DSI Digger Specialties, Inc.
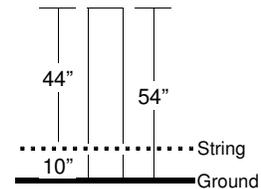
Post & Rail Fence
Installation Instructions

Always check local building codes, property lines and underground utilities before installation.

Note: These instructions must be followed exactly as written and the materials used must be exactly as shown in the instructions. Any deviation from the instructions or variation in the materials used/installed may result in an unsuccessful installation.

Step 1: Layout the fence with a string line. Posts need to be 96½" center to center for an 8' section (or 91½" between posts). These are 5" posts, so the center of the post will be 2½" off the string. Mark the ground where the centers of all holes will be. Dig all holes. We recommend to have the bottom of the holes below the frost line (if possible) and bell out the bottom of the holes to help prevent frost uplift. For 5" x 5" posts, 10" to 12" diameter holes are recommended.

Step 2: To help achieve correct height for posts, set string at a certain height from the ground. The following example is using string set 10" off the ground.

Example: 3-Rail fence is 54" from the ground to the top of the post; subtract 10" (amount string is off the ground) from 54" (post height out of ground) = 44". Mark with a pencil 44" down from the top of all the posts.

44"   54"
String
10"   Ground

Pour approximately half a bag of concrete mix in the hole. Level the posts to the string and to 96½" center to center (if needed, you can use a 91½" spacer for this). Tap the post down until the pencil mark is at the string. Pour more concrete around the posts. We recommend the concrete be at least 8" below the ground. Set all posts. Make any final adjustments to line up the posts. Using a rod (or something similar), run it up and down through the concrete a few times around the post to help pack the concrete. Pour some water on the concrete. For best results, let the concrete set up for a day or so.

Step 3: Insert rails into the routed holes. It is recommended to stagger the rails, if possible. When inserting rails, try not to end up at a gate post with a stiffener or a corner post. This is due to the rails not going inside the post as far and will be harder to insert. Where needed, cut rails shorter and notch the ends.

Step 4: Attach the caps on the top of the posts with PVC glue. Fill all holes with dirt, limestone or accent of your choice.

Gate Installation: We recommend aluminum post stiffeners be used inside each gate post. These will strengthen the posts to be strong enough to support the gate and is an excellent base to fasten the gate hardware to. Install the stiffeners inside the gate posts when installing the posts. Place open side of post stiffener towards fence. If using a blank post, make sure the closed sides are towards the gate opening. The gates are pre-assembled; however, the hinges and latch will need to be applied. Installation instructions are provided with the gate hardware.