

Last revised: June 2024

Fences Guide

How high can I build a fence?

Zone	Maximum Permitted Height		Notes
	Within Front Yard Setback	Outside Front Yard Setback	
Residential zones that begin with 'R'	1.2 m	1.8 m	PROHIBITED types of fencing: Razor wire Barbed wire Electric fencing
Commercial zones that begin with 'C'	1.2 m	1.8 m	
Industrial zones that begin with an 'M'	2.4 m	2.4 m	PROHIBITED types of fencing: Razor wire
Agricultural zones that begin with an 'A'	2.4 m	2.4 m	

Q: Why are fence heights limited in the front yard?

A: The reason for having lower fences within the front yard setback is to provide visibility between buildings and the street they face. This helps keep neighbours connected and can improve sightlines towards the public realm.

Q: Do I need a permit to build a fence?

A: No, a permit is not required to build a fence in Penticton.

*NOTE: The only exception is if you are constructing a pool. The BC Building Code has fencing and gate requirements that will be checked as part of a pool permit. Contact the Building Department for more information.

Q: How do I find out where my property lines are?

A: The City does not keep complete records of surveys for every property in Penticton. The most accurate way to confirm your property lines is to hire a BC Land Surveyor who will attend your property and mark exactly where the property lines are on the ground. Please note that often property lines do not extend all the way to the edge of the road. The City owns a strip of land on either side of every street for services, such as streetlights.

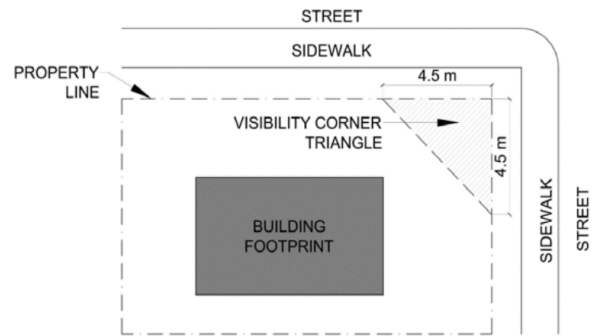
Q: How do I confirm the zoning of my property?

A: Zoning for your property can be found by searching your address on Penticton's Property Viewer at gis.penticton.ca/parcel-viewer and viewing the 'Planning' layer.

Corner Visibility Triangle (Section 4.3)

Every corner property is subject to a corner visibility triangle intended to maintain visibility, where no hedge, planting, tree, fence, sign, or other structure is permitted to a height greater than 1.2 m. This area is measured 4.5 m from the intersection point along both street-side property lines.

Corner properties are located at street intersections, not including laneways.



Example Property

The example property is zoned R4-L (R4-L Small-Scale Multi-Unit Residential: Large Lot). The R4-L zone has a 4.5 m front yard setback. The aerial image of the property indicates the approx. 4.5 m front yard setback in yellow where fencing can be a maximum of 1.2 m high. Elsewhere on the property, outside the front yard setback, fencing can be a maximum of 1.8 m high.

Please be considerate of the potential impacts of your fencing project. Below is an example where the fence was designed with an existing tree in mind.



Have Questions? We're here to help. Please contact the Planning Department

📞 250-490-2501 or ✉️ planning@penticton.ca

Located at City Hall on the first floor at 171 Main St, Penticton BC V2A 5A9