

Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety



FORM 26 Minor Modification Request Form

Residential Tenancies Act 1987 (WA) Section 500

How to use this form

During a tenancy, tenants must use this form to ask the landlord (also known as the lessor) for permission to make a minor modification to the rental property. Landlords can only refuse or apply conditions if it is reasonable to do so.

- 1. Tenants complete steps 1, 2, and 3.
- 2. Landlords complete steps 4 and 5.
- 3. All parties should read the Important Information at the end of this form.

For Tenants

Complete steps 1, 2, and 3 on this form.

Provide enough details about the minor modification for your landlord to make an informed decision.

Additional forms may be completed if requesting more than one modification.

Give the landlord your completed form (including a copy of the Important Information).

Keep a copy of the form and the details of how you gave it to the landlord for your own records.

Read the Important Information available at the end of this form.

Step 1: Tenancy Details		Tenant to complete and go to step 2	
Rental property	Address		
address	Suburb/Town	Postcode	
Tenant(s) requesting to make the minor	Name Tenant 1 Contact details (eg email or phone)		
modification	Name Tenant 2 Contact details (eg email or phone)		
	Name Tenant 3 Contact details (eg email or phone)		
Landlord(s) or agent receiving	Name Landlord 1		
this request	Name Landlord 2 Name Landlord 3		

Step 2: Tenant's Minor Modification Request Details

Tenant to complete and go to step 3

Select type of minor modification below:

Picture hook	Lock on a letterbox		
Screw for a wall mount, shelf, or bracket	Draughtproofing (e.g. weather seals, caulking, or gap filling)		
Wall anchoring device			
Water efficient shower head (3 stars or more)	LED light bulb which does not need a new light fitting		
Hand-held shower head	Anchor for a blind or cord		
Wireless doorbell	Flyscreen on a door and window		
Window covering (e.g. a curtain or blind)	Installing a vegetable or herb garden Lever-style tap		
Adhesive child safety lock on a drawer or door			
Pressure mounted safety gate	Phone or internet connection Security light, alarm system or security camera		
(e.g. child safety gate)			
Lock on a gate	Non-permanent window film		
Child safety device on a window	Painting a room		

Description of minor modification being requested

Provide further relevant details. e.g. colour, number, size of minor modification

Location of minor modification being requested Specify the room or area of the property for the minor modification. e.g. kitchen, bathroom, garden

Step 3: Tenant's Declaration

Tenant to complete and go to Important Information

Declaration	 I am seeking permission to make the above minor modification(s) to the rental property. I understand that I am responsible for the costs associated with making and removing the modification and restoring the property to the original condition at the end of the tenancy unless the landlord agrees otherwise in writing. I accept that I am responsible for maintaining the modification in a reasonable state of repair. 		
Signatures of tenant(s) making request	Signature Tenant 1 Name	Signature Tenant 2 Name	Signature Tenant 3 Name
	Date	Date	Date

Tenants go to Important Information. Landlords continue to next page for step 4

For Landlords

Complete **steps 4** and **5** of this form, advising if you approve, approve with conditions, or refuse the request.

You have 14 days (starting the day after you received the request) to send the completed form back to the tenant. **If you do not respond within 14 days, the minor modification request is automatically approved.**

You will also need to apply for Commissioner approval if you:

- · approved with conditions that need Commissioner approval; or
- refused the minor modification request for reasons that need Commissioner approval.

If you do not apply for Commissioner approval to refuse (where needed) within the 14 days, the minor modification request is automatically approved.

Keep a copy for your records.

Read the Important Information available at the end of this form.

Step 4: Landlord's response to the request

Landlord to complete and go to step 5

Select decision below:

Approve

Approve with conditions

Select and write the condition(s) below. Go to step 5, then send form to tenant.

Conditions where Commissioner approval is not needed		
If the modification is: Lever-style tap Phone or internet connection Non-permanent window film 	The work to make the modification must be carried out by a person who is appropriately qualified The tenant must provide the landlord with a copy	
 Painting a room Hard-wired security light, camera or alarm system 	of the invoice once the work is completed	
Alarm system	The tenant must provide the landlord with the codes to the alarm system	
Lock on a gate or letterbox	The tenant must provide the landlord with copies of keys for locks on gates or letterboxes	

Conditions where Commissioner approval is needed

If selected, you must apply for Commissioner approval. Conditions do not apply unless approved

Other reasonable condition(s)

What are the condition(s)?

