



Community Development Department

1275 Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243

Building & Safety Division
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Projects Which Require Building Permits

All new installations listed below require permits. Permits, if required for replacement items, are also indicated. **The following is only a partial list and other things that are not listed may require a permit.** Note that all work regardless of whether or not a permit is required shall comply with the State and Uniform Codes, Municipal Codes and City Ordinances.

Building Permits

- Accessory dwelling – see Planning for zoning requirements
- Accessory building over 120 sf
- Attached storage shed
- Awnings
- Carports
- Covering the interior walls of an unfinished building/garage
- Balconies
- Demolition (interior or exterior) Asbestos analysis required for over 100 sf
- Doors new
- Doors replacement if size is increased
- Garage and garage conversion
- Enclosing a porch
- Fence (new or replacement) over 6 feet tall
- Fireplace
- Foundations
- Accessible restroom(s) and Accessible ramp(s)
- New walls
- Partition wall over 4 foot or if electrical involved
- Patio cover/trellis/arbor free standing shades
- Patio enclosure
- Porch and sun rooms
- Pool (in ground)
- Re-roof
- Roof change (flat to sloped)
- Room addition
- Remodels
- Seismic (earthquake) retrofit
- Shower wall repair and enclosures
- Signs see Planning for zoning requirements

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- Siding
- Skylight
- Spa/hot tub
- Spray booth (fire permit also required) see Planning for zoning requirements
- Stairway
- Storage loft/platform
- Storage shed/building having a floor area of 120 square feet or more or utilities involved
- Sliding glass door replacement if area is increased
- Suspended ceiling
- T-bar ceilings
- Tenant improvements
- Windows, new and replacement

Mechanical Permits

- Air conditioning
- Central vacuum system
- Commercial kitchen hoods
- Ducting system
- Extension of duct system
- Exhaust fans (new): bathroom, kitchen, laundry
- Exhaust fans replacement if type, size, or rating is changed
- Fireplace insert
- Heating unit (central furnace, wall furnace, floor furnace, unit heater)
- Make-up air units
- Product conveying systems
- Ventilation systems

Plumbing Permits

- Fixtures (new): bathtub, laundry tray, shower
- Fixtures replacement if plumbing is changed
- Gas piping (new, replacement, and extensions)
- Grease traps
- Sewer Ejectors
- Solar panel
- Fire Sprinkler (residential sources of ignition)
- Sewer line replacement
- Sump pumps
- Water heater (new, replacement and relocated)
- Water piping (new, replacement and extensions)

Electrical Permits

- Cook top/oven/range
- Cook top/oven range replacement if type (gas or elec.) or rating is changed
- Exterior lighting for commercial buildings (new)

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Garage door opener only if adding outlet or wiring
Pool related electrical
Service panel or sub panel (new, replacement, relocated, or upgraded)

Spa/hot tub related electrical
Temporary power poles
Wiring (new, extended, replacement, and upgrades)
Wiring devices (new) switch, outlet, etc.
Wiring and wiring devices for appliances such as air conditioners, space heaters, dishwashers, washing machines, water heaters, clothes dryers, etc.
Wiring and wiring devices for motors, generators, transformers, industrial heating, air conditioners and heat pumps, cooking and baking equipment, etc.
Wiring and wiring device for signs

The following is a **partial** list of projects that **DO NOT** require a permit. All work regardless of whether or not a permit is required shall comply with the State and Uniform Codes, Municipal Codes and City Ordinances. Please check with the other City of El Centro Departments for their requirements. Departments may require approval and/or permits for work not mandated to have a permit by the Building Division.

Concrete Flatwork	Painting/wallpaper	Carpet
Floor covering	French drains	Cabinet faces
Clean up interior	Door replacement	
Wall or floor tile	Play house (under 100 sq. ft.)	
	Commercial/landscaping - see Planning Dept.	
	Very minor sheetrock repair such as small hole repair	

Detached storage buildings having a floor area less than 120 square feet, no electrical, mechanical or plumbing installed, and no finish on interior walls such as wallboard or pegboard – **these buildings still need to meet zoning setbacks.**

Replacement of windows where size of opening remains the same

Plumbing fixtures where plumbing is not changed
Plug cord connected spa/hot tubs
Electrical receptacles, light, switches (replacement)

This a comprehensive **(but not complete)** list of items or projects that require permits. Other items not listed may or may not require a permit. Any project which is submitted to this office for review and approval could require the applicant to apply for one or more of the above mentioned permits.

Please feel free to contact the Building Division whether a permit is needed or not. We will answer specific questions about your project. We can be reached at (760) 337-4508.