

# Building in the Residential 3 Zone



*Invercargill City*  
**District  
Plan 2019**



# Residential 3 Zone

The boundaries of the Residential 3 Zone and some of the District Plan provisions that relate to the Residential 3 Zone are the subject of appeals in the Environment Court. Because of this, it is advisable that you consult with one of Council's Resource Management Officers to confirm what District Plan provisions are relevant to your proposal. The following information should be read as a basic guide.

When building or renovating there are many standards and rules to be aware of. Included in these are the planning standards set out in the Invercargill City District Plan.

This brochure aims to identify the key planning issues for building in the Residential 3 Zone. If you are not able to meet these standards you will need to either obtain resource consent or change your plans.

The main considerations when designing your dwelling in terms of meeting the Planning requirements are

- Density of housing
- Outdoor living
- Space around buildings
- Site coverage / permeable surfaces
- Height
- Car parking and maneuvering
- Private ways and right of ways
- Services
- Fire Safety.

## Density

For residential activities the maximum residential density in the Residential 3 Zone is one residence per 2,000 square metres under contiguous ownership. There is an exception for sites smaller than this where the certificate of title existed as at 29 October 2016.

## Outdoor Living

A designated area of outdoor living space must be provided on the site. For residences at or near ground level, it must be a minimum of 30 square metres in size and sufficiently large enough to accommodate a horizontal circle with a 5 metre diameter. The space must be free of buildings (other than conservatories) and not form part of the site used for vehicle parking or manoeuvring. For residences located one storey above the ground floor a balcony is to be provided. The balcony must be minimum 15 square metres in area and have a minimum horizontal dimension of 2.5 metres.

When considering the location of this outdoor living space, it is recommended that some thought be given to its position to maximise sunlight and daylight into the living areas of the dwelling and the potential connections, both visually and physically, between this space and the internal living areas.

## Space around buildings

For residential activities a yard at least 2 metres deep is to be provided along all boundaries of the site. This space must be kept clear and unobstructed by structures from the ground upwards, except for accessory buildings no greater than six metres in length and the eaves of any building and any roof, gutter, or downpipe which extends no more than 0.6m over the yard. The yard may include the outdoor living area.

For non-residential activities a yard at least four metres deep must be provided along all side and rear boundaries.

Please note that these are set backs required by Planning. You will need to talk to the Building Consents staff to ensure that there are no overriding setback requirements such as fire rating.

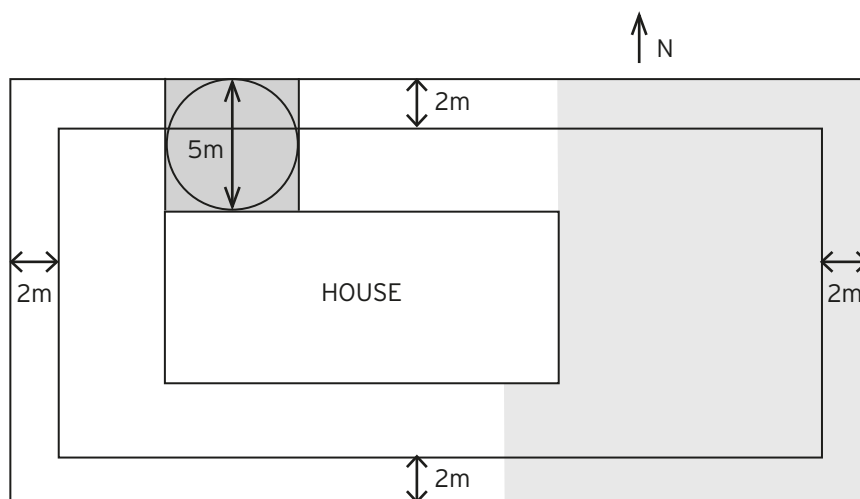
## Site coverage / Permeable surfaces

The maximum coverage of buildings on the site must not exceed 30% of the net site area.

When calculating the net site area you cannot include any area subject to a designation for any purpose and/or any strip of land less than six metres in width.

An area of permeable surface must also be provided on the site and comprise at least 30% of the gross site area. This can be any type of ground surface treatment that allows for surface water to soak into the ground e.g. grass, garden beds, permeable pavers.

