2012 (...except by agreement between the parties involved including the pole owner).</i>	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	NESEC Rule 097G Bonding of Communication systems to electric supply systems:													
	Where both electric supply systems and communication systems are grounded on a joint use structure, either a single grounding conductor shall be used for both systems or the electric supply and communication grounding conductors shall be bonded together.	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←
	NEC Rule 230.28 Service Mast as support:													
	Communication conductors are not permitted to be attached to the service mast which contain Supply service drops. Note: The NEC is on a different cycle than the NEC, change to Rule 230.38 adopted in 1996 (no requirement prior to 1996).	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←	←←

Definition of Grandfathering: Industry/area for Rule 013B (existing installations).

- Where an existing installation meets, or is altered to meet, these rules, such installation is considered to be in compliance with this edition and is not required to comply with any previous edition.
- Existing installations, including maintenance replacements, that currently comply with prior editions of the Code, need not be modified to comply with these rules.
 - Exception 1:* For safety reasons, the administrative authority may require compliance with these rules.
 - Exception 2:* When a structure is replaced, the current requirements of rule 238C shall be met, if applicable.
- Where conductors or equipment are added, altered, or replaced on an existing structure, the structure or the facilities on the structure need not be modified or replaced if the resulting installation will be in compliance with either (a) the rule that were in effect at the time of the original installation, or (b) the rules in effect in a subsequent edition in which the installation has been previously brought into compliance, or (c) the rules of this edition in accordance with Rule 13B1.
- Exception references in this document can be found with the associated NESC Rule reference. Footnote references can be found with the associated NESC Table reference. Both references are noted in red print in order to note that caution must be used when incorporating exceptions—make sure the circumstances qualify for using the exception.

Legend:

NBS = National Bureau of Standards
 NESC = National Electrical Safety Code
 NEC = National Electrical Code
 PWR = Power
 Comm = Communications
 All = Both Power and Communications