



Zoning Resolution

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Eric Adams, Mayor

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

Daniel R. Garodnick, Chair

43-20 - YARD REGULATIONS

File generated by <https://zr.planning.nyc.gov> on 6/26/2022

43-20 - YARD REGULATIONS

LAST AMENDED
1/28/1971

43-21 - Definitions

LAST AMENDED
11/19/1987

Words in italics are defined in Section 12-10 or, if applicable exclusively to this Section, in this Section.

43-22 - Level of Yards

LAST AMENDED
12/15/1961

In all #Manufacturing Districts#, the level of a #yard# or of a #rear yard equivalent# shall not be higher than #curb level#. However, this Section shall not be construed to require that natural grade level be disturbed in order to comply with this requirement.

No #building or other structure# shall be erected above ground level in any required #yard# or #rear yard equivalent# except as otherwise provided in Section 43-23 (Permitted Obstructions in Required Yards or Rear Yard Equivalents).

43-23 - Permitted Obstructions in Required Yards or Rear Yard Equivalents

LAST AMENDED
5/12/2021

In all #Manufacturing Districts#, the following obstructions shall be permitted within a required #yard# or #rear yard equivalent#:

- (a) In any #yard# or #rear yard equivalent#:
 - (1) Arbors or trellises;
 - (2) Awnings and other sun control devices, provided that when located at a level higher than the first #story#, excluding a #basement#, all such awnings and other sun control devices:
 - (i) shall be limited to a maximum projection from a #building# wall of 2 feet, 6 inches; and
 - (ii) shall have solid surfaces that, in aggregate, cover an area no more than 30 percent of the area of the #building# wall (as viewed in elevation) from which they project;
 - (3) Canopies;
 - (4) Chimneys, projecting not more than three feet into, and not exceeding two percent of the area of, the required #yard# or #rear yard equivalent#;
 - (5) Eaves, gutters or downspouts, projecting into such #yard# or #rear yard equivalent# not more than 16 inches or 20 percent of the width of such #yard# or #rear yard equivalent#, whichever is the lesser distance;

- (6) Exterior wall thickness, where such wall thickness is added to the exterior face of a #building# wall existing on April 30, 2012, provided the added wall thickness has a thermal resistance (R-value) of at least 1.5 per inch, and is limited to one inch of thickness for every foot of existing #yard# width, up to a maximum thickness of eight inches. When an open area is provided along a common #lot line#, then such exterior wall thickness is limited to one inch for every foot of existing open area on the #zoning lot#;

Where #buildings# that have added exterior wall thickness pursuant to this Section are #enlarged#, such #enlarged# portion may similarly encroach upon required #yards# in order to align with the exterior walls of the existing #building#, provided such #enlargement# contains less #floor area# than the existing #building#, and there is no encroachment of #floor area# into a required #yard#;

- (7) Fences;
- (8) Flagpoles;
- (9) Parking spaces for automobiles or bicycles, off-street, open, #accessory#;
- (10) Power systems, including, but not limited to, generators, solar energy systems, fuel cells, batteries and other energy storage systems, provided that all equipment shall not exceed a height of 23 feet above #curb level#;
- (11) Solar energy systems on walls existing on April 30, 2012, projecting no more than 10 inches and occupying no more than 20 percent of the surface area of the #building# wall (as viewed in elevation) from which it projects;
- (12) Steps, and ramps or lifts for people with physical disabilities;
- (13) Terraces or porches, open;
- (14) Walls, not exceeding eight feet in height and not roofed or part of a #building#.

(b) In any #rear yard# or #rear yard equivalent#:

- (1) Any #building# or portion of a #building# used for any permitted #use#, except that any portion of a #building# containing rooms used for living or sleeping purposes (other than a room in a hospital used for the care and treatment of patients, or #joint living-work quarters for artists#) shall not be a permitted obstruction, and provided that the height of such #building# shall not exceed one #story#, excluding #basement#, nor in any event 23 feet above #curb level#. In addition, decks, parapet walls, roof thickness, skylights, vegetated roofs, and weirs, shall be permitted upon such #building#, or portion thereof, pursuant to Section 43-42 (Permitted Obstructions);
- (2) Breezeways;
- (3) Fire escapes;
- (4) Parking spaces for automobiles or bicycles, off-street, #accessory#, provided that the height of an #accessory# #building# used for such purposes and located in a required #rear yard# or #rear yard equivalent# shall not exceed 23 feet above #curb level#;
- (5) Solar energy systems on the roof of a #building# permitted as an obstruction to such #yard#:
 - (i) up to four feet in height as measured perpendicular to the roof surface when located above a permitted #commercial# or #community facility# #use# or attached parking structure; or
 - (ii) shall be limited to 18 inches in height as measured perpendicular to the roof surface when located above a

shed or detached parking structure, or on any roof with a slope greater than 20 degrees;

- (6) Water-conserving devices, required in connection with air conditioning or refrigeration systems in #buildings# existing prior to May 20, 1966, if located not less than eight feet from any #lot line#.

