NYC Buildings

KNOW BEFORE YOU HIRE

Verify your contractor's credentials, registration status, and the permit requirements of your project.



WHY IT MATTERS

Unpermitted work can lead to safety risks, violations, fines, and delays. Hiring qualified contractors helps protect your investment.

CHECK FIRST

The Contractor Watch List shows contractors who performed work without a permit. Make informed decisions. Check the list before hiring a contractor.

GET PERMITS

Verify work permits are required and confirm the permits were issued before work begins. Check the contractor and permit information through the DOB NOW Public Portal.

PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY

Check contractor credentials. Monitor project compliance. Avoid costly violations.

3 EASY STEPS:

DOB maintains a list of contractors who performed work without the required permits. Before hiring a contractor, check the Contractor Watch List so you can make informed decisions and reduce the risk of costly violations.

1 VERIFY

Check your contractor's status on DOB's Contractor Watch List.

2 CONFIRM

Confirm the permit requirements and contractor credentials before work begins.

3 HIRE

Hire a licensed contractor and build your project with confidence.

PENALTIES FOR WORK WITHOUT A PERMIT

1-2 Family Homes:

DOB Civil Penalties (L2)	ECB Summons Fine
$600 - $10,000 *(6x the permit fee)*	$2,500 *(Standard Base)*

Commercial/3+ Family:

DOB Civil Penalties (L2)	ECB Summons Fine
$6,000 - $15,000 *(21x the permit fee)*	$2,500 - $25,000 *(Standard Base)*

Penalties are subject to change. Additional violations, Stop Work Orders, and other enforcement actions may also apply.

SCAN TO LEARN MORE

View DOB's Contractor Watch List and learn how to verify your construction professional.

Local Law 155 of 2017 requires increased oversight of contractors who perform work without the required permit. Read Local Law 155 of 2017.