Fence Design Standards

Structural Standards Diagram for Wooden Fences 30-inches to 8-feet in height*

1. All materials shall be treated wood, or wood of natural resistance to decay, hot-dip galvanized steel, or plastic materials. Installation and durability standards for plastic fencing material shall meet all manufacturer's standards and specifications, which standards and specifications must also meet all requirements for approval offence materials under the City's Building Code. All wood shall be construction grade 2 or better.

2. Fence posts shall consist of one of the following for a five- to 6 1/2-foot fence: four-inch by four-inch wood post or 1 7/8-inch diameter steel pipe with a wall thickness of 0.120 inches; or 1 7/8-inch square standard gauge steel pipe with a wall thickness of 0.120 inches. Fence posts shall consist of one of the following for a fence over 6 1/2 feet to eight feet: four-inch by four-inch or four-inch by six-inch wood post, or 2 3/8-inch diameter steel pipe with a wall thickness of 0.130 inches; or 2 3/8-inch square standard gauge steel pipe with a wall thickness of 0.130 inches.

3. Fence posts for a five- to 6 1/2-foot fence shall be spaced a maximum of eight feet on center. Fence posts for a fence over 6 1/2 feet to eight feet shall be spaced a maximum of one of the following lengths: if a four-inch by six-inch wood post is used, the posts shall be spaced eight feet on center; or if a four-inch by four-inch wood post is used, the fence posts shall be spaced six feet on center; 2 3/8-inch diameter steel pipe or 2 3/8-inch square standard gauge steel pipe is to be spaced a maximum of eight feet on center.

4. Four-inch by four-inch wood fences posts shall be set in a minimum ten-inch diameter concrete pier, extending a minimum of two feet deep. Metal posts shall be set in a minimum eight-inch diameter concrete pier, extending a minimum of two feet deep. Four inch by six-inch wood fence posts shall be set in a minimum 12-inch diameter concrete pier, again extending a minimum of two feet deep.

5. Any wooden stockade style fence five feet to 6 1/2 feet that is visually nontransparent shall have a minimum of three two-inch by four-inch rails. Any wooden stockade style fence over 6 1/2 feet to eight feet that is visually nontransparent will have a minimum of four two-inch by four-inch rails.

6. Vertical wooden fence boards or pickets shall be a minimum of one inch in thickness and all pickets shall be spaced such that a sphere four inches in diameter cannot pass through.

*All measurements for fence materials are nominal measurements in accordance with generally accepted industry standards. Any masonry or concrete fence shall be reviewed by the City and constructed in accordance with the City's Building Code.