

CITY OF DUBUQUE FENCE REQUIREMENT

IBC Section 105.2 Exception 2 and IRC Section R105.2 Exception 2, exempts fences not over seven (7) feet high from obtaining a building permit.

2-8. Fences:

2-8.1, Residential Districts:

On any residential lot, fences may be erected to a height of seven feet (7') in all yards except that fences erected in required front yards shall not exceed four feet (4') in height provided, that ten feet (10') of clear visibility shall be maintained on corner lots in accordance with section 4-4.6 of this Ordinance with the exception that:

- (a) In an historic district, fences with height in excess of the above limitations may be permitted as conditional uses where the height, material, composition and general appearance of the fence is appropriate to the property in the historic district and the other application standards for conditional use permits are met.

Fences surrounding pools shall also comply with all applicable standards required by the building code. (Ord. 52-09, 10-19-2009)

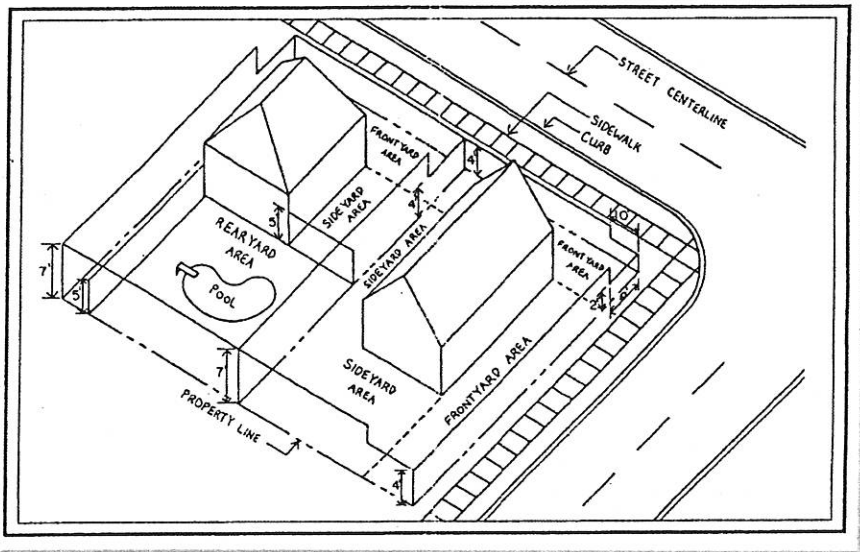
2-8.2, Other Districts:

Fences surrounding schoolyards or located in nonresidential zoning districts shall be exempt from the provisions of section 2-8.1 of this Ordinance, provided, that visibility at intersections is not hindered.

2-8.3, Barbed Wire:

Barbed wire and electric fences shall not be permitted below eight feet (8') in height, except when used in the AG agriculture district for purposes of containing livestock

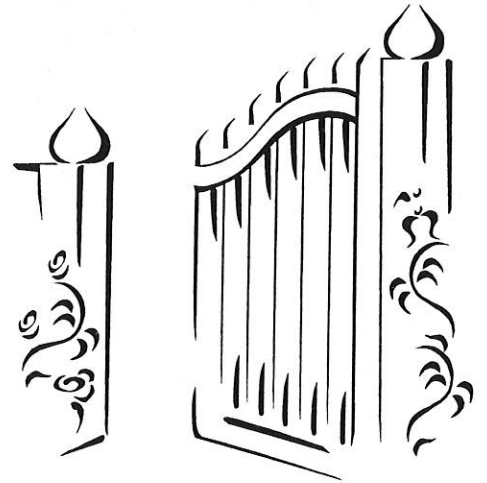
Measurement Diagram



This guide is not intended to cover every aspect of City fence regulations, and should not be considered the final or definitive authority on any of the matters it addresses. It is only a general guide.

Fences

*A guide to fence regulations
in residential neighborhoods*



Fences

A guide to fence regulations for residential neighborhoods in the City of Dubuque

If you are interested in putting up a fence around your house, here are some helpful hints and a diagram that explain the fence regulations in the City of Dubuque.

Where can I build a fence on my property?

A fence can be built anywhere on your lot, up to the property line. If you want to build your fence on or close to the property line, it is a good idea to have your property surveyed so you don't build your fence on your neighbor's property. *Please note: It is your responsibility to locate your property lines and to check your abstract for easements and restrictive covenants.*

How high can I build a fence?

Fences in residential areas may be built up to 4 feet high in the front yard and up to 7 feet high in the side and rear yards.

Your front yard is the portion of your lot along the street. If you have a corner lot or a lot with a street in front and back, you have two front yards—one along each street.

If the fence is built at the corner of your lot along a street, it can only be 2 feet high for 10 feet on each side of the corner, so drivers can see oncoming traffic (see diagram). This guideline applies to both homes and businesses.

Fences surrounding school yards or in business districts are not restricted in height, provided that visibility at intersections is not hindered.

What type of material can I use to build my fence?

A fence can be made of any type of fencing material, except barbed wire. Barbed wire can be used only in agricultural zones, or above 8 feet. Either side of a fence can face out. It is a good idea to build your fence of a height, style and material that fits in with your property and your neighborhood.

Are there special guidelines for fences in historic districts?

Yes, in a historic district, fences may be built higher than the standard height limitations described above if certain conditions are met first: if the height, material, composition and general appearance of the fence is appropriate for that district, AND use permit is approved by the City.



Do I need a permit to build a fence?

No, unless your property is in a historic district, or you plan to build your fence higher than the standard height limitations described above.

Are there height requirements for fences surrounding swimming pools?

Yes. All swimming pools over 18 inches in depth must be enclosed by a fence that is at least 5 feet high. Swimming pools require approval of a permit and a site plan by the Building Services Department before installation.



A measurement diagram for fence regulations is provided on the back of this brochure.

If you have questions or would like more information about fences or other zoning regulations, please contact:

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