HOMESTEAD FENCE
ARIZONA | OHIO | NATIONWIDE

Molded Fencing Installation Instructions

SimTek - EcoStone & Sherwood 4', 6' and 8' Tall

⚠ WARNING:

- Improper installation of this product can result in personal injury. Always wear safety goggles when cutting, drilling and assembling the product.
- Incorrect installation may cause harm to the product or individual.
- Check local building codes to determine pool-safe fencing options.

NOTICE:

- DO NOT attempt to assemble the kit if parts are missing or damaged.
- DO NOT return the product to the store. For assistance or replacement parts call: 1-888-659-6527.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

Check your local zoning laws.

- Local zoning laws and Home Owners Associations may regulate the location, style and height of your fence or even require a permit signoff beforehand.
- Check local codes for frost line depth and regulations.
- Additional products and assembly may be required to meet wind code requirements. Notice of acceptance (NOA) can be found at www.miamidade.gov/building/pc-search_app.asp

Contact your local utilities companies.

- You must have the utility companies clearly mark your property for electrical, gas or water lines to avoid puncturing any unseen underground utilities.

TOOLS NEEDED:

GETTING STARTED:

	Site plans and permits
	Measuring tape
	Hammer or mallet
	Wooden stakes
	String line
	Spray Paint for hole centers for post and gate spacing
	Wooden spacer bar for post and gate spacing
	Level
	Concrete

ASSEMBLING FENCE/GATES:

	Drop cloth
	Hacksaw, circular saw or chop saw with masonry blade
	Square
	#3 square drive bit
	Phillips #2 screwdriver
	Drill and drill bits - ⅛" for #8 screws - ¼" for bullet clips and drain holes - 11/64" for gate assembly - 5/32" for gate hardware if using aluminum insert - ⅜" for lock rings - ½" deep socket (or nut driver) for traditional picket - ⅜" nut-driver - Molded

DIGGING HOLES:

	Shovel
	Post hole digger
	10" auger for 4x4 posts
	12" auger for 5x5 posts

INSTALLING POSTS:

	Wheelbarrow
	Concrete mixing tools
	Short length of wood, 2x4 for tamping concrete
	Garden hose
	Level

INSTALLING BOTTOM RAIL:

	Leveling blocks
	Shim stock
	Duct tape to seal rail ends

INSTALLING EXTRUDED GATES:

	Wrench, 7/16" for hinge nuts
	Flat screwdriver to activate hinge spring

INSTALLING MOLDED GATES:

	7/32"Allen wrench
	⅜" nut-driver

FILLING EXTRUDED POSTS:

	Rubber mallet to tamp post
	Funnel for filling post
	Ladder for high fences

CLEANING UP:

	Abrasive-type pad
	Bucket and sponge

INSTALLING ON CONCRETE:

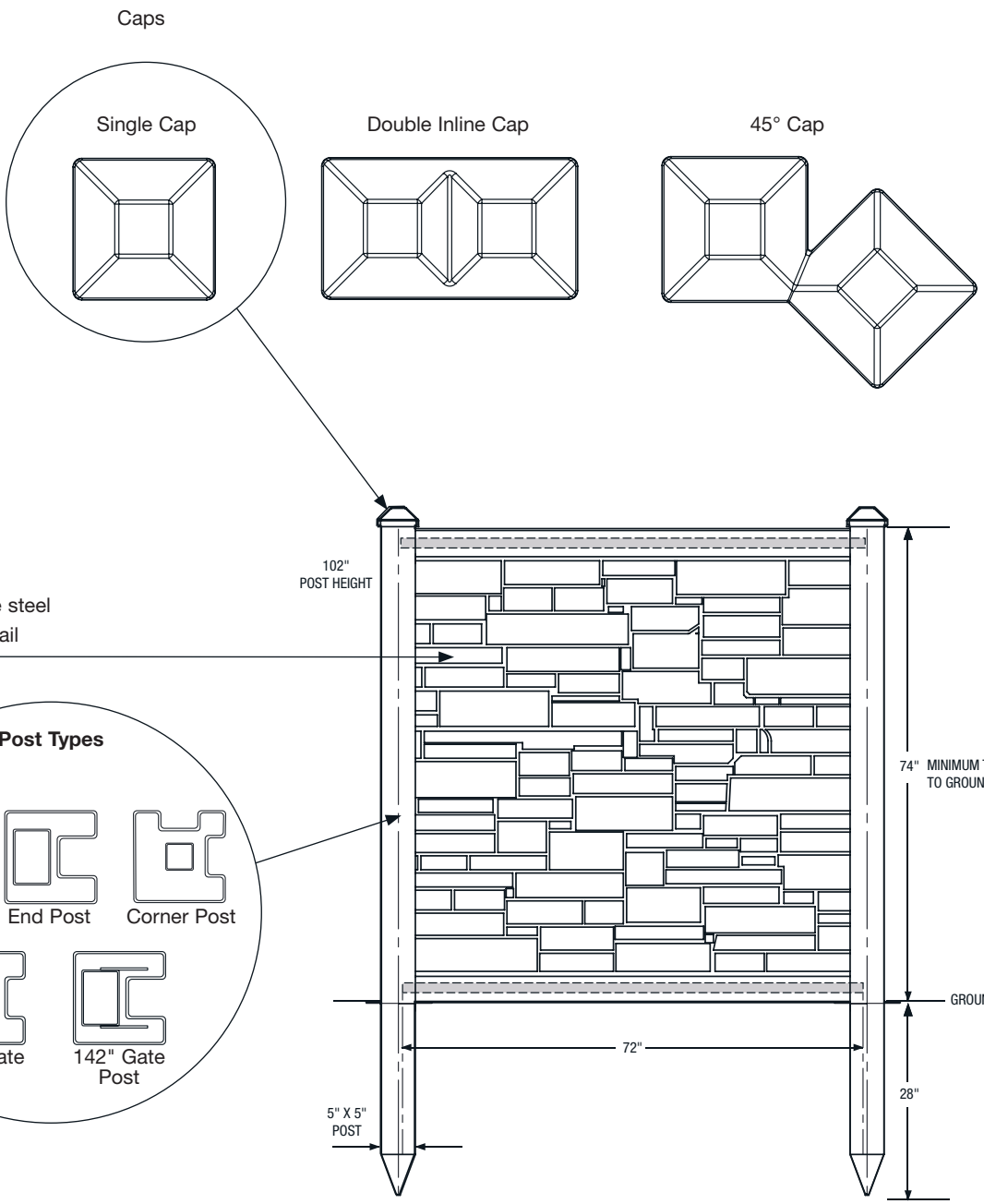
	½" masonry drill
	Core drill

EZ SET BRACKETS:

