

FENCE AND WALL INFORMATION

How High Can I Build My Fence/Wall?

The maximum allowable height for a fence or wall is noted in Section 153.130.060 of the City of Baldwin Park's Municipal Code. The following information provides a summary of the regulations.

Residential Properties

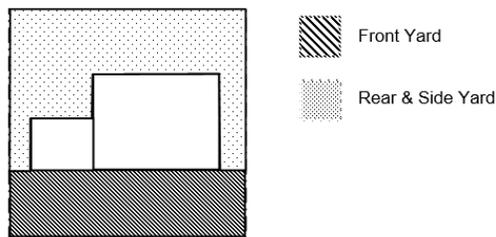
Front Yards

All solid walls, fences or hedges proposed in the required front yard areas are limited to a maximum of 3 feet in height.

However, any open fence (such as a wrought iron, wood picket, or combination wrought iron and concrete block wall fence) can be constructed to a maximum height of 5 feet. This includes any decorative finishes or ornaments on a fence or wall.

Side and Rear Yards

Fences and walls up to 6 feet in height are permitted on all side and rear yard areas.



Corner Side Yards

Any proposed fence or wall must comply with the clear cross-visibility area requirements (see Clear Visibility Triangle on Page 2 of this handout for more information on this requirement).

Commercial and Industrial Properties

Front Yards

The maximum height for all fences and walls in the front yard area is 6 feet.

However, all walls that are proposed within the street facing front yard area of a property shall provide at least two of the following design features:

- A minimum 2 ft change in horizontal plane for at least 10 lineal feet of wall area;
- A minimum 18 inch change in height for at least 10 lineal feet of wall area;
- A minimum 18 inch high raised planter for at least half the lineal length of the wall;
- Use of pilasters at 25 foot maximum intervals and at changes in wall planes.

Side and Rear Yards

Fences and walls up to 8 feet in height are permitted on all side and rear yard areas.

Corner Side Yards

Any proposed fence or wall must comply with the clear cross-visibility area requirements (see Clear Visibility Triangle on Page 2 of this handout for more information on this requirement).

Do I Need Approval or a Permit to Build a Fence/Wall?

Approval from the Planning Division is required for fences and walls in the front yard. A site plan, like the one shown in the attached example, is required to be approved prior to fence/wall construction. Fences/walls proposed in the side and rear yards do not require City approval but must still be constructed per the standards identified in this handout.

Contact the Planning Division at (626) 813-5261 for questions regarding fence/wall approval requirements

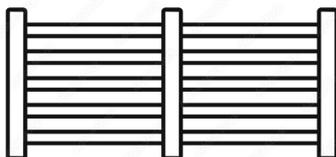
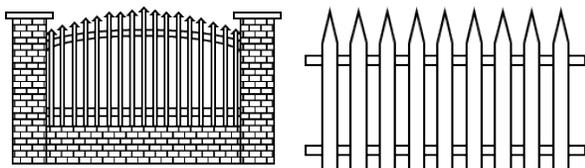
A Building permit is required only for retaining walls over 3 feet in height as measured from the bottom of the footing to the top of the wall.

Contact Building and Safety Staff at (626) 813-5265 for questions regarding permit requirements.

What Fence/Wall Materials Are Allowed?

The following fencing materials are permitted:

- Wood fencing that is water treated/water sealed;
- Decorative wrought iron fencing;
- Block walls that are made of decorative materials, such as slump stone, split face block, brick or concrete blocks finished with decorative stucco.



The following materials are ***prohibited*** in all zones (with exceptions as noted):

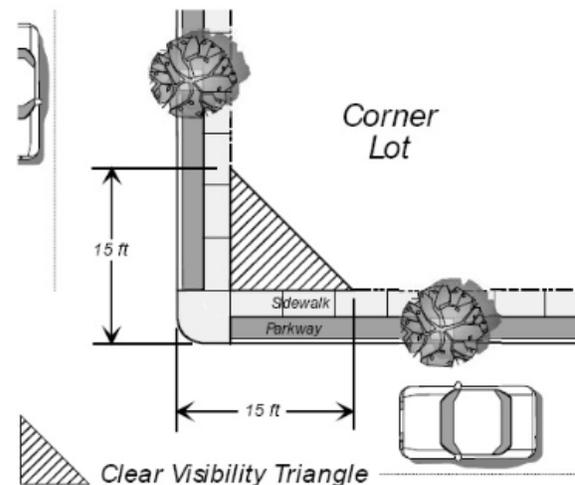
- Barbed wire, razor or concertina wire (prohibited only in Residential and Commercial properties)
- Electrified fences
- Chain link fencing
- Plastic or vinyl materials
- Corrugated metal or similar untreated materials.



