



Government of the District of Columbia
Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

Permit Application Submittal Requirement Guideline

2019-002

Fence

This checklist provides guidance to documents submittal requirements for applications that pertain to Fence. Fences are addressed in Section 3112 of the construction codes. Fences can be Party line fences or other fences such as fences abutting streets, fences abutting alleys, fences near party lines and Fences located in lot interior. The code provides guidance for each type of fences.

Discipline reviews required: Structural Review, Zoning [refer 3112.1.4 when required], DDOT, DOEE.

References: International Building Code 2012 edition as amended by DCMR12A.

DCMR 12A

- **[DCBC 105.2 Work Exempted from Permit]– Repair in kind of existing permit is exempted in Item 4. Permit exemptions are not applicable in Historic Districts or designated buildings.**
 - **[DCBC 3112.1.4] application shall be accompanied by official building plat up on which the proposed fence location is indicated.**
 - **[DCBC section 3112.1-3112.4.2] Are applicable to fences permit applications**
 - **[DCBC 3112.2] Party line fences: fences including footings which are partly on each side of a party line.**
 - **[DCBC 3112.1.3] Fence Height: measurement shall be made from the top of the fence to grade, on the side of the fence where grade is higher.**
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Guideline

The following Documents are required to review this permit application

- Application form / apply online
- Copy of Neighbor Notification letter adjoining neighbors along with copy of proof of service in the form of certified mail receipt, as determined by the District's real property tax records. Neighbor notification shall not be required when the waterproofing solution is limited to the underside of the slab and above the top of the footing and where there are no adjoining buildings.
- A recent plat, not older than 6 months. Indicated the proposed fence on the plat.
- A detail of the fence, showing the height of the fence, the configuration and type of material, or copy of the manufacturer specification if a prefabricated fence is to be used.
- If party line fence is proposed above 7ft, an agreement between the owners shall be executed and be filed along with the permit application
- Fences abutting streets shall not exceed 7ft in Residence and 10ft in commercial or mixed use.
- Fences abutting alleys shall not exceed 7ft in residence and 10ft in commercial or mixed use. The Code official may approve greater height where alley is 15ft wide or more.
- Fence located less than 10ft from a party line shall be a maximum of 7ft high unless there is a written consent between the adjoining owners.
- Fences located in lot interior more than 10ft may not be limited in height. [3112.3.4]
- Fences on public space or on Building Restriction Line will require public space or DDOT permit. Visit <https://tops.ddot.dc.gov> for more information.
- Fences on Historic area will require HPRB review.