

TRIBAL INSPECTORS DEPARTMENT

GUIDELINES FOR DESIGN OF FENCES

(From the Florida Building Code, 2017 6th Edition, as interpreted by the **Chief Building Official**)

Minimum fence requirements shall be as follows, as excerpted from the 2017 6th Edition of the Florida Building Code:

2328 HIGH VELOCITY HURRICANE ZONES - WOOD FENCES

2326.2 Wood fences shall be constructed of decay and termite-resistant material (as specified in Section 2326.2.6 of the Code).

Note: Cypress may be used for fence cladding and not embedded in the ground.

1615.2.1.1 Wood fences shall be designed according to the loads as specified in Section 2328 of the Code.

EXCEPTION: Unless designed by rational analysis, wood fences not exceeding 6'0" in height may be constructed to meet the following minimum requirements:

- (1) Vertical post of nominal 4" x 4" x 8' spaced a maximum of 4'0" O/C.
- (2) Post shall be embedded 2'0" into a concrete footing 10" in diameter and 2'0" deep
- (3) Horizontal framing shall consist of a minimum of 3 horizontal rails of a nominal 2" x 4" material and shall be fastened according to Chapter 23, Section 2324 of the Code.
- (4) All lumber shall be a minimum of #2 grade or better.
- (5) All fasteners shall be corrosion resistant.

2326 PROTECTION OF WOOD

2326.2.1 PRESERVATIVE TREATED OR DURABLE SPECIES WOOD

(1) All wood in areas of buildings where the climatic condition is conducive to deterioration which would affect the structural safety shall be treated in an approved method with an approved preservative or shall be of an approved durable species.

(2) All wood in contact with ground or below ground level which supports permanent structures shall be approved pressure treated wood suitable for ground contact use with the following exceptions:

(aa) Naturally durable wood or pressure treated wood may be used in contact with the ground for support of structures other than buildings and walking surfaces.

(bb) Untreated wood may be used for supports where entirely below ground water level and continuously submerged in fresh water.

(3) All wood in contact with concrete or masonry including sills, sleepers, plates, posts, columns, beams, girders and furring shall be treated in an approved method with an approved preservative or shall be of an approved durable species.

(4) The expression "pressure treated wood" refers to wood meeting the retention, penetration and other requirements applicable to the species, product, treatment and conditions of use in the approved standards of the American Wood Preservers Association (AWPA).

(5) The expression "durable wood" refers to the heartwood of the following species with the exception that an occasional piece with corner sapwood may be included if 90% or more of the width of each side on which it occurs is heartwood:

- Decay resistant: Redwood, Cedars, Black Locust.
- Termite resistant: Redwood, Bald and Eastern Red Cedar.

(6) All posts, poles, and columns embedded in concrete which is in contact with ground and supporting permanent structures shall be approved pressure treated wood suitable for ground contact use except naturally durable wood may be used for posts, poles and columns embedded in concrete for structures other than buildings and walking surfaces or in structures where wood is above ground level and not exposed to weather.

(7) For conditions not specifically covered, compliance with American Forest & Paper Association Wood Construction Data #6 "Design of Wood Frame Structures for Permanence" shall be deemed as compliance with this Code.

2224 HIGH VELOCITY HURRICANE ZONES - CHAIN LINK FENCES

2224.2 Chain link fences in excess of 12 feet in height shall be designed according to the loads as specified in Chapter 16 (High Velocity Hurricane Zones)

Chain link fences less than 12 feet in height shall be designed according to the loads as specified in Chapter 16 (High Velocity Hurricane Zones) or may be constructed to meet the minimum requirements specified in Table 2224.

Table 2224

Chain Link Fence Minimum Requirements Fence Height	Terminal Post Dimensions (o.d. x wall thickness)	Line Post Dimensions (o.d. x wall thickness)	Terminal Post Concrete Foundation Size (Diameter x Depth)	Line Post Concrete Foundation Size (Diameter x Depth)
Up to 4'	2-3/8" x .042"	1-5/8" x .047"	10" x 24"	8" x 24"
Over 4' to 5'	2-3/8" x .042"	1-7/8" x .055"	10" x 24"	8" x 24"
Over 5' to 6'	2-3/8" x .042"	1-7/8" x .065"	10" x 24"	8" x 24"
Over 6' to 8'	2-3/8" x .110"	2-3/8" x .095"	10" x 36"	10" x 36"
Over 8' to 10'	2-7/8" x .110"	2-3/8" x .130"	12" x 40"	10" x 40"
Over 10' to 12'	2-7/8" x .160"	2-7/8" x .120"	12" x 42"	12" x 42"

NOTES:

1. This Table is only applicable to fences with unrestricted air flow.
2. Fabric - 12-1/2 Gauge minimum.
3. Tension Bands - Use one less than the height of the fence in feet, evenly spaced.
4. Fabric Ties - Must be the same gauge as the gauge of the fabric, minimum.
5. Fabric Tie Spacing on the Top Rail - Five ties between posts, evenly spaced.
6. Fabric Tie Spacing on Line Posts - One less than the height of the fence in feet, evenly spaced.
7. Either Top Rail or Top Tension Wire shall be used.
8. Braces must be used at Terminal Posts if top tension wire is used instead of Top Rail.
9. Post Spacing - 10' on center maximum
10. Posts shall embed to within 6" of the bottom of the foundation.
11. In order to follow the contour of the land, the bottom of the fence may clear the contour of the ground by up to 6" without increasing Table values to the next higher limit.

GENERAL:

1. All other fences (other than wood and chain link fences as described above) shall be designed to withstand 75 mph winds. Applicants proposing to construct other types of fences shall submit Metro-Dade Product Approval or other literature as prescribed by the Florida Building Code, 2017 6th Edition.
2. Pembroke Pines Zoning restricts height of fences to 6' in most residential areas.
3. Some PUD zoning may prohibit certain types of fences (including wood and/or chain link) and may have specific requirements for fences not specified here.