



HUME CITY COUNCIL

LANDSCAPE GUIDELINES

Retaining and feature walls

General requirements

Retaining or feature walls are to:

- Be designed and constructed for long-term durability and low maintenance,
- Meet the surveillance requirements of the *Safer Design Guidelines* for Victoria with consideration of future vegetation growth

Design considerations

Retaining or Feature Walls designs are to:

- Be no more than 900mm in height OR have a building permit if greater than 900mm in height, or will cross a title boundary if they fall over.
- Have structural certification of design, followed by structural certification on construction
- Include drainage (agricultural) pipes and weep holes where appropriate
- Ensure a minimum of 300mm soil fill over the footings of walls in garden beds and turf.

Construction Materials

- Retaining walls are to be stone or concrete or concrete sleepers. Locally sourced stone is preferred
- Timber is not an acceptable construction material
- Materials should complement the surrounding neighbourhood

Construction Methods

- Stones are to be mortared in place (raked back or hidden mortar)
- Dry stone walls are not considered suitable

References

**Australian Standards for Building Construction
Safer Design Guidelines for Victoria**

