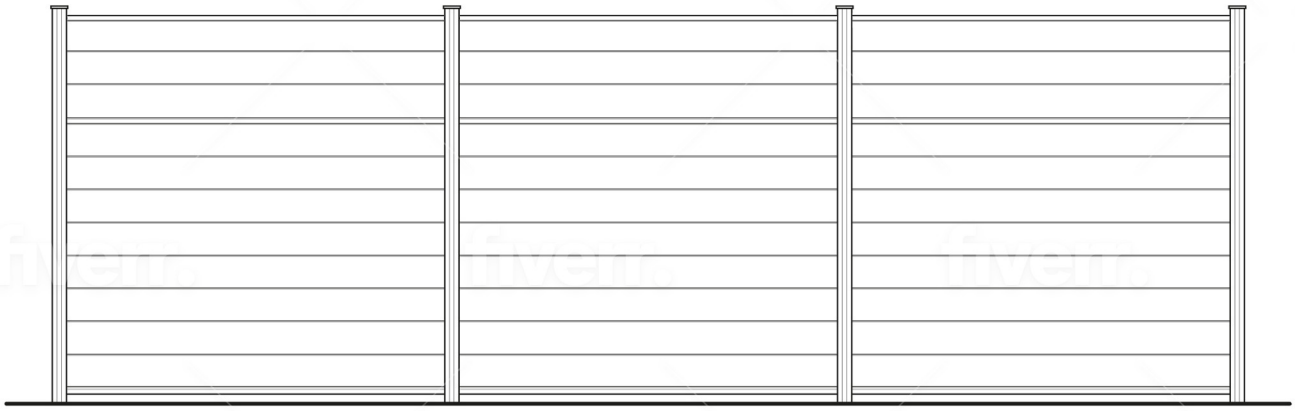
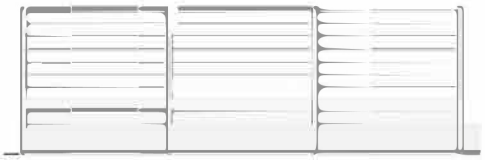
PERIMTEC
Fencing Reimagined™

INSTALLATION MANUAL



FENCE INSTALLATION GUIDE

COMPOSITE OR VINYL FENCE INSTALLATION GUIDE



IMPORTANT

Please read these instructions thoroughly before beginning the assembly, and then complete the build process in the order shown. These instructions can be used in conjunction with any instructions provided with each composite fence design. The contents of this guide is for the purpose of general instruction in understanding the concept of building your fence. The specific needs of your design may vary depending on several factors, if these are not covered in this or the supplemental guide, then please contact our support team for further assistance using the contact information below.

www.perimtec.com

info@perimtec.com

1-888-995-8077

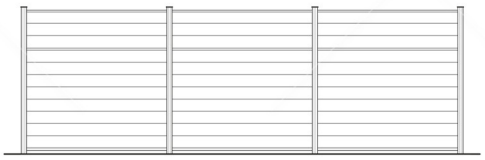
CHECKLIST

Be sure to check the fence codes appropriate for your village, town or city.
Be sure to have your in-ground utilities marked before digging.
Be sure that your fence run is clear of any obstructions.
Plan and measure your fence run in advance.

TOOLS REQUIRED

We would suggest you will need the following to complete the build. Some of these are additional to those items already mentioned in your WPC solid composite fence instructions.

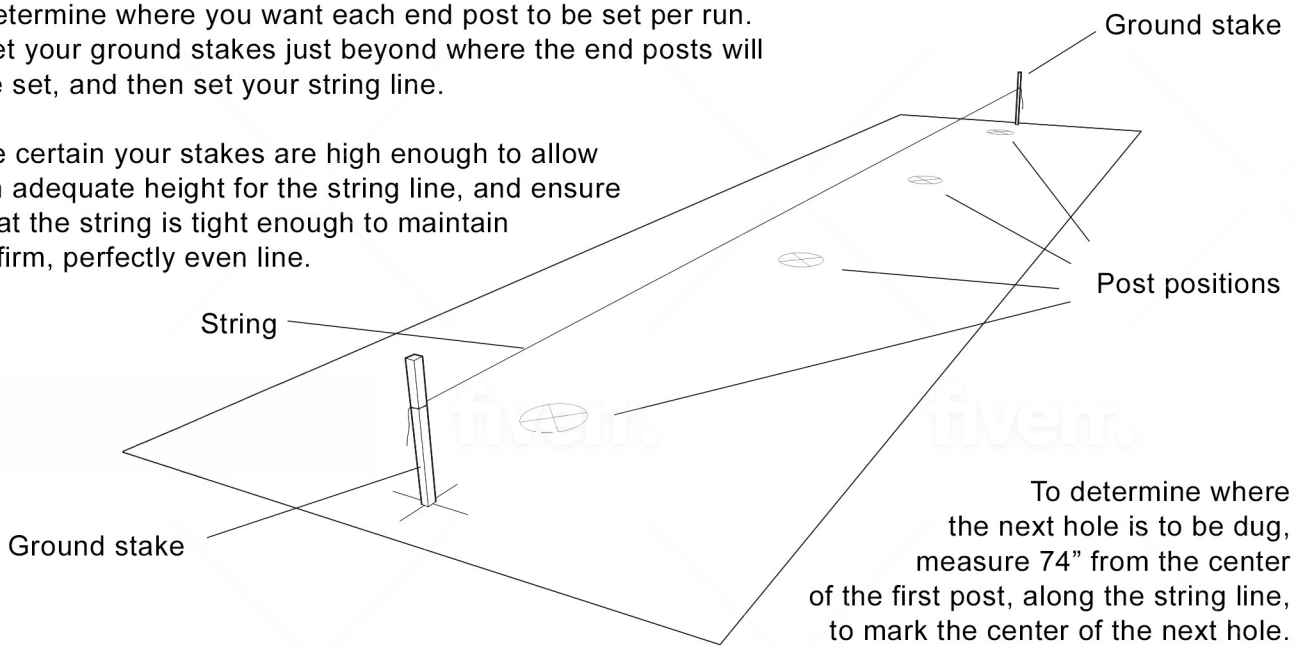
- Measuring tape
- Spirit level
- Rubber mallet
- Hole digger
- Phillips head screwdriver
- Aluminium cutting saw
- Ground stakes
- A string line



