Chicago Bathroom Remodeling Pros

Educational Resources for Chicago Homeowners
www.chicagobathroomremodelingpros.com

Chicago Bathroom Permit Checklist

A Homeowner's Guide to Planning Your Bathroom Remodel

Thinking about remodeling your bathroom in Chicago? Understanding permit requirements before construction begins can help prevent delays, unexpected expenses, and code compliance issues. This checklist is designed to help homeowners prepare for the permitting process and have informed conversations with their contractor.

> **Disclaimer:** This checklist is provided for educational purposes only. Permit requirements vary depending on the scope of work and local regulations. Always verify current requirements with the City of Chicago and your contractor before beginning any remodeling project.

Homeowner Information

Property Address: _____

Neighborhood: _____

Project Start Date: _____

Contractor: _____

Phone: _____

Step 1 – Define Your Project

Check all work that will be included in your remodel.

Cosmetic Improvements

□ Paint walls or ceiling

□ Replace vanity

□ Replace countertop

□ Install new mirror

□ Replace faucets

□ Install new flooring

☐ Replace towel bars and accessories

Plumbing Work

□ Replace toilet

□ Replace bathtub

□ Install new shower

□ Replace shower valve

□ Install new sink

□ Relocate plumbing fixtures

□ Install new water supply lines

☐ Install new drain lines

Electrical Work

□ Install new lighting

□ Replace light fixtures

□ Install exhaust fan

□ Install heated flooring

□ Add electrical outlets

□ Upgrade GFCI outlets

☐ Modify electrical wiring

Structural Work

□ Remove wall

□ Build new wall

□ Expand bathroom

□ Relocate doorway

□ Reinforce framing

☐ Install new window

Step 2 – Ask Yourself These Questions

□ Am I changing the bathroom layout?

□ Will plumbing fixtures be relocated?

□ Will electrical wiring be modified?

□ Is structural work involved?

□ Will ventilation be upgraded?

□ Does my building have condominium or HOA renovation requirements?

☐ Is my home located in a historic district?

Step 3 – Discuss Permits With Your Contractor

Before signing a contract, ask:

□ Will permits be required?

□ Who will obtain the permits?

□ Are permit fees included in the proposal?

□ Who schedules inspections?

□ Who meets with inspectors?

□ What happens if corrections are required?

□ Will I receive copies of approved permits?

☐ Will I receive final inspection documentation?

Step 4 – Prepare Required Information

Depending on your project, you may need:

□ Property address

□ Contractor information

□ Scope of work

□ Existing floor plan

□ Proposed floor plan

□ Product specifications

□ Fixture information

□ Estimated construction value

□ Material selections

☐ Supporting drawings or sketches

Step 5 – Before Construction Begins

□ Required permits obtained (if applicable)

□ Materials ordered

□ Delivery dates confirmed

□ Temporary bathroom arranged

□ Personal belongings removed

□ Utilities discussed

□ Dust protection installed

□ Construction schedule confirmed

Step 6 – During Construction

Plumbing

□ Rough plumbing completed

□ Required inspection completed (if applicable)

Electrical

□ Rough electrical completed

□ Required inspection completed (if applicable)

Framing

□ Structural work completed

□ Inspection completed (if applicable)

Waterproofing

□ Shower waterproofing completed

□ Tile preparation completed

Step 7 – Final Inspection

Before making your final payment:

□ Final inspection completed (if required)

□ Punch-list items completed

□ Plumbing tested

□ Electrical tested

□ Exhaust fan tested

□ GFCI outlets tested

□ Shower tested

□ Fixtures inspected

□ Warranty documents received

☐ Product manuals collected

Common Remodeling Projects That May Require Additional Review

Although every project is different, additional review is commonly associated with:

- Relocating plumbing fixtures
- Installing new plumbing lines
- Electrical upgrades
- Adding new electrical circuits
- Removing or building walls
- Structural modifications
- Bathroom additions
- Significant ventilation changes

Always verify current permit requirements before beginning construction.

Questions to Ask Your Contractor

□ How long does permit approval usually take?

□ Will inspections affect the project schedule?

□ Are permit fees included in my estimate?

□ What happens if hidden issues are discovered?

□ How are change orders handled?

□ Will I receive copies of inspection approvals?

☐ What documentation should I keep after the project is complete?

Important Project Notes

Helpful Homeowner Tips

✔Don’t assume a permit isn’t needed simply because the project seems small.

✔Keep copies of permits, inspection reports, warranties, contracts, and product manuals together for future reference.

✔If you live in a condominium, review your building’s renovation rules before scheduling construction.

✔Ask questions before demolition begins so everyone understands the project scope, responsibilities, and timeline.

✓ Hiring an experienced bathroom remodeling contractor can help simplify the permitting and inspection process.

Chicago Bathroom Remodeling Pros

Helping Chicago homeowners confidently navigate every stage of the remodeling process—from planning and permits to expert installation and the final walkthrough. Our goal is to make your bathroom renovation as smooth, organized, and stress-free as possible while delivering beautiful, lasting results.

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