Low-risk voice, data, video & security system installations

Certain types of installations may qualify for a low-risk voice, data, video (VDV) and security system electrical permit.

For information related to regular VDV/security system installations, see winnipeg.ca/vdvsystems.

If the electrical permit application qualifies as a low-risk VDV/security system installation, the permit will be automatically issued.

Applications must be submitted through Permits Online.

To qualify, installations will **not** be:

- in a building more than six storeys in height
- in an electrically hazardous area
- in a patient care area
- part of a new construction
- associated with a building permit

Installations will **not** include more than a combined total of 20 of the following:

- intrusion alarm devices
- speakers
- amplifiers
- CCTV outlets
- data outlets
- data racks

If an application does not meet all the above criteria, it will be processed as a regular installation. It will not be eligible for immediate permit issuance or the selective inspection program.

Inspections may be required

Inspection requests must still be submitted for low-risk VDV/security system electrical permits. These permits are subject to a selective inspection program and may not be inspected. When an inspection is not required, the contractor will be notified within one business day of the inspection request. Permits

will be closed automatically if an inspection is not needed. All work must comply with applicable laws, bylaws, codes, and standards.

Who can apply

A licensed electrical contractor is needed to install security and similar alarm systems in all buildings, other than single detached houses. The contractor must have an electrical A, C-alarm, or C-VDV licence from the City of Winnipeg to get an electrical permit for VDV or security systems.

Visit electrical licensed contractor information & exams for information about contractor licensing.

When a permit is not needed

A permit for low voltage VDV/security systems is not needed for:

- Installations in a single detached house.
- Wireless security camera or alarm systems, i.e., plug and play systems that do not need any wiring or electrical raceways other than plugging into an existing electrical wall outlet.
- Repair of security camera or alarm system components where the system was inspected under a previous electrical permit. No new wiring or electrical raceways are being installed.

Notes:

- A Winnipeg Police Service alarm permit may also be required for intrusion alarm systems in homes or businesses.
- There are provincial licensing requirements for VDV installers. If you are hiring a contractor to perform these installations, ensure the contractor holds either a Manitoba journeyperson electrician licence or a limited specialized trade licence for alarm installer (M-F) or for voice, data, video (M-V), as applicable. See Province of Manitoba bulletin 21-036 for details.