



Information Bulletin / Public – General Information - Express Permits (No Plan Check Required)			
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City of Los Angeles – Department of Building & Safety Express Permits (No Plan Check Required)

Following are the lists of different types of construction for which an express permit can be issued. Express permits may be obtained at this link to [Online Permits](#) and are also processed by appointment only using this [Appointment link](#) for the Department's permitting counters located in the Metro, Van Nuys, West Los Angeles, San Pedro and South Los Angeles offices.

I. BUILDING

1. Window and door change-out (same size & type) for residential buildings. Dual glazing, labeled and certified by National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC), is required for doors and windows replaced in all residential buildings, three stories or less, per Title 24, Part 6, Section 150.2(b) 1B.
2. Kitchen/bathroom remodel for residential buildings (no structural changes).
3. Re-stucco for residential buildings.
4. Re-roof with Class A or B roof covering material weighing less than 6 pounds per sq. ft. over existing solid sheathing ____Squares. Class A roof covering is required within Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ). For residential roof replacement > 50% of the total roof area, apply Cool Roof Product labeled and certified by Cool Roof Rating Council (CRRC). Cool Roof may be required for non-residential buildings per Title 24, Part 6, Section 141.0(b)2B.
5. Re-roof with Class A or B roof covering material weighing less than 6 pounds per sq. ft. over new solid sheathing ____Squares. Class A roof covering is required within Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ). For residential roof replacement > 50% of the total roof area, apply Cool Roof Product labeled and certified by Cool Roof Rating Council (CRRC). Cool Roof may be required for non-residential buildings per Title 24, Part 6, Section 141.0(b)2B.
6. Installation of security bars for dwellings/apartments. Quick release required in bedrooms per California Building Code Part 12, Chapter 12-3.
7. Christmas tree and pumpkin lots.
8. Wet Sandblasting (permit is required only in Fire District 1).
9. Complete work done under previously expired permit. (Minimum 75% percent completed as determined by inspection).
10. Change of ownership/contractor.
11. Add sill plate anchor bolts and plywood to cripple walls (if existing) per LA City Standard Plan #1; no foundation replacement (Earthquake hazard reduction per Chapter 92 of the Los Angeles Building Code). (Houses, residential buildings up to 3 stories and up to 4 units).
12. Add sill plate anchor bolts, add plywood to cripple walls (if existing), and replace foundation per L.A. City Standard Plan #1 (Earthquake hazard reduction per Chapter 92 of the Los Angeles Building Code). (Houses, residential buildings up to 3 stories and up to 4 units).
13. Chimney repair for residential buildings (per City standard details).
14. Replacement of damaged framing members (less than 10% of replacement cost of building) for single family dwellings and duplex (not including decks).
15. Repair of water, dry-rot, or termite damaged stairs in residential buildings (less than 10% of replacement cost of stairs). Handrails for Apartments, one and two-family dwellings require plan check.
16. Water damage, termite damage or dry rot repair less than 10% of replacement cost of residential buildings.
17. Fire damage repair for residential buildings only (maximum 10% of replacement cost of building).

18. Replace existing pre-fabricated fireplace with the same size and in the same location. Installation shall be as per manufacturer's recommendations. An HVAC permit is required.
19. Re-plaster existing swimming pool (a separate express mechanical permit for new skimmer(s) and a separate express electrical permit for new pool luminaire is required, when applicable, except for one and two-family dwellings). The subject pool shall comply with the Swimming Pool safety act, according to Health and Safety Code 115920-115929 through Senate Bill 552.
20. (Vinyl) (Wood) (Fiber Cement) (others:) siding over solid sheathing with an approved water-resistive barrier, per valid ICC Evaluation Report # _____ on exterior walls at 5 feet or more from property lines for residential buildings. (Applicant to provide a copy of the report to inspector).
21. Replace existing siding with new stucco for single family dwellings and duplex only.
22. Replace drywall (no new walls added) for single family dwellings and duplexes only.
23. Remove existing roof tiles, apply new underlayment and reset roof tiles (Cool roof compliance is not required).
24. Application of an approved coating to an existing exterior balcony or deck.
25. Application of an approved coating to an existing roof.
26. Install radiant barrier and/or insulation in attic for residential buildings.
27. Concrete block freestanding masonry fence walls constructed per Information Bulletin P/BC 2026-096 located in residential zones, maximum 6 feet height above grade, and not located in the required front yard or within 5 feet of the side street lot line of a reverse corner lot (subject to additional limitations of LAMC Section 12.22C20(f) and Information bulletin P/ZC 2002-002).
28. Install insulation in walls / floor for single family dwellings and duplex only.
29. Free standing fence for a swimming pool barrier (non-concrete or masonry), as required per P/BC 2026-014.