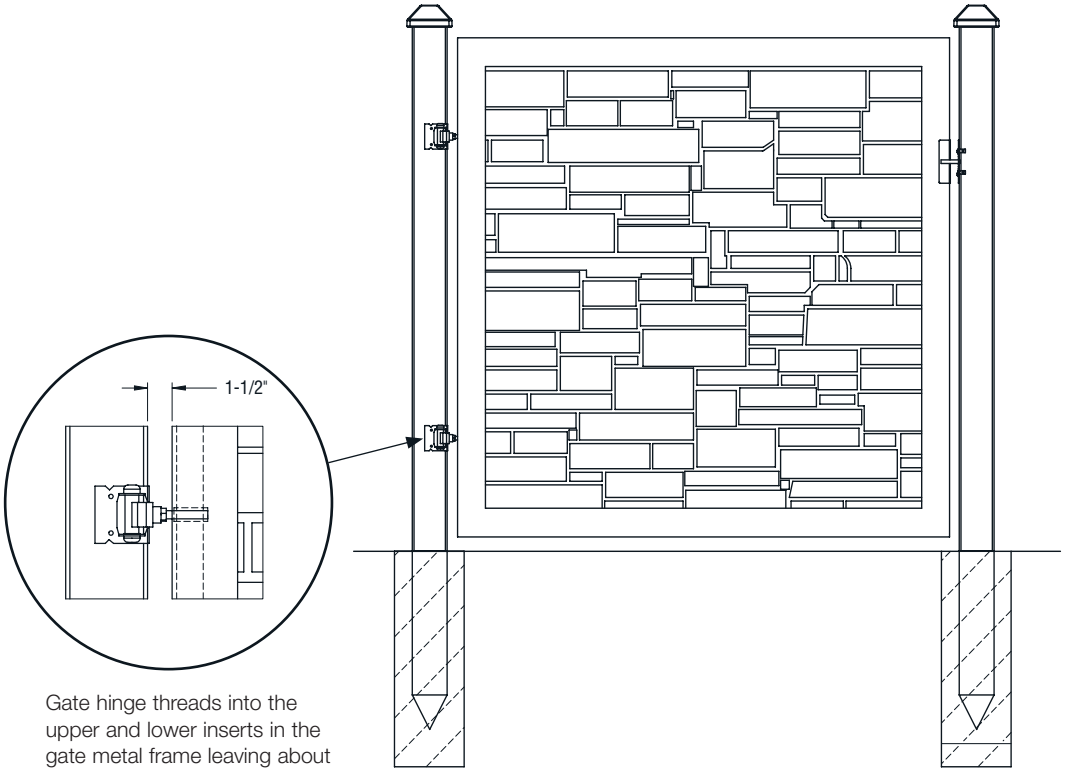
	7/16" wrench
	Post routing - Extruded
	Template kit with router
	Spiral saw

To obtain and review a copy of the warranty please visit buydirectvinylfence.com. You may also contact us at 1-888-659-6527.

Fence System Components - Molded



Gate Sizing



Gate hinge threads into the upper and lower inserts in the gate metal frame leaving about 1½" from the edge of the gate to the gate post.

Gate Post

End Post

All gates require about a 1½" gap between the gate and the gate post, and about a 1" gap between the gate and the end post or between the two gates when using double gates. For a single gate, use one gate post and one end post. For double gates, use two gate posts.

Inside-to-Inside Post Spacing (see table below)

Gate Width	Single Opening	Double Drive w/3' gate	Double Drive w/4' gate	Double Drive w/5'gate	Double Drive w/6' gate
3'	38½"	76"	88"	100"	111"
4'	50½"	88"	100"	112"	123"
5'	62½"	100"	112"	124"	135"
6'	73½"	111"	123"	135"	146"

Privacy Fence

Simtek EcoStone 4' and 6' High

1. Getting Started

- Be sure to call underground (811) prior to digging
- Determine gate location(s)
- Stake out the fence line
- Space and mark post hole locations for gate and sections (spacer bar/template may be useful)
- Start at an end, gate, or corner post and work outward to determine proper fence height relative to ground. If there is a slope it is easier to begin at the top end and work your way downhill

2. Dig Holes

- Dig holes 30" deep or to frost line
  - Hole size for 5 x 5 posts = approximately 12"
- Clean holes and check for straight walls
- Bell bottom of holes

3. Install Panel Brackets

(Note: brackets come attached to the tip of fence posts)

- Determine height of bracket from top of post
- Attach bracket to post with #14 hex washer head self-tapping screw
  Note: Put the screw through the hole as close to the top as you are able
- A template can speed attachment for level installations

4. Cutting Down Posts (if required)

- Measure height from top of post
- Cut off bottom of post with metal cutting blade
- Never cut the top of the post

5. Setting Posts

- Insert post in hole
- Determine rough height
- Fill hole around post with concrete mix (sand, gravel and cement) approximately 2" or 4" below grade
- Tamp concrete in hole to eliminate air pockets
- Level and square post

6. Spacing Posts (See page 6 for post centers)

- Use steel stiffener from panel to ensure panels are level
- Place stiffener between posts
- Set post (leave spacer in place for one hour minimum)

ProTip: create your own template/spacer to ensure post spacing.

6'x 6'= 70¾"
4'x 8'= 95"

7. Install Fence Panels

- Check to ensure top and bottom rails have stiffeners. They come installed, however, may have been removed to use as spacers when setting posts
- Lift panel to approximately 4' off ground
- Insert panel into channel on first post
- Flex the next post until the channel will receive panel
- Ease panel down onto panel brackets
- Level panel

8. Secure Fence Panels

- Panels must be attached to end, gate, and corner post with one fastener per panel
- To prevent unauthorized panel removal, you can attach one end of each panel into the post with one fastener
- Never attach both ends of a panel to posts

9. Cutting Panels (if required)

- Remove steel stiffeners from panel
- Determine distance between posts from inside of channel to inside of channel
- Cut stiffeners to that width
- Measure and mark panel ½" shorter than stiffeners (this is needed for expansion and contraction of panel)
- Cut panel

10. Gate Openings

- Post spacing is critical. The ideal spacing is 1" on latch post and 1½" between hinge post
- Hinges should be attached to a gate post

