

Community Development Department 200 W. Oak Street – Suite 3100 Fort Collins, CO 80521 970-498-7700

## **Building Permit Requirements**

<u>A Guide to Help Determine if a Building Permit is Required</u> Updated to 2018 I-Codes – January 25, 2019



Many homeowners are not aware when a permit is required. As a general rule, any construction work that is regulated by adopted building codes and fire and public safety regulations requires a building permit before work can begin.

The list below does not cover all activities. It is advisable to contact the Building Division at 970-498-7700 before starting your work if you are uncertain if a permit is required.

Building Permit Required	Building Permit Not Required
To erect a new building or structure including homes, cabins, garages, agricultural buildings, swimming pools, and manufactured/modular/mobile homes	Residential decks not more than 30" above grade at any point and that do not serve a required exit door
To demolish, repair, alter, add onto, or move an existing building or structure	Fences 6 feet high or less Painting, cabinet work, decorating, tiling, counter
Renovations (garage conversions, basement finishes, kitchen expansions, room alterations, etc.)	tops, laying carpet, or other similar finish work Repairs/maintenance using similar or same materials
Commercial decks, residential decks that serve a required exit door or are more than 30" above grade	which do not affect any mechanical work Accessory structures (storage shed, etc.) not greater than 120 square feet in floor area, provided a hazard
Fences greater than six feet high	is not created
Fireplace/wood stove installations	Roof repairs not exceeding 100 sq. ft. per building
Propane tank and gas line installations and/or repairs	Replacement of windows that are the same size or smaller than existing windows
Air Conditioners/Heat Systems (addition or replacement)	
Water heaters (all new & any replacement not installed by State Licensed Plumber or increasing in size)	Drywall and/or insulation installation and replacement Concrete flatwork such as driveways or sidewalks
Any repair which will change or affect the structural nature of a building or structure	Replacement of non-structural siding
Signs and signage (temporary or permanent)	Pergolas, arbors or trellises whose roof area is at least 67% open.
Roof repairs over 100 square feet and re-roofing	Playground equipment and swings, including one
Replacement of structural siding	elevated playhouse per lot not exceeding 64 square feet in floor area nor over 8 feet high from floor to highest point
Retaining walls 4 feet or higher	
Solar Panel systems installed on roofs or walls of non- exempt buildings and on the ground over 6' high	Shade cloth and maximum 6-mil, single layer poly- roofed structures used for agricultural and nursery
Commercial floor plan alterations and changes to use or occupancy	purposes with no general public access and no utilities Agricultural windmills used for the purpose of water
Fire alarms and fire sprinkler systems (permit from local fire district or State Fire Marshal)	generation, decorative windmills, or private windmill generation 12 feet or less in height
Electrical work requires a permit and inspections by the Colorado State Electrical Board	Building and Land Use Code requirements, including but not limited to lot coverage, setbacks and floodplain regulations, apply to structures exempt from building permits.