II. HVAC

1. Comfort heating and comfort cooling [air conditioning units (A/C)] installations where the aggregate Btu/h input is less than 500,000 Btu/h (approximately 41 tons).
2. Environmental ventilation in buildings with aggregate capacity of comfort heating or comfort cooling of less than 500,000 Btu/hr (approximately 41 tons).
3. Witness test.
4. Refrigeration systems with Group A1 refrigerants with aggregate combined compressor horsepower of less than 100.
5. Gas heaters (unit and wall heaters) and gas furnaces (including forced air units) less than 500,000 Btu/h.
6. Replacing A/C units with same size & type.
7. Duct work alteration or addition in buildings that do not have smoke control system.
8. Relocation of A/C units within the same building.
9. Relocation of fans for environmental ventilation within the same building.
10. Addition of air conditioning equipment having a rating of 5 tons or less.
11. Addition of general ventilation exhaust fans having a rating of 2000 cfm or less.
12. Installation or replacing prefabricated fire places (New installation requires building plan check).

III. PLUMBING

1. Non-Engineered domestic water systems with 1 ½" or less water service.
2. Replacing plumbing fixtures.
3. Adding plumbing fixtures.
4. Replacing underground water pipes with the same size and material. The existing pipe must remain in place, uncovered, until verified by LADBS field inspector.

5. Backflow prevention device in water mains 1 ½" or less in diameter.
6. Sewer cap.
7. Sewer connection permit (provide the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering, permit number).
8. Sewer alteration, repair or replacement.
9. Low pressure gas piping systems with up to 10 outlets.
10. Replacing water heaters.
11. Adding earthquake valves same size as existing gas main.
12. Replacing lawn sprinklers control valves with AVB (Atmospheric Vacuum Breaker) in hillside areas with the same size.
13. Installing or replacing lawn sprinklers control valves with AVB (Atmospheric Vacuum Breaker) in non-hillside areas.

IV. FIRE PROTECTION

1. Welding permit.
2. Pump test.
3. Standpipe flushing.
4. Replacing underground fire sprinkler piping (same size or larger).
5. Adding or replacing valves.
6. Relocating fire sprinklers.
7. Replacing fire sprinklers (same size and type).
8. Lowering sprinkler heads.

V. ELECTRICAL

These electrical installation permits apply only to non-engineered wiring.

1. Electrical installation with voltage of less than 600 volts and up to 400 amps total load in existing office, retail and residential buildings only.
2. Rewiring or adding devices to existing electrical circuits for receptacles, telephone and communication outlets.
3. Temporary Power Pole for less than 600 volts and up to 400 amps of load.
4. Swimming pool wiring and luminaire.
5. New Telephone and computer wiring - voice and data.
6. Special (equipment) inspection for less than 600 volts and up to 400 amps load and 60 cycles.
7. Electrical wiring for movie set location.
8. Meter re-connection.
9. Repair of damaged wiring (Miscellaneous permit).
10. Device addition to existing addressable Fire alarm systems per approved Plans by the City of Los Angeles Fire Department.
11. Electrical wiring for special events (carnivals, trade shows) for less than 600 volts and less than 401 amps load.
12. Smoke detectors within apartment units, houses and duplexes and other residential units.
13. Carbon monoxide detectors within apartment units, houses and duplexes and other residential units.
14. Electrical installation for electric vehicle charging (EVCS) in residential and commercial buildings with up to 400 amps of service (Including any needed charging equipment, service upgrade, receptacle and associated wiring). EVCS installed in residential apartment and commercial buildings may require a separate building plan check and permit to comply with required Disabled Access requirements.

