Minor buildings or works  
Commercial planning guide and checklist

This guide describes what information you need to provide to Council when applying for a planning permit to carry out minor building and works in a Business Zone or Industrial Zone. Minor building and works include such things as external fixtures, outbuildings, windows and roller doors.

Council requires certain information in order to properly assess your application against the planning controls contained in the Yarra Planning Scheme. To ensure that your application can be processed quickly and efficiently, it is important that all the relevant information is included – this guide will help you do this.

How to apply for a planning permit

To apply for a permit for minor building and works in a Business or Industrial zone, simply follow these four steps:

1. **Complete an Application for Planning Permit Form.** These are available at our Statutory Planning counter or on Council’s website (www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/planning).

2. **Determine the applicable fee.**
   To determine what fee you need to pay to lodge your application, please view the fee schedule at our Statutory Planning counter, or contact Statutory Planning on 9205 5373.
   
   **Please note:** The fee can be paid by credit card, cheque or money order (made payable to ‘City of Yarra’).

3. **Prepare your application,** making sure to include all the information described in this guide, such as plans and a written submission.

4. **Lodge your completed application** by:
   
   > **Post:**
   Statutory Planning Branch  
   City of Yarra  
   PO Box 168  
   Richmond VIC 3121  
   or
   
   > **In Person:**
   Statutory Planning counter  
   Richmond Town Hall  
   333 Bridge Road  
   Richmond

What information should be included with your application?

**Certificate of Title – 1 copy**
You will need to provide an up-to-date Certificate of Title with your application.

A Certificate of Title is a formal legal record about a particular piece of land. It contains basic information about the land including current ownership (see example overleaf).

The copy of the Certificate of Title must be clear, legible, complete and obtained within the last three (3) months.
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Photographs
Photographs help Council to understand the existing conditions of the land and the surrounding area.

Please provide at least one photograph that shows where you would like to undertake the minor building and works. It is also helpful to provide some context to the application by including photographs of the area surrounding the proposed location of the works.

Existing Site Plan – 3 copies
You need to submit with your application three (3) copies of an Existing Site Plan.

An Existing Site Plan is a clear drawing that shows the whole site, including all structures on the site, before the proposed works. It is drawn as if looking down from above the site.

The plan must be drawn to scale and clearly show (as appropriate):

- The boundaries and dimensions of the site
- The layout of existing buildings
- The land’s orientation to north (see example below)

Existing Elevation Plans – 3 copies
You need to submit with your application three (3) copies of the Existing Elevation Plans.

Existing Elevation Plans are clear drawings that show the length, width and height of the existing building on the block. They are drawn as if looking from the front or side to show the height.

Certificate of Title
A Certificate of Title is a formal legal record about a particular piece of land. It contains basic information about the land including current ownership.

If the land is covered by a Restrictive Covenant or Section 173 Agreement, a copy will also need to be provided. This will be registered on the Certificate of Title.

A Restrictive Covenant is a private agreement between land owners which may restrict the way land may be used and developed.

If you do not have a copy of the Certificate of Title, you can obtain a copy:

> In Person:
Land Information Centre
Level 9, 570 Bourke Street
Melbourne
Telephone 8636 2831

or

> Order online:
www.land.vic.gov.au

Note: Plans are usually drawn up by an architect or draftsperson, however you may feel comfortable to prepare the plan yourself.
Plans must be provided for each elevation of the existing building (i.e. north, south, east and west), even if the addition is only going to affect one part of the existing building.

The plans must be drawn to scale and must clearly show:

> The length, width and height of the existing building(s)
> The overall height of the building(s) above the natural ground level
> The colours and materials of the existing building(s)
> The land’s orientation to north (see example above, right).

**Existing Elevation Plan**

Existing Elevation Plans are clear drawings that show the length, width and height of the existing building on the block.

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The **Proposed Demolition Plan** is a clear drawing that shows the area that is being demolished and other structures on the site. It is drawn as if looking down from above the site.

The plan must be drawn to scale and must clearly show:

> The dimensions of the proposed buildings or works
> The distance of the proposed buildings or works from the boundaries of the land
> The land’s orientation to north

**Proposed Demolition Plan – 3 copies**

You may need to submit with your application three (3) copies of the Proposed Demolition Plan.

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The **Proposed Floor Plan** is a clear drawing that shows the location of the proposed building/works and other structures on the site. It is drawn as if looking down from above the site.

**Proposed Floor Plan – 3 copies**

You need to submit with your application three (3) copies of the Proposed Floor Plan.

A Proposed Floor Plan is a clear drawing that shows the location of the proposed building/works and other structures on the site. It is drawn as if looking from the front or side to show the height.

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**Proposed Elevation Plan – 3 copies**

You need to submit with your application three (3) copies of the Proposed Elevation Plan.

A Proposed Elevation Plan is a clear drawing that shows the height and location of the proposed building/works and other structures on the site. It is drawn as if looking from the front or side to show the height.

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**North Elevation**

![North Elevation Diagram]

**West Elevation**

![West Elevation Diagram]

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Note: Plans are usually drawn up by an architect or draftsperson, however you may feel comfortable to prepare the plan yourself.
Proposed Elevation Plan
A Proposed Elevation Plan is a clear drawing that shows the height and location of the proposed building/works and other structures on the site.

The plan must be drawn to scale and must clearly show:

> The length of the proposed buildings or works
> The height of the proposed buildings or works above the natural ground level of the land
> The land orientation to the north (see above example).

Written assessment against relevant local policy – 1 copy
Depending on the size and scale of your works, you need to submit with your application a written assessment against the relevant local planning policy:

> If your property is in a heritage overlay – an assessment against Yarra’s Development Guidelines for Heritage Places policy (Clause 22.02) is required.
> If your property is not in a heritage overlay – an assessment against Yarra’s Built Form and Design policy (Clause 22.10) is required.

These policies are part of the Yarra Planning Scheme and are available at www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/planningschemes (select Yarra from the drop down menu), in person at the Richmond Town Hall (333 Bridge Road, Richmond) or by calling Statutory Planning on 9205 5373.

Colours, materials, finishes and other specifications
Please provide details of the colours, materials, finishes and other specifications of the proposed building/works. This information can be included on the Proposed Elevation Plan in the form of notations or can simply be written on a separate sheet. You are encouraged to include samples and product brochures if appropriate.

Other permits/regulations you may need to consider
If you obtain a permit from Council to carry out works to your property, before you commence, you may also need:

> Building permit – to undertake any construction work or changes to the internal layout that may impact safety requirements.
> Road/footpath occupancy permit – if you need to block the road/footpath in order to undertake building/works.

Further information
If you need more information about planning in Yarra you can:
Visit our website
www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/planning
Telephone
9205 5373
Monday to Friday, 8.30am–5pm
Visit the Statutory Planning counter at Richmond Town Hall
333 Bridge Road, Richmond
Monday to Friday, 8.30am–5pm
Obtain a fact sheet
Available from Council’s website or at the Statutory Planning counter. There are fact sheets covering a range of planning issues, such as understanding planning, the planning permit application process, lodging an application, objecting to an application, and useful checklists for different types of applications.

Note: Plans are usually drawn up by an architect or draftsperson, however you may feel comfortable to prepare the plan yourself.