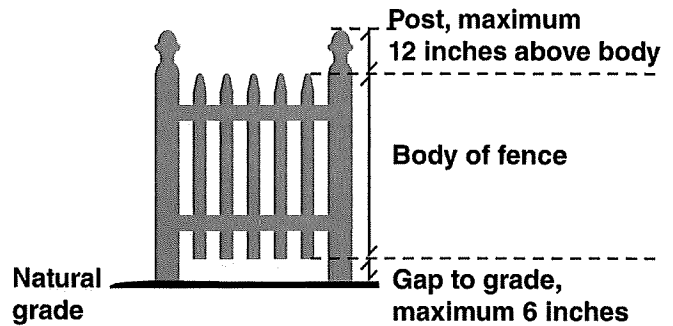


## Measuring fence height

The body of the fence determines the fence height. A maximum of six inches is allowed above the natural grade (e.g. for drainage purposes). Fence posts may extend a maximum of 12 inches above the body of the fence. If the fence height has been elevated through the use of a retaining wall, the creation of a berm or another method for the primary purpose of increasing the elevation of the fence, the fence height is measured from the ground elevation prior to the grade modification.



## Opacity

Fence opacity is the degree to which views are blocked.

When a fence adjacent to a street is over three feet in height and does not meet the required setback for a principal structure in the zoning district, fence opacity is limited to 50 percent or less, subject to the exceptions below. *See right for examples.* For opacity limitations, an alley is not considered a street.

### Exceptions

The following fences are exempt from opacity limitations:

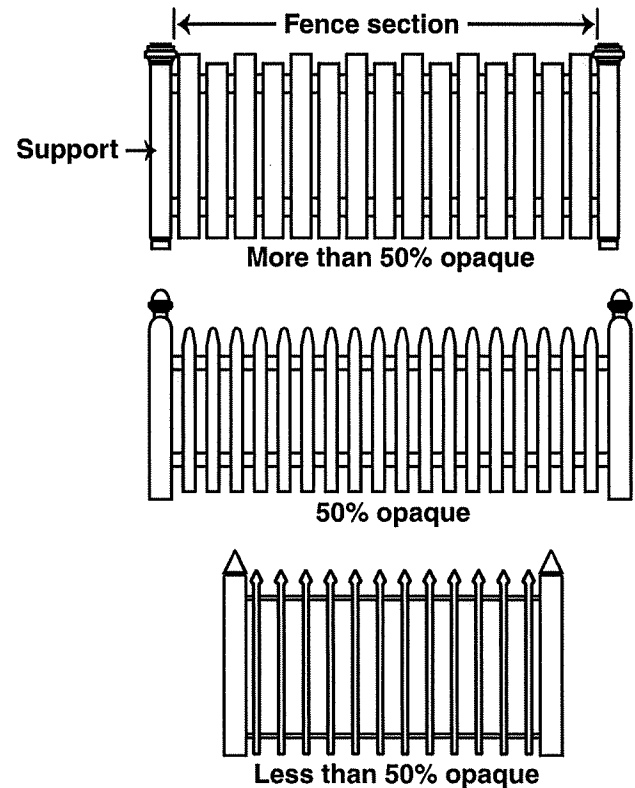
1. A fence in a yard adjacent to an arterial street as designated by the *Comprehensive Plan*, provided a 15-foot clear view triangle is maintained. *See page 3 for clear view triangles and page 4 for arterial streets.*
2. Screening fences required by the *City Code*, including commercial properties. *See Section 21.301.08 (g)(4).*
3. Screening fences required by a condition of approval for a development application.
4. Fences in the rear yard of a through lot when adjacent lots are also through lots. *See through lot example on page 1.*
5. Fences in the rear yard of a corner lot when the fence is no closer to the street than an existing principal structure or garage.
6. Vegetation growing adjacent to or on a fence will not be considered in determining compliance with the opacity requirements for fences.

## Approved materials

Fences must be constructed of wood, metal, bricks, masonry, plastic or other materials designed for permanent outdoor fencing. Wood fences must be constructed of cedar, redwood, or other decay resistant wood. Chain link fencing finer than 11-gauge in diameter is prohibited. (Note: 12-gauge is finer and 10-gauge wire is thicker than 11-gauge.) Fences must not be constructed from razor wire, snow fencing, plywood, or materials originally intended for other purposes. Above ground electric fencing is not permitted. Barbed wire is permitted only on top of fences in nonresidential districts, a minimum of six feet above the natural grade.

### Fence Opacity

Opacity (the degree to which light or views are blocked) is measured perpendicular to the fence for each fence section between supports.



### Exception

Temporary fences made of chicken wire in residential districts are permitted for residential garden uses only.

## Installation, posts and supporting members

All fence elements must be permanently installed and constructed in a workmanlike manner to secure the fence in a vertically level position. Fences must be installed so that posts and lateral supports are not on the side of the fence facing an adjacent property or public right-of-way, unless exposed on both sides.