Shelby County Plan Commission

Projects that Require a Building Permit

Please use the following charts to determine if you need a permit.

If you cannot find your project on this list or if you are in doubt, please contact our office at 317-392-6480

Primary Structures	YES	NO					YES	NO
New Structure	✓		Adding/Replacing Window or Door Awnings				√	
Additions ¹	✓		–temporary like frame attached the house				•	
Accessory Structures	YES	NO					YES	NO
Structures Under 200 Sq. Ft		✓	Additions ²			✓		
Structures Over 200 Sq. Ft.	✓		Non-enclosed Car Ports					✓
In Ground Pools	✓		Enclosed Car Ports ³				✓	
Above Ground Pools Over 42" in depth ⁴	✓		Above Ground Pools Under 42"in depth ⁴					✓
Concrete Patio/Slabs		✓	Fences ⁵					✓
Decks – There are three criteria for decks, if the answer isOver 200 Sq. Ft						✓		
yes for any of the three, a permit is requiredAttached to the house						✓		
Deck floor is over 18" from the ground						✓		
Remodeling			YE	S	NO		YES	NO
Removing Non-Structural Walls			alls		✓	Building interior walls	✓	
Removing Structural Walls ⁶			Is ⁶ ✓			Installing False Ceiling	✓	
Painting and Wallpapering					✓	Replacing Floor Covering		✓
Replacing/Repairing False Ceiling					✓	Exterior Painting		✓
Replacing/Repairing Floor and Ceiling Joist						Siding ⁷		✓
Replacing/Repairing Roof Rafters ✓						Re-Roofing ⁸		✓
Replacing/Repairing Roof Decking					✓			
Remodeling Attics –Basement–Garages into livable areas								
Replacing Drywall/Plaster under 50% of the house 9					✓			
Replacing Drywall/Plaster over 50% of the house 9								
Adding New Door and Window openings								
Replacing Doors and Windows with larger openings								
Replacing Doors and Windows with same openings ¹⁰					✓			
Enclosing an Door or Window opening								

General Notes

¹ Additions Include Porches, attached Car Ports, and lean-tos.

² Additions to existing accessory structures where total square footage is less than 200 sq. ft. are exempt from permits. ³ Enclosed Car Ports consist of 3 or more walls

⁴ Above Ground Pools are measured from bottom of pool to the skimmer

⁵ Fence standards still apply to all fences. Please see pamphlet "Installing a Residential Fence" for standards.

⁶ Structural Walls are outside walls and load bearing interior walls.

⁷ Siding is the addition of any new materials on top of existing materials on the exterior walls of any structure. **The removal of existing Asbestos siding is required before any new material may be added.**

⁸ Re-roofing consists of tearing off the old shingles and laying new shingles. In some case, it can include adding a new layer of certain types of shingles on top of existing shingles. There cannot be more than two layers of any roofing

⁹ Exposed Electrical work must meet current electrical codes.

¹⁰ Replacement doors and windows must be replaced with the functionality type. If not, approval is needed but no permit.

^{*}any project that requires a building permit that includes or increases impervious surface also requires an Improvement Location Permit (ILP)

^{*}agricultural structures on property within agricultural zoning districts are exempt from building permits, however do require an ILP

^{*}electrical and plumbing permits are required when applicable