



Home Businesses



This handout provides answers relating to the guidelines and city code requirements for home businesses. The information does not cover all requirements. Contact the city about permits and specifications before beginning any project.

How much of my home can I dedicate to my home business?

A home business may be located within the dwelling, an accessory building, or both, provided that the total area of the home business is not greater than 50% of the finished floor area of the dwelling.

Such home business shall not require internal or external alterations or involve construction features not customarily found in dwellings.

There shall be no exterior storage or display of equipment, goods or materials used in the home business.



What are some common regulations governing how my home business can operate?

No home business shall be permitted which results in, or generates more traffic than, two customer cars at any one given point in time. Home businesses shall not operate between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

The home business may employ up to two employees who do not reside on the premises.

Home businesses shall not create nuisances as provided in the Crystal City code, chapters VI and XX. Activities conducted and equipment or material used shall not change the fire safety or occupancy classifications of the premises. The use shall not employ the storage of explosive, flammable, or hazardous materials beyond those normally associated with a residential use.



What guidelines are there for placing a sign outside my home business?

One sign, not to exceed six square feet in area, may be placed on the premises. The sign may identify the home business, resident name, address, website and email address or phone number, but may contain no other information. The sign may not be illuminated and must be set back a minimum of ten feet from a property line abutting a public street. If the sign is freestanding, the total height may not exceed five feet.

If you have questions, contact a customer service representative at 763-531-1000.