

Standard Receptacle and USB Wall Outlet Wiring Guide

A general installation guide for standard U.S. receptacles and USB wall outlets. Use this as a product-page download for common residential-style replacements.

Scope	Standard duplex receptacles and USB wall outlets that use conventional hot, neutral, and ground terminals.
Best for	Product pages for standard receptacles and USB outlets.
Not for	GFCI receptacles, AFCI devices, dimmers, smart switches, 3-way switches, or any product with special terminal layouts.

Overview

Standard receptacles and most USB wall outlets follow the same basic wiring pattern: hot to brass, neutral to silver, and ground to green. USB wall outlets may have deeper bodies, specific wire-strip dimensions, and product-specific terminal designs, so the installer should still follow the exact markings on the device.

This guide is written as a clean general version for customer download. It is intentionally broad and should sit alongside the device's own printed instructions.

Recommended tools and materials
Voltage tester or multimeter
Flat and Phillips screwdrivers
Wire stripper and cutter
Needle-nose pliers
UL-listed wire connectors if needed
Electrical tape, wall plate, and mounting screws

General Wiring Steps

Step	Action
1	Turn off the breaker and verify the box is de-energized with a tester before touching any conductors.

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2	Remove the wall plate and take out the existing device. Keep the wires separated so they can be identified clearly.
3	Identify the incoming conductors. In a typical setup, the black wire is hot, the white wire is neutral, and the bare copper or green wire is ground.
4	Prepare the conductors to the strip length shown on the product. Straighten or loop the wire ends as required by the terminal design.
5	Connect the hot conductor to the brass terminal.
6	Connect the neutral conductor to the silver terminal.
7	Connect the ground conductor to the green grounding terminal.
8	If the device supports feed-through on paired terminals, match hot-to-hot and neutral-to-neutral exactly as labeled. Do not mix hot and neutral positions.
9	Fold the wires neatly back into the box, keeping grounding conductors clear of terminal screws where possible.
10	Mount the receptacle or USB outlet, install the wall plate, restore power, and confirm the device operates normally.

Important installation notes

- Always follow the terminal markings on the actual device body.
- USB wall outlets often require extra box depth because the housing is larger than a standard receptacle.
- Do not use a damaged conductor, loose terminal, or overcrowded box.
- If aluminum wiring or unusual conductor colors are present, stop and use a qualified electrician.

Final checks before use

- The device sits flush and secure in the wall box.
- No bare energized conductor is exposed outside the terminals.
- The wall plate installs without pinching the wires.
- Power is restored and both outlet faces, plus USB charging ports if present, work as intended.