

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions about:

Fences in Residential Areas

Q: Where can I build my fence?

A: Fences can be built along or within your property lines. You cannot build your fence over public property or over your neighbour's property (without their permission).

Q: How do I locate my property lines?

A: A copy of a legal survey of your lot is available at the BC Land Title Office (88 6th Street, New Westminster, 1-877-577-5872 or www.ltsa.ca). This survey may help you to locate your iron pins in the ground at the corners of your lot.

A copy of a site survey, which shows the location of your property lines in relation to the house foundation walls, may be available in the Building Permits & Licences Division. A Site Survey fee is currently \$33.60 including taxes.

Q: How high can I build my fence?

A: In RS or RM zones, fences are permitted to be a maximum of:

- 1.2 m (3.9 ft) high in your front yard
- 1.2 m (3.9 ft) high in your side yards when next to public roads
- 1.8 m (5.9 ft) high in your side/rear yards when next to another private property, park or walkway (including properties backing onto a lane)

Please refer to the sketch on the next page for permitted fence heights.

Note: There is no height limit for fencing in A, RR or CR zones. Additionally, hedging and landscaping is not subject to fence height restrictions.

Q: Is a permit required to build my fence?

A: No. However, if the fence is to be built on top of a retaining wall over 1.2 m (3.9 ft), a building permit is required for the retaining wall.

Additional Regulations:

- **Before you dig you must know if there are any restrictions on your property.** For example, fences are not permitted across an easement except as specifically permitted by the holder of the easement.
- BC One Call is a central agency where you call to find out what is buried on your site such as pipelines, telecommunications cables, water and sewage lines and electrical wires. Knowing what is on your property eliminates the risk of accidents when digging or excavating.

Contact BC One Call at 1-800-474-6886 or *6886 from your cell phone.

- **When a fence is built on top of a retaining wall**, the total height of the fence shall include the height of the retaining wall if the fence and retaining wall are located less than 1.0 m from each other.
- **Barbed wire, razor wire and electrified fences** are not permitted in residential areas.



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Building Permits & Licences

1st Floor, 32315 South Fraser Way, Abbotsford, BC
T 604-864-5525 E building-info@abbotsford.ca

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Planning Services



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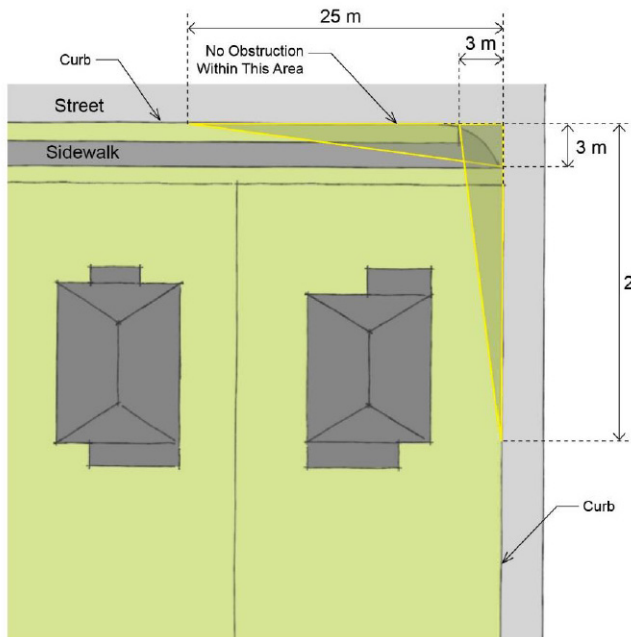
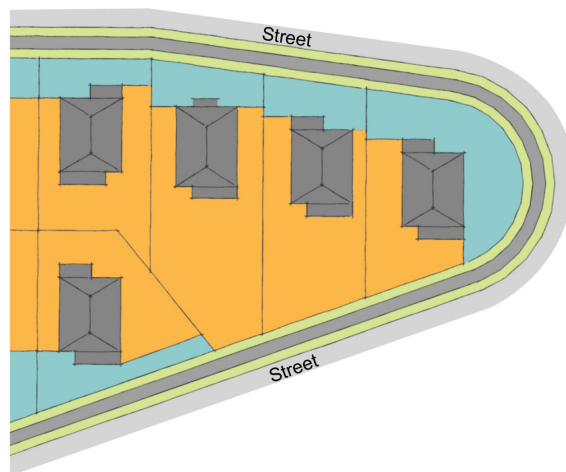
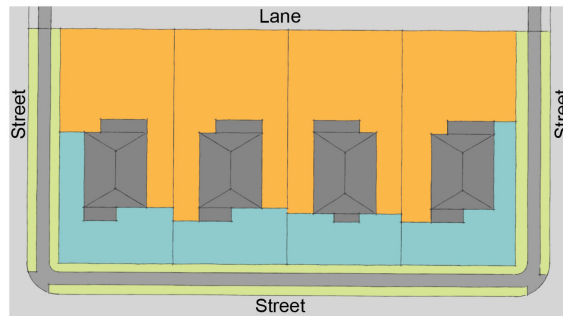
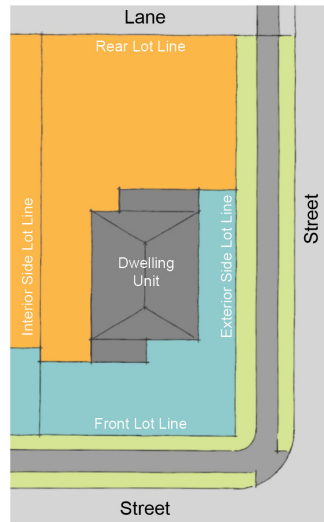
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Fences in Residential Areas

Abbotsford Zoning Bylaws, 2014 Fence Provisions

(Section 140.5.4 - Figure 5)

-  Max. Fence or Wall Height of 1.2m
-  Max. Fence or Wall Height of 1.8m



Visibility at Intersections

If you have a corner lot, you cannot obstruct the line of vision by landscaping, buildings or structures (fences), between the heights of 1.0 m and 3.0 m, above the established grade of streets within an area bounded by the intersection of the two streets (or their projection) and a point along each street 3.0 m (10 ft) from their junction drawn to a point 25.0 m from their junction on the opposite street.



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