

# Installing and **Testing a GFCI Receptacle**

Acenti

by Leviton

#### Please read this leaflet completely before getting started.





#### 3. Should you install it?

Installing a GFCI receptacle can be more complicated than installing a conventional receptacle.

Make sure that you:

- · Understand basic wiring principles and techniques
- Can interpret wiring diagrams
- Have circuit wiring experience
- Are prepared to take a few minutes to test your work, making sure that you have wired the GFCI receptacle correctly

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- To prevent severe shock or electrocution always turn the power OFF at the service panel before working with wiring.
- Use this GFCI with copper or copperclad wire. Do not use it with aluminum wire.
- Do not install this GFCI receptacle on a circuit that powers life support equipment because if the GFCI trips it will shut down the equipment.
- For installation in wet locations, protect the GFCI receptacle with a weatherproof cover that will keep both the receptacle and any plugs dry.
- Must be installed in accordance with national and local electrical codes.

4. LINE vs. LOAD

LINE cable:

LOAD cable:

A cable consists of 2 or 3 wires.

Cable

the GFCI's LINE terminals only.

Delivers power from the service panel (breaker

panel or fuse box) to the GFCI. If there is only

Delivers power from the GFCI to another

The LOAD terminals are under the yellow

receptacle in the circuit. This cable should be

connected to the GFCI's LOAD terminals only.

sticker. Do NOT remove the sticker at this time.

Wires

#### 1. What is a GFCI?

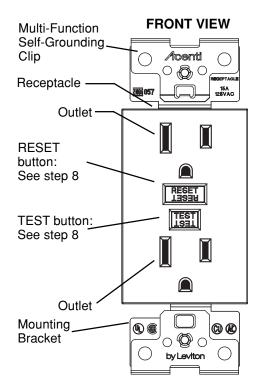
A GFCI receptacle is different from conventional receptacles. In the event of a ground fault, a GFCI will trip and quickly stop the flow of electricity to prevent serious injury.

#### Definition of a ground fault:

Instead of following its normal safe path. electricity passes through a person's body to reach the ground. For example, a defective appliance can cause a ground fault.

A GFCI receptacle does NOT protect against circuit overloads, short circuits, or shocks. For example, you can still be shocked if you touch bare wires while standing on a non-conducting surface, such as a wood floor.

## 2. The GFCI's features



#### A yellow sticker covers the LOAD terminals. Do not remove the sticker at this time.

#### LOAD

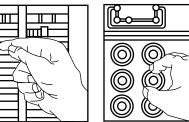
Hot terminal (Brass): Connection for the LOAD cable's black wire

#### LINE

Hot terminal (Brass): Connection for the LINE cable's black wire

### 5. Turn the power OFF

Plug an electrical device, such as a lamp or radio, into the receptacle on which you are working. Turn the lamp or radio ON. Then, go to the service panel. Find the breaker or fuse that protects that receptacle. Place the breaker in the OFF position or completely remove the



Next, plug in and turn ON the lamp or radio at the receptacle's other outlet to make sure the power is OFF at both outlets. If the power is not OFF, stop work and call an electrician to

#### 6. Identify cables/wires

#### Important:

DO NOT install the GFCI receptacle in an electrical box containing (a) more than four (4) wires (not including the grounding wires) or (b) cables with more than two (2) wires (not including the grounding wire). Contact a qualified electrician if either (a) or (b) are true.

If you are replacing an old receptacle, pull it out of the electrical box without disconnecting the wires.

If you see one cable (2-3 wires), it is the LINE cable. The receptacle is probably in position C (see diagram to the right). Remove the receptacle.

Installation of the Acenti alignment plate is recommended at this time. Refer to the Acenti Wallplate instruction sheet included for complete details.

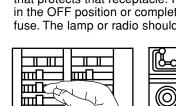
Go to step 7A.

• If you see two cables (4-6 wires), the receptacle is probably in position A or B (see diagram to the right). Follow steps a-e of the procedure to the right.

