



Planning and Development Department Building Division How to Determine Building Permit Fees

How We Determine Building Permit Fees

Building permit fee amounts are based on construction valuation. The International Code Council (ICC) publishes Building Valuation Data (BVD) tables, which provide estimated average construction costs per square foot for various types of structures. These tables are a resource for the city to use to help determine permit fees, offering a simplified way to estimate a building's value without relying solely on the applicant's cost estimations. The valuation is used only to determine our fees which reflect our costs to provide city services.

What's Included in Valuation

For new construction, valuation generally includes material costs, contractor's labor costs, and profit and overhead. It encompasses all construction costs and is often considered the contractor's bid amount. Any planned work not included in the bid, including change orders, should be added to the valuation. In cases where a homeowner is performing the work without a contractor, labor costs may be estimated, often by doubling the material costs.

What's Generally Excluded from Valuation

- **Land cost:** The BVD tables do not include the price of the land the building is on.
- **Design costs:** The valuation is typically not meant to include planning, architectural, or engineering fees.
- **Site improvement costs*:** Generally, costs for site improvements like parking lots, site utilities, and landscaping are not included.

*These cost may be included for required grading permits.

Calculate The Construction Valuation and Permit Fees

The permit fee is calculated using the building's gross area, the Square Foot Construction Cost from the BVD, and a Permit Fee Multiplier. The Permit Fee Multiplier is determined based on historical records of annual construction value within the city and the percentage of the building department's budget expected to be covered by permit fees.

Square Foot Construction Costs ^{a, b, c}

Group (2018 International Building Code)	IA	IB	IIA	IIB	IIIA	IIIB	IV	VA	VB
A-1 Assembly, theaters, with stage	263.06	254.15	247.55	237.53	223.05	216.60	229.90	207.42	199.94
A-1 Assembly, theaters, without stage	241.02	232.11	225.51	215.49	201.01	194.56	207.86	185.38	177.89
A-2 Assembly, nightclubs	205.93	199.80	194.89	186.91	176.19	171.34	180.27	159.46	154.02
A-2 Assembly, restaurants, bars, banquet halls	204.93	198.80	192.89	185.91	174.19	170.34	179.27	157.46	153.02
A-3 Assembly, churches	243.83	234.92	228.32	218.30	204.21	198.79	210.67	188.58	181.10
A-3 Assembly, general, community halls, libraries, museums	204.02	195.11	187.51	178.49	163.01	157.56	170.86	147.38	140.89
A-4 Assembly, arenas	240.02	231.11	223.51	214.49	199.01	193.56	206.86	183.38	176.89
B Business	212.46	204.72	197.90	188.18	171.81	165.32	180.77	151.15	144.35
E Educational	222.69	214.99	208.81	199.81	186.17	176.74	192.93	162.78	157.80
F-1 Factory and industrial, moderate hazard	125.58	119.68	112.86	108.68	97.37	92.83	104.02	80.23	75.34
F-2 Factory and industrial, low hazard	124.58	118.68	112.86	107.68	97.37	91.83	103.02	80.23	74.34
H-1 High Hazard, explosives	117.37	111.47	105.65	100.47	90.40	84.87	95.81	73.27	N.P.
H234 High Hazard	117.37	111.47	105.65	100.47	90.40	84.87	95.81	73.27	67.37
H-5 HPM	212.46	204.72	197.90	188.18	171.81	165.32	180.77	151.15	144.35
I-1 Institutional, supervised environment	211.58	204.34	198.27	190.28	175.02	170.20	190.53	156.95	152.25
I-2 Institutional, hospitals	355.95	348.21	341.39	331.67	314.48	N.P.	324.26	293.82	N.P.
I-2 Institutional, nursing homes	247.27	239.53	232.71	222.99	207.36	N.P.	215.58	186.70	N.P.
I-3 Institutional, restrained	241.59	233.85	227.03	217.31	202.46	194.97	209.90	181.80	173.00
I-4 Institutional, day care facilities	211.58	204.34	198.27	190.28	175.02	170.20	190.53	156.95	152.25
M Mercantile	153.55	147.41	141.50	134.53	123.48	119.63	127.88	106.75	102.31
R-1 Residential, hotels	213.59	206.35	200.28	192.29	176.78	171.95	192.54	158.70	154.00
R-2 Residential, multiple family	179.04	171.80	165.73	157.74	143.25	138.43	157.99	125.18	120.47
R-3 Residential, one- and two-family ^d	166.68	162.17	157.99	154.10	149.61	144.19	151.48	138.79	130.58
R-4 Residential, care/assisted living facilities	211.58	204.34	198.27	190.28	175.02	170.20	190.53	156.95	152.25
S-1 Storage, moderate hazard	116.37	110.47	103.65	99.47	88.40	83.87	94.81	71.27	66.37
S-2 Storage, low hazard	115.37	109.47	103.65	98.47	88.40	82.87	93.81	71.27	65.37
U Utility, miscellaneous	89.90	84.75	79.27	75.71	67.97	63.50	72.24	53.83	51.28

- a. Private Garages use Utility, miscellaneous
- b. For shell only buildings deduct 20 percent
- c. N.P. = not permitted
- d. Unfinished basements (Group R-3) = \$23.20 per sq. ft.

Example

Type of Construction: VB Area: 2,000 Sqft Use Group: R3

1. Gross Area: 2,000 Sqft
2. SF Construction Cost: R3-VB= \$130.58 (From BVD sheet)
3. Construction Value: 2,000 Sqft x 130.58 per SF = \$261,160

Upon determining the building valuation for permit purposes, refer to the chart below to compute the permit fee for the new building.

TOTAL VALUATION	FEE
\$1 to \$500	\$24
\$501 to \$2,000	\$24 for the first \$500; plus \$3 for each additional \$100 or fraction thereof, up to and including \$2,000
\$2,001 to \$40,000	\$69 for the first \$2,000; plus \$11 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, up to and including \$40,000
\$40,001 to \$100,000	\$487 for the first \$40,000; plus \$9 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, up to and including \$100,000
\$100,000 to \$500,000	\$1,027 for the first \$100,000; plus \$7 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, up to and including \$500,000
\$500,001 to \$1,000,000	\$3,827 for the first \$500,000; plus \$5 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, up to and including \$1,000,000
\$1,000,001 to \$5,000,000	\$6,327 for the first \$1,000,000; plus \$3 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, up to and including \$5,000,000
\$5,000,001 and over	\$18,327 for the first \$5,000,000; plus \$1 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof

Plan Review Fee:

A plan review fee will be assessed for all projects that require plan review for code compliance. This fee is equal to one-half (½) of the building or grading permit fee and is in addition to the permit fee.

Important Notes:

- The BVD tables are updated regularly by the ICC.
- The city may adapt or modify the ICC methodology and tables to suit our specific needs.
- Appeals to adjusted valuations may be possible with supporting documentation. Some projects may require a discussion of valuation due to the special nature or complexity of the project. Questions about project valuation should be first directed to the plan reviewer. If questions remain, it is the Building Official’s responsibility to establish a project valuation.

Our in-office permitting hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. However, building permits can be submitted and picked up online 24 hours a day through our permit portal. For questions, please call (843) 280-5560.
