



The Corporation of **THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER**

## Who Can Obtain a Permit?

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### Inspection Division Information Handout #G8

The purpose of this guide is to outline the required qualification for personnel who may be making application for permits or performing work within the City.

**All contractors must have a valid and subsisting City of North Vancouver Business License.**

#### LICENSED RESIDENTIAL BUILDERS

The Homeowner Protection Act provides for the licensing of residential builders and makes third-party warranties mandatory on new home construction throughout the province. As of July 1, 1999, all residential builders applying for a building permit are required to be licensed by the Homeowner Protection Office (HPO).

An owner-builder, defined as a person who builds a single, detached home for their own personal use, not more than once in any 18-month period, does not have to be licensed or provide third-party home warranty insurance on their home. This home will, however, still be subject to the 10-year Statutory Protection provisions contained within the *Act*.

Please visit [www.hpo.bc.ca](http://www.hpo.bc.ca) for further information with respect to becoming a Licensed Residential Builder.

#### ELECTRICAL WORK

Other than for homeowners, annual electrical permits and temporary entertainment installations, the Electrical Safety Act requires that any person who makes application for an electrical permit be registered as a Certified Electrical Contractor with the BC Electrical Safety Branch.

## Who Can Obtain a Permit?

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Homeowners may make application for electrical permits, subject to the following:

1. The Applicant has to be the owner of the property where he or she is applying to do an electrical installation. For example, a son living in father's house; renters; tenants do not qualify for a Homeowner's Electrical Permit.
2. The owner must be living in or planning to live in the house in which he or she is going to do the wiring. The owner does not qualify, if the property is currently rented and he or she plans to move in later. (The owner may only subject himself and his immediate family to possible hazards.)
3. The property has to be a freestanding single-family dwelling. The homeowner of an apartment, a townhouse, half a duplex or a house with a suite does not qualify. All of these scenarios pose hazards to other people.
4. The homeowner must be involved in the actual installation, although someone may assist with the work. A homeowner cannot take out a permit for work that an electrician or other person is going to do.
5. The homeowner must be deemed to be qualified to do the work by the Electrical Inspector. Please refer to the "Electrical Safety Homeowner Information Guide" for further information

## PLUMBING WORK

The 1998 British Columbia Building Code, PART 7, Plumbing Services requires that personnel performing installation, alteration or repair on a plumbing system shall:

- Possess a British Columbia tradesman's qualification certification as a plumber;
- Be an indentured apprentice supervised by a journeyman possessing a British Columbia tradesman's qualification certification as a plumber; or
- Be the registered owner and occupant or intended occupant of the single family dwelling in which plumbing work will occur. It may be necessary for the owner to provide evidence that he can satisfactorily complete the proposed work.

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### **GAS SYSTEM**

The Gas Safety Regulations require that personnel performing installation, alteration or repair on a gas system shall:

- Hold a Class A or Class B gas fitter's license, and be employed by a licensed contractor, or
- Be the owner of a single family dwelling who lives or intends to live in that dwelling, and,
  - a) there is no other dwelling or premises that is directly attached to the single family dwelling,
  - b) no part of the dwelling is rented or intended to be rented to any person, and
  - c) no person is being paid to do or to assist the owner in doing the work.

### **SPRINKLER SYSTEM**

Personnel performing installation, alteration or repair on a sprinkler system shall:

- Possess a British Columbia tradesman's qualification as a sprinkler system installer;
- Be an indentured apprentice supervised by a journeyman possessing a British Columbia tradesman's qualifications as a sprinkler systems installer; or
- Be the registered owner and occupant or intended occupant of the single family dwelling in which the sprinkler work will occur. It may be necessary for the owner to provide evidence that he can satisfactorily complete the proposed work.

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