11. Gate Installation

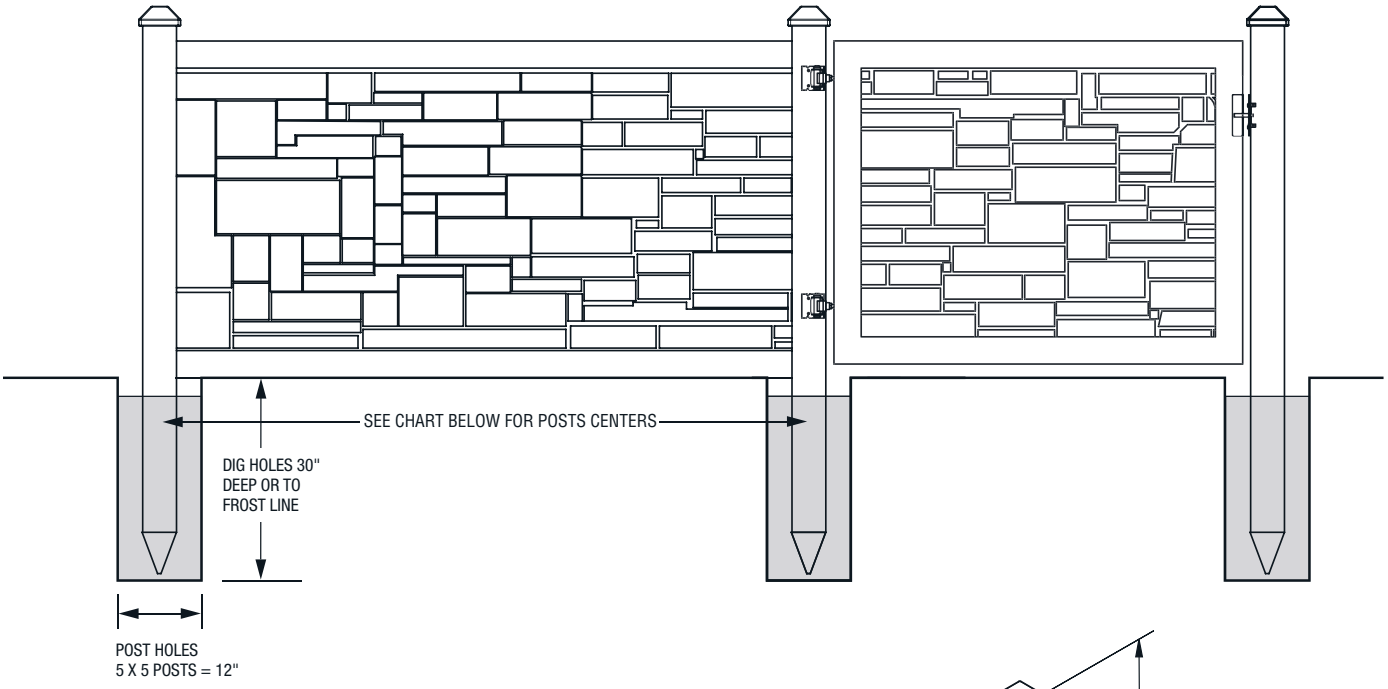
- First, attach striker bar to gate using provided button head screws
- Thread the ½" hinge rod into the upper and lower inserts in the metal gate frame leaving approximately 1½" from the edge of the gate to the bracket
- Determine proper height for gate and block up gate square with fence
- Attach hinges to gate post with 2½" self-tapping screws provided (do not over tighten screws as this can crush the internal foam and make an indentation in the post
- Level the gate
- Align the latch with the striker bar and attach the latch to end post with 2½" self-tapping screws provided

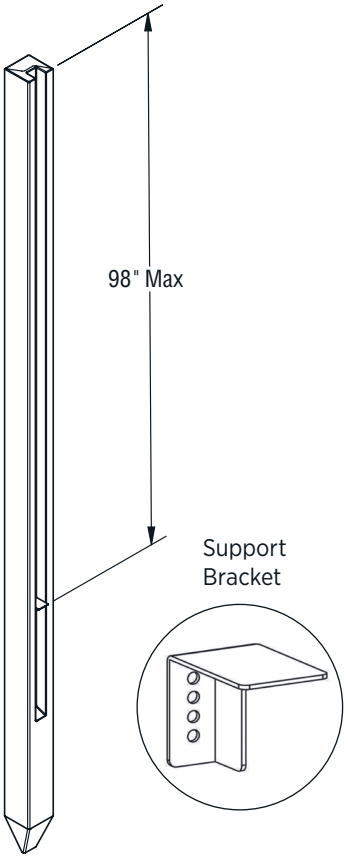
12. Install Caps

- Install post caps (caps are pressure fit, however a 3" deck screw can be driven through the top of the cap into the middle of the post if desired)

Privacy Fence

Simtek EcoStone 4' and 6' High





Panel Size	4'	6'	8'
Bracket Location from top of post	50"	74"	98"

Center to Center Post Dimensions

		Line	Corner	End	Gate
6'x6'	Line	72"	73"	72"	73"
	Corner		74"	73"	74"
4'x8'	Line	96"	97"	96"	97"
	Corner		98"	97"	98"

FEATURING
WINDCODE
PERFORMANCE

Privacy Fence

Simtek EcoStone 8' High

1. Getting Started

- Be sure to call underground (811) prior to digging
- Determine gate location(s)
- Stake out the fence line
- Space and mark post hole locations for gate and sections (spacer bar/template may be useful)
- Start at an end, gate, or corner post and work outward to determine proper fence height relative to ground. If there is a slope it is easier to begin at the top end and work your way downhill

2. Dig Holes

- Dig holes 48" deep
  - Hole size for 5x5 posts = approximately 12"
- Clean holes and check for straight walls
- Bell bottom of holes

3. Install Fence Brackets

Note: Brackets come attached to the tip of fence posts

- Determine height of bracket from top of post
- Attach bracket to post with #14 hex washer head self-tapping screw

  Note: Put the screw through the hole as close to the top as you are able
- A template can speed attachment for level installations

4. Cutting Down Posts *(if required)*

- Measure height from top of post
- Cut off bottom of post with metal cutting blade
- Never cut the top of the post

5. Setting Post

- Insert post in hole
- Determine rough height
- Fill hole around post with concrete mix (sand, gravel and cement) approximately 2" or 4" below grade
- Tamp concrete in hole to eliminate air pockets
- Level and square post

6. Spacing Posts

- Use steel stiffener from panel (95" – 8')
- Place stiffener between posts
- Set post (leave spacer in place for one hour minimum)
- Set 3 to 4 posts with stiffeners as spacers, then advance them one at a time starting with the first stiffener

7. Install Bottom Fence Panels

- Check to ensure top and bottom rails have stiffeners. They come installed, however, may have been removed to use as spacers when setting posts
- Lift panel and insert into post channels
- Ease panel down onto fence brackets
- Level panel

Note: Be certain that the 2" high rail is on top of the bottom panel

8. Install top panel

- Lift panel and insert into post channels
- Ease panel down onto bottom panel

Note: Be certain the 2" high rail is on the bottom of the top panel

Pro Tip: When installing panels, insert a short piece of 1-3/8" pipe into both ends of the panel to use as handles. 2x6 wood blocks can be used to support panel while lowering.

9. Secure fence panels

- Panels must be attached to end and gate post with one fastener per panel
- To prevent unauthorized panel removal, you can attach one end of each panel into the post with one fastener
- Never attach both ends of a panel to posts

10. Cutting panels *(if required)*

- Remove steel stiffeners from panel
- Determine distance between posts from inside of channel to inside of channel
- Cut stiffeners ¼" shorter than that measurement
- Measure and mark panel ¼" shorter than stiffeners (this is needed for expansion and contraction of panel)
- Cut panel
- A cut panel bracket is required on top and bottom cut panels.

