

Who is responsible for obtaining permits?

The property owner or contractor (depending on the project) is responsible for obtaining structural, mechanical, plumbing, and electrical permits.

Where do I get permits?



You can get permits by calling or visiting the local building department in the city or county where you plan to perform work.

When am I required to get a permit?



Permits are required for any new construction or alterations and additions to existing buildings prior to performing work. **This includes:**

- Electrical
- Structural
- Plumbing
- Mechanical

Checkout **Permits.Protect.info** for a detailed list of what does and does not require a permit.



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STRUCTURAL

A residential permit is required when you:

- Add a room.
- Build or alter a carport, garage, or shed of more than 200 square feet.
- Finish an attic, garage, or basement to make additional living space.
- Cut a new window or door opening.
- Add, move, or remove walls.
- Build a stairway.
- Build a retaining wall over four feet high.
- Build a deck more than 30 inches above grade.
- Install a fence to serve as a barrier around swimming pool, hot tub, or spas.
- Build a retaining wall that supports a bank of earth above the top of the wall.

PLUMBING

A plumbing permit is required when you:

- Replace a water heater or under-ground piping.
- Alter piping inside a wall, ceiling, or beneath a floor.
- Install a plumbing fixture where one did not exist previously.
- Make an emergency repair or alteration on a section of pipe five feet or longer.

ELECTRICAL

An electrical permit is required when you:

- Install or alter any permanent wiring or electrical device.
- Run additional wiring in your home.
- Install a new electrical outlet or light fixture.
- Install a receptacle for a garage-door opener.
- Convert from fuse box to circuit breakers.
- Install or alter permanently attached low-voltage systems such as security alarms, stereos, or computer systems.

MECHANICAL

A permit is required when you:

- Install or change any part of a heating or cooling system that needs to be vented into any kind of chimney.
- Install an unvented fuel-fired appliance, such as "gas log" sets.
- Install a wood stove, fireplace insert, pellet stove, or related venting.
- Install, alter, or repair gas piping between the meter or LPG tank and an appliance, either indoors or outdoors.
- Install bath fans, dryer exhausts, kitchen range exhausts, and appliances that are required to be vented.

How do I get a permit and what is the process?



- Locate your local building department; you can do this by going to **PermitsProtect.info**.
- Complete the permit application – Jurisdictions offer permit applications at their office and many also provide them online or via fax.
- Pay the permit fee – Permit fees are based on the size and complexity of your project and are paid when the permit is issued.
- Receive your permit – Once the permit has been issued, the work can begin.

How do I get an inspection?



Follow these steps:

- Call the request line at the building department responsible for your area at least 24 hours in advance.
- When you call to make the appointment, have all the details (permit number, project address, etc.) available.
- If the work was done inside, an adult needs to be at the site for the inspection.



Visit **PermitsProtect.info** for detailed information regarding your next project.