

Permit Requirement Q&A: Do I need a permit?

Often, we receive questions as to what work being done requires a permit. Below are questions and examples of work requiring a permit or exempt from a permit. These are only examples and not all-inclusive of permit requirements. If you have any questions pertaining to a permit requirement, feel free to contact an inspector at 678-216-0641. Permit requirements may differ for commercial projects.

What residential construction work may I do without a permit?

Typically, non-structural repair such as sidewalks and driveways, painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets, counter tops and similar finish work may be done without a permit. Prefabricated swimming pools that are less than 24 inches (610 mm) deep, swings and other playground equipment are also exempt from requiring a permit.

What residential electrical work may I do without a permit?

Minor repair work, including the replacement of lamps, receptacles, switches, replacement of branch circuit overcurrent devices of the required capacity in the same location or the connection of *approved* portable electrical *equipment* to *approved* permanently installed receptacles may be done without a permit. Also, Electrical wiring, devices, *appliances* or *equipment* operating at less than 25 volts and not capable of supplying more than 50 watts of energy or *listed* cord-and-plug connected temporary decorative lighting may be installed without a permit.

What residential plumbing work may I do without a permit?

The clearing of stoppages or the repairing of leaks in pipes, valves or fixtures, and the removal and reinstallation of water closets, faucets, sinks and lavatories, provided such repairs do not involve or require the replacement or rearrangement of pipes may be done without a permit. Any alteration of the piping system, installation of a new water heater or relocation of existing fixtures would require a permit.

What residential mechanical work may I do without a permit?

The installation of portable cooling units or the replacement of any minor part that does not alter approval of *equipment* or make such *equipment* unsafe may be done without a permit. Replacement of furnaces, air conditioning condenser units or alteration or replacement of duct work would require a permit.

Can I do my own work to my house?

If you currently occupy the home, you may do the work yourself. We highly recommend you contact a licensed contractor if you are not familiar with the work involved. Improperly installed electrical, mechanical or plumbing systems may result in a greater risk of sickness, fire or death. Be sure to protect your family, yourself and your investment.

