WHEN DO I NEED A PERMIT?

NO PERMIT REQUIRED FOR:

- Replacement of any switch, receptacle, fuse, fan, light fixture or similar equipment that does not alter mechanical, electrical or plumbing systems.
- Ordinary, minor nonstructural repair(s) or remodeling such as painting, papering, siding and similar finish work.
- *Accessory storage buildings (or) structures less than 200 square feet in floor area. This exemption shall be restricted to only one accessory within a site. Accessory structures that do not require a permit may NOT be placed over utility easements. For additional information, please contact the utility companies or the Planning & Inspections Department.
- POOLS & PONDS (if over 24in. of depth or are above ground containing 5,000 gal. of water or more)
- GARAGE CONVERSIONS
- PARTITIONS & WALLS (if over 5’9” in height)
- ADDITIONS
- PORCHES
- AWNINGS
- CARPORTS
- CONCRETE WORK (if more than 30in. above grade or if it will support a structure)

HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Keep in mind that if your property is in a historic district or designated a historic landmark, any construction, reconstruction, alteration, change, removal, or demolition on your property must first be reviewed by City staff for historic appropriateness, even if a building permit is not required.

INTERIOR & EXTERIOR REMODELING
(if it requires structural change)

PERMANENTLY INSTALLED HEATING, COOLING, AND VENTILATION UNITS
PLUMBING WORK
ELECTRICAL WORK

RESIDENTIAL ROOF COVERING
(required when replacing 25% or more)

EXTERIOR DOOR & WINDOW REPLACEMENT

STORAGE SHEDS*

ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS/IN-LAW SUITE
(attached or detached)

PORCHES *
& CANOPIES
(DETACHED)

MASONRY WALLS & FENCES
(if over 42in. in height)

CHAIN LINK FENCE
(if over 6ft. in height)

ANY WORK ON CITY SIDEWALKS OR STREET
(such as repairs of sidewalk, curb cuts for new driveway)

TEMPORARY PLACEMENT OF DUMPSTER OR P.O.D. ON PROPERTY
(if placed for longer than 7 days. If placed on city streets permit is required regardless of timeframe)

RENTAL OF CITY SIDEWALKS OR STREETS

A building permit is required to "construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish or change the occupancy" of a building or structure within the City of El Paso's jurisdiction. A homeowner may be issued a permit to perform such work on his permit upon proof of ownership. A trade permit for electrical, mechanical, plumbing or irrigation work is sometimes required depending on the scope of work. With the exception of irrigation work, only a contractor registered with the City may be issued a trade permit.