

## **WHEN IS A RESIDENTIAL PLUMBING PERMIT REQUIRED?**

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COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT

### **A plumbing permit is not required to:**

- Repair or replace a sink, toilet, or faucet not concealed in the wall.
- Replace or repair countertops, showerheads, rain gutters, or downspouts.
- Resurface shower walls or re-grout tile.
- Add to or alter an irrigation system with an existing approved backflow device.
- Install a water filter.
- Replace a hose bib.
- Install a water feature or exterior hot tub that is filled by a hose.
- Emergency repairs to, or replacement of, freeze-damaged or leaking concealed piping, provided new piping doesn't exceed five feet in length.

### **A plumbing permit is required to:**

- Replace a water heater (including expansion tank) or underground piping.
- Alter piping inside a wall, ceiling, or beneath a floor.
- Install a plumbing fixture where one did not exist previously.
- Replace existing plumbing if the replacement involves concealed plumbing connections.
- Make an emergency repair or alteration on a section of pipe five feet or longer.
- Install or replace a shower pan.

### **Some important reminders:**

- All materials must be listed and approved for their specific uses.
- If you hire a plumbing contractor, they must be licensed with the Construction Contractors Board.
- Journeyman plumbers must have a current license with the Oregon Building Codes Division.
- A permit is not required to install lawn sprinklers; however, a permit is required for installation of the backflow (double check). A homeowner may install their own lawn sprinklers but if a contractor makes the installation, they must be a licensed landscape contractor.
- If you are using a licensed contractor, they are required to obtain all necessary permits for the work being performed.

### **Who can perform plumbing work on my home?**

1. A licensed plumbing contractor  
~OR~
2. You, the homeowner

**NOTE:** Other than the homeowner, only a licensed plumber can legally perform plumbing work. This includes friends, neighbors, tenants, and general contractors.