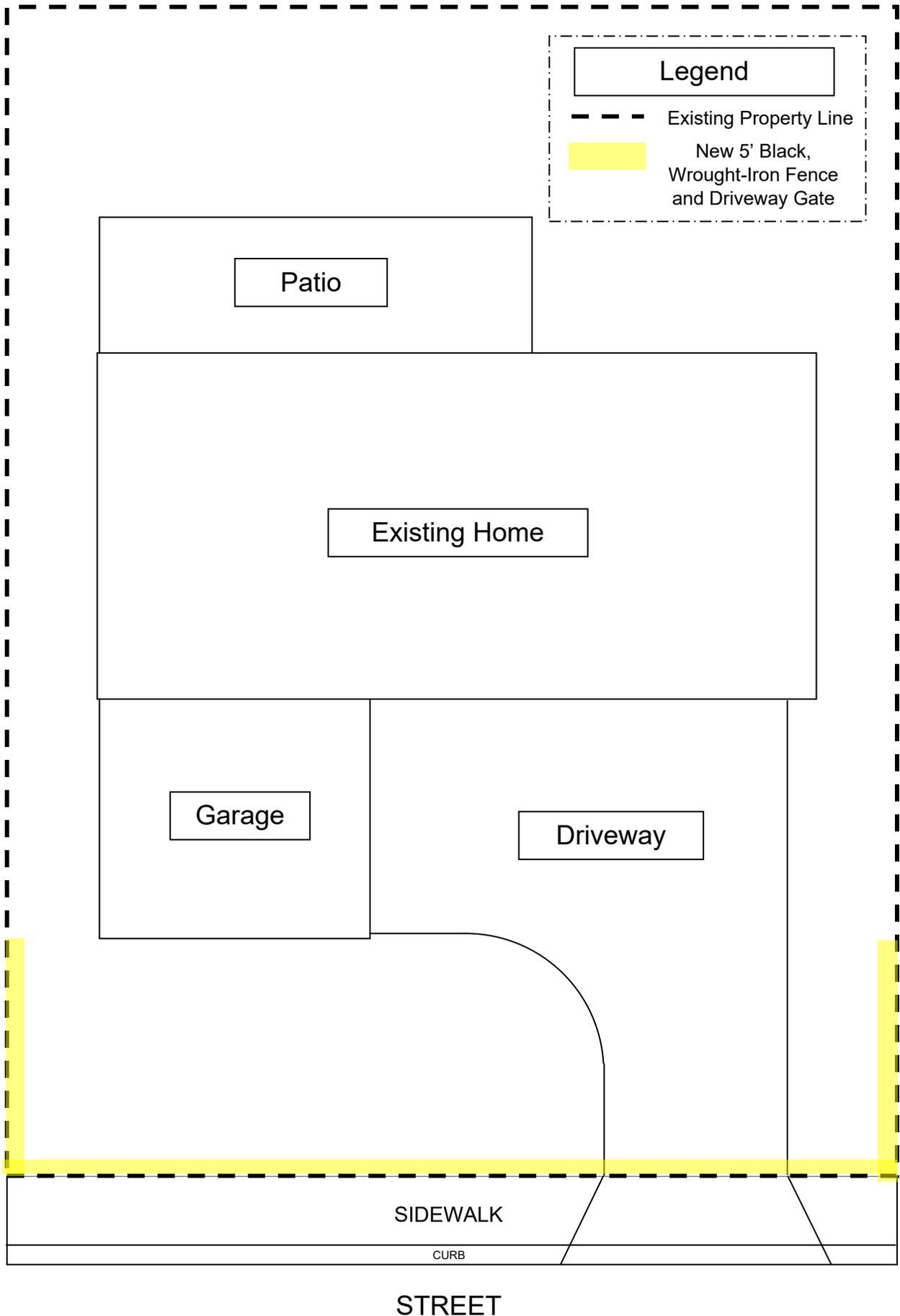
I'm Building A Fence/Wall On A Corner Lot. Are There Any Restrictions I Should Keep In Mind?

For all corner lots, there is a requirement for fences/walls to maintain what's known as a ***clear cross-visibility area*** wherever a fence or wall is proposed on visible yard areas.

