Electric Patio Heater Permit Checklist San Francisco

1. Do You Need a Permit?

You likely do NOT need a permit if:

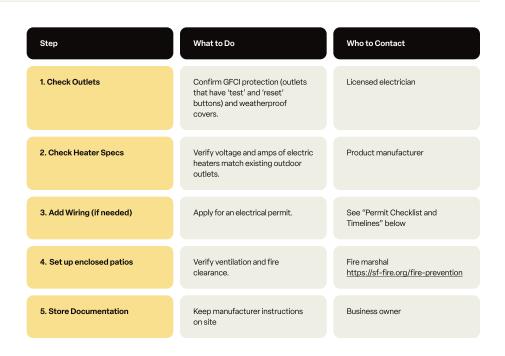
- You're plugging heaters into existing outdoor outlets (typically 120 V).
- You're using portable or wall-mounted units certified to UL/ETL standards.
- You're not adding new wiring, conduit, or panels.

For more detail, see San Francisco Electrical Code, Section 89.121

You likely DO need a permit if:

- You're adding or extending electrical circuits.
- The electrical load increase requires a breaker or panel upgrade.
- The heater is hard-wired (not plug-in).
- Local fire or building codes require review for outdoor electrical equipment.

2. Quick Checklist for Installing Electric Patio Heaters





3. Permit Checklist and Timelines

What to Do Who to Contact 1. Hire a Licensed Electrician Search the DBI Licensed The electrician must be a current. DBI-licensed electrical contractor. Contractor Database: https:// www2.cslb.ca.gov/ OnlineServices/CheckLicensell/ CheckLicense.aspx Contact Focal for recommended partners. 2. Contractor Applies for SF Department of Building Only licensed contractors can **Electrical Permit** apply online for permits through Inspection (DBI): https:// the San Francisco Department of www.sf.gov/departments--Building Inspection (DBI). department-building-inspection 3. Secure Permit & Conduct SF Department of Building The contractor must obtain a job **Electrical Work** card from DBI and keep it on-site to Inspection (DBI): https:// document inspection and approval. www.sf.gov/departments-department-building-inspection 4. Submit to SF Shared Spaces Once work is complete, submit SF Shared Spaces Program: Program the job card and permit to the https://www.sf.gov/shared-Shared Spaces Program for review and approval. 5. Install Focal Heaters Follow the manufacturer's Focal: https://www.focalheat.co/ installation instructions and keep or Manufacturer them on site. Focal installation is quick—see checklist above for

4. Pro Tips

- Use a dedicated circuit.
- Only use cords rated for outdoor use and protect from tripping hazards.
- Combine multiple heaters under one permit if required.
- Keep manufacturer documentation on hand.
- Electricians can often file same-day online permits.