Example of complying site plan



House = 400m<sup>2</sup>

Net site Area = 2000m<sup>2</sup>

Site coverage = 20%

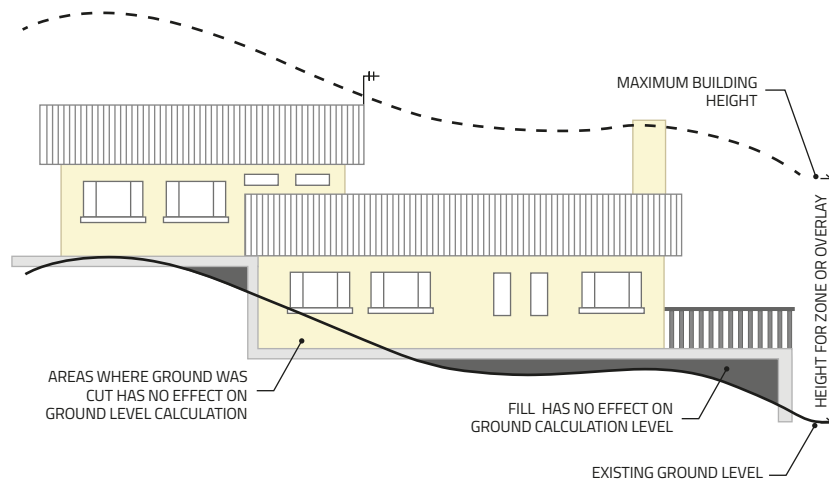
Outdoor living space 30m<sup>2</sup> minimum

Permeable surface 600m<sup>2</sup>

# Height

The maximum height for buildings and structures is 10 metres.

Height is determined using the rolling height method which measures the vertical distance across the whole site between existing ground level and the top of that part of the building immediately above.



ROLLING BUILDING HEIGHT IS MEASURED VERTICALLY ACROSS THE WHOLE SITE FROM EXISTING GROUND LEVEL TO THE MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT FOR THAT ZONE.

## ROLLING HEIGHT METHOD

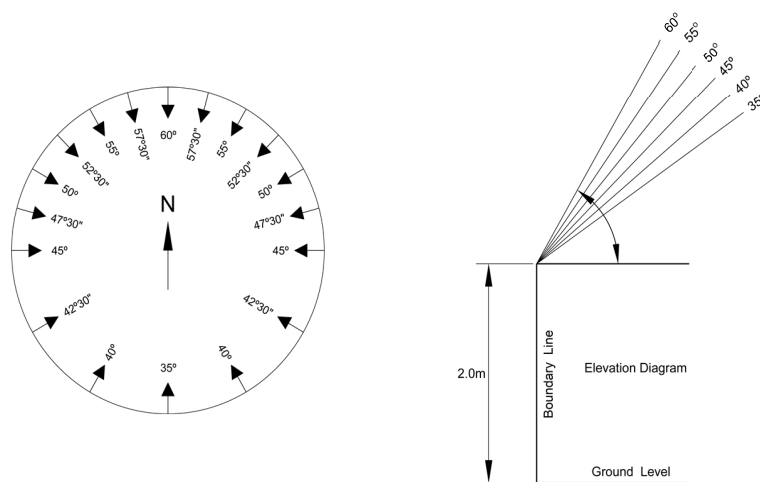
In calculating height, account is not taken of lightning rods, chimneys, steeples, towers, turrets, spires, finials, dormer windows, ventilation shafts, water tanks, elevator lofts, solar heating devices and similar architectural features and parts of a building, providing that the feature is incorporated within the footprint of the building and does not exceed the maximum height limit and any relevant height recession plane by more than 1.5 metres, and the maximum width of the incursion does not exceed 2 metres. This is limited to one incursion per boundary.

The top portion of a gable end or the end of a wall with a mono-pitched roof, including any associated overhanging eaves and/or spouting, are also exempt from the height calculations provided that the maximum height and any relevant height recession planes are not exceeded by more than 1.5 metres and the maximum width of the incursion does not exceed 3 metres. This is also limited to one incursion per boundary.

# Recession Plane Angles

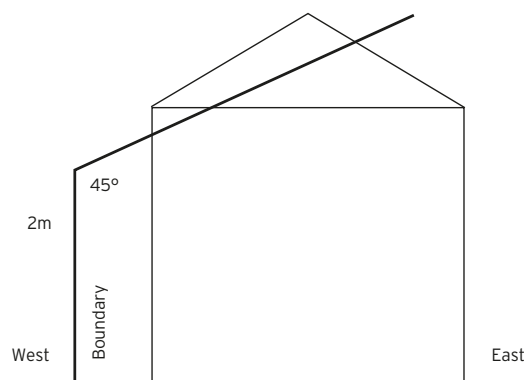
All buildings are to be located within the building envelope created by recession planes. Recession planes are used to calculate the permitted height of buildings and structures in relation to their distance from boundaries. In general, the further the building is from the property boundary the higher it can be. The recession planes are calculated to reduce shading and to ensure a minimum allowance of sun and natural light for both you and your adjoining neighbours.

