

## The Official Site of Mendham Township, New Jersey

# Building Permits Getting the Permit

### WHY GET A PERMIT?

There are several advantages to doing home improvement projects with a building permit. The primary one is that getting a permit brings you the service of the construction department. The inspector approves each phase of the construction process, checking to see that work is done safely and properly.

Secondly, there are legal and financial liabilities that you face when you don't get a permit. Work without a permit is illegal and can pose serious complications for you when you try to sell your house. Any fire and homeowner's insurance you have will be invalidated if you do work without a permit. If there is a fire in your house, the insurance company will use the illegal work as an excuse not to pay on your claim.

### WHO CAN GET A PERMIT?

Permits are issued to the owner of the dwelling. Contractors acting as the agent for the owner may handle the permit process and are completely responsible.

### WHAT KIND OF PERMITS?

There are four different permits:

- (1) Building permit
- (2) Plumbing permit
- (3) Fire permit
- (4) Electrical permit

Permits are relatively simple to obtain. When you have completed your drawings, simply go to the building department and obtain an application to fill out. When you have completed the proper forms for each permit, you submit it with all the necessary drawings. The application will be reviewed and if completed correctly will be issued.

## **FEES**

You will be required to pay a fee for each building, electrical, plumbing, or fire permit. Then you may start your project.