Pro Tip: Pinning the cut panel bracket in place will help with installation

11. Gate openings

- Post spacing is critical. The ideal spacing is 1" on latch post and 1½" between hinge post.
- Hinges should be attached to a gate post

12. Gate installation

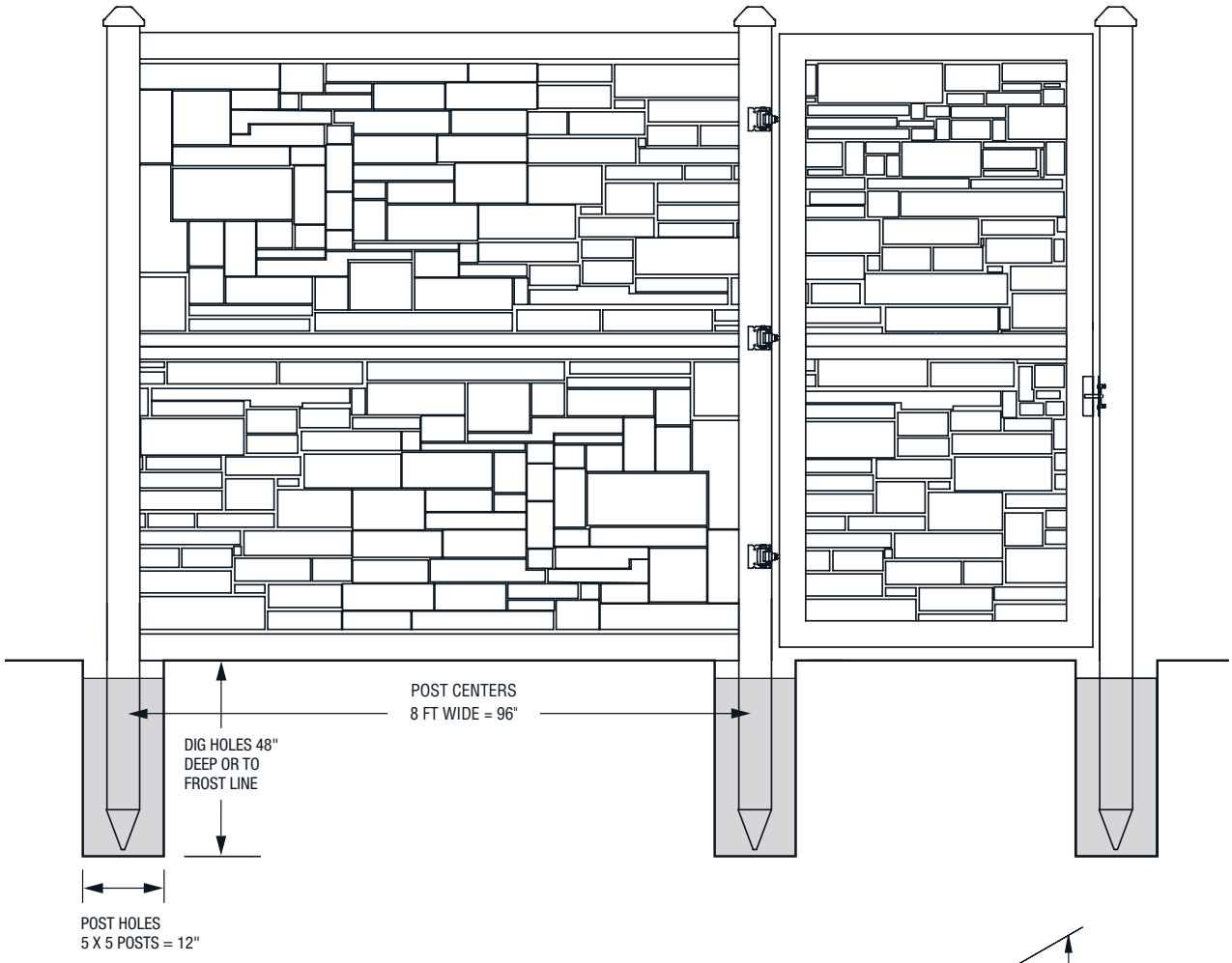
- First, attach striker bar to gate using provide button head screws
- Thread the ½" hinge rod into the upper and lower inserts in the metal gate frame leaving approximately 1½" from the edge of the gate to the bracket.
- Determine proper height for gate and block up gate square with fence
- Attach hinges to gate post with 2½" self-tapping screws provided (do not over tighten screws as this can crush the internal foam and make an indentation in the post
- Level the gate
- Align the latch with the striker bar and attach the latch to end post with 2½" self-tapping screws provided

13. Install caps

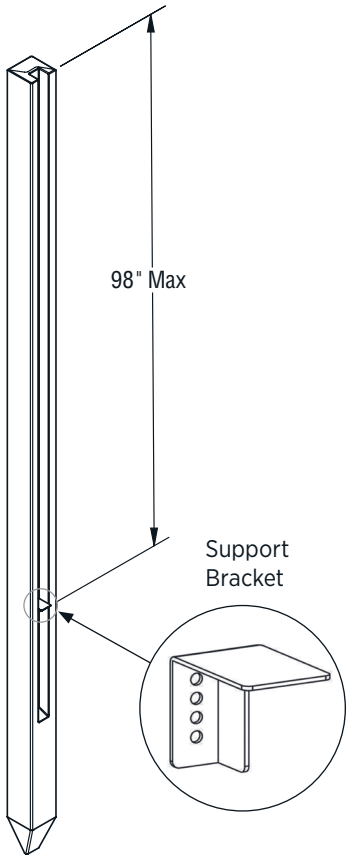
- Install post caps (caps are pressure fit, however a 3" stainless steel deck screw can be driven through the top of the cap into the middle of the post if desired)

Privacy Fence

ISimtek EcoStone 8' High



Panel Size	4'	6'	8'
Bracket Location from top of post	50"	74"	98"



Privacy Fence

Simtek Sherwood 4' and 6' High

1. Getting Started

- Be sure to call underground (811) prior to digging
- Determine gate location(s)
- Stake out the fence line
- Space and mark post hole locations for gate and sections (spacer bar/template may be useful)
- Start at an end, gate, or corner post and work outward to determine proper fence height relative to ground. If there is a slope it is easier to begin at the top end and work your way downhill

2. Dig Holes

- Dig holes 48" deep
  - Hole size for 5 x 5 posts = approximately 12"
- Clean holes and check for straight walls
- Bell bottom of holes

3. Install Panel Brackets

Note: Brackets come attached to the tip of fence posts

- Determine height of bracket from top of post
- Attach bracket to post with #14 hex washer head self-tapping screw

Note: Put the screw through the hole as close to the top as you are able

- A template can speed attachment for level installations

4. Cutting Down Posts *(if required)*

- Measure height from top of post
- Cut off bottom of post with metal cutting blade
- Never cut the top of the post

5. Setting Posts

- Insert post and hole
- Determine rough height
- Fill hole around post with concrete mix (sand, gravel and cement) approximately 2" or 4" below grade
- Tamp concrete in hole to eliminate air pockets
- Level and square post

6. Spacing Posts (See page 10 for post centers)

- Use steel stiffener from panel to ensure panels will level
- Place stiffener between posts.
- Set post (leave spacer in place for one hour minimum)

ProTip: create your own template/space to ensure post spacing.

