



INFORMATION FOR RETAINING WALLS

When is a retaining wall required?

A retaining wall or another suitable method is required to stabilise an earth embankment.

Who is responsible to install the retaining wall?

The person who changes the natural ground level by either excavation or filling.

What approvals are required from the City of Fremantle prior to constructing a retaining wall?

- 1. A building permit is required to be obtained prior to the construction, erection, assembly or placement of a retaining wall if:**
 - a) The retaining wall retains ground more than 0.5m in height, and
 - b) Is associated with other building work or with the protection of land adjoining the land on which the retaining wall is located; and
 - c) Is work of a kind to which section 76,77,78 or 79 of the Building Act 2011 relates.

This information can be obtained from the Building Regulations 2012, schedule 6, cl.2 – Table.

When is a retaining wall required to be designed by a Practising Structural Engineer?

All retaining walls regardless of the height must be designed by a qualified Practising Structural Engineer.

Checklists are available to assist with your application/s

- Building Permit checksheets are available from the City's website, part of the Building information section.

In addition to this, you may also require a Development Approval from the City's Planning Department. Please contact the City's Planning team should you require additional information regarding whether an approval is required.