Electrical & Construction Symbol Legend + Takeoff QA Checklist

A plain-English reference to the symbols estimators count most — plus a checklist to make your count defensible before it goes in a bid.

> **One thing first:** symbol shapes are not universal. Every drawing set carries its own legend (often the E0 or "symbols & abbreviations" sheet), and offices differ. Use this as a reference for what the common devices are and where they show up — then always count from the project's own legend. That's why SimplyCount is self-learning: teach it your legend once and it counts your symbols, not a generic set.

Electrical: power & lighting

SYMBOL / DEVICE	WHAT IT IS	WHERE YOU'LL SEE IT
Duplex receptacle	A standard two-outlet wall power receptacle.	Power plans, usually the most-counted device on a job.
GFCI receptacle	A ground-fault receptacle that trips on a fault; required in wet locations.	Kitchens, baths, exterior, mechanical rooms.
Quad / double-duplex receptacle	Four outlets ganged in one location.	Offices, workstations, AV walls.
Dedicated / special-purpose receptacle	A receptacle on its own circuit for one load, usually labeled.	Appliances, equipment, IT rooms.

Architectural: doors, hardware & openings

SYMBOL / DEVICE	WHAT IT IS	WHERE YOU'LL SEE IT
Door (single / double)	A door opening; each leaf is keyed to the door schedule.	Architectural floor plans + the door schedule.
Door tag / mark	The number or letter in a bubble that keys a door to its schedule (type, size, fire rating, hardware set). Count these.	Floor plans, then reconcile against the schedule.

Plumbing

SYMBOL / DEVICE	WHAT IT IS	WHERE YOU'LL SEE IT
Fixtures (water closet, lavatory, urinal, sink)	Plumbing fixtures, keyed to a fixture schedule.	Plumbing fixture plans.

Mechanical / HVAC

SYMBOL / DEVICE	WHAT IT IS	WHERE YOU'LL SEE IT
Diffuser / grille / register	Supply and return air distribution devices.	Mechanical plans and RCPs.

Fire protection

SYMBOL / DEVICE	WHAT IT IS	WHERE YOU'LL SEE IT
Sprinkler head (pendent / upright / sidewall)	The discharge device; orientation matters for the count.	Fire-protection plans.

Fire alarm, low-voltage & security

SYMBOL / DEVICE	WHAT IT IS	WHERE YOU'LL SEE IT
Smoke / heat detector	Initiating devices.	Fire-alarm plans.

The 9-step takeoff QA checklist (first 3)

1. Read the legend sheet first. Every set defines its own symbols (usually the E0 or "symbols & abbreviations" sheet). Count from the project's legend, not a generic chart.
2. Confirm you're on the latest revision, and note the drawing scale before you start.
3. Count one symbol type at a time across every sheet; don't mix types in a single pass.

> **This is a preview.** The full legend has all 33 symbols across 6 disciplines and all 9 QA steps. Get it with early access at simplycount.com/resources/electrical-symbol-legend.