



FRONT FENCING

What Constitutes a Front Fence?

A front fence is the fence that extends across the front boundary line of the lot and returns down the side boundaries for the same distance as the front setback for the lot.

When do I need Shire Approval?

All fences that exceed 1.2m high require Planning approval in the form of Town Planning Application and a building permit application which is completed if the proposal is allowable by Town Planning: Application forms can be obtained from the Shire's front counter or downloaded from our web site.

Design Elements that Require Consideration for Front Fences

A person shall not without the written consent of the Town Council (i.e Planning Approval) erect a fence higher than 1.2m in the front setback of a residential lot which includes the front boundary.

The maximum height of any part of the fence is to be 1.8m.

A front fence may be constructed of brick, masonry, timber, wrought iron, tubular steel, colour bond.

The height of a fence is defined as the vertical distance between:

- the top of the fence at any point; and
- the ground level or where the ground levels on each side of the fence are not the same the higher ground level immediately below that point.

Any fence constructed of stone, concrete or masonry including bricks over the height of 1.8m must be designed by a structural engineer and approved by the Building Surveyor.

Provisions of the Residential Design Codes that apply to Front Fences:

Front walls and fences within the primary street setback shall be visually permeable 1.2m above natural ground level

Front walls and fences are to promote surveillance and enhance streetscape, taking account of:

- the need to provide protection from noise and headlight glare where roads are designated as primary or district distributors or integrator arterials; or
- the need to provide screening to the front setback; or
- the need to provide privacy to north facing outdoor living areas

Walls and fences shall be truncated or reduced to no higher than 0.75 m within 1.5 m of where walls and fences adjoin vehicle access points and/or where a driveway meets a public street and/or where two streets intersect so that adequate sight lines are provided at vehicle access points.

Visually permeable means: in reference to a wall, gate, door or fence that the vertical surface has:

continuous vertical or horizontal gaps of at least 50 mm width occupying not less than one third of its face in aggregate of the entire surface or where narrower than 50 mm, occupying at least one half of the face in aggregate, as viewed directly from the street; or a surface offering equal or lesser obstruction to view.

