City of Boulder
Planning & Development Services

Fence/Wall Permit Requirements Checklist

Permit applications may be submitted through the Customer Self-Service Portal

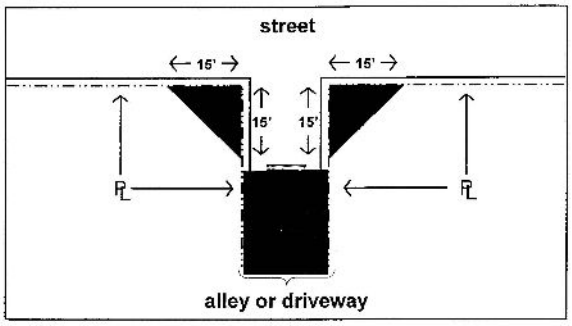
Fences not over 7 feet tall are exempt from building permit requirements. However, if the fence will be located in a floodplain, wetland, or will be constructed in a historic district or on a property designated as an individual landmark, then other processes are required before the fence can be built.

- *A floodplain development permit is required for new and replacement fences in the floodplain.*
- *A wetland permit is required for new and replacement fences in a wetland.*
- *A landmark alteration certificate is required to build or alter fences constructed in a Historic District or on a property designated as an individual landmark.*

This checklist outlines the minimum requirements necessary to begin review, *where applicable*. Applicants may be required to submit additional information as requested by reviewers. Incomplete applications will not be accepted for review.

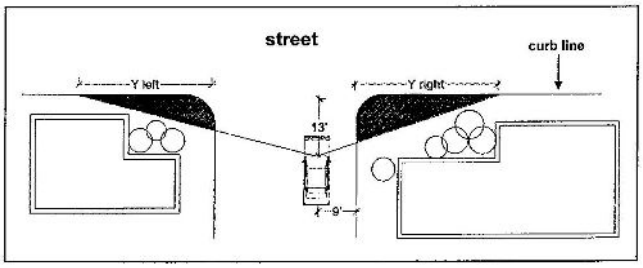
☐Site plan (drawn to scale)

- North arrow
- Property lines
- Location of public street(s) and sidewalks
- Locate inside the property line and a minimum of 18 inches from any public sidewalk.
- Must maintain a 10 foot radius of clearance around all fire hydrants per D.C.S. 5.10(A)(5).
- Must comply with B.R.C. 1981 8-6-8(c) if located in an easement.



Site triangle requirements for driveways and alleys

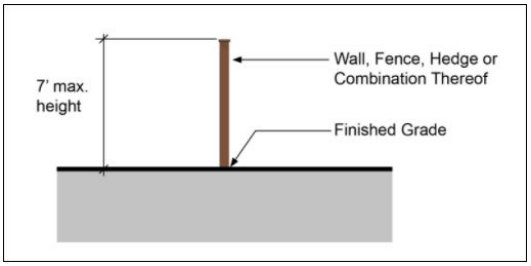
- Must maintain a minimum of 3 feet of unrestricted access on three sides of a water meter pit and must be at least 1 foot behind the meter on private property per B.R.C. 1981 11-1-36(b).
- May not obstruct the sight triangle of intersecting public rights-of-way or the driveway to street, per B.R.C. 1981 9-9-7(b).
- Fences located directly on the property line must include a notarized agreement with the affected neighbor, recorded with the Boulder County Clerk & Recorder's Office.

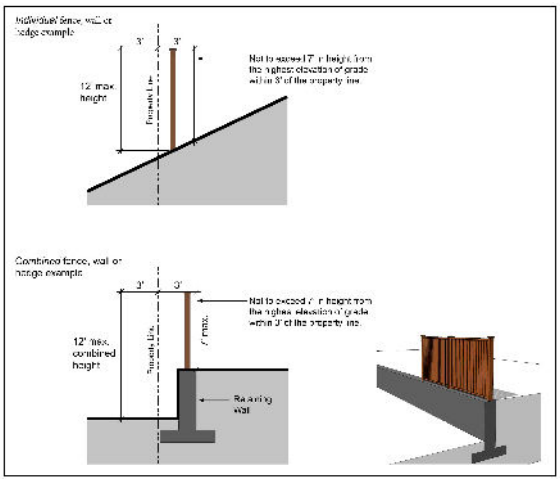


Site triangle requirements for corner lots

☐Construction Details (drawn to scale)

- May not have barbs or sharp points, or be electrically charged per B.R.C. 1981 9-15(d).
- Maximum area of solid fencing material between posts shall not exceed 30 square feet unless designed per B.R.C. 1981 10-5-2(mm) Section 9902.
- Retaining walls more than 3 feet in total height (measured from top of wall to bottom of footer) and retaining walls of any height located on slopes 15 percent or greater must be designed by a Colorado-licensed engineer.
- Fences may not exceed 7 feet in height, per B.R.C. 1981 9-9-15(c).



Examples of fence height measurement

- Posts shall be set in concrete a minimum of 24 inches below grade.
- Posts shall be a minimum of 4" x 4" (nominal) wood approved for ground contact or naturally resistant to decay. Chain-link fence posts shall be a minimum of 1-1/2 inches in diameter.
- Identify materials and total length.