

# Department of Public Works & Engineering Building Code Enforcement Branch



## RESIDENTIAL REPAIRS PERMIT GUIDELINES

### **BACKGROUND**

Residential Repairs Permits are required for repairs that involve only replacement of existing structural members and other building elements.

#### **EXEMPTIONS**

#### Permits are NOT required for:

- Painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets\*, counter tops and similar finish work including the repair of damaged gypsum board that is not part of a fire-rated assembly
- Interior trim and similar finish work
- Wood or metal fences less than 8 feet tall
- Wood Floors

- Uncovered detached decks under 30 inches
- Repair of exterior wood facia, trim, and soffits
- Siding that does not exceed 128 square feet and is not part of a fire-rated assembly.
- Roof covering that does not exceed 100 square feet.

Important Note: Properties located in the floodplain, must contact the Floodplain Management Office at 832-394-8854 or <a href="mailto:fmo@houstontx.gov">fmo@houstontx.gov</a> prior to making repairs.

## **APPLY FOR THE PERMIT**

- **Step 1** Complete the <u>Building Permit Application</u> and the <u>Residential Repair Spec List</u>. Applications are located behind the Information Desk at the entrance lobby.
- Step 2 Obtain a ticket by selecting *Permits* → *Building Construction Permits* → *Project Number/Single Trade Permit* from any of the four kiosks located by the entrance. A Customer Service Representative will assign a project number.
- Step 3 Obtain a ticket by selecting *Plan Review* → *Building Plan Review* → *Residential and/or One Stop Plan Review* from the kiosk and proceed to the *One Stop Section* on the third floor.
- **Step 4** A Plan Analyst will review the Repairs Spec List to ensure repairs are for replacing like-for-like building elements and compliance with applicable codes.
- **Step 5** Once approved, the Plan Analyst or a Customer Service Representative will create a sales order.
- **Step 6** Proceed to the cashiers' booth on the first floor to pay the sales order and receive your permit.
- **Step 7** If the project involves plumbing, electrical, or HVAC work, each licensed contractor must purchase a separate permit for that portion. \*

## **SCHEDULE INSPECTIONS**

- **Step 8** Inspections must be scheduled before any drywall is replaced. See the back of the permit for inspections schedule. (*Note:* If work within walls is covered without inspections, the drywall must be removed before permit can be finaled.)
- Step 9 Once all work is completed, schedule final inspections by contacting the *Structural Inspections Section* at 832-394-8840 or online at <a href="www.pdinet.pd.houstontx.gov/cohilms/webs/Inspection\_Lookup.asp">www.pdinet.pd.houstontx.gov/cohilms/webs/Inspection\_Lookup.asp</a>. NOTE: All permits must be finaled.

<sup>\*</sup>Although cabinets are not required to be permitted, any replacement of plumbing fixtures or electrical fixtures will require permits.

<sup>\*</sup> For information regarding plumbing and HVAC homeowner permits, contact the appropriate Inspections group.