6'x 6'= 70¾"
4'x 8'= 95"

7. Install Fence Panels

- Check to ensure top and bottom rails have stiffeners. They come installed, however may have been removed to use as spacers when setting posts
- Lift panel to approximately 4' off ground
- Insert panel into channel on first post
- Flex the next post until the channel will receive panel
- Ease panel down onto fence brackets
- Level panel

8. Secure Fence Panels

- Panels must be attached to end, gate, and corner post with one fastener per panel
- To prevent unauthorized panel removal, you can attach one end of each panel into the post with one fastener
- Never attach both ends of a panel to posts

9. Cutting Panels *(if required)*

- Remove steel stiffeners from panel
- Determine distance between posts from inside of channel to inside of channel
- Cut stiffeners to that width
- Measure and mark panel ½" shorter than stiffeners (this is needed for expansion and contraction of panel)
- Cut panel

NOTE: 6 ft panel includes vertical steel insert in center of panel

10. Gate Openings

- Post spacing is critical. The ideal spacing is 1" on latch post and 1½" between hinge post
- Hinges should be attached to a gate post

11. Gate Installation

- First, attach striker bar to gate using provide button head screws
- Thread the ½" hinge rod into the upper and lower inserts in the metal gate frame leaving approximately 1½" from the edge of the gate to the bracket
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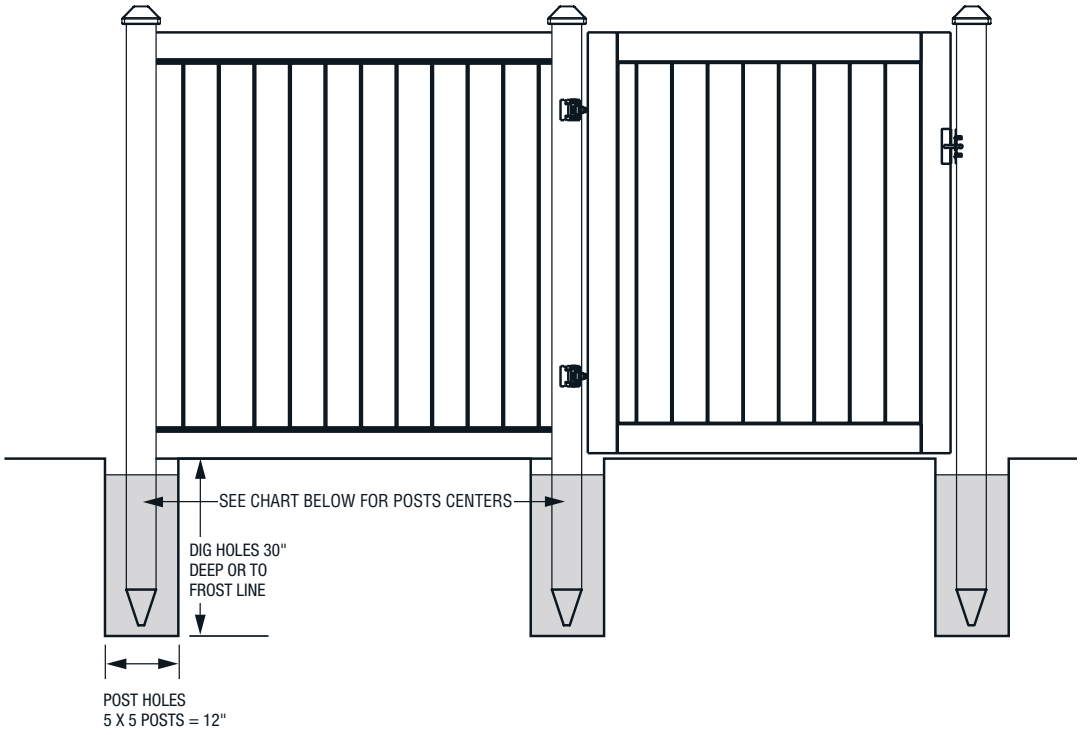
- Level the gate
- Align the latch with the striker bar and attach the latch to end post with 2½" self-tapping screws provided

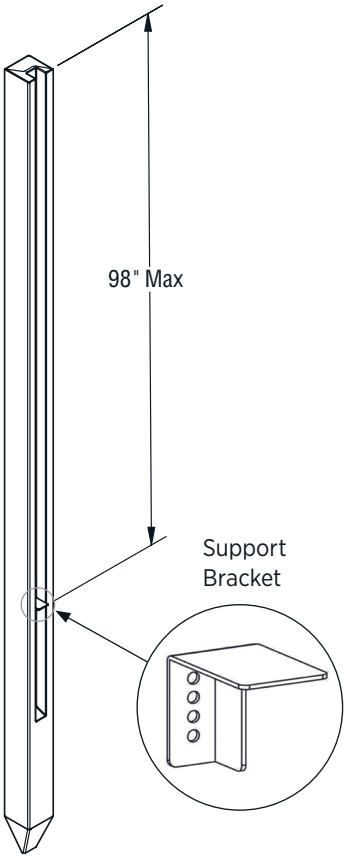
12. Install Caps

- Install post caps (caps are pressure fit, however a 3" deck screw can be driven through the top of the cap into the middle of the post if desired)

Privacy Fence

Simtek Sherwood 4' and 6' High





Panel Size	4'	6'	8'
Bracket Location from top of post	50"	74"	98"

Center to Center Post Dimensions for 6'

		Line	Corner	End	Gate
6'x6'	Line	72"	73"	72"	73"
	Corner		74"	73"	74"
4'x8'	Line	96"	97"	96"	97"
	Corner		98"	97"	98"

Privacy Fence

Simtek Sherwood 8' High

1. Getting Started

- Be sure to call underground (811) prior to digging
- Determine gate location(s)
- Stake out the fence line
- Space and mark post hole locations for gate and sections (spacer bar/template may be useful)
- Start at an end, gate, or corner post and work outward to determine proper fence height relative to ground. If there is a slope it is easier to begin at the top end and work your way downhill

2. Dig Holes

- Dig holes 48" deep
  - Hole size for 5x5 posts = approximately 12"
- Clean holes and check for straight walls
- Bell bottom of holes

