



# Residential Improvement Exemption

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## Residential Improvement Exemption

If you decide to improve your home, you may be eligible for a three-year property tax exemption on that improvement. Washington State law provides that the Assessor may grant an improvement exemption up to 30% of the current assessed value of your home.

### The Way it Works

- Request an exemption form from the Assessor. You must provide a description of the improvement, when construction began, contractor, and building permit information.
- We'll send you a letter acknowledging that we have received your application.
- When construction has been completed, you must notify the Assessor in writing. Your exemption cannot be activated until we are notified.
- For three years, the taxable value of your home will not reflect the new construction value.

At the end of the three-year exemption period, the value of your improvement will be added to the value of your home and the exemption will end.

Please keep in mind that the exemption applies only to the new improvements. The assessed value of your home may increase, just as other property in the county increases during that three-year period. As long as you are in the exemption program, *the new improvement value will not be taxable*, even if revaluation occurs.

Swimming pools, golf greens, fences, outbuildings, and improvements, which would not be common to or normally recognized as components of a dwelling unit, are NOT eligible for exemption under this program.

The exemption cannot be granted on the same dwelling more than once in a five-year period, calculated from the date that the exemption first affected the assessment roll.

The intent of this law is to give you tax relief after spending money to improve your home, your neighborhood, and your community. We hope you will take advantage of the tax savings available to you.