Permits
Building permits are required for construction of all new porches. Porches that are heated may need to conform to the Minnesota State Energy Code.

Porches must also meet the land use requirements of the community’s zoning code. Zoning questions should be directed to the local planning and zoning department.

Permit fees, plan review and inspections
Building fees are established by the municipality. The plan review is done by the building official in order to spot potential problems or pitfalls that may arise. The building official may make notes on the plan for your use. Inspections are performed at various stages of construction to verify code compliance. Actual permit costs can be obtained by calling your local building inspection department with your estimated construction value.

Required inspections
1. Footings: After excavation, but prior to the pouring of concrete!
2. Framing: To be made after framing is complete and construction is accessible for building inspection and other required rough-in inspections are completed and approved.
4. Final: To be made upon completion.
5. Other inspections: In addition to the inspections above, the inspector may require other inspections to ascertain compliance with the provisions of the code or to assist you with your questions or concerns during the construction process.

General building code requirements
The 2007 Minnesota State Building Code adopts the 2006 International Residential Code (2006 IRC). All "R" code references provided in this brochure pertain to the 2006 IRC.

Gopher State One Call
Call at least two full business days before you dig.
Phone: 811 or (651) 454-0002
www.call811.com

The State of Minnesota adopts a set of construction standards known as the Minnesota State Building Codes (MSBC). The MSBC contains safety requirements relating to structure, mechanical, plumbing, energy, electrical, elevators, manufactured buildings and life safety.

The information in this brochure is for general reference for residential construction projects. Contact your municipal building official regarding permits and specific code requirements for residential construction within your community.

To confirm if your contractor is licensed in Minnesota contact the:
Department of Labor and Industry
Residential Building Contractors
Phone: (651) 284-5069 or 1-800-657-3944
www.doli.state.mn.us/contractor.html
E-mail: DLI.Contractor@state.mn.us

www.doli.state.mn.us
www.mncodes.org
The text and sample drawings (shown at right) display the minimum detail expected to ensure the permit process can proceed smoothly. Plans do not need to be professionally drawn. However, plans should be drawn to scale and include all of the information requested. The application for permit can be filled out at the time you drop off your plans. Permits can usually be handled by mail by calling the inspection department. Submit two copies of a certificate of survey or site plan and building plan drawn to scale indicating the lot dimensions, the location and size of the existing structure(s), and the location and size of the proposed structure(s). Include the septic-system area and wells if applicable.

Additional information, such as sectional drawing or elevation, may be required. Note: Open risers are permitted, provided the opening between the treads does not permit the passage of a four-inch-diameter sphere.

Plans: Site, floor and elevation section
The text and sample drawings (shown at right) display the minimum detail expected to ensure the permit process can proceed smoothly. Plans do not need to be professionally drawn. However, plans should be drawn to scale and include all of the information requested. The application for permit can be filled out at the time you drop off your plans. Permits can usually be handled by mail by calling the inspection department. Submit two copies of a certificate of survey or site plan and building plan drawn to scale indicating the lot dimensions, the location and size of the existing structure(s), and the location and size of the proposed structure(s). Indicate the setbacks from property lines of the existing and proposed structure(s). Include the septic-system area and wells if applicable.