Find out if you need approval

How to use PlanSA’s online ‘approval wizard’ to determine whether your development is exempt from needing development approval.

Why do I need approval?
If you’re planning a development, you may need to lodge an application for approval before you get started.

Getting the right approval ensures that development is appropriate for where it is proposed and constructed in a way that is safe and compliant with relevant standards.

Do I need approval?
Types of development that usually need approval are:

• building work and construction
• changing the land use, for example from an office to a shop
• altering land boundaries, for example subdividing land into two parts
• installing signage for advertising.

Some typical projects at home are not usually considered 'development' and are exempt from needing approval. For example, installing or replacing:

• garden sheds
• fences
• water tanks
• solar panels.

If you don’t need approval, you can proceed with your project without lodging an application.

Some parts of the state are protected areas and require approval for all projects. For example, areas that include a heritage place or are prone to flooding or bushfires.

How to find out if you need approval
You can check if your project needs approval by using PlanSA’s online ‘approval wizard’ at:
plan.sa.gov.au/development_applications/before_you_lodge/find_out_if_you_need_approval

After entering the address of your property, the approval wizard calculates if approval is required for your development and what your next steps involve in order to proceed.

If approval is required, you will need to lodge a development application.

Need more help?
To find out more visit www.plan.sa.gov.au, email PlanSA@sa.gov.au or call the PlanSA Service Desk on 1800 752 664.