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If your home is currently listed for sale with another real estate professional, please disregard this offer.

Does Your Home Improvement Project Need a Building Permit?

Even if your next home improvement project seems minor, you might be surprised to find it requires a permit. Here's what you need to know about acquiring permits before you get started.

Home Improvement and Renovations that Always Require a Permit

Some of the work you'll do to your home will always require a permit:

- Fencing installation and repair
- Window installation
- Plumbing work
- Electrical work
- Structural changes
- Many HVAC maintenance projects
- Additions and remodeling projects (including sheds and garages)

What Home Improvement Projects Don't Require Permits?

There's good news for homeowners — not all renovation projects need permits.

Cosmetic improvements like painting, decks under a certain height, installing new cabinets, putting in new countertops, adding a whole-house fan, repairing the driveway, building a small fence and more can be accomplished without needing to apply for permits.

What Happens if I Don't Get a Permit?

Neglecting to obtain a permit can lead to major problems with your city. You might be subjected to hefty fees, or your project could be halted. In some cases the city might even require you to destroy the work that's already been completed because there's no way to tell whether the work is up to code.

When in doubt, it's always best to contact your municipality to double check the permitting requirements for the projects you hope to complete.

Once done with your project, protect it! 2-10 HBW offers the most comprehensive coverage for homeowners. Let us help you get started with a Home Warranty Service Agreement today!



Chili-Lime Chicken Kabobs

- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 ½ tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 1 lime, juiced
- 1 teaspoon chili powder
- ½ teaspoon paprika
- ½ teaspoon onion powder
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 pound skinless, boneless chicken breast halves – cut into 1 ½ inch pieces
- skewers
- salt, black pepper and cayenne pepper to taste

Instructions

- 1) In a small bowl, whisk together the olive oil, vinegar and lime juice. Season with chili powder, paprika, onion powder, garlic powder, cayenne pepper, salt and black pepper. Place the chicken in a shallow baking dish with the sauce and stir to coat. Cover and marinate in the refrigerator for at least one hour.
- 2) Preheat the grill for medium-high heat. Thread chicken onto skewers and discard marinade.
- 3) Lightly oil the grill grate. Grill skewers for 10 to 15 minutes or until the chicken juices run clear.

Recipe courtesy of allrecipies.com