

especially important when installing materials that come into contact with drinking water.

If you hire a plumbing contractor, ask for his or her business registration and the license number of any journeyman plumber performing work. Plumbing contractors must also be registered with the Construction Contractors Board.

Lawn sprinklers may be installed only by licensed landscape contractors. Permits are required to connect lawn sprinklers to your building's water supply.

If you have questions concerning your eligibility to work on a building, call the Building Codes Division at (503) 378-4133 or (800) 442-7457, or your local jurisdiction.

### How do I get an inspection?

If a plumbing contractor does the work, the contractor is required to arrange the inspection. If you are doing your own work, call the building department responsible for your area to request an inspection. You will be asked for the permit number, homeowner's name, project address, type of inspection needed and the date you would like the inspection. Be prepared to furnish detailed directions to the job site.

If you have installed water piping, the work must be operational and inspectors may require that drainage piping be plugged and filled with water for inspection.

Unless all of the work is outside and accessible, an adult needs to be at the site to provide access for the inspector.

## Be an informed consumer.

When buying a product or contracting a service:

- Call the Building Codes Division or the Construction Contractors Board to verify active license and/or registration.
- Call the Better Business Bureau.
- Talk to other consumers.
- Compare prices.
- Ask for references and contact them.
- Be sure you have a written contract and read it carefully before signing.

### State of Oregon offices:

Salem Building Codes ..... (800) 442-7457 or (503) 378-4133  
Construction Contractors Board ..... (503) 378-4621  
Better Business Bureau ..... (503) 226-3981  
Attorney General's Consumer Hotline:  
Portland ..... (503) 229-5576  
Salem ..... (503) 378-4320  
Toll-free ..... (877) 877-9392



**ThinkPermit**  
Protect your home. Protect your family.

**DO I NEED  
A PLUMBING  
PERMIT?**



For more information, visit  
[www.thinkpermit.com](http://www.thinkpermit.com)

The purpose of every permit is to protect what you value most – your family and your home. Faulty installations can cause house fires, flood damage and structural instability. But permits and inspections help protect your loved ones from these potentially deadly mistakes. Permits also help you avoid costly repairs down the line and preserve your biggest financial investment – your home. When selling your home, you are now required by Oregon law to fully disclose all remodeling work and whether or not permits were obtained. With permits and inspections, you can expect a smoother closing process, free of last-minute hassles, inspections and repair work if the home isn't up to code. So insist on permits.

### When do I need a permit for plumbing work?

A plumbing permit is **required** when you intend to:

- replace water heaters, alter piping inside a wall or ceiling, or beneath a floor, and for plumbing in all new installations.
- perform emergency repair, alteration or replacement of freeze-damaged or leaking concealed piping, if new piping exceeds three feet.
- remodel or add on to your one- or two-family dwelling when existing plumbing is to be relocated. This includes installation of building sewers, water service and exterior rain drains.

### What plumbing work can I do without a permit?

A plumbing permit is **not required** to do the following:

- Perform "ordinary minor repairs" to your home or duplex's plumbing system – this means repair, replacement or maintenance of existing accessible fixtures, parts and appliances, and their related water and drain attachments. Do not alter an existing plumbing system without a permit.

- Perform emergency repair or replacement of freeze-damaged or leaking concealed piping, if new piping does not exceed three feet in length.

**If you are not sure if you need a permit, check the list of jurisdictions at [www.thinkpermit.com](http://www.thinkpermit.com) and call the one responsible for your area.**

### Where do I get a permit for plumbing work?

You can start by calling your local jurisdiction – phone numbers are available at [www.thinkpermit.com](http://www.thinkpermit.com). Permits are issued at Building Codes Division field offices or your local building department, depending on the jurisdiction responsible for your area.

In most cases, you'll complete a form, pay a fee and get your permit. If a plumbing contractor is doing the work, it is the contractor's responsibility to get the permit and the inspections. The permit will be issued in the name of the party performing the work.

- A plan or blueprint is usually not required for a one- or two-family dwelling permit.

## PLUMBING PERMITS

### Safety First.

**For the safety of your family and your home's future occupants, please don't attempt any plumbing work that is beyond your skill level. When in doubt, hire a licensed, bonded professional.**

- Fees are based on the size and complexity of the job. Some jurisdictions base fees on the number of fixtures to be installed or the number of feet of piping for water, sewer or rain drains.
- When you apply for the permit, a plumbing inspector or office staff member can discuss your project with you. If you have the necessary information, you can usually leave the office with your permit. You will need to pay the permit fee when your permit is issued.

### Who can do the plumbing work on my house or duplex?

As the owner, you can hire a licensed plumbing contractor or do the plumbing work yourself. Friends, neighbors, tenants, general contractors or others cannot legally do the plumbing work unless they are licensed plumbers working on behalf of a licensed plumbing contractor.

All materials (pipe, pipe fittings, fixtures, and other devices used in plumbing systems) must be listed and approved for their specific uses. This is

[www.thinkpermit.com](http://www.thinkpermit.com)