

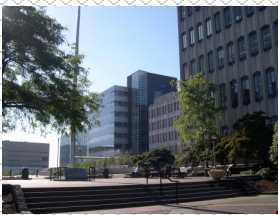


Snohomish County
Planning and Development
Services

Visit us at :

2nd Floor Robert J. Drewel Bldg.
3000 Rockefeller Avenue
Everett, WA 98201

425-388-3311
1-800-562-4367, ext. 3311



ONLINE INFORMATION
www.snohomishcountywa.gov/1190



This Assistance Bulletin only applies to property within unincorporated Snohomish County and does not apply to property within incorporated city limits.

Decks (Uncovered Decks, Porches & Steps)

Assistance Bulletin

#21

Revised September 2019

WWW.SNOCO.ORG

Keyword: Assistance Bulletins

Q: Do I need a building permit to build my deck, porch, or steps?

A: Permits are required for Residential uncovered decks, associated platforms and steps only if any of the following apply:

- The walking surface is more than 30 inches above grade at any point measured vertically to the floor or *grade* below at any point within 36 inches (914 mm) horizontally to the edge of the open side
- The deck, porch, or step is over any basement or story below
- The deck, porch, or step is part of a required accessible route of travel serving a facility such as an Adult Family Home

Q: How do I get a building permit?

A: A permit application for a deck or porch can be submitted online at MyBuildingPermit.com (MBP) or by visiting the Customer Support Center, 2nd Floor, Robert J. Drewel Building.

At MBP, please follow the path below:

Application Type: Building
Project Type: Single Family Residential
Activity Type: New Construction
Scope of Work: Deck, Uncovered

The following items are required to apply for a building permit:

1. A Base Site Plan including items 1-13 noted on the "[Residential Site Plan Submittal Checklist](#)". Site plans must be drawn to any engineering scale such as 1" = 10', 20', 30', 100', or 200'.
2. Structural plans drawn to architects scale (1/4" = 1' is preferred) which include at least one plan view and one elevation view. If the deck is connected to a structure, it is important to show details for the connection.

This bulletin is intended only as an information guide. The information may not be complete and is subject to change. For complete legal information, refer to Snohomish County Code.

Q: How much does the permit cost?

A: Both the plan review fee and permit fee will be determined when you submit your application. At the time the plans are submitted, the plan review fees will be collected. After the plans have been reviewed and approved, the building permit will be issued and the building permit fee will be collected.

Q: What about required setback distances to property lines?

A: Setback distances to property lines depend on the zoning for the property and if the property line is adjacent to a public right-of-way or an easement. The Snohomish County Zoning Code provides that uncovered decks, porches, and steps may project into a required setback, provided they are not higher than 4 feet above the finished grade level, that they are no closer than 30 inches to any property line and that they do not project more than 6 feet into the setback required from a street.

Uncovered decks, porches, and steps more than 4 feet in height, or any covered deck, porch, or steps must meet all building setback requirements.

You may also contact us if you have any questions via:

Email: PermitTech@snoco.org

Telephone: 425-388-3311

Visit us at: 2nd Floor, Robert J. Drewel Building, 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, Everett
