

LOCATION

Fences may be erected, placed or maintained along or adjacent to a lot line. It is the property owner’s responsibility to locate the property lines before construction of any fence (see [Survey Requirements and Property Line Location](#) handout).

No portion of any fence shall encroach upon or project into any public right-of-way or other public property without the fence owner first obtaining an encroachment permit.

No fence shall be constructed or maintained within 15 feet of any street or alley intersection where the zoning administrator finds it to obstruct views of traffic.

MAXIMUM HEIGHT

The table and graphic below summarize the maximum fence height requirements based on design and location. Please consult the ordinance, Chapter 550, Article X. Fences, for exceptions to these requirements.

- Vinyl coated chain link qualifies as an open, decorative, ornamental fence.
- Fences not located in required yards, but located within 5 feet of a public street or sidewalk, shall not exceed 6 feet in height. No fence shall exceed 8 feet in height.

FRONT YARD

A property may have an increased minimum front yard requirement based on the established setback by drawing a line from the front corners of the adjacent dwellings. If the property is located in an interior built form overlay district and the line is greater than the district requirement, this is the new front yard setback line.

Some lots have two front yards instead of a corner side yard; these are called *reverse corner lots* (see Chapter 565, Definitions, for the definition of “Lot” to determine your lot type).

DESIGN

Permitted materials (no more than 2 per fence):

- Wood (resistant to decay)
- Metal
- Brick
- Masonry
- Other permanent materials designed for permanent fencing

All fence posts and related supporting members shall be erected so the finish side or sides of the fence face the adjacent property or public right-of-way.

Design and/or Location	Front Yard Max	Corner Side Yard Max	Interior Side Yard Max	Rear Yard Max
Entire fence within the applicable yard is open, decorative, ornamental and at most 60% solid	4 ft.	4 ft., except as allowed below	6 ft.	6 ft.
Entire fence is 60% or more solid	N/A	4 ft., or may be 6 ft. on corner lots, where the additional height is only authorized as far forward as necessary to enclose an entrance facing the corner yard	4 ft., or 6 ft. between the rear wall of the neighbor’s house on the adjoining property and the rear lot line, or 6 ft. when the fence is 5 ft. or more from neighbor’s house	6 ft., but may be 4 ft. if rear lot line abuts an interior side lot line
Beginning at the rear wall of the house to the rear lot line	N/A	6 ft.	Please see above	N/A

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Consult Chapter 550, Article X. Fences of the City’s Zoning Ordinance online at: https://library.municode.com/mn/minneapolis/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=MICOOR_TIT20ZOCO_CH550DEST_ARTXFE

