



**2015 International Residential Code
Permit Exemptions List**

1. One-story, detached, *accessory structures* for lawn and garden equipment storage, tool storage and similar uses, as well as arbors, pergolas, and similar structures, provided the floor area does not exceed ~~200 square feet (18.58 m²)~~ 120 square feet (11.15 m²) or 8 feet (2.438 m) in height, do not house flammable liquids in quantities exceeding 10 gallons (38 l) per building and are located at least 3 feet (0.914 m) from an adjoining property line.
2. Fences not over ~~7 feet (2134 mm)~~ 6 feet (1829 mm) high.
3. Retaining walls that are not over 4 feet (1219 mm) in height measured from the ~~bottom of the footing~~ low side *grade* to the top of the wall, provided the horizontal distance to the next uphill retaining wall is at least equal to the total height of the lower retaining wall, unless supporting a surcharge or impounding Class I, II or IIIA liquids.
4. Water tanks supported directly upon grade if the capacity does not exceed 5,000 gallons (18,927 L) and the ratio of height to diameter or width does not exceed 2 to 1.
5. Platforms intended for human occupancy or walking, sidewalks and driveways not more than 30 inches (762 mm) above adjacent *grade*, and are not part of an accessible route.
6. Painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets, counter tops and similar finish work.
7. Prefabricated and portable swimming pools that are less than 24 inches (610 mm) deep, or wading pools, hot tubs or spas supported directly upon grade when the walls are entirely above grade and which cannot contain water more than 24 inches (610 mm) deep.
8. Swings and other playground equipment, or play house/structure not exceeding 120 square feet. One elevated play house or play structure per lot designed and used exclusively for play. Elevated play houses or play structures shall not exceed 64 square feet (5.9 m²) of floor area nor 6 feet (1.82 m) in height measured from the floor to the highest point of such structure.
9. Window awnings supported by an exterior wall which do not project more than 54 inches (1372 mm) from the exterior wall and do not require additional support and do not extend over the public right of way. Window replacement requiring no structural *alteration* or no change in the window configuration which reduces the clear opening and when such work is determined not to be historically significant, storm window, storm door and rain gutter installation.
10. Decks ~~not exceeding 200 square feet (18.58 m²) in area~~, that are not more than 30 inches (762 mm) above *grade* at any point, are not attached to a dwelling and do not serve the exit door required by Section R311.4.
11. Roofing repair or replacement work not exceeding one square (100 square feet) of covering per building.
12. Replacement of nonstructural *siding*, when removal of *siding* is performed in

accordance with State laws regarding asbestos and lead paint.

13. Work valued at less than \$500 when such work does not involve *alteration* of structural components, fire-rated assemblies, plumbing, electrical, mechanical or fire-extinguishing systems.
14. Decorative ponds, fountains and pools that cannot contain water more than 24 inches (610 mm) deep.
15. Shade cloth structures constructed for nursery or agricultural purposes, not including service systems. Hoop houses constructed with a flexible frame such as PVC tubing used for starting plants.