

# Chapter 9: Design Standards for Awnings and Canopies

This chapter presents design guidelines for the use of awnings and canopies in the Historic Business District.

## Types of Awnings and Canopies Permitted

### 9.1 A fixed metal frame canopy may be considered.

- Appropriate supporting mechanisms are wall-mounted brackets, chains and posts.
- Consider using a contemporary interpretation of those canopies seen historically on new infill buildings.



*Example of appropriate awning.*

## Materials for Awnings and Canopies

### 9.2 An awning compatible in material and construction to the style of the building is encouraged.

- Operable awnings are encouraged on historic buildings.
- Use colors that are compatible with the overall color scheme of the facade. Solid colors or simple muted-stripe patterns are appropriate.
- The awning should fit the opening of the building.
- Simple shed shapes are appropriate for rectangular openings.
- Odd shapes, bullnose awnings and bubble awnings are inappropriate on most historic structures.
- A summary of acceptable exterior color considerations is reviewed in Appendix D.

### 9.3 Maintain awnings and canopies.

- Replace worn fabric awnings or damaged metal canopies.
- Re-secure loose hardware.
- Wash fabric awnings regularly. This will help extend the life of the fabric. Spray with water from the underside first, to lift dirt particles, then rinse them off.
- Paint metal canopies regularly to reduce the potential for rust. This will extend the life of the canopy.



*Example of fixed metal frame canopy.*



*The shape, size and location of these awnings obscures too much of the window trim. (Pagosa Springs, CO)*

## Awning and Canopy Illumination

**9.4 Internal illumination in an awning is inappropriate.**

## Composition of Awnings and Canopies

**9.5 Mount an awning or canopy to accentuate character-defining features.**

- It should be mounted to highlight moldings that may be found above the storefront and should not hide character-defining features.
- Its mounting should not damage significant features and historic details.