



**INSPECTION AND EXPIRATION OF  
BUILDING PERMITS**  
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES  
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## **Explanation of Building Code Requirements for Permit Inspection and Permit Expiration**

### **When do I need to get inspections?**

Just remember the general rule of thumb, *"don't cover anything until the building inspector gets a chance to look at your work."* **All building permits require at least one inspection.** Call 530-257-5263 (24 hours) to schedule your inspection.

### **How long is a building permit good for?**

"Permits issued by the building official under the provisions of this chapter and the model codes adopted by the state of California shall expire by limitation and become null and void if the building or work authorized by such permit is not commenced within one year from the date of such permit, or if at any time said building or work is suspended or abandoned for a period of one year." (LCC §12.24.075 [a])

### **How do I continue my project if my permit has expired?**

Before work can be recommenced under an expired permit, and the property has not changed ownership, a reactivation fee of one half the amount of the original permit shall be paid, provided no alterations have been made or will be made in the original plans and specifications for such work; and provided further that such suspension or abandonment has not exceeded two years. This fee includes the cost of the required inspection. If any alterations have been or will be made, or the suspension has been for two years or longer, the reactivation fee shall be established by the valuation of construction as set forth in the provisions of this chapter applicable to new construction as of the date of renewal. (LCC §12.24.075 [c])

### **What if work authorized by my permit has been inactive for more than 2 years?**

In order to renew action on a permit after more than one year, the permittee shall pay a new full permit fee.

### **What can I do if I can't start my project within 1 year of permit issuance?**

Any permittee holding an unexpired permit may apply for an extension of the time within which work may commence under that permit. The building official may extend the time for action by the permittee for a period not exceeding 1 year on written request by the permittee showing that circumstances beyond the control of the permittee have prevented action from being taken on their project. No permit shall be extended more than once.

### **How does Planning and Building Services Department know if I've stopped work on my project for 1 year?**

The only way the Planning and Building Services Department follows the progress of a job is through its inspection records. As long as we perform an inspection before the 1-year period passes, your permit will remain valid. If your 1-year period is coming due, *even if you're not completely ready for an inspection*, call for an inspection so that we can establish that substantial progress is being made.