



## Information Guide For Fences & Walls In RL, RM and RH Districts

Fences are governed by §4.7 of the *Zoning Ordinance*

| <b>Fence Regulations</b> |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Location                 | <p>Except as otherwise specified, a fence or wall on any property in the residential districts may be located as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In any front yard or secondary front yard, a fence or wall not exceeding four feet in height is permitted.</li> <li>• In any side or rear yard, a fence or wall not exceeding seven feet in height is permitted, except that in any side yard, a fence or wall located between a front property line and the nearest wall of the principal structure shall not exceed four feet in height.</li> <li>• Where a fence or wall parallels or nearly parallels a street or right-of-way, the finished side of the fence or wall shall face outwards, towards the street or right-of-way.</li> <li>• No barbed wire, electrical security elements (other than underground electrical security elements), or other hazardous materials shall be used</li> <li>• A fence must be entirely located on your property</li> </ul> |
| Height                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fence or wall height is measured as the vertical distance between finished grade on the highest side of the fence or wall to the top of the fence or wall.</li> <li>• Fence posts, lighting, finials, or other vertical supports or decorative features may exceed the maximum height by not more than 12 inches, provided that such posts or features are spaced four feet apart</li> </ul>  |
| Visual clearance         | On any corner lot, a safe visual clearance shall be maintained per §4.3.4.   |
| Existing fences          | Existing fences are now considered nonconforming and may remain and be repaired. If an existing fence is removed, any new fencing must meet the new zoning regulations in regards to height, appearance and permitting requirements.   |

| <b>Limitations</b>  |
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| <p>The requirements of §4.7 shall not be deemed to prohibit or apply to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any necessary retaining wall, terrace wall, or similar feature, nor to prohibit any safety railing installed adjacent to a retaining wall</li> <li>• Any fence or wall as required in City Code chapter 10, article IX, section 10-621, regarding required protective fencing surrounding swimming and wading pools. Further, the requirements of §4.7 shall not be deemed to prohibit any fence or wall immediately surrounding a tennis court.</li> <li>• The requirements of §4.7 shall not be deemed to prohibit any fence or wall as otherwise required.</li> <li>• Temporary security fences or walls erected on or around construction sites during such time a valid building permit is in effect.</li> </ul> |

## Special Exceptions

The Board of Zoning Appeals may modify the fence or wall height requirements, including alternative locations and designs, pursuant to §4.7 in accordance with the relevant provisions in §6.17.

### Examples of Fence Height Based on Lot Type

Illustrations of areas of maximum fence or wall height for interior lots, corner lots and lots where the rear of the primary structure faces right-of-way are provided below:

Figure 1. Interior Lot Fencing Areas

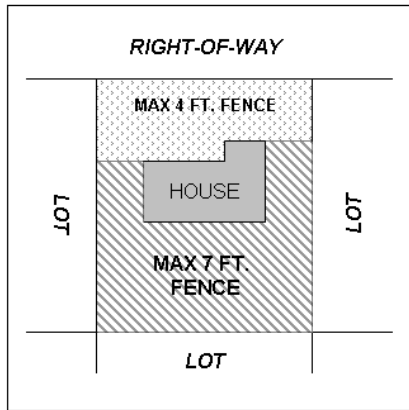


Figure 2. Corner Lot Fencing Areas

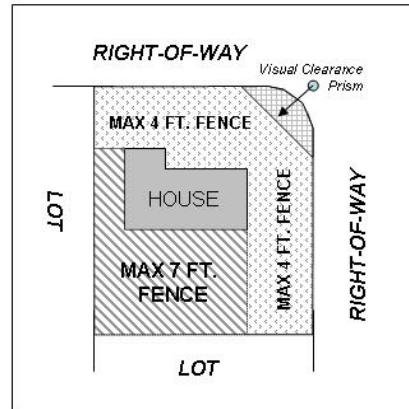


Figure 3. Diagonal House Fencing Areas

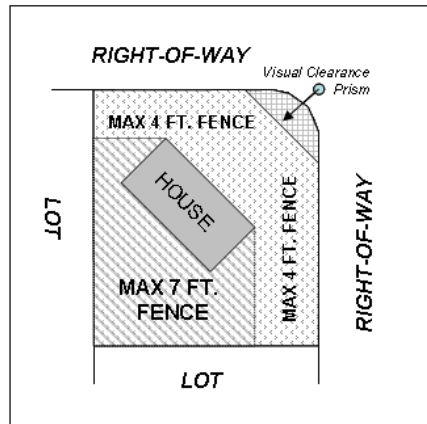


Figure 4. Triangle Lot Fencing Areas

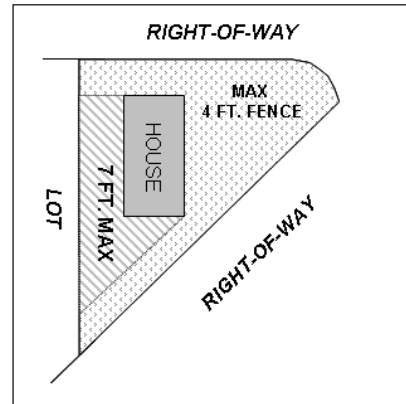


Figure 5. Lot with Rear of House Facing Street