Specify the condition(s) including what it is, how often it happens, and where or when it occurs

	4: Landlord's response to the minor modification request - Continued	
Re	efuse	
Se	lect reason(s) and explain why it applies below. Go to step 5 and send form to tenant	
Reasons where Commissioner approval is not needed		
	Making the modification would disturb material containing asbestos	
	The premises are entered in the State Register of Heritage Places (heritage listed)	
	The premises are in a community title or strata titles scheme and the scheme by-laws prohibit making the modification	
	Making the modification would be contrary to a written law	
Reasons where Commissioner approval is needed		
	It colooted you must apply for Commissioner approval within 14 days	
	If selected, you must apply for Commissioner approval within 14 days	
	If selected, you must apply for Commissioner approval within 14 days The landlord would suffer undue hardship	
	The landlord would suffer undue hardship The modification would be unsafe, or it would make the premises unsafe	
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Step 5: Landlord's Declaration and Sign		ature Landlord to cor	nplete and send form to tenant	
Declaration	I understand that the tenant(s) named on this form are requesting my permission to make a minor modification and I must respond to this request in writing within 14 days. If I do not respond to the tenant and apply for Commissioner approval to refuse the request (where needed) within 14 days, the request is automatically approved.			
Signatures of Landlord(s) or Agent	Signature Landlord 1	Signature Landlord 2	Signature Landlord 3	
	Name	Name	Name	
	Date / /	Date / /	Date / /	

Landlord/Agent and Tenant to continue to next page for Important Information

Important Information for Tenants and Landlords

1. What is a minor modification?

A minor modification is a change which helps make a rental property feel more like a home. Only changes listed at step 2 on this form are minor modifications. There are other types of modifications a tenant may make which are not a minor modification and different processes apply. These include modification for furniture safety, disability access and preventing family and domestic violence.

2. Responding to a minor modification request

The landlord must respond to the tenant within 14 days of the request (starting the day after they receive the form). Where required, they must also apply for Commissioner approval within the applicable timeframe.

3. What happens if the landlord does not respond within 14 days?

If the landlord does not respond to the request within 14 days, and where necessary apply for Commissioner approval within the applicable timeframe, the minor modification request is automatically approved.

4. How is the 14 days counted?

A landlord has 14 days to respond, starting the day after they receive the request. If the tenant's request or the landlord's response is posted, the tenant must allow extra days for the form to be delivered. These extra days are not part of the 14 days the landlord has to respond. Further information about counting days when serving a notice can be found online at www.commerce.wa.gov.au/consumer-protection/counting-days.

5. Challenging a decision

The tenant may challenge the landlord's response if they believe that the decision and/or the conditions set by the landlord is unreasonable, or not permitted or applicable. The tenant applies to Consumer Protection to review the decision.

6. Applying for Commissioner approval

If a landlord decides to refuse for a reason that requires Commissioner approval, the landlord must apply to Consumer Protection for Commissioner approval within the 14 day response period. If a landlord decides to set a condition that requires Commissioner approval, the landlord must apply to Consumer Protection for Commissioner approval. The condition does not apply unless approved.

7. How to apply to the Commissioner

Applications to the Commissioner can be made online at <u>www.consumerprotection.wa.gov.au/CDapply</u> or call 1300 30 40 54 for further information.

8. What happens after an application is made to the Commissioner?

When an application is made, the Commissioner will notify all parties. The Commissioner will invite parties to respond. Parties will be asked if they agree or disagree with the application and to provide relevant information or evidence. The Commissioner may also request additional information or evidence if needed.

9. How does the Commissioner make a decision?

The application will be decided based on the information and evidence provided by the parties, and written reasons for the decision will be given. In some cases, the Commissioner may decline to decide an application and direct the parties to apply to the Magistrates Court.

10. What are the options if the parties are not satisfied with the Commissioner's decision? If parties are not satisfied with the Commissioner's decision, they can appeal to the Magistrates Court within seven days of receiving the notice of the decision.

11. Where can I find more information?

Visit the Consumer Protection website for more details on the rights and responsibilities about minor modifications in a rental property at <u>www.consumerprotection.wa.gov.au/renting/makingchanges</u>.