



Figure 4.52 Typical table dimensions.

any more. Nonetheless, specifying fence materials and construction details is important. Fences should be selected based on specific objectives for the project. Fences and walls may be important elements in designing for community safety and security as well. As barriers, they provide guidance to pedestrians, direct traffic, and provide clear demarcation of public and private areas. Even low fences or walls represent a psychological barrier for the casual pedestrian.

Whatever is selected, the fence should be of the proper scale and proportion to meet the design objectives and remain compatible with the project plan as a whole (Fig. 4.53). Fence or wall textures and designs contribute a great deal to their impact. Walls or fences can be made more attractive by introducing elements such as piers or details that break up the monotony of a static unbroken surface. Color also contributes to the fence performance. Lighter-colored surfaces tend to stand out in the landscape whereas darker colors tend to recede and blend in. Fences to be installed on slopes present a somewhat greater challenge. As a rule of thumb, fences should ride parallel with the slope rather than stepping down the slope with each panel horizontal but lower. Solid-panel fences usually cannot be installed parallel to the slope, and it will require additional work to fill or enclose the resulting gaps at the downhill end of each section. Care should also be taken to be sure the selected fence is consistent with local zoning and association requirements.

The key to fence integrity is the installation of fence posts that anchor and support the fence sections. Fence posts may be made of metal pipe, PVC, or