

# Alterations and additions

Territory Families, Housing and Communities understands that tenants may want to make alterations to a public housing premises. If you would like to make any alterations to the premises you need written approval from the Department. You must have written approval before you make any alterations.

There are two (2) types of alterations, minor and major.

Minor alterations do not affect the structure of the premises. Some examples include:

- Picture hooks
- Fitting curtains or blinds
- Irrigation systems.

Major alterations may affect the structure of the premises. These alterations may need certification and building permits. Examples of major alterations include:

- Air conditioning
- Heating
- Satellite dishes
- Pergolas
- Garden sheds.

The Department does not approve installing swimming pools (in ground or above ground, including portable pools that are capable of holding water to a depth of 30 cm or more), spa pools or fishponds at any public housing premises.

## How do I get written approval?

You need to submit a completed 'Alterations to a rental property' form to your local Housing office.

You will need to provide as much information as possible about the alterations you want to make to the premises. This includes copies of any plans you may have.

## What do I have to pay?

It will not cost you anything to submit an application.

You will be responsible to pay for all related alteration costs. This includes installation, operation, ongoing maintenance and certification costs.

You will also have to pay for removing or fixing the alterations when you move out.

## What does the Department consider when assessing an application?

The Department will assess your application and consider:

- Will the alteration cause any safety concerns?
- What impact will the alteration have on the structural integrity of the premises?
- Are there any laws about the alteration?
- Who is doing the work for the alteration?

The Department will let you know the outcome of your application in writing. This will also include any conditions you will need to follow.

## Where can I find more information?

For further information contact your local Housing office or visit [nt.gov.au](http://nt.gov.au).

Greater Darwin	(08) 8999 8814
Arnhem	(08) 8987 0533
Central Australia	(08) 8951 5344
Big Rivers	(08) 8973 8513
Barkly	(08) 8962 4497
Top End	(08) 8995 5122