

Permits for residential accessibility projects.

When do I need a permit?

Many caregivers, older adults or persons with disabilities need to make changes to their homes to make them more accessible.

Several of these changes require permits in order to ensure the safety, health and welfare of the resident.

Use the reverse side of this card to determine if your project requires a permit.



What accessibility projects require a permit?

According to the Code of Virginia, certain changes to make one's home accessible requires permits. This not only ensures the safety of those in the home, but is consistent with recognized standards.

Project	Yes	No
Accessibility Ramps*		
Plumbing Fixture Replacement*	Ø	
Grab Bars	Ø	
Widening Interior Openings	Ø	
Wheelchair Lifts	Ø	
Ordinary Repairs*		X

*The building code exempts some projects from permit applications and inspections.

- Temporary accessibility ramps where the height of the entrance is 30-inches or less. (Zoning approval is required.)
- Replacement of plumbing fixtures without alteration of the water supply system, sanitary drainage system or vent system.
- Replacement of mechanical appliances of the same size at same location that only use electricity, including hot water heaters and HVAC.
- Installation or replacement of floor finishes.
- Installation or replacement of cabinetry.
- Application of paint or wallpaper.

For a complete list of permits required for accessibility projects and a schedule of fees, please visit www.pwcgov.org/permits or call Development Services 703-792-6930.

Prince William County has a Disability Services Board (DSB) whose primary purpose is to recommend to the Board of County Supervisors ways the county can be more responsive to the needs of citizens with disabilities.

Visit www.pwcgov.org/dsb for more information about the DSB.