

Agricultural Fence Installation

RECOMMENDED TOOLS AND MATERIALS

- STRING
- STAKES
- MARKING CHALK OR PAINT
- SAW
- TAPE
- LEVEL
- POST HOLE DIGGER
- SHOVEL
- MEASURING TAPE
- CONCRETE

STEP ONE

Check area for obstructions, underground cables, water lines, gas lines, etc. Be sure to comply with all local building codes.

Plan for gates. Make the opening between posts exactly the ordered size of the gate. The actual size of the gate will be 1.5" smaller to allow clearance for hinges and latch. For example, a 36" wide gate will be made 34.5" wide. Be sure the posts are plumb, level and aligned.

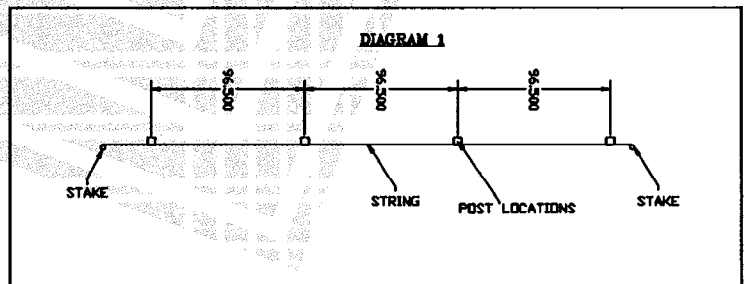
Allow for short sections. In almost every situation the layout you have chosen will require a section shorter than the pattern that was purchased. This is done by cutting the top and bottom rails to length. The remaining length can be used through the corner or discarded and a new section started.

STEP TWO

Using stakes and string, run a line that will locate where the fence posts will be positioned. Run the line as close to the ground as possible without interference. (see Diagram 1)

STEP THREE

Use a measuring tape and marking chalk/paint to run along the string and mark for the center of posts every 8'.



STEP FOUR

Remove string without removing stakes. Using an auger bit (8" for 4" posts, 12" for 5" posts) or a post hole digger, dig down to proper depth while remaining plumb. Repeat for each post mark.

Frost Considerations: Frost heave is the result of frozen soil pushing up fence posts. The local water utility or agricultural office can confirm the depth of the frost line in your area. Putting concrete below the frost line will prevent frost heave.



AGRICULTURAL FENCE INSTALLATION (Continued)

STEP FIVE

Re-attach string to stakes at 10" to 12" from the highest spot on the ground. (see Step 2 for reference)

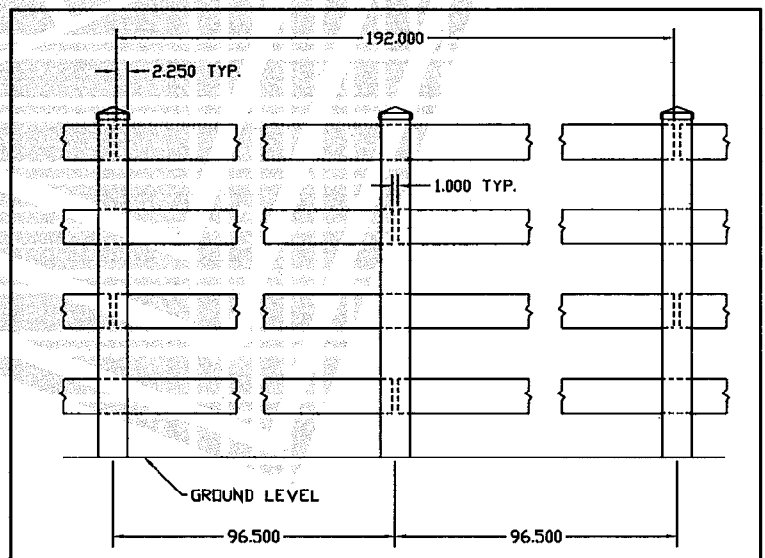
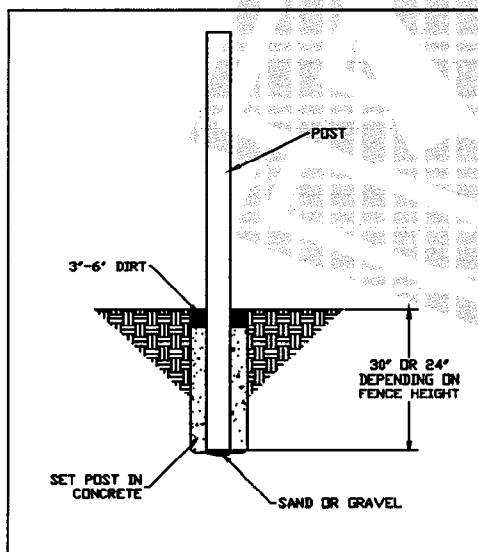
STEP SIX

* It is strongly recommended that all posts be set in concrete. Pile fine gravel or sand into a mound in the middle of the hole to rest the post on. Set posts in holes (end, corner or line). Hold post in its desired location. Post should be kept a slight distance from the string line to prevent deflection. Tamp each post with only enough dry concrete mix to hold location (still adjustable). Check distance from next post, height and level. Hold post in place and fill hole with concrete to 3"-6" below ground level. Make sure post is exactly where it should be. Fill remainder of hole with dirt. (see Diagram 2)

Note: Unless the post is being filled with concrete, it is important that there is sand under the post to drain water. A hollow post on concrete may collect water. If the water freezes, it may split the concrete around the post making it loose.

STEP SEVEN

Install rails in a staggered pattern. (see Diagram 3) The rails must be allowed room to expand (1") and cannot be butted against each other.



STEP EIGHT

Put caps on all posts. Clean up posts, removing any concrete from above ground surfaces.