All portions of a fence, wall or hedge that are within the required cross-visibility area may not exceed 3 feet in height if built with solid materials (such as a block wall).



Sample Fence Plan





CITY OF BALDWIN PARK

Building Division

14403 East Pacific Avenue
 Baldwin Park, California 91706
 (626) 813-5265 (626) 813-5267

FREE-STANDING MASONRY FENCES

Construction of masonry fences lower than six feet high and not supporting surcharge does not require a building permit from the City of Baldwin Park Building Division. However, it is regulated by the Uniform Building Code.

The following specifications are from the 2016 Uniform Building Code used by the City of Baldwin Park Building Division.

WALL HEIGHT

Fence height is measured from the top of the footing to the top of the wall.

MASONRY FENCE SPECIFICATIONS

Use the following specifications when constructing a masonry fence.

1. Concrete Mix

The concrete mix for footings must meet the strength of $F'c=2000$ psi minimum, or the following:

- 1 Part Portland cement
 - 2 ½ Parts sand
 - 3 ½ Parts ¾ inch maximum size gravel
- Not more than 7 gallons of water per sack of cement.

2. Mortar Mix

Mortar mix must meet the strength of $F'c=1800$ psi minimum, or the following:

- 1 Part Portland cement
- 3 ½ Parts sand
- ¼ Part hydrated lime or lime putty

Note: Use of Plastic cement not allowed.

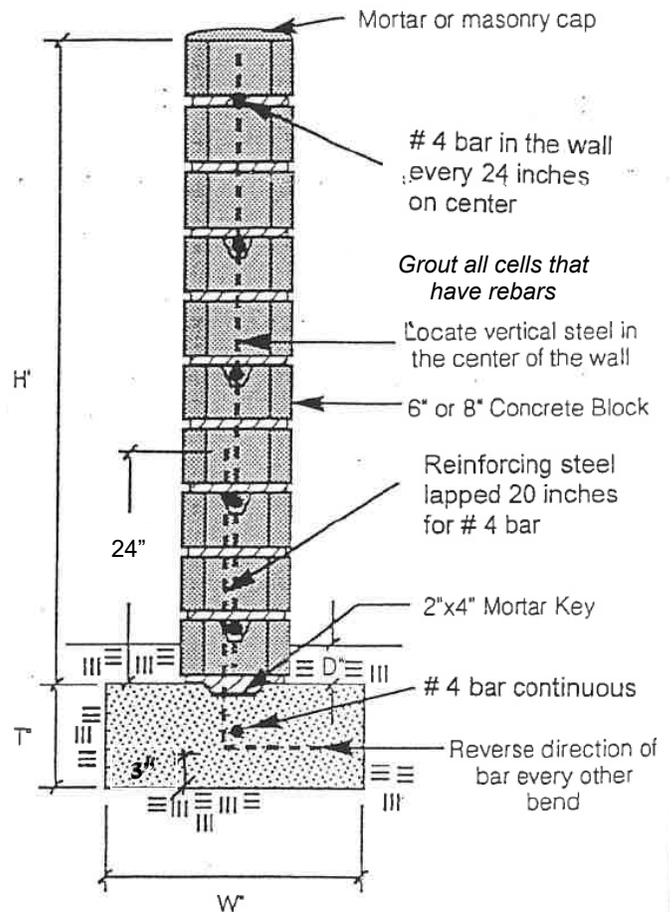
3. Reinforcing Steel

Reinforcing steel must be deformed and comply with ASTM specifications A615-82, Grade 40. When one continuous bar cannot be used, a lap or splice of 40-bar diameters or 24" minimum [whichever is greater] is required.

4. Grout Mix

Grout must meet the strength of $F'c=2500$ psi minimum, or the following:

- 1 Part Portland cement
- 2 ½ Parts of sand
- 3 ½ Parts ¼ inch maximum gravel



Reinforcement steel requirements for masonry fences

Wall Height	Material	W in Inches	T in Inches	D in Inches	Reinforcing Steel
4' - 0"	6" block	14"	18"	6"	# 4 @ 24" o.c.
	8" block	14"	18"	6"	# 4 @ 24" o.c.
5' - 0"	6" block	18"	18"	6"	# 4 @ 24" o.c.
	8" block	18"	18"	6"	# 4 @ 24" o.c.
6' - 0"	6" block	24"	18"	6"	# 4 @ 24" o.c.
	8" block	24"	18"	6"	# 4 @ 24" o.c.