



The French electrical code NF C 15-100

The French electrical code, NF C 15-100 and all the changes during the last fifteen years involve a steep learning curve for those from the other side of the English Channel and other European countries. And even for the French it is "back to school" if you are not an experienced electrician. No wonder that one of the best sellers of the Eyrolles publishing is "L'installation électrique". [The fifth edition includes](#) all the latest *amendements* to the French electrical code. The last fifteen years the page count has been going up: 338 pages in the 2nd edition, 358 pages in the 3rd edition, 478 pages in the 4th edition and one page more in the last edition. More content than in the previous editions. Special attention for new technologies in the domestic environment: domotics, the special *tableau de communication* and associated network cabling, renewable energies as solar panels, windmills and micro hydro power. Price has gone up from 25 euros to 35 euros, but for such a complete reference book, even for French professionals, this is still a bargain. The complete French electrical code NFC 15-100 goes for 738 € HT, and reading it is quite a challenge, let alone understanding the technical semi-legal language. Thanks to the many pictures, their narrative way of explaining and their knowledge of the practical side of the French regulations. Thierry and David have been able to reach out to a vast audience, and will continue to do so with their latest update. A must have for those who own a house in France or start renovating.

Promotelec, an advisory organisation, used to have a nice little booklet by the name of "[Locaux d'habitation](#)" but stopped publishing it, first edition somewhere in the late sixties, last 28th edition in 2015. The updated content you'll find in "[L'Officiel de l'électricité](#)", the 172 pages of chapter 3 "Installations électriques des parties privatives". In this book almost everything an electrician needs to know about the French regs. The 500 pages are probably a bit of an overkill for the DIY, [see this summary](#). Many helpful illustrations.

Anything in English? Yes, [read this review](#) about "Electricity in your French House". Published in 2010, so still a nice aid to translation but missing several updates of the regs.

Anything cheaper? Yes, website information of the "big three" here in France: Legrand, Hager and Schneider.

[An intro about the changes](#) in the French electrical code in 2015 by Legrand, and more in depth [in this document](#).

[Schneider has this to say](#) about French wiring practices and regs and for those interested in the earlier version of the electrical code (2012) [their earlier information](#) is still available. The documentation provided by [Hager follows the regs](#) almost step by step.

Trying to identify the not-so-safe elements in your wiring? Perhaps [this document of Schneider](#) (2009) might offer some guidance.

To conclude easy reading, [the essentials of the Amendement 5 changes](#) by Promotelec and their answers to [many questions](#).

Hope this helps,

RA

2 March 2018
