



INSPIRED
IN·LAW

I love the idea of the Inspired In-law Cottage for my family, what is the next step?

The first step is to call or visit your local Planning Department to see if you are 'zoned' for an Accessory (or Secondary) Dwelling Unit (that is the official name of a backyard cottage). We have created a worksheet of the questions you should ask and information to collect:

Planning Dept. Phone: _____ Planner I spoke to: _____

Size of my lot: _____ Am I zoned for an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU)? _____

What zone is my home in? _____ Max size of ADU: _____ # of bedrooms: _____

What are the height restrictions? _____ Daylight Plane: _____

Specific restriction of height at property line _____ vs Overall height _____

Parking Requirements - Main House: _____ ADU: _____ Covered or Tandem

What are the setbacks for the ADU? Front: _____ Side: _____ Rear: _____

Is there a maximum lot coverage requirement: _____ Floor area ratio: _____

Maximum allowable rear yard coverage: _____ Minimum open space requirement : _____

Is there a minimum road width requirement: _____ Fire sprinklers needed: _____

Does the unit need to be architecturally compatible with the main house: _____

Any historic rating: _____ Other ratings: _____ Height limits on retaining wall: _____ fences: _____

Design review procedure:

Are there other restrictions the City has that I should know about? _____

If you get overwhelmed or simply don't have time to do this research,
we offer code research for a \$200 flat fee – just call!