



Fences

Fences are regulated by section 190.12 of the Zoning Bylaw. Below are some answers to frequently asked questions about fences.

How tall can my fence be?

For residential properties, fences can be a maximum of:

- 1.22 metres (4 feet) tall along the front property line and down the side property lines to the front of the house.
- 1.83 metres (6 feet) tall along the side property lines past the front of the house and the rear property line.

What if I live on a corner lot?

If you live on a corner lot, your fence can be no more than 0.91 metres (3 feet) tall within 4.57 metres (15 feet) of the intersection. This ensures cars entering the intersection can see beyond the corner.

How do I know where my lot line is?

If you want to put a fence on a lot line which abuts a city street or lane, your fence must be on your property or your property line.

If you are not sure where your property line is, check your survey.

You may have one from when you bought or built the house. If you cannot find a survey, please contact the Building Division at 604-527-4580.

What about non-residential properties?

Fences may be 2.44 metres (8 feet) tall. If fences are open mesh or chain link, they may be 3.66 metres (12 feet) tall. Fences can be 3.66 metres (12 feet) tall for properties used for outdoor storage and storage of shipping containers.

What else should I know?

- Fence regulations are also applicable to walls.
- Posting signs or advertising on fences is not permitted.
- If you want to build a fence taller than allowed, it must comply with the applicable building setbacks in the property's zoning category.

My lot is sloped. How do I measure the height of my fence?

The height of a fence is determined by measuring from the ground level at the average grade level within 3 feet (.91 metres) of both sides of the fence.

Do I need a permit to build a fence?

You do not need a permit to build a fence, although we recommend talking to your neighbour before you put up a fence on a shared property line.

What about hedges?

The Zoning Bylaw does not regulate the height of hedges, except for street corners. Like fences, hedges must be no taller than three feet if they are within fifteen feet of a street corner.

The Street and Traffic Bylaw also requires that hedges do not impede travel on a street or sidewalk or impede sightlines for people who are walking, cycling, or driving.

