

1.5. Rules of Measurement

1.5.3. Setback

- A. **Defined.** A line equidistant from the lot line which establishes the nearest point to the lot line at which the nearest point of a structure may be erected. In the case of a corner lot, the rear lot line shall be the lot line opposite the street on which the main entrance is located.
- B. No building need be set back more than the average of the setbacks of the buildings on the nearest lot on either side, a vacant lot or a lot occupied by a building set back more than the required distance for its district to be counted as though occupied by a building set back such required distance. Averaging applies only to the front setback. In no case shall any part of a building in a residence district extend nearer the street line than 10 feet.
- C. Distances shall be measured from the lot lines to the nearest portion of the structure.
- D. The following structures may project into the setback:
 - 1. Steps, landings and bulkheads;
 - 2. Heat pump compressors, provided that if any portion of the heat pump compressor is located within the setback, the heat pump compressor may not be located more than 5 feet from the exterior wall of the primary structure;
 - 3. Exterior insulation up to 8 inches;
 - 4. Doorway vestibules up to 4 feet with a width no greater than 6 feet, provided a minimum setback of 5 feet is maintained;
 - 5. Cornices, exterior window shades and ornamental features up to 2 feet;
 - 6. Roof overhangs and gutters up to 3 feet.

1.5.4. Height

- A. **Defined:**
 - 1. The vertical distance between the elevations of the average grade plane and the highest point of the roof. Not included in such measurements are:
 - a. Cornices which do not extend more than 5 feet above the roof line;
 - b. Chimneys, vents, ventilators and enclosures for machinery of elevators which do not exceed 15 feet in height above the roof line;
 - c. Enclosures for tanks which do not exceed 20 feet in height above the roof line and do not exceed in aggregate area 10 percent of the area of the roof;
 - d. Solar panels which do not extend more than 1 foot above the ridgeline or in the case of a flat roof, no more than 4 feet above the parapet, unless greater extensions are allowed by special permit; and
 - e. Towers, spires, domes and ornamental features.

1.5.5. Floor Area

A. Floor Area Ratio.

1. The gross floor area of all buildings on the lot divided by the total lot area.
2. FAR tables can be found in Sec. 3.1.9 and Sec. 3.2.11.

B. Floor Area, Gross.

1. **Residential Districts.** The sum of the floor area of all principal and accessory buildings whether or not habitable shall be taken from the exterior face of the exterior walls of each building without deduction for garage space, hallways, stairs, closets, thickness of walls, columns, atria, open wells and other vertical open spaces, or other features as defined in this Sec. 1.5.5, as defined below:
 - a. Gross floor area shall include:
 - i. First and second stories;
 - ii. Any floor area above the second story, whether finished or unfinished, that meets all of the following criteria:
 - a. It lies below the area of a horizontal plane that is 5 feet above it and which touches the side walls and/or the underside of the roof rafters;
 - b. Is at least 7 feet in any horizontal dimension, as measured within the area having a wall height of 5 feet or more;
 - c. Has a minimum ceiling height of 7 feet on at least 50 percent of its required floor area; and
 - d. Has a floor area of not less than 70 square feet as measured within the area having a wall height of 5 feet or more;
 - iii. Atria, open wells, and other vertical open spaces, where floor area shall be calculated by multiplying the floor level area of such space by a factor equal to the average height in feet divided by 10;
 - iv. Enclosed porches;
 - v. Attached garages;
 - vi. Detached garages and any space above the first story of a detached garage that has a ceiling height of 7 feet or greater;
 - vii. Other detached accessory buildings, such as sheds or cabanas, except as exempted in paragraph b. below;
 - viii. A portion of mass below the first story, to be calculated using the formula in paragraph D. below; and
 - b. Gross floor area shall not include:
 - i. Unenclosed porches;
 - ii. Doorway vestibules up to a maximum floor area of 24 square feet;
 - iii. Exterior insulation added to a building, in which case gross floor area shall be taken from the exterior face of the structural wall;
 - iv. Carports; and
 - v. detached accessory building equal to or less than 120 square feet in size.

8.3. Defined Terms

Exterior Insulation: Insulation that is installed on the exterior face of the structural wall of the building so as to allow for continuous insulation on the building exterior with the intention of reducing thermal bridging and improving the energy efficiency of the building.

Exterior Window Shades: Non-habitable architectural features attached to a building above windows individually so as to reduce the amount of sunlight entering the window.

Heat Pump Compressor: A device that serves as a heating and/or cooling system for a building by transferring heat energy into a building to heat it and out of the building to cool it. The compressor is the external portion of this system.