

2009 International Building Code Permit Exemptions

1. One-story detached accessory buildings used for playhouses, lawn and garden equipment storage, tool storage and similar uses provided such buildings do not exceed 120 square feet of floor area nor 8 feet in height, do not house flammable liquids in quantities exceeding 10 gallons per building and are constructed entirely of noncombustible materials when located less than 3 feet from an adjoining property line.
2. Fences not over 6 feet (1829 mm) high.
3. Oil derricks.
4. Retaining walls that are not over 4 feet (1219 mm) in height measured from the 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.
5. Water tanks supported directly on grade if the capacity does not exceed 5,000 gallons (18 925 L) and the ratio of height to diameter or width does not exceed 2:1.
6. Platforms and decks intended for human occupancy or walking, sidewalks and driveways not more than 30 inches (762 mm) above adjacent grade, and not over any basement window or story below and are not part of an accessible route.
7. Painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets, counter tops and similar finish work.
8. Temporary motion picture, television and theater stage sets and scenery.
9. Prefabricated swimming pools accessory to a Group R-3 occupancy that are less than 24 inches (610 mm) deep, do not exceed 5,000 gallons (18 925 L) and are installed entirely above ground.
10. Shade cloth structures constructed for nursery or agricultural purposes, not including service systems.
11. Swings and other playground equipment accessory to detached one- and two-family dwellings.
12. Window awnings supported by an exterior wall that do not project more than 54 inches (1372 mm) from the exterior wall and do not require additional support of Groups R-3 and U occupancies.
13. Nonfixed and movable fixtures, cases, racks, counters and partitions not over 5 feet 9 inches (1753 mm) in height.
14. Roofing repair or replacement work not exceeding one square of covering per building.
15. Minor work valued at less than \$500 and not involving alteration of bearing walls, structural or fire-rated assemblies, plumbing, electrical or mechanical components or fire-extinguishing systems.
16. Window replacement requiring no structural alteration and when such work is determined not to be historically significant or affecting a building more than 50 years old, storm window, storm door and rain gutter installation.
17. Decorative ponds, fountains and pools which cannot contain water more than 24 inches deep.