



Fences and Walls

Use this guide for obtaining permits for fences and walls, including retaining walls.

Contact information for: Single-family/duplex projects

Residential Permitting
720.865.2710
ResidentialPermits@denvergov.org

Contact information for: All other projects and over-height fences and walls

Zoning Permitting
720.865.3000
zoning.review@denvergov.org

Fence and Wall Matrix

Zone District (See DZC Articles 3-9)	Forward of the Primary Facade*	Behind the Primary Facade*
Residential	4' Max Height Allowed (See DZC 10.5.5.2)	6' Max Height Allowed (See DZC 10.5.5.2)
Commercial	4' Max Height Allowed (See DZC 10.5.5.2)	6' Max Height Allowed (See DZC 10.5.5.2)
Over-Height Fences or Walls	Anything over 4' forward of the primary facade	Anything over 6' behind the primary facade
	Any fence over 6' behind the primary facade or over 4' forward of the primary facade will require a pre-application meeting and additional review for zoning compliance.	
	Within Setback	Outside Setback
Industrial	7' Max Height Allowed (See DZC 10.5.5.2)	10' Max Height Allowed (See DZC 10.5.5.2)

* Primary facade means the building facing the primary street. For corner lots on oblong blocks, the primary street abuts the longer side of the block. See also Zoning Tip Sheet #4 Determining the Zone Lot.

Step-by-Step Guide

1 Getting Started

- Visit the [fences and walls webpage](#) for additional information, illustrations, and resources.
- Understand what the zoning allows for your property by using the denvergov.org/zoning website.
- Review section [133.2 of the Denver Bldg. Code](#) for minimum information required to be on construction plans.
- See sections [10.5.5 Fences and Walls](#) and [10.5.6 Retaining Wall Requirements](#) of the Denver Zoning Code for standards and requirements.



Fences and Walls

Step-by-Step Guide - Continued

2 What to Submit and How

- **For all single-family/duplex projects**, visit www.denvergov.org/epermits and click Enter E-Permits. In e-permits, go to Development Services > Apply for a Permit. Select the Building Log application. Under Project Scope, select New Accessory Structure, select fence and/or retaining wall, and follow the prompts to complete your application and submit the following:
 - A site plan showing all zone lot lines, zone lot line dimensions, abutting streets/alleys, existing structures, the proposed fence wall location and height; and
 - Section and footing details for fences or walls that require a building permit.
- **For all other projects and over-height fences or walls**, submit the following to zoning.review@denvergov.org:
 - A complete application (pages 4-5) of this guide;
 - A site plan showing all zone lot lines, zone lot line dimensions, abutting streets/alleys, existing structures, the proposed fence wall location and height; and
 - Elevations for any proposed over-height fence or wall.
- When your application package has been received, staff will review for completeness. If your package is incomplete, you may receive a request for additional information. Review will not begin until a complete package is received.

3 Staff Review and Customer Re-Submittal, as required

- Staff will review for zoning and building code compliance.
- Staff may contact you for additional information.
- Staff may ask you to revise and re-submit in order to comply with the zoning code.

4 Approval and Next Steps

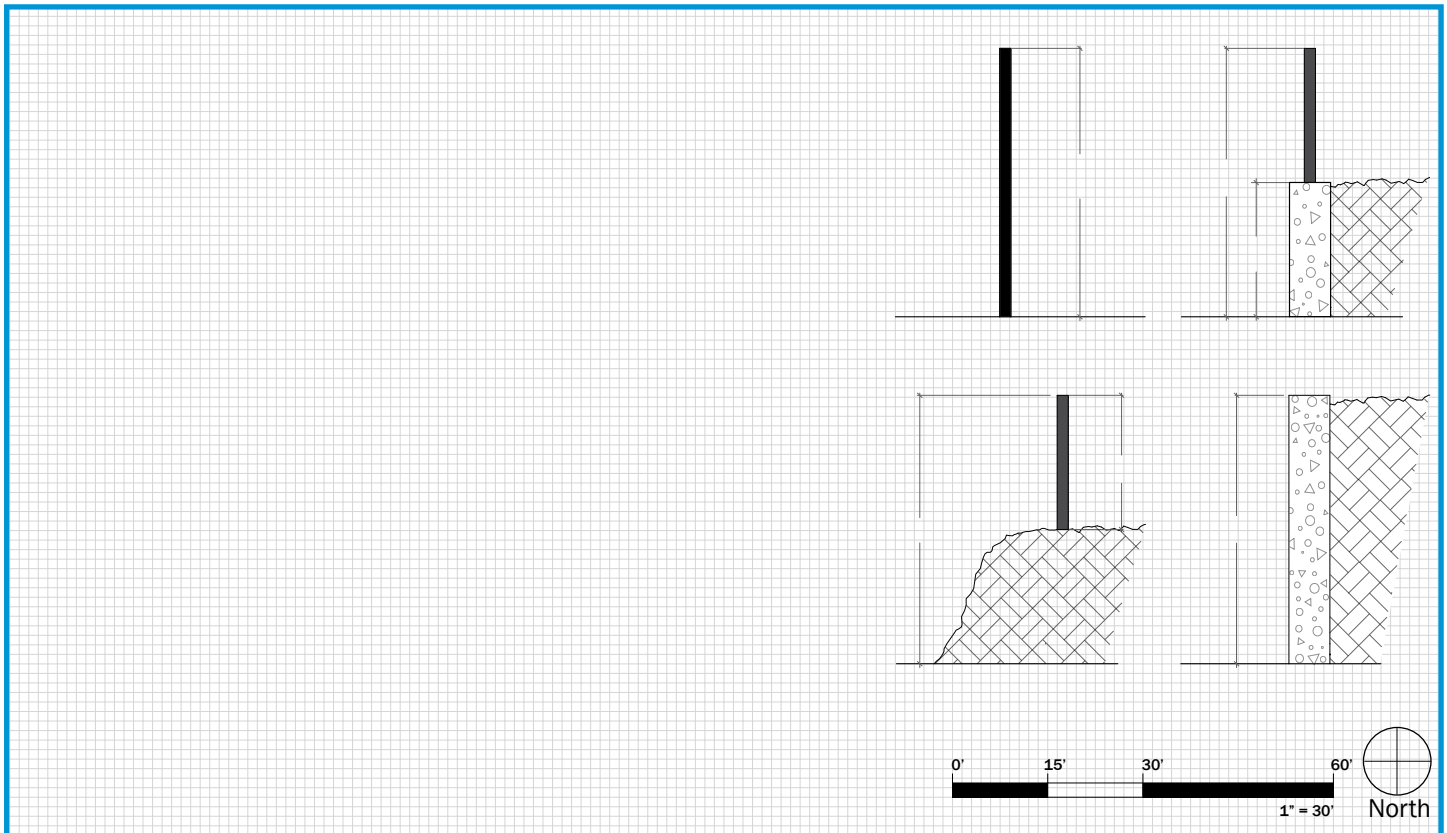
- Once approved and all fees have been paid, you will receive a zoning permit.
- A building permit, if required, must be obtained within 180 days for the construction of the project; otherwise the zoning permit is invalid. If you do not obtain a required building permit in the 180-day time period, you will have to re-apply for a zoning permit. Note that a building permit is not always required for a fence or wall - see Denver Bldg. Code, 130.3.
- **OTHER STEPS:** Zoning is often just one step for a complete project review. Please check for applicability of the city's Landmark, Building, Transportation, Wastewater, Fire, and Excise & License rules.



