



# 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 finding, and consult with a Planner if you have questions. Proposed homes over 3,000 sq. ft. or over 0.45 FAR require a public hearing, and homes on a hillside may also 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](http://www.redwoodcity.org/gis). Find out details about your property, existing utilities, neighborhood, land use, and more! Just enter your address and go.

### Use the Guide:

The City encourages you to consult the Residential Design Guide for best design practices in home massing, design, and details in the design development of your residential project.

[www.redwoodcity.org/designguidelines](http://www.redwoodcity.org/designguidelines)

### Know the code:

The City provides resources online at [www.redwoodcity.org](http://www.redwoodcity.org). Find zoning, fire, engineering, and building requirements.

### Meet the planners:

You can make an appointment to meet with a planner. We're here to help! <https://10to8.com/book/cityofredwoodcity/>