



Zoning Resolution

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
Zohran K. Mamdani, Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
Sideya Sherman, Chair

12-00 - RULES FOR CONSTRUCTION OF LANGUAGE

File generated by <https://zr.planning.nyc.gov> on 5/10/2026

12-00 - RULES FOR CONSTRUCTION OF LANGUAGE

LAST AMENDED

12/15/1961

12-01 - Rules Applying to Text of Resolution

LAST AMENDED

2/2/2011

The following rules of construction apply to the text of this Resolution:

- (a) The particular shall control the general.
- (b) In case of any difference of meaning or implication between the text of this Resolution and any caption, illustration, summary table or illustrative table, the text shall control.
- (c) The word "shall" is always mandatory and not discretionary. The word "may" is permissive.
- (d) Words used in the present tense shall include the future; and words used in the singular number shall include the plural, and the plural the singular, unless the context clearly indicates the contrary.
- (e) A "building" or "structure" includes any part thereof. The terms #residential building#, #commercial building# and #community facility building# shall refer to an entire #building# used exclusively for such #use#.
- (f) The phrase "used for" includes "arranged for", "designed for", "intended for", "maintained for", "or occupied for".

- (g) The word "person" includes an individual, a corporation, a partnership, an incorporated association or any other similar entity.
- (h) Unless the context clearly indicates the contrary, where a regulation involves two or more items, conditions, provisions, or events connected by the conjunction "and", "or" or "either...or", the conjunction shall be interpreted as follows:
 - (1) "and" indicates that all the connected items, conditions, provisions or events shall apply;
 - (2) "or" indicates that the connected items, conditions, provisions or events may apply singly or in any combination; and
 - (3) "either...or" indicates that the connected items, conditions, provisions or events shall apply singly but not in combination.
- (i) The word "includes" shall not limit a term to the specified examples, but is intended to extend its meaning to all other instances or circumstances of like kind or character.
- (j) References within a Section or cross-references to a Section numbered with four digits shall include all following Sections with numbers whose first four digits are identical with such Section number but references or cross-references to a Section numbered with five digits shall refer only to such specific five-digit Section. For Sections starting with [101-00](#), references within a Section or cross-references to a Section numbered with five digits shall include all following Sections with numbers whose first five digits are identical with such Section number but references or cross-references to a Section numbered with six digits shall refer only to such specific six-digit Section.

LAST AMENDED

2/2/2011

District designations, where applicable, are listed within a ruled bar below the number and title of each section.

When one or more district designations are listed in a section, the specific text of the paragraphs that follow applies to such district or districts.

When a section includes a table and one or more district designations are listed opposite a specific item or number in such table, the item or number applies specifically to that district or districts only.

When no district designations are listed for a specific section, the provisions of such section shall be construed to apply to all districts under consideration in the Article in which the section appears or, if specified, only to those districts referred to directly within the section itself. For this purpose, Article II applies to all Residence Districts, Article III applies to all Commercial Districts, and Article IV applies to all Manufacturing Districts. All other articles apply to all districts, unless otherwise provided.