Work Exempt from Permits

Per 2019 California Building Code Section 105.2 and the 2019 California Residential Code Section R105.2, work listed below shall not require a building permit:

**Building:**
1) One-story detached accessory structures used as tool and storage sheds, playhouses and similar uses, provided the floor area does not exceed 120 square feet. Must be 3-feet from property line and 6-feet from adjacent structures.
2) Residential fences not over 6-feet high with 1-foot of 50% open lattice. See Fence Requirements handout, also.
3) Oil derricks.
4) Retaining walls that are not over 4 feet in height measured from the bottom of the footing to top of the wall, unless supporting a surcharge or impounding Class I, II, or IIIA liquids.
5) Water tanks supported directly on grade it the capacity does not exceed 5,000 gallons and the ratio of height to diameter or width does not exceed 2:1.
6) Sidewalks and driveways not more than 30 inches above adjacent grade, and not over any basement or story below and are not part of an accessible route.
7) Painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets, countertops and similar finish work.
8) Temporary motion picture, television and theater stage sets and scenery.
9) Prefabricated swimming pools accessory to a Group R-3 occupancy that are less than 24 inches deep, do not exceed 5,000 gallons and are installed entirely above ground.
10) Shade cloth structures constructed for nursery or agricultural purposes, not including service systems.
11) Swings and other playground equipment accessory to detached one – and two – family dwellings.
12) Window awnings supported by an exterior wall that do not project more than 54 inches from the exterior wall and do not require additional support of Group R-3 and U occupancies.
13) Non-fixed and movable fixtures, cases, racks, counters and partitions not over 5 feet 9 inches in height.

**Electrical:**
1) Listed cord-and-plug connected temporary decorative lighting.
2) Re-installation of attachment plug receptacles but not the outlets therefore.
3) Replacement of branch circuit overcurrent devices of the required capacity in the same location.

**Repairs and maintenance:** Minor repair work, including the replacement of lamps or the connection of approved portable electrical equipment to approved permanently installed receptacles.

**Radio and television transmitting stations:** The provisions of this code shall not apply to electrical equipment used for radio and television transmissions, but do apply to equipment and wiring for a power supply and the installations of towers and antennas.

**Temporary testing systems:** A permit shall not be required for the installation of any temporary system required for the testing or servicing of electrical equipment or apparatus.

**Gas:**
1) Portable heating, cooking or clothes drying appliances.
2) Replacement of any minor part that does not alter approval of equipment or make such equipment unsafe.
3) Portable-fuel-cell appliances that are not connected to a fixed piping system and are not interconnected to a power grid.

**Mechanical:**
1) Portable heating appliance.
2) Portable ventilation equipment.
3) Portable cooling unit.
4) Steam, hot or chilled water piping within any heating or cooling equipment regulated by this code.
5) Replacement of any part that does not alter its approval or make it unsafe.
6) Portable evaporative cooler.
7) Self-contained refrigeration system containing 10 pounds or less of refrigerant and actuated by motors of 1 horsepower or less.

**Plumbing:**
1) Replacement toilets.
2) The stopping of leaks in drain, water, soil, waste or vent pipe, provided however, that if any concealed trap, drain pipe, water, soil, waste or vent pipe becomes defective and it becomes necessary to remove and replace the same with the new material, such work shall be considered as new work and a permit shall be obtained and inspection made as provided in this code.
3) The clearing of stoppages or the repairing of leaks in pipes, valves or fixtures and the removal and reinstallation of water closets, provided such repairs do not involve or require the replacement or rearrangement of valves, pipes or fixtures.