WORK EXEMPTED FROM BUILDING PERMITS
2014 County of Los Angeles Building Code with Amendments
Section 106.3 “Work Exempted”

Work which may not require a building permit may require Planning Department and other Departmental or agency approval(s). Contact the Planning Department for additional information. Unless otherwise exempted, separate plumbing, electrical, and mechanical permits will be required for the exempted items below. Exemption from the permit requirements of this Code shall not be deemed to grant authorization for any work to be done in any manner in violation of the provisions of this Code, or other laws or ordinances.

Permits shall not be required for the following:

1. One-story detached accessory buildings used as tool and storage sheds, playhouses and similar uses, provided the gross floor area does not exceed 120 square feet (11.15 m²), the height does not exceed 12 feet (3.96 m), and the maximum roof projection does not exceed 24 inches (610mm).

2. Fences not over six 6 feet (1.8 m) in height which are not used as a barrier to private swimming pools, spas or hot tubs.

3. Water tanks supported directly on grade if the capacity does not exceed 5,000 gallons and the ratio of height to diameter or width does not exceed 11/2:1.

4. Gantry cranes and similar equipment.

5. Retaining walls that retain not over 4 feet (1219 mm) in height measured from the bottom of the footing to the top of the wall, unless supporting a surcharge or impounding a Class I, II or IIIA liquids.

6. Motion picture, television and theater stage sets and scenery, except when used as a building.

7. Ground mounted radio and television antennae towers which do not exceed 45 feet (13 716 mm) in height and ground supported dish antennas not exceeding 15 feet (4572 mm) in height above finished grade in any position.

8. Light standards which do not exceed 30 feet (9144 mm) in height.

9. Flagpoles not erect upon a building and not more than 15 feet (4572 mm) high.

10. A tree house provided that:

   10.1. It does not exceed 64 square feet (5.94 m²) in area nor 8 feet (2438 mm) in height from floor to roof.

   10.2. The ceiling height as established by door height or plate line does not exceed 6 feet (1829 mm).
11. Canopies or awnings, completely supported by the exterior wall, attached to a Group R-3 or U occupancy and extending not more than 54 inches (1372 mm) from the exterior wall of the building.

12. Sheds, office or storage buildings, and other structures that are less than 1,500 square feet (139 m²) and incidental to and work authorized by a valid grading or building permit. Such structures must be removed upon expiration of the permit or completion of the work covered by the permit.

13. A portable metal hanger located on County-owned airports, provided that:
   
   13.1. It is less than 2,000 square feet (18.58 m²) in area:
   
   13.2. It is used exclusively for the parking of aircraft:
   
   13.3. It bears the Department of Motor, State of California insignia of approval for movement on any highway;
   
   13.4. It incorporates as a integral part of its basic construction a hitch or coupling device for towing;
   
   13.5. It can accommodate, without further structural change, wheel and axle assemblies to provide a safe means of portability;
   
   13.6. It is equipped with permanent ventilation to prevent the accumulation combustible gases; and
   
   13.7. It is not provided with water or sanitary facilities.

14. Oil derricks.

15. Platforms, walks and driveways not more than 30 inches (762 mm) above grade, not over any basement or story below, and which are not part of an accessible route.

16. Prefabricated swimming pools and other bodies of water accessory to a Group R-3 occupancy that are less than 18 inches (0.46m) deep, or do not exceed 5,000 gallons (18 927 L) and are installed entirely above adjacent grade.

17. Playground equipment accessory to Group R-3 occupancy.

18. One-story buildings or structures used as dog kennels, chicken coops, animal pens or shade structure provided the gross floor area does not exceed 120 square feet (11.15 m²) and the height does not exceed 6 feet (1829mm).