

What type of Outdoor Signs are You LEGALLY allowed to have? And what are the SIZE restrictions?

Violating local sign codes can result in fines up to \$500 per day! Outdoor signs must follow local County & City Sign Ordinances.

The information directly below outlines the sign permitting process required for new, outdoor sign installations.

The legal requirements of outdoor signage.

- Local sign ordinances have become increasingly restrictive on the size and type of outdoor signs allowed.
- The Building, Zoning or Planning Department in your municipality, can provide a copy of the sign ordinances.
- * The person in the department who is most familiar with the sign ordinances, should be able to determine the total SIZE allowed.
- Window lettering applied to the outside of storefront glass windows, may also be classified as Outdoor Signage.
- Once the size limitations are known, the next step is to determine the EXACT TYPE of sign allowed outdoors, at the location.
- The type of outdoor signage allowed by the municipality is often decided in collaboration with property owners, well in advance.



- A structural Engineer's stamp certifying the wind load capacity of an outdoor sign installation, may be required for the project.
- Getting final approval for the sign permit goes hand-in-hand with getting written permission from the Landlord.
- Applying for a sign permit is easy. It just takes time to gather and provide all of the detailed information that's required.
- The sign permit application can usually be accessed online. Provide the information required on the form for permit approval.
- Your Client can definitely save money by doing all of this upfront work themselves. Or, you can provide this service for them, for a fee. Typical fees for service range from \$250 \$500, plus costs. Costs include any and all fees required for permit acquisition.

Landlord Approval

When certain terms like "Signage Criteria" are included in a lease, the TYPE of signs allowed, and **NOT ALLOWED**, are usually described in detail.

The unfamiliar terms and types of signs described in a lease, can definitely be confusing. Calls to the landlord or leasing agent will provide additional information or clarification, as needed.

Permitting offices usually require a written letter from the landlord approving:

- The final design & colors.
- Size and overall dimensions.
- Placement of wall mounted signs, shown on building.
- Type of sign with specifications shown in a diagram.
- And finally, mounting details showing the hardware and installation method.





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