3. Install Panel Brackets

Note: Brackets come attached to the tip of fence posts

- Determine height of bracket from top of post
- Attach bracket to post with #14 hex washer head self-tapping screw

Note: Put the screw through the hole as close to the top as you are able

- A template can speed attachment for level installations

4. Cutting Down Posts *(if required)*

- Measure height from top of post
- Cut off bottom of post with metal cutting blade
- Never cut the top of the post

5. Setting Posts

- Insert post and hole
- Determine rough height
- Fill hole around post with concrete mix (sand, gravel and cement) approximately 2" or 4" below grade
- Tamp concrete in hole to eliminate air pockets
- Level and square post

6. Spacing Posts

- Use steel stiffener from panel (95" – 8')
- Place stiffener between posts
- Set post (leave spacer in place for one hour minimum)
- Set 3 to 4 posts with stiffeners as spacers, then advance them one at a time starting with the first stiffener

7. Install Bottom Fence Panels

- Check to ensure top and bottom rails have stiffeners. They come installed, however may have been removed to use as spacers when setting posts
- Lift panel and insert into post channels
- Ease panel down onto panel brackets
- Level panel

Note: Be certain that the 2" high rail is on top of the bottom panel

8. Install Top Panel

- Lift panel and insert into post channels
- Ease panel down onto bottom panel

Note: Be certain the 2" high rail is on the bottom of the top panel

Pro Tip: When installing panels, insert a short piece of 1⅜" pipe into both ends of the panel to use as handles. 2x6 wood blocks can be used to support panel while lowering.

9. Secure Fence Panels

- Panels must be attached to end and gate post with one fastener per panel
- To prevent unauthorized panel removal, you can attach one end of each panel into the post with one fastener
- Never attach both ends of a panel to posts

10. Cutting Panels *(if required)*

- Remove steel stiffeners from panel
- Determine distance between posts from inside of channel to inside of channel
- Cut stiffeners ¼" shorter than that measurement
- Measure and mark panel ¼" shorter than stiffeners (this is needed for expansion and contraction of panel)
- Cut panel
- A cut panel bracket is required on top and bottom cut panels

Pro Tip: Pinning the cut panel bracket in place will help with installation (#12x1" pan head screw is recommended)

11. Gate Openings

- Post spacing is critical. The ideal spacing is 1" on latch post and 1½" between hinge post
- Hinges should be attached to a gate post

12. Gate Installation

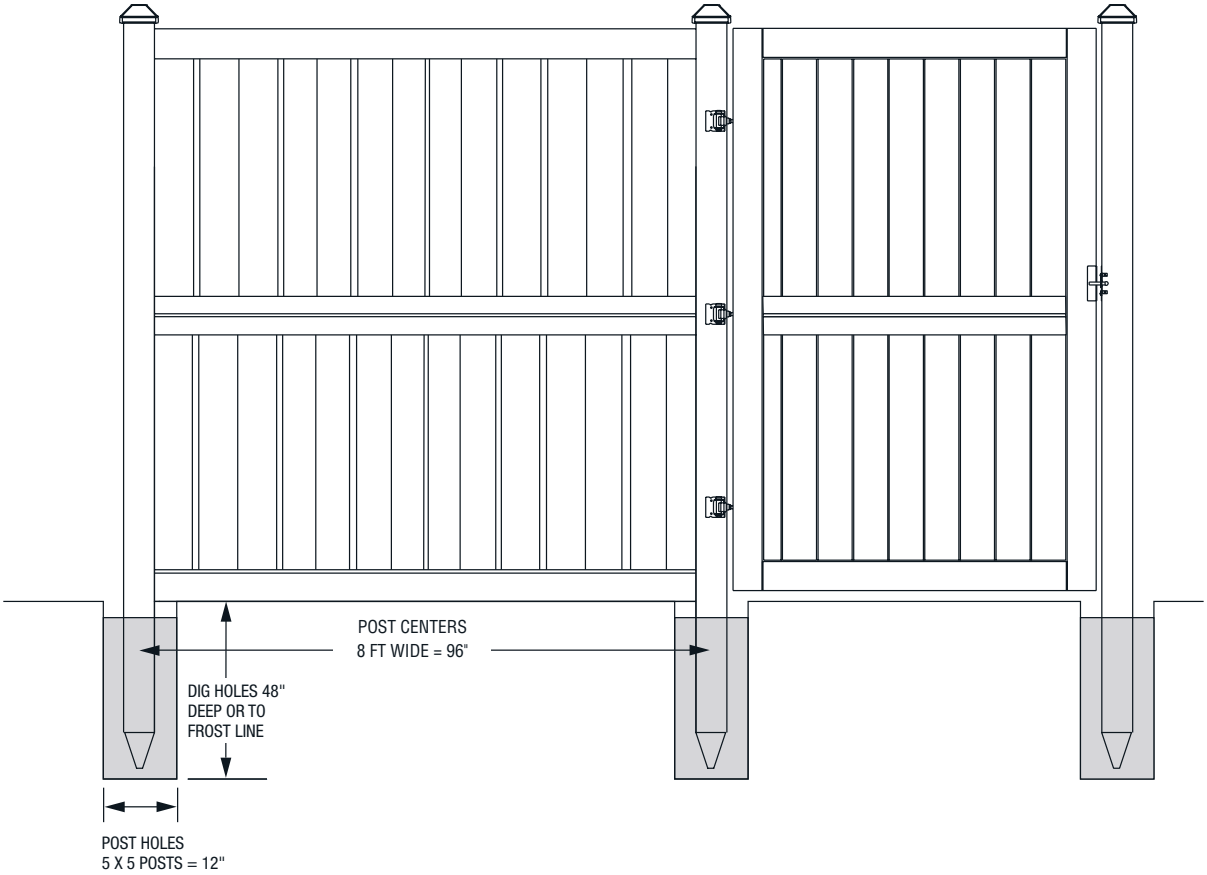
- First, attach striker bar to gate using provide button head screws
- Thread the ½" hinge rod into the upper and lower inserts in the metal gate frame leaving approximately 1½" from the edge of the gate to the bracket.
- Determine proper height for gate and block up gate square with fence
- Attach hinges to gate post with 2½" self-tapping screws provided (do not over tighten screws as this can crush the internal foam and make an indentation in the post
- Level the gate
- Align the latch with the striker bar and attach the latch to end post with 2½" self-tapping screws provided

