

Oregon Homeowners, Protect Yourself

When making home repairs, ensure the safety and the value of your home by getting the necessary permits and using only licensed contractors and craftsmen.

The recent storm and flood damage on the Oregon Coast cost millions of dollars in damage and affected thousands of lives. Now that the storms have subsided and the damage has been assessed, it's time to rebuild and repair. The only way to ensure that your home, family and investments are safe is to obtain all necessary permits and use contractors that are licensed and bonded to perform the work.

When do I need a permit?

[Permits are required](#) for any new construction as well as alterations and additions to existing buildings, including structural, plumbing, mechanical, electrical, manufactured dwelling, boiler and elevator work. If you're not sure whether the work you are doing requires a permit, ask your local building department.

Do I need a permit on my own property?

Oregon law requires you to [obtain permits](#)—even on your own property—to ensure that you meet minimum building standards for your own safety and for the safety of future property owners and occupants. Additionally, you may be required to show proof of permits for any improvements or repairs when you sell your home or borrow money against your home.

How do I know if my contractor is licensed?

Call the Construction Contractors Board (CCB) at 503-378-4621 or check a contractor's license at www.oregon.gov/CCB.

Homeowners may lose the ability to recover damages through the bond and insurance as well as the CCB Dispute Resolution Service (DRS) if they use an unlicensed contractor.

For more information on how permits protect you, your family and your investment in your home, visit the Building Codes Division's Permits Protect Web site located at www.permitsprotect.info

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Contact your local building department.