STEP ONE - setting the ground stakes and string line

Determine where you want each end post to be set per run. Set your ground stakes just beyond where the end posts will be set, and then set your string line.

Be certain your stakes are high enough to allow an adequate height for the string line, and ensure that the string is tight enough to maintain a firm, perfectly even line.



To determine where the next hole is to be dug, measure 74” from the center of the first post, along the string line, to mark the center of the next hole.

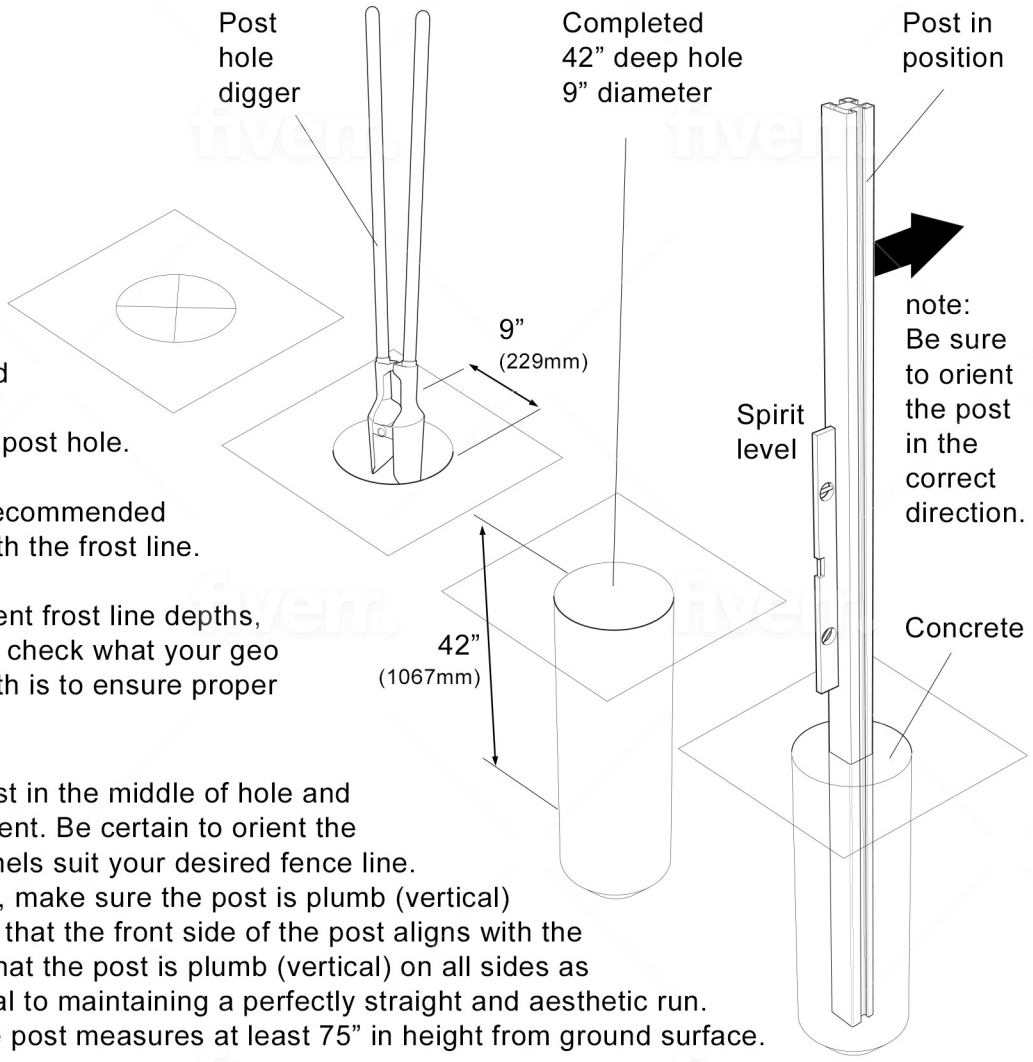
STEP TWO - installing the first end post

Mark your first post hole position

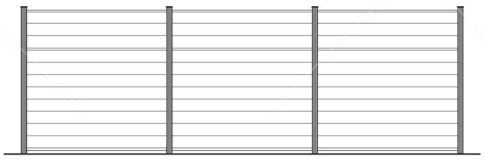
Using your post hole digger or gas-powered auger dig a circular 9” diameter by 42” deep post hole.

