

## Recreation Rooms

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### Application Requirements

1. Two floor plans are required showing the wall openings and room names. The drawings must be 1/4" scale; door sizes and locations should also be included.
2. If the home is serviced by an on-site septic system, approval from Waukesha County (PSE) is needed prior to applying for a building permit. Phone number 262-896-8300
3. Homeowner's Privilege – An owner may do their own plumbing and electric in a single family dwelling which is owned and occupied by them as a permanent residence. A contractor cannot do work under the homeowner's permit.
4. All plumbing work requires a permit. The only exception is minor repair work such as replacing faucet washers and removal of stoppage and soil in waste pipes.

### Guidelines

#### Building

1. A minimum height of 7' is required from the basement floor to the underside of the finished ceiling. Generally, an 11 course basement is needed to meet this requirement. A minimum of 6' 4" is allowed under beams, ducts, & other projections, however, at least 50% of the areas must be 7'. For houses constructed prior to June 1, 1980, all basement rooms shall have a ceiling height of at least 6'4" from finished floor to finished ceiling.
2. Ventilation is required. A fresh air (outside) intake installed into the furnace cold air duct work is the most frequent method used. The distance between the exterior opening for the fresh air intake and a vent for a furnace, hot water heater, etc. is 10'. This is in addition to the required hot and cold air grills that are required in every room.
3. If foam plastic insulation is used, a 15 minute **minimum** thermal barrier is required. One half (½) inch drywall over this insulation is the accepted method of toxic protection.
4. Sleeping is not allowed in a finished basement area **unless** proper egress, natural light, and ventilation requirements are met.

**Electric** (Please see "Basic Codes for Electrical Wiring in Residential Dwellings" for more details.)

1. Fixtures must be UL listed for suspended ceiling applications.
2. Romex and BX wiring is to be installed through drilled holes or on running boards above the suspended ceiling.
3. Romex bond wires are to be connected to the GR tapped holes in the back of the metal junction boxes. A bond jumper is required to the ground screw of all outlets.
4. 36" (3') of floor to ceiling clear space is required in front of the main service cabinet. No counters, work benches, washers or dryers, are allowed under the service cabinet.
5. Outlets are required within 6' of any door or start of a wall space. Any wall space of 2' or greater requires an outlet. Outlets at unbroken wall sections must be placed 12' or less, apart.
6. Electrical sub-panels must receive their feed from a 240 volt breaker in the main panel. An additional bond bus is required for the Romex bond wire.

#### Plumbing

1. Water softeners require rigid plastic or copper discharge tubing with an air gap to the laundry tub or the floor drain.
2. Bar sinks must be properly vented. Sink drains must be connected to the waste piping with approved directional fittings. Open site drains are not allowed for lavatory sinks.
3. Shower stalls must be vented and the drains connected with a 2" trap to the waste piping with approved directional fittings.
4. 95/5 solder is required for the copper water piping. Lead solder or fluxes are not allowed.
5. All plumbing fixtures, must be approved by the Bureau of Plumbing (DILHR).
6. If enclosing a water heater in a separate room/closet, proper ventilation is required along with an approved drain.
7. The City of New Berlin Water Utility requires the water meter to remain accessible for maintenance and repair.

*The above referenced guidelines are not to be considered as complete or all inclusive.*

*The items listed are a guide to help in planning your project.*