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**Do I need a  
building**



*A Great Place  
To Call Home*

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# Permit information

This brochure provides a brief overview of building permit requirements. More information is available from City Hall.

## Why bother with a permit?

Your home or business is an investment. If your construction project doesn't comply with the minimum codes adopted by your community, the value of your investment could be reduced. Property insurers may not cover the work done without permits and inspections. If you decide to sell a home or building that has had modifications without a permit, you may be required to tear down the addition, leave it unoccupied or do costly repairs.

A property owner who can show that code requirements were strictly and consistently met, as demonstrated by a code official's carefully maintained records, has a strong ally if something happens to trigger a potentially destructive lawsuit.

Your permit also allows the code official to protect the public by reducing the potential hazards of unsafe construction and ensuring public health, safety and welfare. By following code guidelines, your completed project will meet minimum standards of safety and will be less likely to cause injury to you, your family, your friends or future owners.

## Building Permits are required for the following types of projects:

- New construction
- Building additions
- Garages
- Storage sheds – more than 200 sq. ft
- Decks and platforms
- Egress window
- Porches
- Swimming Pools – all below ground and above ground if over 5,000 gallons
- Signs
- Replacing shingles
- Replacing siding
- Replacing windows – if changing size
- Retaining walls – over 4 feet in height
- Plumbing
- Mechanical (furnaces, water heaters, etc)

(Unless otherwise exempted, separate plumbing, electrical and mechanical permits will be required for exempted items)

## Zoning Permits are required for the following types of projects:

- Storage sheds – 200 sq. ft or less
- Fences – all heights
- Accessory buildings (unattached garages, sheds, pergola, gazebo, etc.)

## Building Permit is NOT needed for the following types of work:

- Painting
- Wallpaper
- Carpet and Tile floors
- Decorative landscaping
- Patio Slabs
- Driveways
- Tree planting

- Retaining walls – under 4 feet in height
- Replacing windows – same size
- Replace/install sheetrock
- Window awnings – projecting no more than 54"
- Sidewalk leveling

## Special Permits are required for the following types of work:

- Moving of Buildings
- Removing or cutting street curb & gutter

Before you do any digging, State Law requires that you call **Gopher State One Call 811 or (800) 252-1166** or (651) 454-0002 to have underground utilities located. You can also create a ticket online at [www.gopherstateonecall.org/ticketing](http://www.gopherstateonecall.org/ticketing).

If you have any questions about **residential building or commercial building** plans, please call City of Truman Building Inspector **Darold Nienhaus (507) 525-3266**. He will be happy to help you with your projects.



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**