

FENCE/WALL PERMIT DESIGN SUPPLEMENT

This supplement is intended to help in the design and construction of fences that meet City standards. Full details are available in the City of Durango's Land Use and Development Code [Section 3-5-1-1](#).

Height & Transparency Requirements

Height & Transparency in Residential Areas

- Fences in residential zones can be a maximum of 6-feet tall.
- In front setback areas, fences can only be 4-feet tall and must have 50% transparency.
- Fences outside the front setback that go from a side wall plane to a side lot line or are placed parallel to a side street in front of the rear wall plane must have 50% transparency above 4-feet.
- Where there are grade changes between properties, the height can be increased the amount of the grade change up to a maximum of 8-feet.
- Any fence on a property line between lots of different orientation shall be built to the more restrictive standard.

Height & Transparency in Commercial Areas

- Fences/walls in the LI zone can be 8-feet tall.
- Fences/walls in all other nonresidential zones can be 6-feet tall.
- Fences in the front setback of mixed use zones can be 4-feet tall and must have 50% transparency.

Design & Materials in All Areas

- The LUDC states, "All fences / walls must be made of traditional fencing/wall materials, including wood pickets, wrought iron, wire, chain link, block, etc. No other material shall be permitted without approval of the Administrator."
- Structural framework must be oriented to the interior of the property.
- No fence/wall is allowed within corner sight distance areas or visibility sight triangles as shown on the diagram on Page 2. See Sections [4-2-2-12](#) & [4-2-2-13](#) or ask staff for a detailed explanation of these areas.
- No barbed wire, razor edge, or electric wire fencing, nor fences with points or sharp edges along the top of the fence, shall be permitted without approval of the Administrator.

Height Measurement

The height of fences, walls, or retaining walls is measured as the vertical distance from a point of measurement at the average finished grade for each interval to the highest point at the top of the fence or wall, excluding posts and pilasters.

In general, fence/wall height is measured in 40 foot horizontal intervals, or the distance between posts/pilasters, whichever is shorter. However, where the average finished grade exceeds five percent (5%), the horizontal interval between height measurements shall be equal to two divided by the slope, where the slope is expressed as rise divided by run.

Other Fence/Wall Standards

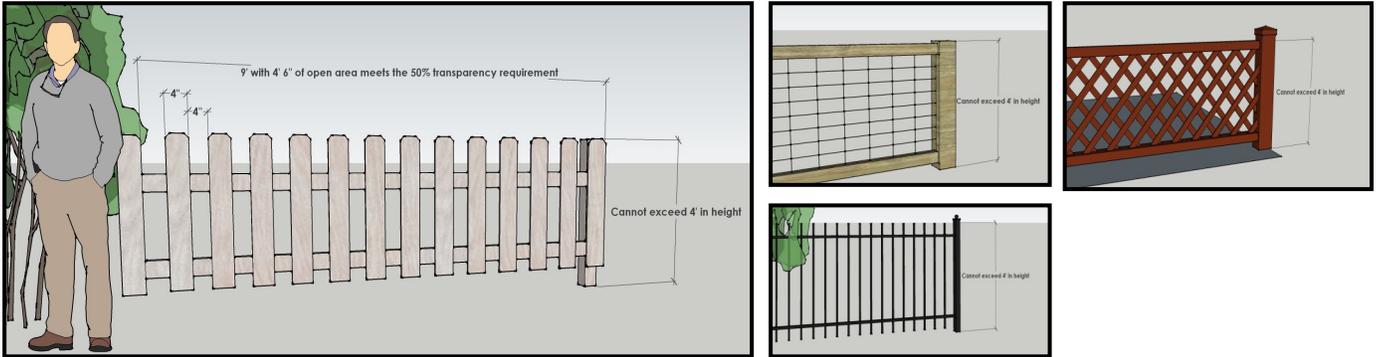
- Fence/wall height may be increased two inches when spacing for drainage under the fence is needed.
- An open arch or pergola may exceed height limits by a maximum of two additional feet for a length not to exceed four feet. No more than one such element shall be provided for every 20 feet of fence length. Also,
- Garden walls are exempt from fence/wall permits so long as they retain raised garden beds but are not used to retain any natural slope, and the maximum height of a garden wall shall be 24 inches.

Graphics which illustrate the standards above are shown on Page 2 of this handout.

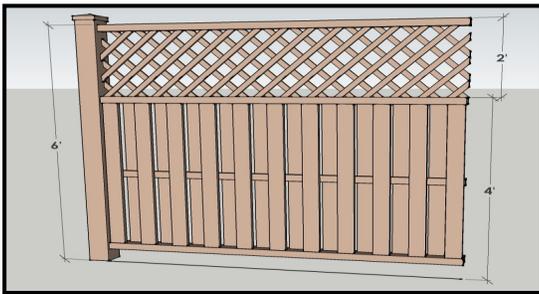
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Height, Transparency, & Materials Illustrations

The graphics below illustrates examples of acceptable fence designs for areas that allow a four foot tall fence with 50% transparency.



The graphic below illustrates an example of an acceptable design for areas that require 50% transparency above four feet.



Height Measurement Illustration

(See LUDC Sections [4-2-2-12](#) & [4-2-2-13](#) or ask staff for a detailed explanation.)

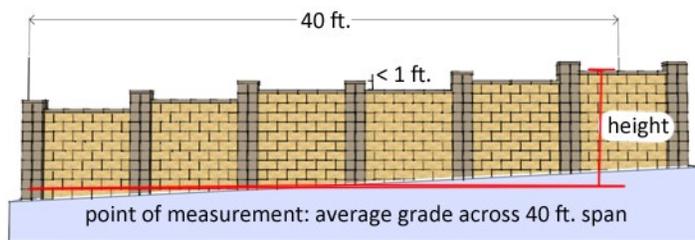


illustration with 5% slope

Visibility Triangles Dimensions & Illustration

(See LUDC Sections [4-2-2-12](#) & [4-2-2-13](#) or ask staff for a detailed explanation of these areas.)

Intersection Type	Street Leg Measurement	Driveway Leg Measurement
Street-to-Street	35'	NA
Driveway/Alley-to-Local Street	18'	18'
Driveway-to-Collector Street	23'	23'
Driveway-to-Arterial Street	28'	28'

