



OMNICRETE INTERNATIONAL, INC.

TECHNICAL QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Technical Question # 1: *Will my Electrician charge me more to install electrical plugs, switches and wiring?*

Answer: No, in fact there are reasons why they *should charge you less*.

Reason: During the exterior wall assembly, Omnicrete installs the **electrical conduit** (in the center core of the exterior wall) and **outlet boxes** for switches and plugs for high voltage as well as low voltage (cut into the AAC in the interior the home as well as the exterior of the home during the exterior wall assembly process). Therefore, when the electrician does the rough-in wiring of the home he/she only needs to "push" wires down the conduits and install the respective plugs and/or switches according to the building plans keeping of course within the compliance of proper building codes as he/she normally would. Secondly, unless interior AAC walls are being used, all interior wall partitions are standard construction, and therefore installation is standard and the **cost will be identical** to conventional construction.

Most often the number of lineal feet of interior partition walls is far greater than the lineal feet of exterior walls. Therefore, most of rough-in wiring and placement of switches and plugs are standard anyway (normally, 60% to 70% of plugs and switches are placed on interior wall partitions and again will be standard installation). Accordingly, the electrician has LESS work to do when exterior walls are rough-in wired since the conduit and electrical boxes for plugs and switches are already in place. Therefore, logic should dictate that the electrician's installation cost should be less on exterior walls and again, the same for interior walls.

It has been our experience that electricians however, try and get more? That is why the electrician should discuss the wall system with us before they issue comments and prices for electrical rough-in wiring to their clients. In this discussion, we have been referring to rough-in wiring. Please understand that appliances and the installation thereof are the same with, or without using the Omnicrete wall system. Another point about the "trades" such as electricians; most trades professionals feel more comfortable working with what they are familiar with and if they are asked to work with something they have never seen it would be tempting for them to give you a higher price and/or a negative comment that it will cost them more time and therefore cost the home owner or builder more and consequently cost the homeowner more. By speaking to us first and getting educated on the many benefits of the system from a standpoint of workmanship they should give you the same price as standard construction or even less. It has been our experience, that most electricians resist working with our system until they understand the means and methods of the system. Every time an electrician completes his/her first job they always ask to be invited to bid other jobs.



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A note also must be made about AAC **INTERIOR** wall electrical rough-in. Again, Omnicrete places conduit and electrical boxes in the AAC material and therefore the job is easier for both interior and exterior walls. The electrician therefore, has no reason to charge the same as conventional since most of his work has been done except for running the wire and the placement of the electrical panel which again, is exactly the same as standard construction.

Conclusion: When looking at the entire cost of a home, even though this topic attracts much interest and curiosity, one must be mindful that the cost of electrical rough-in represents a very tiny percentage of the home's total cost and should carry little if any weight for deciding for or against using Omnicrete. Nevertheless, this topic seems to be one of the top ten concerns with people who are considering Omnicrete. It would be a shame if a home owner, due to his/her lack of understanding, would forgo the massive benefits including perpetual savings of utilities, insurance premiums and maintenance for years and decades to come. That is why we've spent so much time explaining the facts and relevance regarding electrical costs comparison. Keep in mind again, that the installation and cost of appliances and lighting fixtures are the same no matter which building system you choose. Again, the only difference in cost could be in the electrical rough-in where Omnicrete is either at par with, or below, conventional costs.