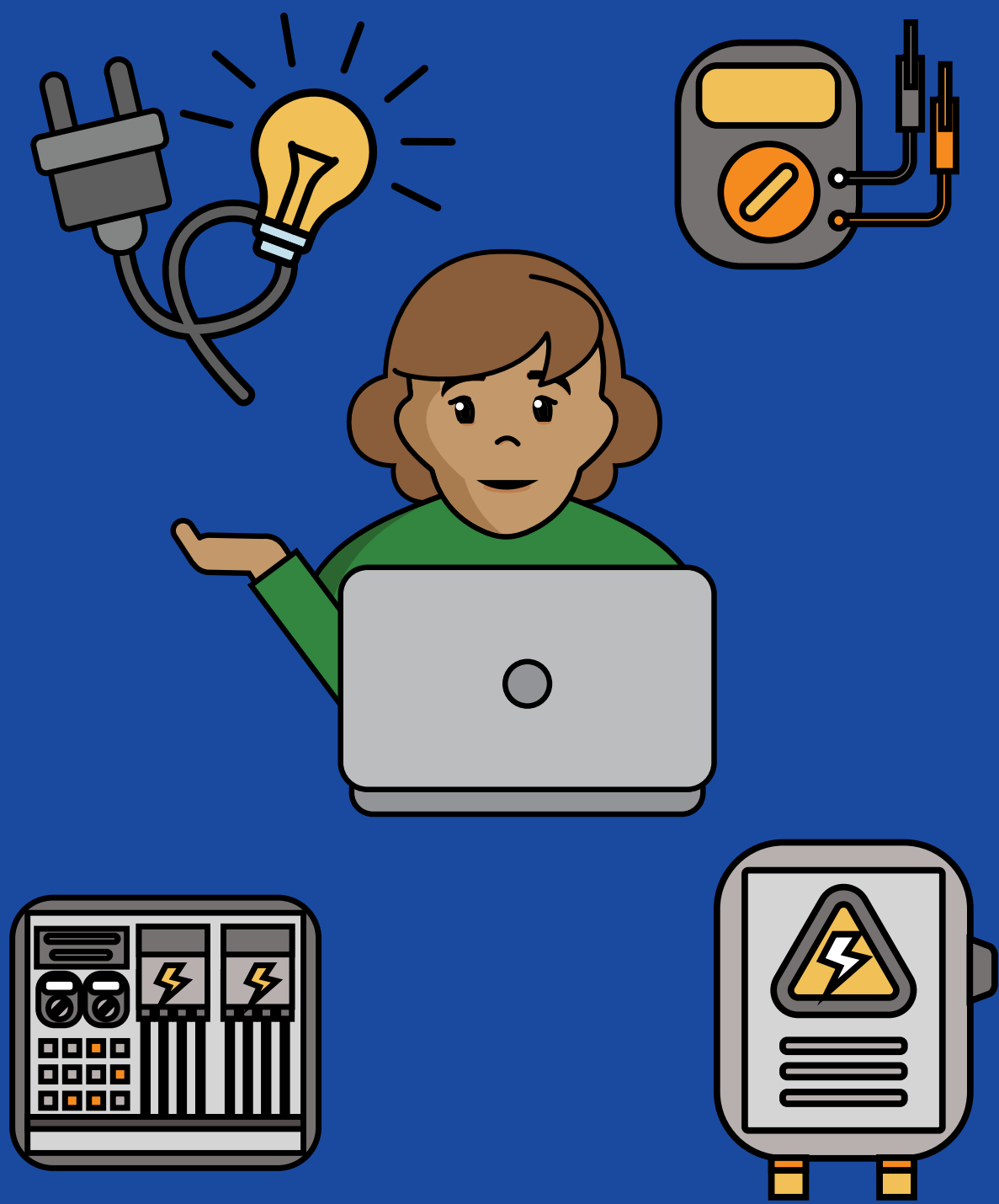


Electrical Permits & Inspections

Frequently Asked Questions



Electrical Permits

Do I need an electrical permit?

