



## Homeowner Electrical Permit Rules

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

Homeowners, within strict limitations, are exempt from electrical licensing requirements in order to secure electrical permits to install, alter, or replace the homeowner's electrical 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) electrical permit in any five-year period at different locations.

Temporary pole permits may only be issued to licensed-bonded electrical contractors.

When an owner submits an Electrical 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 electrical work, including the laying out of such work.

It is **illegal** for an owner to install electrical wiring 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 power removed from structure until work is re-permitted by a duly licensed electrical contractor and has been re-inspected by the city.

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

To apply for a Homeowner Electrical 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