



Homeowner Mechanical Permit Rules

Generally, Tennessee law requires all mechanical work to be performed by licensed, bonded and insured mechanical contractors and their employees.

Homeowners, within strict limitations, are exempt from mechanical licensing requirements in order to secure mechanical permits to install, alter, or replace the homeowner's mechanical system at the homeowner's principal single-family residence provided:

1. The residence is not a newly-constructed home, a home in the process of being constructed, a manufactured home, a condemned house, a townhouse, a condominium or a fire-damaged residence.
2. Such work is done by the homeowner and/or immediate family, such as parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, and children.
3. The residence is owned and presently occupied by the homeowner and all basic utilities (lights, water, sewer) are in service.

The same homeowner(s) may not be issued more than one (1) mechanical permit in any five-year period at different locations.

When an owner submits a Mechanical Permit Application, that person must sign an affidavit that they own and occupy the residence and that they personally and physically will perform all of the mechanical work, including the laying out of such work.

It is **illegal** for an owner to install a mechanical system on property that is rented, leased, or occupied by others or to allow unlicensed contractors to perform the work. Homeowners found to be in violation of this ordinance will be issued a Stop Work Order and may have services removed from structure until work is re-permitted by a duly licensed mechanical contractor and has been re-inspected by the city.

All new work must comply with the most recently adopted City of Knoxville and International Mechanical Codes. In the event the homeowner's work is found to be unacceptable, the Homeowner Mechanical Permit shall be voided by the chief mechanical or field mechanical inspector.

To apply for a Homeowner Mechanical Permit, you will need the following:

- A valid driver's license showing your home address
- Complete description of work to be done
- Cash, check or credit card to pay permit fee