

BUILDING A RESIDENTIAL FENCE



www.whitecourt.ca

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
KEEPING YOU INFORMED.

DO I NEED A PERMIT?

In Whitecourt, most fences can be built without permits.

Fences are permitted in all single family residential land use districts and are often built on the property line.

Fences can be 1.0 metre high in the front yard and 1.8 metre high in the side and back yard.

Corner lots often require special consideration to ensure good visibility for both pedestrian and vehicle traffic.

You are encouraged to meet with a Development Officer to discuss all of your options.

KEEP IN MIND

- When constructing a fence around or near a fire hydrant, allow 1.0 metre (3') distance away from the hydrant.
- Do not build your fence on public property. If a fence is located on Town property and needs to be removed because the Town must do work on the boulevard (as an example), it will not be replaced by the Town of Whitecourt.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do I need a permit to build a fence?

Generally, no. Corner lots have special requirements, as well as a few other locations in town. Please check with the Planning & Development Department to confirm.

What materials can I use to build my fence?

The Town does not regulate the style, colour or type of fencing; however, fences must be aesthetically pleasing and compliment the surrounding neighbourhood. Electrification of fences is not permitted, nor are barbed wire fences.

How do I determine property lines?

The best and most accurate method is to have an Alberta Land Surveyor stake them out.

Am I responsible to pay half if my neighbour is building a fence along the property line?

This is a matter between your neighbour and you. Cooperation between neighbours is encouraged.

UTILITY SAFETY PARTNERS

Click before you dig www.utilitysafety.ca.

Submit a locate request to ensure you don't come in contact with a dangerous underground utility.

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WHAT DO I SUBMIT IF I DO NEED A PERMIT?

If a Development Permit is required for your fence, you will need:

- To complete a Development Permit application form which is available on www.whitecourt.ca;
- Provide a Site Plan showing:
 - Existing structures on the property and the proposed fence location with dimensions;
 - Easements and utility right-of-ways (a site plan prepared by an Alberta Land Surveyor may be required);
- Application fees.

The application is reviewed by a Development Officer, and the application is then presented to the Development Authority for a decision. If your application is approved you may proceed with construction after the 21-day appeal window.

THE APPEAL PROCESS

You can appeal the decision or the conditions of your permit. You must submit your appeal to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board within 21 days of the written notice of decision.

Please contact the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board at 780-778-2273 for more information regarding the appeal process.



TOWN OF WHITECOURT - PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Closed between 12:00 noon and 12:30 p.m.)