

ARE ELECTRICAL PLANS REQUIRED?

Electrical plans are required for large installations. Consult with the district electrical inspector or a supervisor.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO GET AN ELECTRICAL PERMIT?

Electrical permits are issued over-the-counter to registered contractors.



Department of Building Inspection
1660 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94103-2414



Want a DBI Pro to brief your community / organization on permits and inspection issues? Please contact us at 415-558-6089 or DBICommunityOutreach@sfgov.org and we will make it happen.

ELECTRICAL INSPECTION DIVISION



What You Should Know About

Electrical Inspection Division



Department of Building Inspection
1660 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

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Code Questions (415) 558-6205
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THE ELECTRICAL PERMIT PROCESS

The permit process provides assurance that electrical installations are inspected for compliance with the minimum standards of safety established by the adopted codes. This process begins with obtaining an electrical permit.

WHEN IS AN ELECTRICAL PERMIT REQUIRED?

An electrical permit is required before installing, altering, or extending electrical wiring systems, unless exempt under 2007 San Francisco Electrical Code Section 89-121.

WHAT KIND OF ELECTRICAL WORK DOES NOT REQUIRE AN ELECTRICAL PERMIT?

The following work **does not** require an electrical permit if no change in the building wiring is required:

1. Replacement of existing luminaires (lighting fixtures) weighing less than 50 pounds
2. Replacement of domestic appliances and their components parts
3. Replacement of branch circuit overcurrent devices; motors of less than two horsepower; switch, control and receptacle devices of not more than 20 amp rating

4. Temporary holiday lighting (listed assembly) that is cord-and-plug supplied from an approved receptacle. Temporary holiday lighting shall not extend into or across a public thoroughfare
5. Removal of abandoned and safely de-energized electrical wiring

HOW DO I APPLY FOR AN ELECTRICAL PERMIT?

Contractors who are licensed by the State of California in Classifications: A, B, C7, C10, C11, C16, C20, C45, C46, C53, D28, D34, and registered with the Central Permit Bureau (CPB) may file electrical permits with the Department of Building Inspection. Contractor Classifications: C7, C10, C45, D28, D34 may file electrical permits online at <https://services.sfgov.org/dbieid/>

Contractors may register with CPB by presenting the following documents:

1. A valid California State Contractor's License
2. A current Business Tax receipt issued by the San Francisco Office of the Treasurer and Tax Collector, located at City Hall, Room 140, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102

3. A valid certificate of insurance for Workman's Compensation

The next step is to complete the Electrical Permit Application Worksheet. Note: an electrical permit is separate from a building permit and shall be filed whenever electrical work is to be performed. This means that a separate electrical permit is required in addition to any other permits being filed.

WHERE DO I REGISTER AND APPLY FOR AN ELECTRICAL PERMIT?

The San Francisco Permit Center is located at 1660 Mission Street. The service hours are from 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday and 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM on Wednesday.

MAY I DO THE WORK MYSELF?

The owner of a stand-alone single family dwelling (not a condominium unit) may apply for a Homeowner's Permit by scheduling an office interview with the district electrical inspector or supervisor. The purpose of the interview is to determine if an applicant possesses sufficient knowledge to perform the proposed electrical work in a safe and code-complying manner. The applicant is required to answer basic code questions and complete a Homeowner's Declaration Form.