

## Installation Sheet 4 Fencing

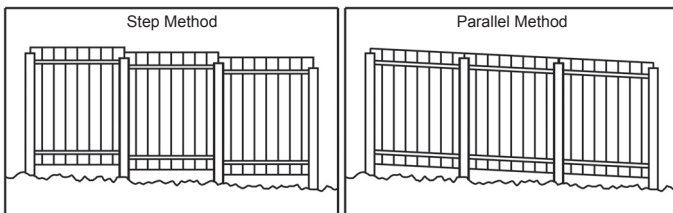
### 1 - DESIGN AND LAYOUT

- Determine the number of posts, panels and gates needed to complete the job based on total linear footage. Take into consideration post, panel and gate widths when determining the total number of each.
- Adjust layout to accommodate as many full panels as possible. If you must use part of a panel, place in the farthest rear corner of the property. Some types of pre-assembled panels can be trimmed to fit odd sized layouts but other types are difficult or impossible to cut to size.
- Locate property boundaries and drive stakes into the ground at corners and end of fence line 6" inside property boundary.
- Stretch twine or heavy string between stakes and pull tight to mark layout of fence line.
- Be sure to measure your fence panels and gates prior to locating the post holes. Also take into consideration your chosen method of attaching the arris rails to posts (see section 7). Locate post placement in the following order along string line.

- 1 - End / Corner Posts
- 2 - Gate Posts
- 3 - Line Posts

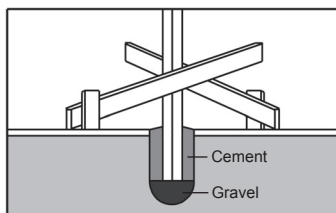
### 2 - INSTALLING A FENCE ON SLOPED LAND

Fences are installed on slopes using one of two methods. Pre-assembled panels can only be installed using the stair step method. The fence gradually steps up the slopes with the rails level rather than parallel to the slope. With loose components, you have the option to use the parallel method. The rails are installed based on the degree of the slope. Since this method requires that the fence be constructed to conform to the slope, it cannot be accomplished using preassembled fence panels.



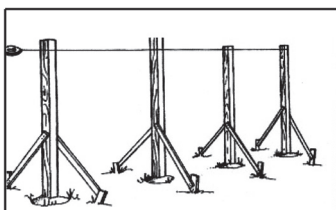
### 3 - DIGGING POSTHOLES

A general rule of thumb is to place 1/3 of the length of the post in the ground. The fence will be stronger if end, corner and gate posts are at least 6" deeper. Using a posthole digger or power auger, dig the holes 10-12" wide and 6" deeper than needed. Backfill the hole with 6" of gravel to drain water away from the bottom of the post. Keep the height of your fence panels in mind when digging your postholes.



### 4 - SETTING POSTS

Install end and corner posts first. Tie a string between the posts along the fence line. This establishes a reference, ensuring the posts are in line.



Brace the posts using 2x4's nailed to both the posts and stakes in the ground. This will keep them straight while the concrete sets. Check for plumb (90° angle) on two adjacent sides prior to pouring concrete. Fill holes with ready mix concrete following the package instructions. Tamp the concrete to remove any air pockets. Overfill the holes at the top and slope the concrete away from the post to keep water from collecting around it. Recheck plumb and alignment of all posts and allow concrete to cure for 24-48 hrs.

### 5 - CUTTING POSTS TO THE PROPER HEIGHT

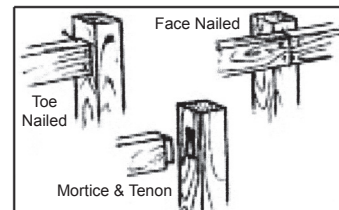
An easy method to ensure your post tops are level is to run a string from corner post to corner post at the desired height, keeping the string taut (see Fig. 3). Mark each post at the string line and cut off the tops of the posts. Finish off your posts with decorative finial tops.

### 6 - INSTALLING PANELS AND PICKETS

For pre-assembled fence panels, use 18d to 20d nails to attach them to the posts. If possible, pre-drill holes through the panels to minimize any splitting from using such a large nail. To install loose pickets to arris rails, use 8d or 10d box nails. Start at one end of the rail and check for level and plumb every 3 or 4 pickets. If you wish to build a solid 'privacy' fence, butt the pickets without leaving a gap in between. To build a spaced picket, cut a board the width of the desired gap and use it as a spacer. Remember to check for plumb every few pickets. Use two arris rails for shorter fences, three rails for 6' tall, and four rails for 8' tall fences. Arris rails should be attached on edge to prevent sagging.

### 7 - CONNECTING ARRIS RAILS TO POSTS

There are many ways to attach the arris rails or stringers to the posts. Place a board under the pre-assembled panels to use as a lever to adjust the panel to the proper height on the post. All arris rails should run the same measurement to the ground and to each other on a horizontal plane, regardless of minor grade changes. Your finished product will be much more appealing to the eye if proper attention is given to this detail.



### 8 - FINISHING YOUR FENCE

As all timber supplied by us is pre-treated all that remains is to apply a protective end seal to all exposed cuts. Depending on the look desired, there are two additional options in finishing treatments: stain and paint.

- Stain - provides a durable finish coat while maintaining the natural look of the wood. A semitransparent stain is recommended for new fences. It gives an even appearance and hint of colour while allowing the grain to show through.
- Paint - adds colour as it protects and seals the fence. The colour can easily be coordinated with your home. Clean, dry and prime with oil based primer prior to painting the fence. A durable exterior latex paint is recommended.

### 9 - CARE AND MAINTENANCE

- The continuous changes in weather conditions are hard on your fence. Your maintenance plan must be geared to combat the problems caused by water absorption and loss, mildew growth and UV discoloration.
- Future Periodic Preventative Maintenance - depending on the location of your fence with direct sun exposure, foliage coverage, etc., it may be sufficient to clean and recoat every two years. A power washer may be necessary to properly clean your fence.