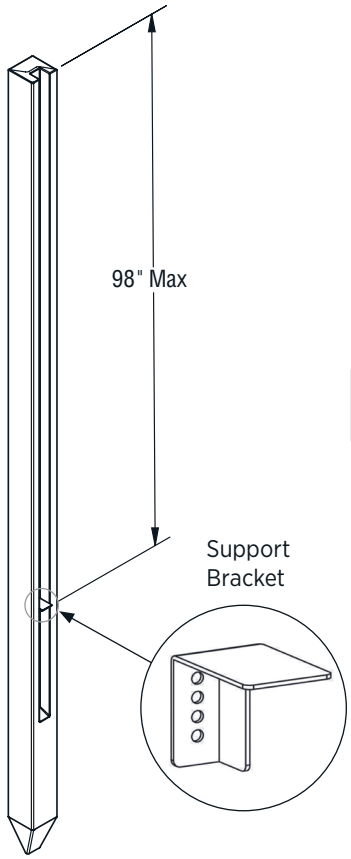
13. Install Caps

- Install post caps (caps are pressure fit, however a 3" deck screw can be driven through the top of the cap into the middle of the post if desired)

Privacy Fence

Simtek Sherwood 8' High





Panel Size	4'	6'	8'
Bracket Location from top of post	50"	74"	98"

Variable Terrain Installation

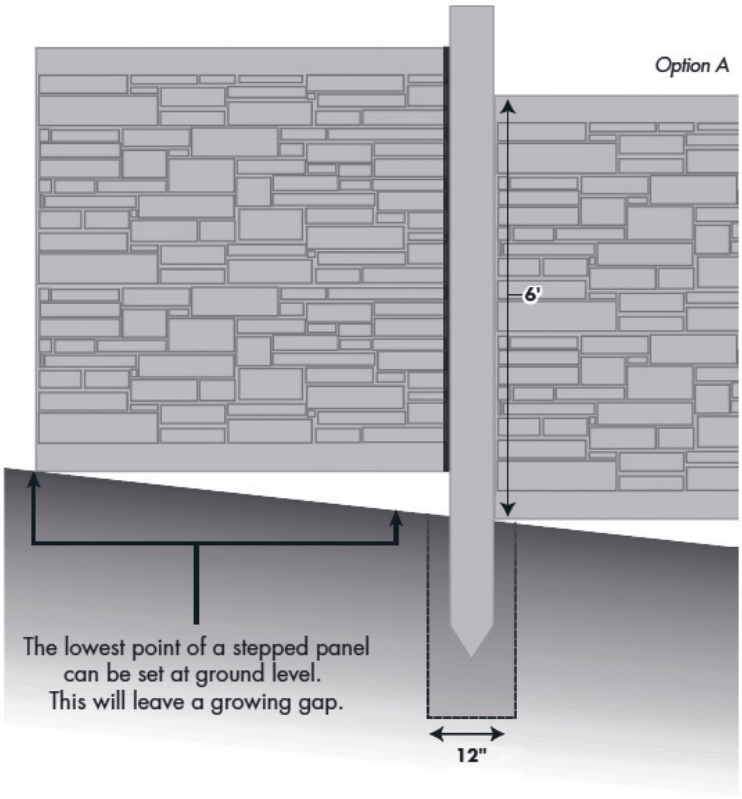
Molded

Installation on sloping terrain is similar to that on flat terrain. Professionals typically use a laser to shoot and obtain a grade.

- Set the first post on the uphill side. Post placement is important! Posts are typically placed at the point where the slope changes, whether in a peak or a valley.
- The panel support brackets should be pre-attached at 50" for 4', 74" for 6', and can receive the down hill side of the panel at that height. Once the slope and the drop per panel have been determined, the bracket on the uphill side should be adjusted to the proper height. Panels will always be set level even on a slope.
- Set the second post and make any adjustments to bracket position.
- Use steel stiffeners for spacing to set the distance for each succeeding post.
- Use a level on the stiffener to ensure panels will be level when installed.
- For more information see illustration A and B

Note: A 6' wide panel can be stepped as much as 12" per panel. For steeper elevations you can use our 142" long post. To reduce the gap under the panel, you can reduce the width of the panel and add additional post.

For more details and instructions call your sales representative.

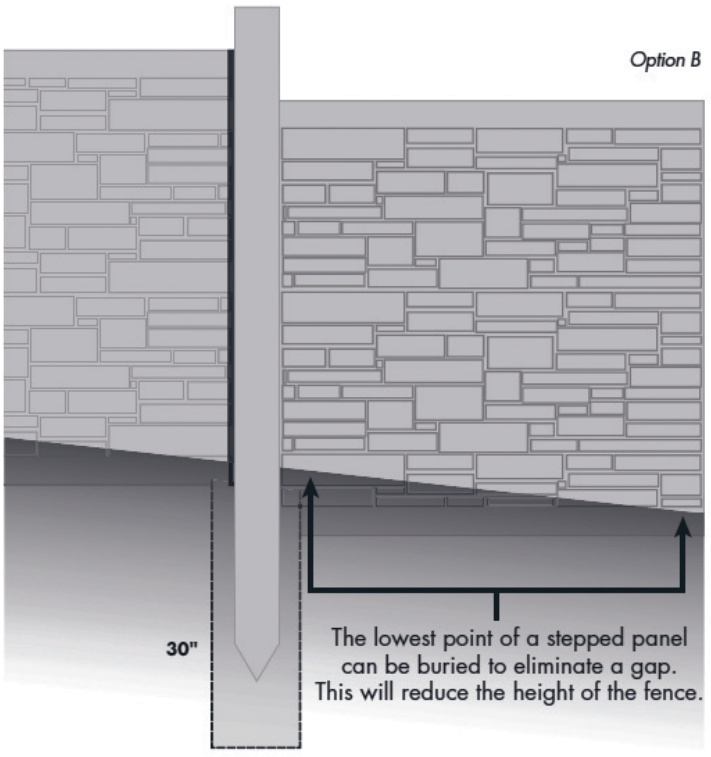


Stepping Method

With the stepping method, panels remain horizontal and posts are extended to accommodate the variance in terrain. Longer post may be required. (A 6' wide panel can be stepped up to 12" per panel using our 102" post. For steeper elevations our 142" post is required.)

1. Attach panel brackets on one side of post at standard height
2. Determine step and attach panel bracket to other side of post
3. Set first post on the uphill side and work your way down
4. Just as with level installation use panel stiffeners as spacers to set next post
5. Level stiffener and adjust bracket if necessary

CAUTION: Molded fence panels are not engineered for use as a retaining wall. If burying the bottom of a panel the ground level must be the same on both sides.



Concrete Installation
Molded

Molded fence panels can be installed on top of a 10" minimum width poured concrete wall or on flat concrete using our concrete mounting brackets. Concrete mounts are available for end, gate, line, and corner posts along with post skirts for a clean look. Be sure concrete is structurally sound for installation of fence.