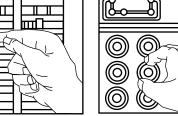
#### Procedure: box with two (2) cables (4-6 wires):

- cable.
- ON at the service panel.
- the LINE wires.
- remove the receptacle.
- (f) Go to step 7B.



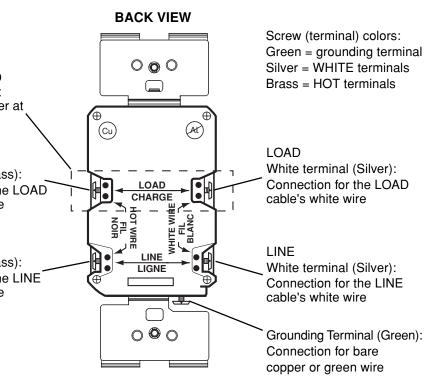


fuse. The lamp or radio should turn OFF.



one cable entering the electrical box, it is the LINE cable. This cable should be connected to 

# complete the installation.



(a) Detach one cable's white wire and hot wires from the receptacle and cap each one separately with a wire connector. Make sure that they are from the same

(b) Re-install the receptacle in the electrical box, attach faceplate, then turn the power

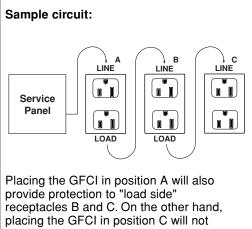
(c) Determine if power is flowing to the receptacle. If so, the capped wires are the LOAD wires. If not, the capped wires are

(d) Turn the power OFF at the service panel, label the LINE and LOAD wires, then

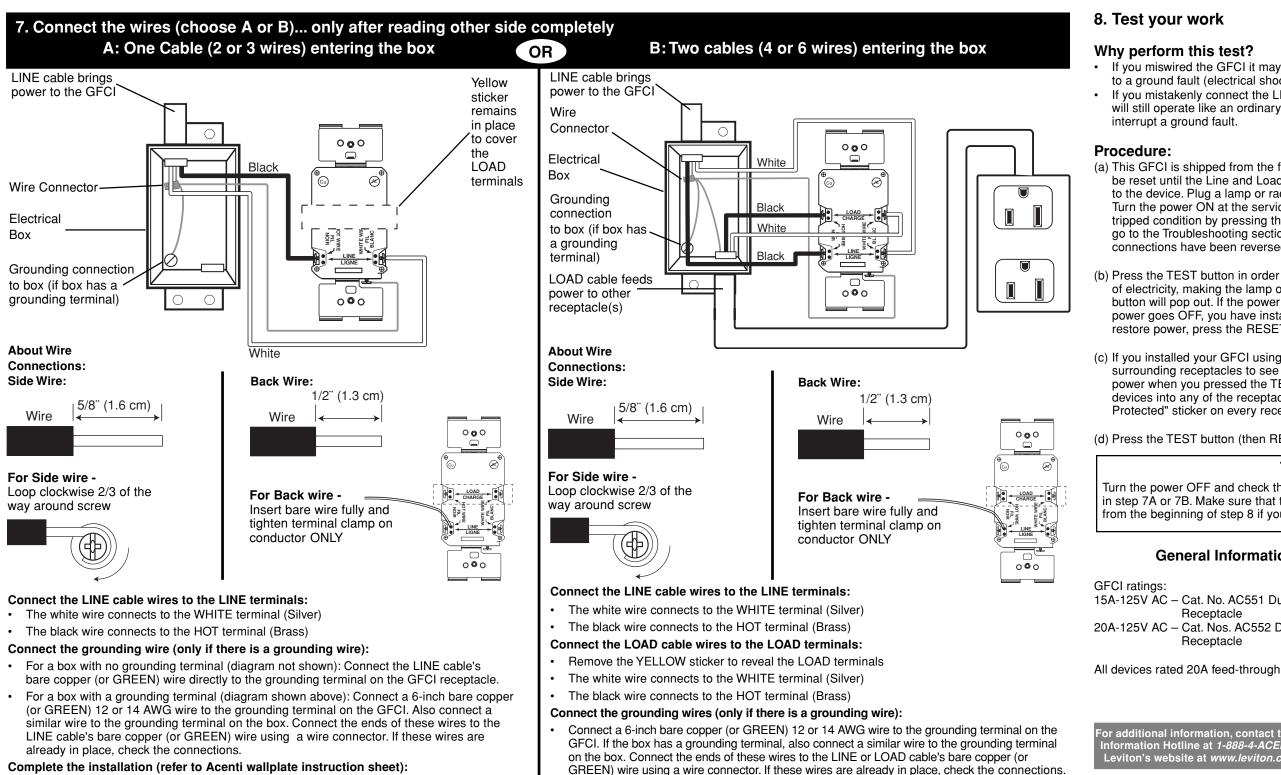
(e) Installation of the Acenti alignment plate is recommended at this time. Refer to the Acenti Wallplate instruction sheet included for complete details.