You need to get a permit for all electrical work, with a few exceptions. The Seattle Electrical Code, 80.50 (B) itemizes the few items which can be replaced without a permit (for example, dimmers, thermostats, water heater, and baseboard heater).

What types of electrical permits are available?

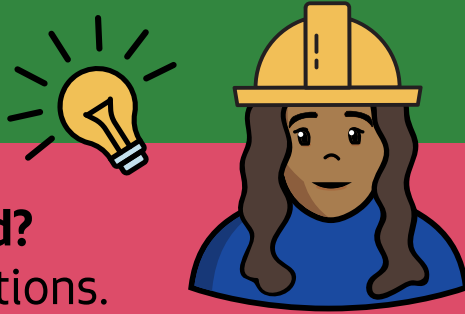
There are two types of permits:

- **Over the Counter (self-issued)** - For smaller projects, such as a single-family home or electrical renovations under 5,000 square feet
- **Plan review** - For larger projects

As a homeowner, can I apply for a permit?

Yes, if you perform your own work. If you're not doing the work, you must hire an electrical contractor. If you get a homeowner permit and then decide to hire someone, you can add (or delete) a contractor as needed, [contact us](#) to make those changes.

Electrical Inspections



What type of electrical inspections do I need?

There are five basic types of electrical inspections.

- **UFER Ground Inspection** - Before the foundation is poured, and after you have purchased an Electrical Permit, the rebar needs to be inspected.
- **Cover inspection** - Before any electrical work is covered, such as in a wall, ceiling, ditch, or concrete pour, it must pass a cover inspection.
- **Service inspection** - The service is generally the first electrical panel or disconnect on the property. Before energizing a service, it must be inspected.
- **Feeder inspection** - The feeder is a sub-panel (if there is one) or the conductors feeding a sub-panel.
- **Final inspection** - When a project or portion of the project is complete, and ready to be inspected.



Can I schedule an inspection for today?

Not necessarily. Due to workload, your inspection will be scheduled on the next day having availability. At times this may be several days out. Inspections should be planned and scheduled in advance when able.

Can I make an inspection appointment for a specific time?

No. You can get a two-hour window by calling your inspector between 7:00 and 8:00 a.m. on the day of your inspection. Call (206) 684-8950 to be transferred to your inspector, or find your inspector's phone number on our [district map](#).

How do I schedule an inspection?

Once you have a permit, you can schedule your inspections using the [Seattle Services Portal](#).

1. On the portal home page, enter your record number in the main search box and hit enter
2. Click on the blue Inspections and Appointments link
3. Scroll down to find the pending inspection you want to schedule
4. Click the arrow next to the blue Actions link and select schedule
5. Follow the prompts from there



How do I find my inspection results?

Follow these steps to find your inspection results:

1. Go to the [Seattle Services Portal](#):
2. Enter your permit number in the main search box, then click Search
3. After the record information loads, click on the report link next to the login button
4. Click Inspections Review Report and then click Submit in the pop-up window
5. The report will open or download as a PDF
6. The report includes all your inspections, results, and inspector comments



How do I contact SDCI for electrical issues?

You can find much of the information you need on:

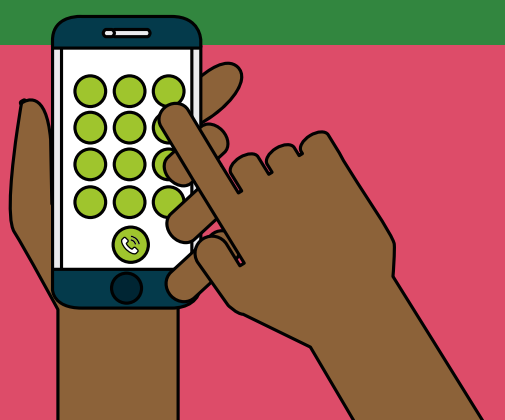
[The Seattle Services Portal Help Center](#)

[The SDCI website](#)

If you still need help, you can contact:

[Our permit specialists](#)

Electrical services staff: (206) 684-8950



Seattle Department of
Construction & Inspections

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