Fences and Walls

Site Plan Tips

- Review Denver Zoning Code sections [13.1.7 Fence and Wall Height Measurement](#) and [13.1.8 Retaining Wall Height Measurement](#) for measurement guidelines
- Show all zone lot lines and dimension the length of each zone lot line.
- Show and dimension the distance of the fence from the zone lot line.





Fences and Walls Application

SUBJECT PROPERTY INFORMATION	
Property Address	
Zone Lot Legal Description (Lot and Block or Metes and Bounds) if available	
Zone District	
Please provide description of proposed fence/walls, including height, materials, and location	
Current Use(s) of Property (e.g., single family home, duplex)	
Property Owner	Name: _____ Phone: _____
	Address: _____
	City: _____ State: _____
	Email: _____ Zip: _____
APPLICANT INFORMATION (IF NOT PROPERTY OWNER)	
Title or Interest in property and building, check one	Lessee <input type="checkbox"/> Agent <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Applicant	Name: _____ Phone: _____
	Address: _____
	City: _____ State: _____
	Email: _____ Zip: _____



Fences and Walls Application

Continued

FENCE OR WALL PROPOSAL		
Request - check all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Fence or Wall only <input type="checkbox"/> Retaining wall only <input type="checkbox"/> Fence on a new retaining wall <input type="checkbox"/> Fence on an existing retaining wall <input type="checkbox"/> Over-height Fence or Wall	
Fence or Wall Materials - check all that apply:	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Composite material <input type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Masonry <input type="checkbox"/> Metal/iron bars (ornamental fence) <input type="checkbox"/> Textured or aggregate concrete <input type="checkbox"/> Chain link or wire mesh <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial zone district only: Barbed wire or razor wire (only allowed if approved by Building/Fire Dept.) <input type="checkbox"/> Other material not listed, requesting approval by Zoning Administrator - please include a detailed description and images of the material requested <input type="checkbox"/> Other: (please describe) _____	
If Industrial Zone District:	<input type="checkbox"/> Inside the setback area, 7' or lower <input type="checkbox"/> Inside the setback area, over 7' (ZPIN process is required) <input type="checkbox"/> Outside the setback area, 10' or lower	
Lot Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Interior lot <input type="checkbox"/> Corner lot <input type="checkbox"/> Double street frontage (front yard and back yard abut a public street) <input type="checkbox"/> Frontage of 3 or more streets (do not complete sections below)	
Height	Height forward of the primary facade: _____	Height behind the primary facade: _____
VALUATION		
Estimated cost of the fence or wall (to the nearest dollar): \$ _____ .00		
ATTACHMENTS		
Submit all of the following (staff may request more information depending on the project):	<input type="checkbox"/> Completed Application <input type="checkbox"/> Site Plan showing all abutting streets/alleys, existing structures, and the proposed fence/wall location and height - required for all lots. Elevations may be required for "over-height" fences and walls.	
SIGNATURE REQUIRED		
By my signature, I attest to the best of my knowledge and belief, that the information stated in this application and in all supporting plans and documents is true and accurate.		
Signature (Owner or Representative) _____ Full Name (Print) _____ Date _____		