

Remote Virtual Inspection
General Guide for Homeowners and Contractors

Remote virtual inspection (RVI) is inspection conducted with the assistance of a contractor or homeowner sending images via live stream, pictures, video, or any combination to the building inspector, adding significant convenience by eliminating the need for the inspector to travel to the site. Some inspections may also require specific photographs to be sent before initiating the video live stream. The following items need to be considered to successfully complete an RVI. Please also refer to the additional guides for the specific type of inspection requested.

1. The inspection “Host” shall be familiar with the trade and project that is being inspected. In most cases that person shall be the responsible contractor or the permittee/owner builder.
2. Live stream video inspections shall be done via FaceTime or Zoom. Host shall be prepared and have experience using FaceTime or Zoom.
3. Inspection video stream shall start at the street showing the address and front of the property.
4. Any active construction work near the inspection area should be minimized to avoid accidents and reduce ambient noise.
5. Host shall be prepared with any necessary equipment to complete the inspection. This may include a pointer, flashlight, tape measure, ladders, tools, and someone to hold the camera if necessary.
6. Follow the directions of the inspector and maintain a steady field of view until asked to move on.
7. Approved plans shall be available upon request.
8. Documents such as job inspection card(s), structural observation reports, special inspection reports, and HERS reports shall be provided to the inspector via email prior to inspection, and may be discussed during the RVI.
9. Typical duration of an RVI is 30 minutes from the start of the contact for inspection.
10. Inspection results will be delivered in writing via email.
11. After the RVI, inquiries regarding corrections or other questions shall be done via email or phone call in the morning when inspectors are generally available. When emailing, specify the property address on subject line.



Detailed RVI guides are currently available for the following inspection types. For other types of inspections please contact your local Los Angeles County Building and Safety District Office for step-by-step details.

- Reroof
- Roof top solar photovoltaic system
- Storage tank water heater