15. Photovoltaic systems (Available online for Contractors only): Installations meeting the following criteria are issued only online at <https://dbs.lacity.gov/> and the installation shall meet the approved plans generated through the online system:
 - a. A rooftop system on a one- or two-family dwelling.
 - b. The total capacity of the photovoltaic system being installed is 10 kW or less.
 - c. No GFCI or AFCI overcurrent devices are installed in the alternating current (AC) output of the inverter.
 - d. AC Power system shall be 120/240 volts single phase.
 - e. The rating of the service panel shall not exceed 225 amperes.
 - f. Central/String inverter systems with a maximum of two inverters with up to four strings and one combiner box per inverter.
 - g. Microinverter systems having up to four branch circuits.
 - h. DC arc-fault circuit protection device is provided per Article 690.11.
 - i. The PV system does not consist of any of the following items: hybrid systems, building integrated photovoltaic (BIPV), and photovoltaic roll roofing material.
 - j. A separate building permit may be required for the structural support of the solar photovoltaic system. Refer to Information Bulletin P/GI 2023-027 "Guidelines for Plan check and Permit Requirements for Solar Energy Devices" for more information.
16. Energy Storage Systems interconnected with a Photovoltaic System. (Available online for Contractors only): Installations meeting the following criteria are issued only online at <https://dbs.lacity.gov/> and the installation shall meet the approved plans generated through the online system:
 - a. PV Solar and Energy Storage System (ESS) shall be installed on a 1 or 2 family dwelling.
 - b. Energy Storage System (ESS) shall be an AC Coupled system not exceeding a rating of 10KWAC.
 - c. Energy Storage System (ESS) shall be connected to the load side of a single-phase 120/240V end-fed or center-fed service panel with a service rating not exceeding 225A.
 - d. The self-contained Energy Storage System (ESS), associated microgrid Interconnected device (MID), and all associated equipment shall be listed or certified by a Department approved Electrical Testing Agency.
 - e. The PV system meets all criteria mentioned in above section 15.
 - f. The PV system does not consist of any of the following items: hybrid systems, building integrated photovoltaic (BIPV), and photovoltaic roll roofing material.
 - g. The solar PV and storage battery system (ESS) shall meet one of the methods in compliance with Article 705.12(B)(2) (3)(a), (b) or (c).
 - h. PV modular are roof-top mounted and of crystalline or multi-crystalline material type.
 - i. The number of strings is four or fewer (with or without one combiner box).
 - j. The ESS shall be submitted to the Fire Department for Fire Plan Check approval and permit.

VI. ELEVATOR/PRESURE VESSEL

1. Elevators (repair).
2. Pressure vessels, tanks and boilers.
3. Automotive hoist.
4. Air tanks (compressors).
5. Liquid propane gas (LPG) tanks.

VII. OTHER TYPE OF PERMITS

1. Extra Inspection trip.
2. Address change on mechanical & electrical permits.
3. Transfer of permit.



Additional information regarding permits and requirements may be obtained from LADBS website at <https://dbs.lacity.gov/>, by calling 311 or (213) 473-3231.

OFFICE LOCATIONS

Metro

201 N. Figueroa Street, Room 110
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Van Nuys Braude Building

6262 Van Nuys Blvd, Room 251
Van Nuys, CA 91401

West Los Angeles

1828 Sawtelle Blvd., 2nd Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025

South Los Angeles

8475 S. Vermont Ave. 1st Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90044

San Pedro

638 S. Beacon Street, Room 238
San Pedro, CA 90731