The recession planes used in the Proposed Invercargill City District Plan are as follows:



The recession plane angle shall be calculated by orienting both the site plan and relevant diagram to the true north, placing the recession diagram over the site plan with the circle tangential to the inside of the site boundary under consideration. The recession plane angle shall be that indicated by the diagram at the point where it touches the site boundary.

The recession planes for accessory buildings commence at points 2.2 metres above site boundaries. In all other instances the recession plans will commence at points 2 metres above the site boundaries.

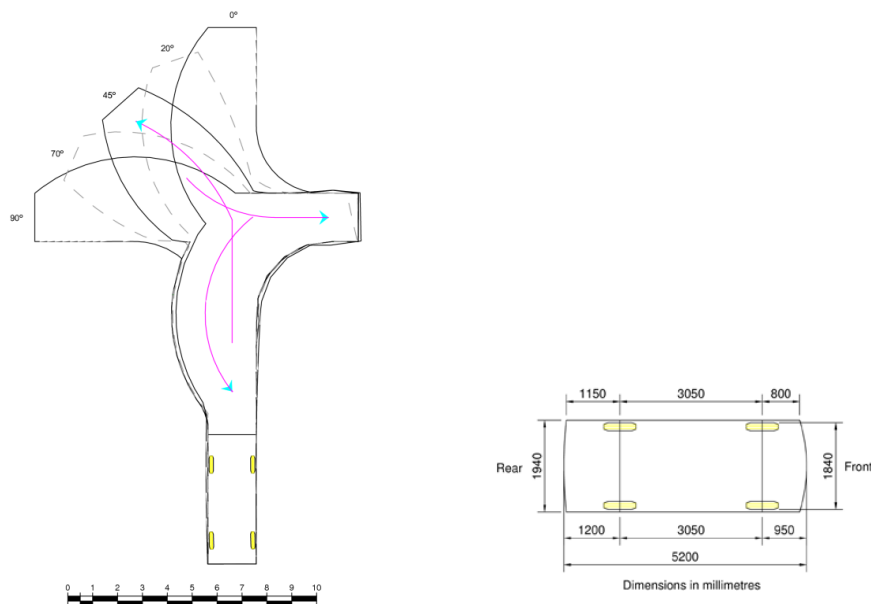


Example of house not complying with the recession plane

## Car parking and manoeuvring

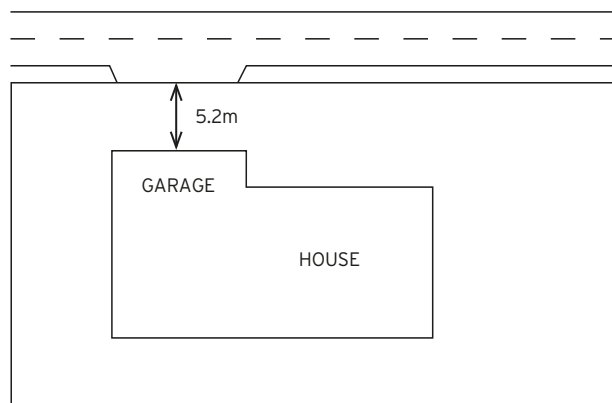
You are required to provide a car parking space for at least one vehicle on your property. One car park needs to be provided for residential units which are 150 square metres or smaller and two car parks need to be provided for residences larger than 150 square metres. This does not necessarily need to be in the form of a garage or carport but needs to be a hard standing area and be designed to comply with the car parking standards set out in Appendix VIII of the District Plan.

If your property is a back section (not fronting the street) you are also required to provide manoeuvring space on your property. This is to ensure that you can enter and leave the site in a forward gear. The size and construction of this manoeuvring space needs to be designed to comply with the diagram below.



For residences fronting the street, where there is no manoeuvring space provided on the site and a garage is built with the door positioned towards the street, a setback of 5.2 metres needs to be provided from the garage door to the property boundary.

Garage setback



## Private ways and right of ways

Private ways and right of ways (or driveway as more commonly known) need to be designed and constructed to comply with certain standards so as to ensure safety is achieved and to maintain a certain level of amenity. The width and standard of construction vary depending on the number of lots being served. These are set out below:

Residential 3 Zone			
Number of Lots	1-3	4-6	7+
Minimum Width	4m	4.5m	9m
Formed Movement lane	3m (sealed 5m in from property boundary)	3m (sealed 5m in from property boundary)	6m (sealed 5m in from property boundary)
Drainage	Interceptor sump required where more than 40m <sup>2</sup> of impermeable area is graded towards the street.	Interceptor sump required where more than 40m <sup>2</sup> of impermeable area is graded towards the street.	Interceptor sump required where more than 40m <sup>2</sup> of impermeable area is graded towards the street.
Passing Bays	-	-	Every 50m, as set out in Appendix VIII of the Proposed District Plan.
Turning Heads	-	-	As set out in as set out in Appendix VIII of the Proposed District Plan.
Footpaths	-	-	Single sided, 1.5m width for concrete or 1.8m width for asphalt.
Lighting	-	-	Constructed and designed in accordance with Class P4 of AS/NZS 1158.



