

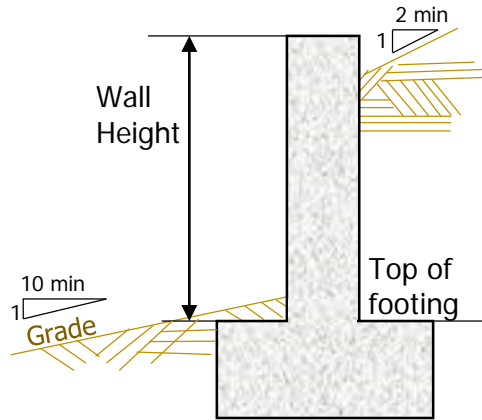


## RETAINING WALL EXAMPLES

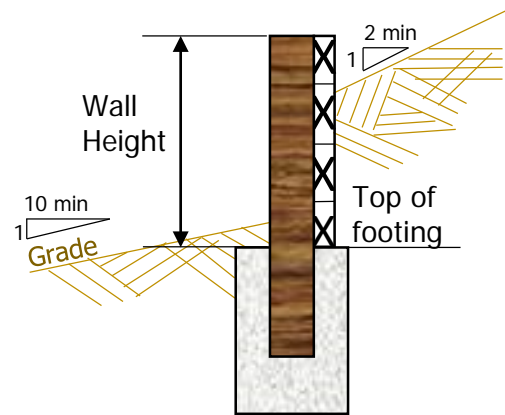
Building permits are required if the wall height exceeds 3 feet.

All heights are measured from top of footing to top of wall.

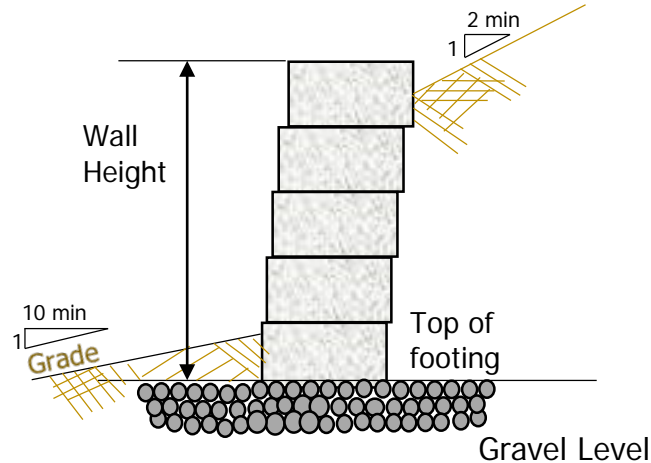
### Typical Concrete Masonry Wall



### Typical Wood Retaining Wall



### Typical Prefabricated Block Wall



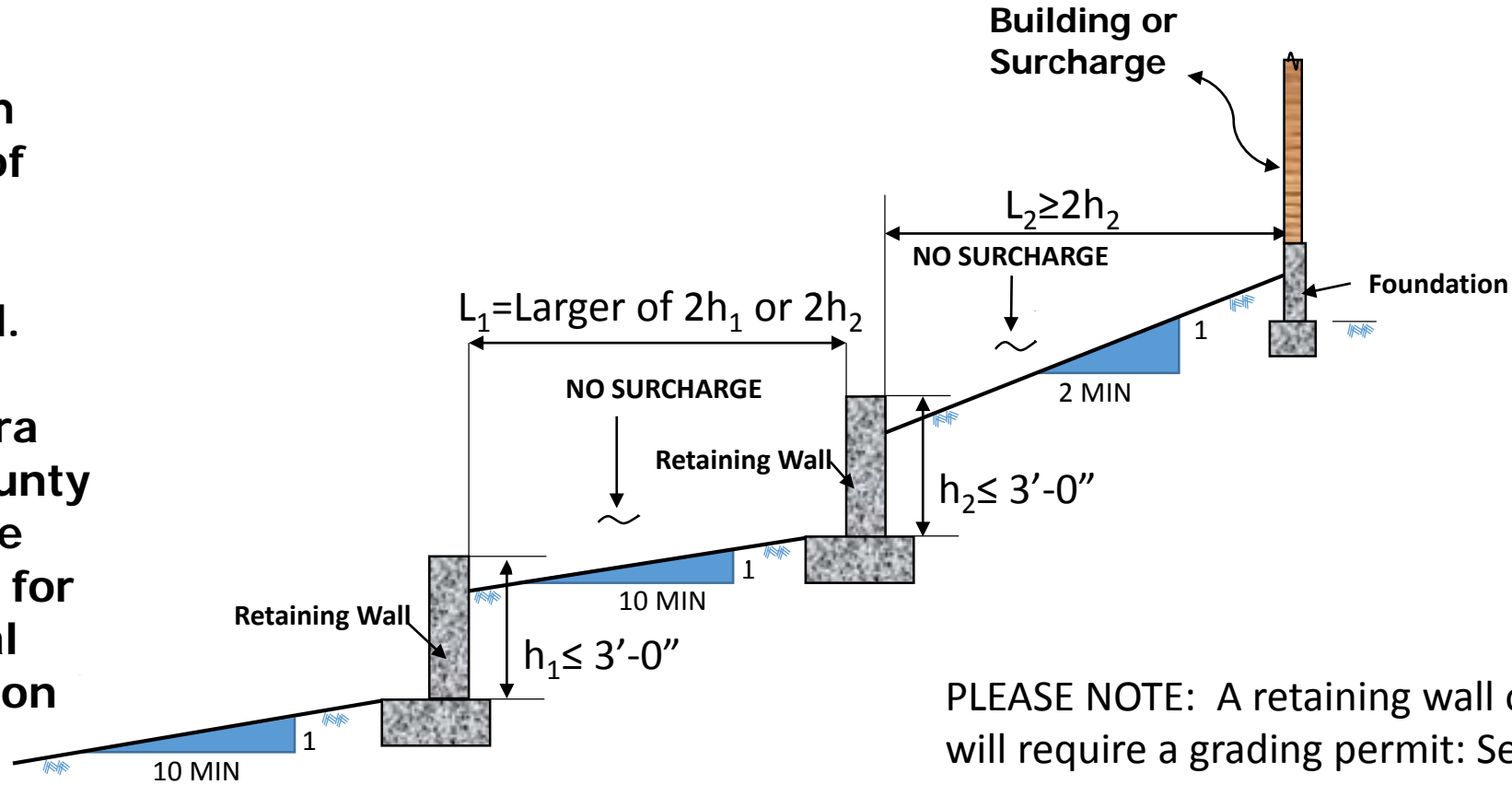
### Contra Costa County Code building regulation states:

**74-4.002 (a)(2)** Work exempt from permit. CBC Section 105.2, work exempt from permit, is amended to read:

**“4.** Retaining walls which are not over 3 feet in height measured from the top of the footing to top of the wall and that have a downward ground slope at the bottom of the retaining wall not exceeding 1 (vertical): 10 (horizontal), unless supporting a surcharge or ground slope exceeding 1:2 or impounding class I, II, or III-a liquids.”  
(Ord. 99-1 § 6)

# GUIDELINES FOR: TERRACED RETAINING WALLS EXEMPT FROM PERMITS

- Maximum number of retaining walls is unlimited.
- See Contra Costa County Ordinance 74-2.002 for additional information



PLEASE NOTE: A retaining wall on fill, will require a grading permit: See [When is a Grading Permit Required.](#)