1. Cutting down post

a. Measure height from top of post

b. Cut off bottom of post with metal cutting blade

c. Never cut the top of the post

2. Install concrete mounting brackets

a. Drill all four holes through the pre-drilled holes in the steel plate

b. Install concrete mounts to concrete with fasteners with at least 4,000 lbs. shear strength (minimum bolt size is ½" x 4½")

c. Shim to level if necessary

3. Install post skirts

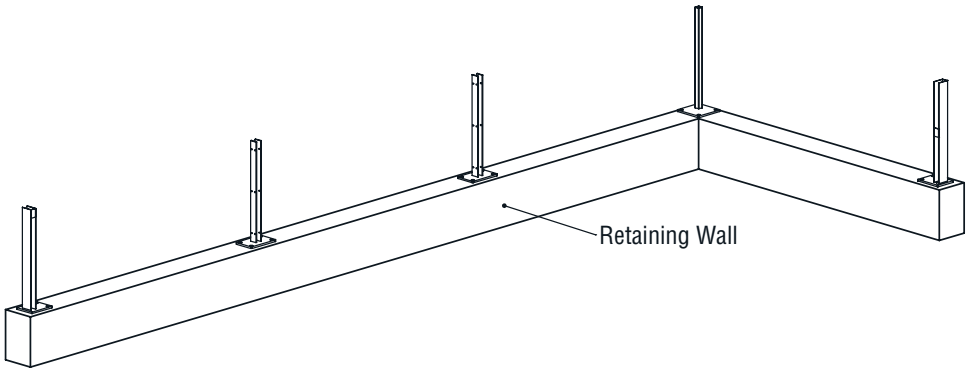
4. Install post to concrete mounting bracket

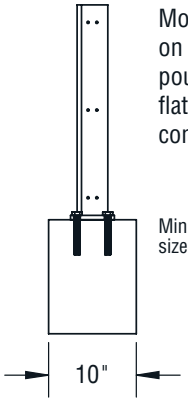
a. Attached to concrete mounting with three screws (line post - insert three stagged screws on each side of the strap into the pre-drilled holes)

5. Install fence panels and post caps

NOTE: Because panels normally sit directly on the wall or concrete surface panel brackets are unnecessary when using concrete mounts.

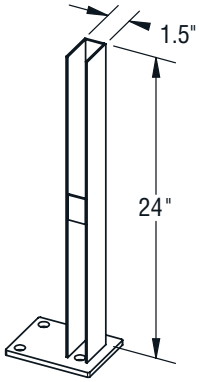
Concrete Installation



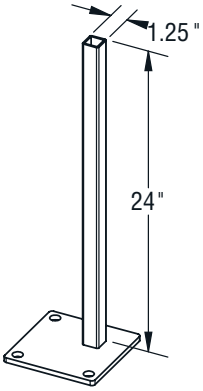


Molded Fence can be installed on top of a 10" min width poured concrete wall or on flat concrete by using concrete mounting brackets

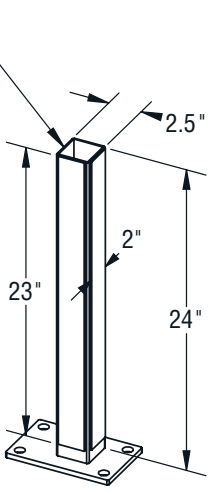
Line Shoe



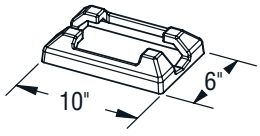
End Shoe



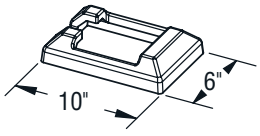
Corner Shoe



Gate Shoe



Line Shoe Skirt



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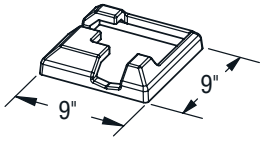
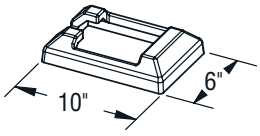


Corner Shoe Skirt



Gate Shoe Skirt

Glossary

Accent — Decorative addition to top of fence such as lattice.

Aluminum Channel — Aluminum structural support used as a stiffener in rails.

Auger — Hand or machine-operated tool with a screw-like shank for boring holes in soil.

Blocking — Method for supporting horizontal members, such as fence rails or gates.

Brace — Diagonal component of a gate; provides dimensional stability.

Bullet Clip — Gravity clip that is used to hold rails in posts.

Caps — Vinyl accessory placed on top of fence posts to provide a finished look and prevent water penetration.

Crimp Lock — Method for fastening rails inside posts. The rail is notched (crimped) so that it stays within the post once inserted.

EZ Set Bracket — Aluminum bracket system that fits over a steel post as an alternative installation method to secure and hold vinyl post in position.

Fence Layout — Section-by-section diagram of the proposed fence line.

Frost Line — Lowest level in soil that freezes. Frost line depth depends on winter temperatures, soil type and vegetation cover, and varies from 0" in warm regions to 3' or more in cold-winter areas.

Gate — Movable framework or solid structure that swings on hinges; controls entrance or exit through an opening in a fence.

Gate Post Stiffener — Structural aluminum support used in gate hinge and latch posts to solidify as an alternative to traditional concrete and rebar method.

Gloss — Describes amount of reflection or sheen on the surface of vinyl.

Good Neighbor Fence — Fence that has the same look on both sides.

Lock Ring — Circular-shaped fastener with tabs that insert into rails for holding into posts.

Opposite Gate — Used in double-gate situations; complements the primary gate; diagonal brace is secured in the opposite direction for a pleasing, symmetrical look.

On Center (O.C.) — Measure from the center of one object (e.g., a post) to the center of the next post.

Picket — Vertical member of fence between rails.

Post — Vertical support member of fence system.

Picket End Channel — U-shaped channel attached to the posts on both ends of a privacy fence section.

PVC — Polyvinyl chloride, the plastic resin used to manufacture “vinyl" fence.

Rail — Horizontal pieces between fence posts.

Racking — Method of installing fence on sloped terrain. Fence posts and pickets are plumb, but the rails are secured at an angle so they parallel the grade.

Rebar — Reinforcing bar, placed in end and gate posts to vertically reinforce the fence; No. 4 rebar is 1/2" diameter.

Routing Template — A guide used for field routing posts that require hole positions other than standard.

Scalloped — Fence style in which the pickets follow a concave pattern high on both ends and low in the middle.

Slope — Degree of incline of a hillside; measured in inches of rise per horizontal inches of run (degree of rack).

Snap Cap — Decorative plastic cap and washer system used to cover the screw head.

Spacer Bar — Wood or like material used to determine infill area between sections or gates (post spacing).

Steel Channel — Galvanized steel structural support used as a stiffener in vinyl rails.

Stepping — Method of installing fence on sloped terrain. Fence rails remain horizontal, and posts are extended to accommodate the variance in the grade.

Tamp — Method of releasing air pockets in concrete by the use of repeated light blows with a mallet on outside of post or piece of lumber in post hole.

Wall Mount Brackets — Aluminum bracket system used as an alternative installation method to fasten fence rails directly to walls or other structural surface.

Weep Holes — Openings drilled in bottom rails for drainage of water.

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