

# Why Permits Matter

Always ensure that your home improvement contractors obtain permits.

The risks involved in completing home projects without a permit may include subpar results and unsafe conditions in your home, as well as legal and financial hardships for you as the homeowner.

## Remember:

- A permit ensures that the person/company performing the work is qualified to do so.
- A permit ensures that an independent third party will inspect the work upon completion.
- Work done by someone who is not qualified to perform it could result in safety issues in your home (structural problems, risk of electrical fire, etc.).
- You have little to no legal recourse if you contract to do work without a permit and the resulting work is incomplete, subpar or creates safety issues in your home.
- Failure to obtain a permit could cost you more in the long run. Examples include costly repairs to correct subpar work and after-the-fact permit fees from the city.
- Unpermitted work could void your home insurance coverage.
- Refinancing or selling your home could be hampered by unpermitted work in part because unpermitted work may not comply with minimum city building code requirements.

**Some small projects do not require a permit.**

**To find out if your project is exempt, please contact Development Services at 720-865-2982 or visit [Denvergov.org/developmentservices](https://denvergov.org/developmentservices).**

More resources: [Denvergov.org/HomeEnergy](https://denvergov.org/HomeEnergy)

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