#### Placement in circuit:

The GFCI's place in the circuit determines if it protects other receptacles in the circuit.



provide protection to receptacles A or B. Remember that receptacles A, B, and C can be in different rooms.



- Fold the wires into the box, keeping the grounding wire away from the WHITE and HOT terminals.
- Mount receptacle to Acenti alignment plate and install Acenti wallplate (refer to Acenti Wallplate instruction sheet for complete installation instructions).
- Go to step 8.

Wallplate instruction sheet for complete installation instructions). Go to step 8.

Complete the installation:

Fold the wires into the box, keeping the grounding wire away from the WHITE and HOT terminals.

Mount receptacle to Acenti alignment plate and install Acenti wallplate (refer to Acenti

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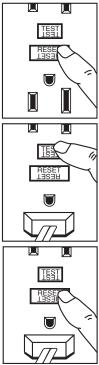
· If you miswired the GFCI it may not prevent personal injury or death due to a ground fault (electrical shock).

If you mistakenly connect the LINE wires to the LOAD terminals, the GFCI will still operate like an ordinary receptacle, but it will not reset and will not

(a) This GFCI is shipped from the factory in the tripped condition and cannot be reset until the Line and Load are wired correctly and power is supplied to the device. Plug a lamp or radio into the GFCI (and leave it plugged in). Turn the power ON at the service panel. Ensure that the GFCI is still in the tripped condition by pressing the TEST button. If the lamp or radio is ON go to the Troubleshooting section because LINE and LOAD wiring connections have been reversed.

(b) Press the TEST button in order to trip the device. This should stop the flow of electricity, making the lamp or radio turn OFF. Note that the RESET button will pop out. If the power stays ON, go to Troubleshooting. If the power goes OFF, you have installed the GFCI receptacle correctly. To restore power, press the RESET button.

(c) If you installed your GFCI using step 7B, plug a lamp or radio into surrounding receptacles to see which one(s), in addition to the GFCI, lost power when you pressed the TEST button. DO NOT plug life saving devices into any of the receptacles that lost power. Place a "GFCI Protected" sticker on every receptacle that lost power.



(d) Press the TEST button (then RESET button) every month to assure proper operation.

#### TROUBLESHOOTING

Turn the power OFF and check the wire connections against the appropriate wiring diagram in step 7A or 7B. Make sure that there are no loose wires or loose connections. Start the test from the beginning of step 8 if you rewired any connections to the GFCI.

#### General Information

15A-125V AC - Cat. No. AC551 Duplex Receptacle 20A-125V AC - Cat. Nos. AC552 Duplex Receptacle

For additional information, contact the Acenti<sup>T</sup> Information Hotline at 1-888-4-ACENTI or visit Leviton's website at www.leviton.com/acenti

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