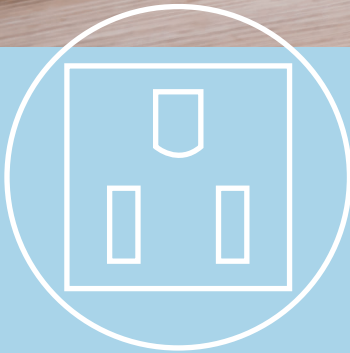


# What electrics can I add to furniture?



## ‘Regular’ Socket.



### Pros:

Versatility - NEMA socket will power pretty much any device!

### Cons:

Only applies to North American devices.

Potential to overdraw the power of the room — so safety codes limit the number of NEMA sockets you can connect to each circuit. People need to carry their bulky phone/tablet/laptop adapter around to use it.

### Hot spots:

You can use NEMA sockets pretty much anywhere. But if you ask me, sockets are still underutilized in breakout spaces around the office.

Most offices now have NEMA sockets at work stations, but many ignore breakout areas, cafeterias, huddle spaces and meeting rooms. As employees have the flexibility to move around a modern office with their laptops, they want sockets in more places than just at their desk.

# What electrics can I add to furniture?



## USB Charging



### Pros:

You can add more to your furniture — USB ports aren't limited in number on a circuit like NEMA sockets. Good for everyday personal devices, USB-C in particular for larger devices. Most mobile phones (even international) come with USB cables.

Small form factor for discreet power in furniture. Don't require people to carry the bulky brick portion of their chargers.

### Cons:

Limited to charging personal electronics, mainly. Not everyone recognizes USB-C yet.

### Hot spots:

Hotel lounges. International guests can plug in without converters, which commonly cause circuit overload and can even cause electrical fires. (I delivered a keynote speech on USB charging at the Hotel and Spa Tech Live Conference so I can tell you first-hand that hotels are really starting to recognize the potential of USB solutions.)

Trains, buses, airports. International travelers are mainly charging things like phones and tablets, so USB is perfect. Plus, as e-tickets get more popular, USB cuts down on the "I swear I have a ticket, my phone's just dead!" excuse — so operators are keen to install them.

USB outlets are an awesome solution in coworking spaces, too.

# What electrics can I add to furniture?



## Wireless Charging



### Pros:

Easy and convenient — just put your phone down and it charges. No cables needed!  
Near-universal — pretty much all new smartphones are now Qi-enabled and you can charge anywhere in the world that has a Qi wireless charger.

### Hot spots:

Waiting rooms.  
Doctors' offices, hospitals, business lobbies, hotel lounges...they're all great spots for wireless. (I won't even mention the DMV here. We all know they purposely make their spaces as inconvenient as possible.)

Restaurants and bars. Wireless chargers are self-contained, which means that a spilled pint won't cause any damage...to the charger at least!

### Cons:

Limited to phones and small accessories like wireless earbuds.  
Slower charging than other power options (around 5-10 watts) especially if you need a full recharge rather than a top-up. Most wireless chargers require you to drill a hole in your tabletop to install the unit.



OE has a wireless charger that installs under your desk instead and it was shortlisted for Interior Design magazine's HiP award for Technology at NeoCon 2020!