## Services

All new dwellings must be connected to Council's reticulated sewerage system. If the sewerage line does not extend to your property you will not be able to extend the line without first obtaining resource consent.

Where the residence is connected to the Council's reticulated water supply, a water tank must be provided with a minimum 15,000 litres capacity for the purpose of garden irrigation or other domestic uses. It needs to be designed so as to capture stormwater off the roof of the dwelling.

Any extension of, and connection to Council's infrastructure requires authorisation pursuant to the Invercargill City Council Bylaw 2013 Code of Practice for Land Development. For more information on this please contact the Works and Services Department on 2111 777.

## Fire Safety

New residences and extensions exceeding 50 square to existing residential buildings which are not connected to the Council's reticulated water supply or are connected to the Council's Restricted Flow Supply must provide a specifically designed sprinkler system or a fire fighting reserve water tank in accordance with the New Zealand Fire Service Firefighting Water Supplies Code of Practice (SNZ PAS:4509:2008). The size of the residence will determine the quantity of water that needs to be supplied.

There are standards relating to the quantity of water to be stored on site and the ability for the fire service to access this water supply. The standards are set out below.

Each new residential unit with a building floor area less than 200 square metres shall have either:

- (A) A sprinkler system installed (to an approved standard in accordance with SNZ4509:2008) in the building, plumbed to ensure 7,000 litres of water is always available to the sprinkler system in the event of a fire; or
- (B) A water tank with a storage capacity of 30,000 litres maintained to hold a minimum of 20,000 litres of water at all times as a static fire fighting reserve.

Each new residential unit with a building floor area greater than 200m<sup>2</sup> shall have either:

- (A) A sprinkler system installed (to an approved standard in accordance with SNZ4509:2008) in the building, plumbed to ensure a sufficient quantity of water (calculated in accordance with SNZ4509:2008) is always available to the sprinkler system in the event of a fire; or
- (B) A water tank containing a sufficient quantity of water (calculated in accordance with SNZ4509:2008) always available as a static fire fighting reserve.

## Fire Safety continued

A fire fighting connection must also be located more than six metres and less than 90 metres from any proposed habitable building on the site. The connection point must be designed so that

- (A) It is located so that it is clearly visible to enable connection of a fire appliance; and
- (B) It is located so that fire appliances have unimpeded vehicular access, including a minimum width of four metres for an accessway, from the property boundary to the connection point; and it shall have a hardstand area adjacent to it to allow for a New Zealand Fire Service appliance to park on it. The hardstand area is to be located in the centre of a clear working space with a minimum width of 4.5 metres; and
- (C) Where the water pressure at the connection point/coupling is less than 100kPa, a 100mm Suction Coupling (Female) complying with NZS4505:1977 is to be provided; or
- (D) Where the water pressure at the connection point/coupling is greater than 100kPa, a 70mm Suction Coupling (Female) complying with NZS4505:1977 is to be provided; or
- (E) Underground tanks, or tanks that are partially buried (provided the top is no more than one metre above ground) may be accessed by an opening in the top of the tank, whereby couplings are not required.

## Do your Homework!

You are advised to discuss your individual project with an Invercargill City Council Resource Management Officer early in the planning process. Additional standards not covered in this brochure may apply, depending on the characteristics of your individual property. For example, the land may be in a high flood risk area, or there may be covenants on your Certificate of Title restricting where you can build.

If you are not able to meet the minimum standards set out in this brochure you will either need to amend your plans or obtain resource consent to continue. For guidance on the consent process please talk to the Duty Planner and refer to the Invercargill City Council booklet "Resource Consents Landuse – a guide to making a resource consent application" which is available on our website.

## Advice

If you require further information please contact the Duty Planner by phoning (03) 211 1777, emailing [duty.planner@icc.govt.nz](mailto:duty.planner@icc.govt.nz) or [resourceconsents@icc.govt.nz](mailto:resourceconsents@icc.govt.nz) or by visiting the Council's Administration Building, 101 Esk Street, Invercargill. The office is open from Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 1.00pm.



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