

Residential Fence Requirements

General Information:

Fences measuring a height greater than (6) feet are required to obtain a building permit. No fence shall block any vehicular or pedestrian visibility. Except in the following situations below, fences in residential districts are permitted up to (7) feet in height measured from the finished grade on the higher side of the fence. See [Section 30.34.30](#) for further information.

Location:

Front Yard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fences or walls in the front yard higher than three (3) feet above the curb shall be set back at least twenty-six (26) feet from the face of curb. ▪ Landscape amenities such as arbors, trellises and pergolas are limited to eight (8) feet in height in the front yard setback and cannot create any safety hazards by blocking the view for traffic or pedestrians (See Section 20.60)
Side Yard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fences or walls adhering to the setbacks required for a main building are permitted up to eight (8) feet in height. Such fences or walls shall be set back a minimum of six (6) feet from any side lot line. ▪ Fences or walls adjacent to alleys are permitted up to seven (7) feet in height.
Corner Lot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fences, hedges, or visual obstructions in the side yard adjacent to the street over three (3) feet above the sidewalk shall be set back at least sixteen (16) feet from the face of curb. ▪ In the case where a corner lots abuts the driveway side of a key lot or an alley, a fence, hedge, or visual obstruction over three (3) feet above the sidewalk shall be ten (10) feet back from the street side property line for a distance of at least ten (10) feet from the rear property line.

Retaining Walls:

- Where a fence is built upon or in conjunction with a retaining wall within five (5) feet of a property line, the maximum height of the retaining wall shall be three (3) feet. No additional retaining walls may be constructed within five (5) feet of the first wall; the maximum height of any additional retaining wall shall be six (6) feet. A building permit may be required.

Swimming Pools:

- A fence with a self-closing locking gate must enclose all swimming pool area(s). Additional requirements can be obtained from the Building Division.

Prohibited Material:

- No barbed wire fences or wire mesh fences.
- No electrical fences other than those permitted by [Section 30.34.35](#).

For questions regarding building permits, please contact the [Building Department](#). For questions regarding fence location, height, and material contact the [Planning Division](#).