However, no portion of a #rear yard equivalent# which is also a required #front yard# or required #side yard# may contain any obstructions not permitted in such #front yard# or #side yard#.

43-24 - Measurement of Yard Width or Depth

LAST AMENDED

12/15/1961

In all #Manufacturing Districts#, the width or depth of a #yard# or #rear yard equivalent# shall be measured perpendicular to #lot lines#.

43-25 - Minimum Required Side Yards

LAST AMENDED

12/15/1961

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, no #side yards# are required. However, if an open area extending along a #side lot line# is provided, it shall be at least eight feet wide.

43-26 - Minimum Required Rear Yards

LAST AMENDED

4/30/2008

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, a #rear yard# with a depth of not less than 20 feet shall be provided at every #rear lot line# on any #zoning lot# except as otherwise provided in Sections 43-27 (Special Provisions for Shallow Interior Lots), 43-28 (Special Provisions for Through Lots) or 43-31 (Other Special Provisions for Rear Yards). #Rear yards# shall also be provided along portions of #side lot lines# as set forth in Section 43-261 (Beyond one hundred feet of a street line).

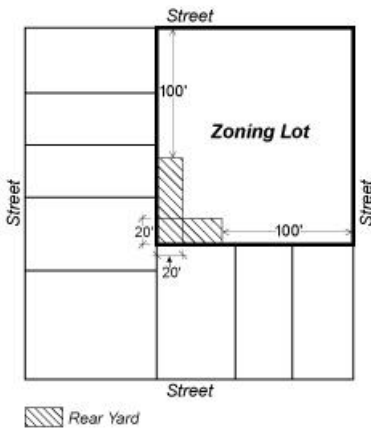
43-261 - Beyond one hundred feet of a street line

LAST AMENDED

4/30/2008

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, for #corner lots#, and for #zoning lots# that are bounded by two or more #streets# that are neither #corner lots# or #through lots#, the portion of a #side lot line# beyond 100 feet of the #street line# that it intersects shall be considered a #rear lot line# and a #rear yard# with a minimum depth of 20 feet shall be provided where such #rear lot line# coincides with a #rear lot line# of an adjoining #zoning lot#.



CORNER LOT
(33-261.1, 43-261.1)



ZONING LOT BOUNDED BY TWO OR MORE STREETS
(NEITHER A CORNER LOT NOR A THROUGH LOT)
(33-261.2, 43-261.2)

43-27 - Special Provisions for Shallow Interior Lots

LAST AMENDED
2/2/2011

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, if an #interior lot#:

- (a) was owned separately and individually from all other adjoining tracts of land, both on December 15, 1961, and on the date of application for a building permit; and
- (b) is less than 70 feet deep;

the depth of a required #rear yard# for such #interior lot# may be reduced by one foot for each two feet by which the maximum depth of a #zoning lot# is less than 70 feet. No #rear yard# is required on any #interior lot# with a maximum depth of less than 50 feet.

43-28 - Special Provisions for Through Lots

LAST AMENDED

2/2/2011

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, no #rear yard# regulations shall apply on any #through lot# which extends less than 110 feet in maximum #lot depth# from #street# to #street#. However, on any #through lot# 110 feet or more in maximum depth from #street# to #street#, one of the following #rear yard equivalents# shall be provided, except that in the case of a #zoning lot# occupying an entire #block#, no #rear yard# or #rear yard equivalent# shall be required:

- (a) an open area with a minimum #lot depth# of 40 feet midway (or within five feet of being midway) between the two #street lines# upon which such #through lot# fronts;
- (b) two open areas, each adjoining and extending along the full length of the #street line#, and each with a minimum depth of 20 feet measured from such #street line#; or
- (c) an open area adjoining and extending along the full length of each #side lot line#, with a minimum width of 20 feet measured from each such #side lot line#.

Any such #rear yard equivalent# shall be unobstructed from its lowest level to the sky, except as provided in Section 43-23 (Permitted Obstructions in Required Yards or Rear Yard Equivalents).

43-29 - Special Provisions Applying Along Railroad Rights-of-way

LAST AMENDED

12/15/1961

M1 M2 M3

In all districts, as indicated, along such portion of a #rear lot line# which coincides with a boundary of a railroad right-of-way, no #rear yard# shall be required.