



City of
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Ordinance 77, Article XIII., Section 19-401, Sub-Section D.

Opacity Requirements for Fences in Residential Districts

In order to best ensure compliance and understanding of the opacity requirements for fences in residential districts. The Development Services Department has drafted this document listing standard picket size for fences and the corresponding minimum spacing between the pickets that the ordinance requires.

The Code states that fences require a minimum of 1 5/8" spacing with a maximum not allowing for the passage of a 4" sphere, and that fences shall not obscure more than 60% of the visual range of a property.

The calculation for this is *Picket Size / (Picket Size + Picket Width) = Opacity Rating.*

For example, a fence picket that is 5.5" wide with a spacing of 3.75" would be calculated as:

$5.5 / (5.5 + 3.75) = 0.59$ or 59%. This is less than 60% and is therefore permissible.

List of Standard Picket Sizes and Corresponding Minimum Spacings.

<u>Picket Width</u>	<u>Minimum Picket Spacing</u>
3.5 Inches	2.25 Inches
4 Inches	2.75 Inches
5.5 Inches	3.75 Inches
6 Inches	3.85 Inches
7.5 Inches	Not Permissible
8 Inches	Not Permissible
11.5 Inches	Not Permissible
12 Inches	Not Permissible