



TIPS FOR SUCCESS

Single-Family Home Architectural Permit

Are you planning on building your dream home in Redwood City?! Congratulations! Below are some tips before you get started.

Know how your project will be evaluated.

All new two-story homes and second-story additions require an Architectural Permit. After submitting a complete [application](#), the Zoning Administrator will evaluate your project based on the required [findings](#). Make sure to read these in advance and ensure your project meets each and every finding! Hillside properties may require a public hearing.

Historical or not historical?

Redwood City has a long and celebrated history! Is your property a historic resource or within a historic district? Was your home built more than 50 years ago? If you answered yes to any of these, please check with planner to determine what can be done with your remodel. We may need a historic report to determine whether your home has historic value.

Get to know your neighbors.

An informed neighbor makes a happy neighbor. Get to know your neighbors and discuss your project with them during the preliminary design phase. Addressing their concerns early on will help to create a smooth review process.

Consider the neighborhood character.

Chances are, you're moving to this area because you like the character of the neighborhood. We do too! Is there a pattern within the block? Are most garages attached or detached? Are most homes one-story or two-story? Before you start on your design, think about what makes the neighborhood special and how your project can fit within the existing neighborhood context (see examples below).

Map it:

The City has a community mapping program at www.redwoodcity.org/gis. Find out details about your property, existing utilities, neighborhood, land use, and more! Just enter your address and go.

Know the code:

The City provides a number of resources online at www.redwoodcity.org. Find zoning, fire, engineering, and building requirements.

Meet the planners:

You can drop-in during counter hours to meet with a planner (no appointment necessary). We're here to help!

- Mondays & Fridays: 8-5
- Tuesdays & Thursdays: 12:30-5
- Wednesdays: 8-12:30

Detached garages are encouraged when others are predominant within the neighborhood development pattern



Stepping back walls of the second story create a more compatible appearance and is encouraged



Second-story additions that are not stepped back generate a massive appearance and are discouraged