In Illinois, 42” is the recommended depth to get 6” beneath the frost line.

Every state has different frost line depths, so we advise that you check what your geo location frost line depth is to ensure proper post installation.

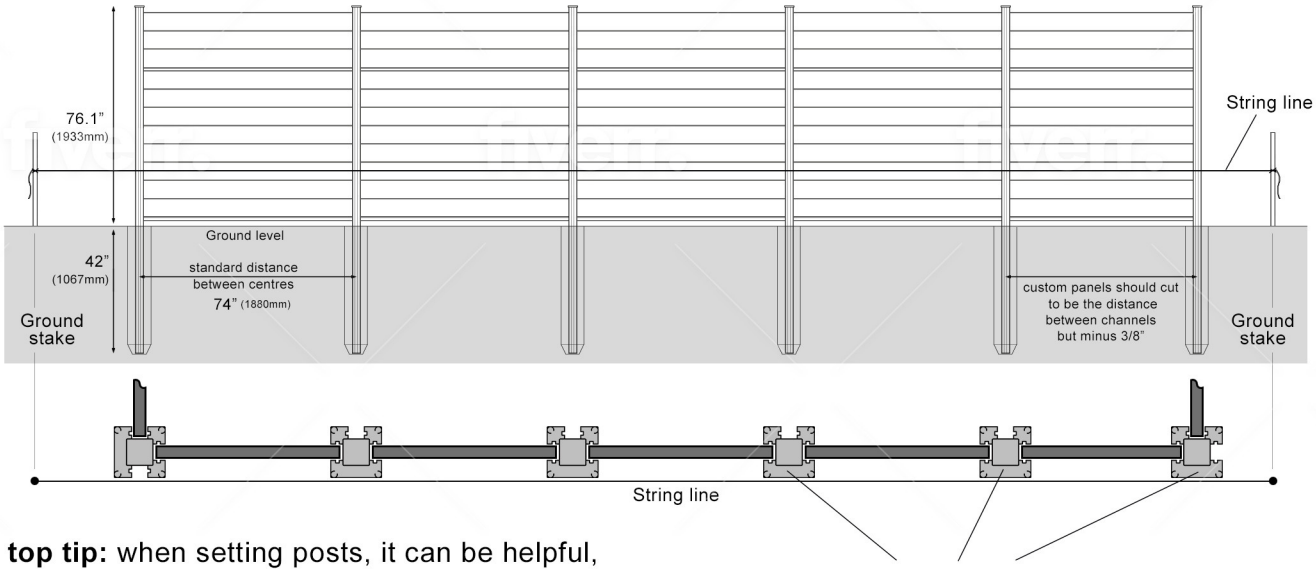


Insert the first end post in the middle of hole and gradually fill with cement. Be certain to orient the post so that the channels suit your desired fence line. Using your spirit level, make sure the post is plumb (vertical) in every direction and that the front side of the post aligns with the string line. Ensuring that the post is plumb (vertical) on all sides as cement cures is critical to maintaining a perfectly straight and aesthetic run. Finally, make sure the post measures at least 75” in height from ground surface.



STEP THREE - installing subsequent posts

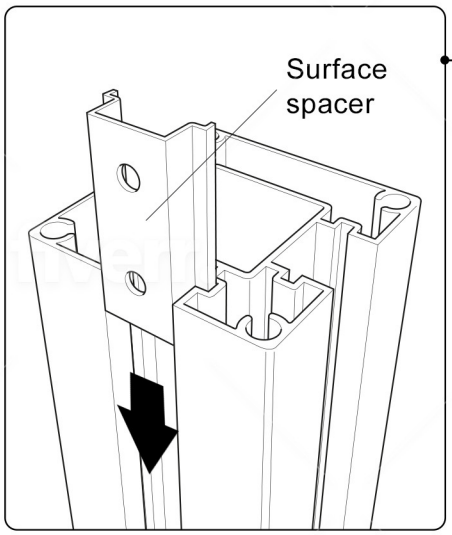
To determine where the next hole is to be dug, measure 74” along the string line, from the center of the first post to the center of the next hole. Repeat the process shown in STEP TWO to set that post in the ground, using your spirit level to once again be certain the post is plumb (vertical) in both directions. Also check each post is in the desired line with its front face perfectly aligned with your string line. Posts are spaced at 74” on centers to give the composite boards, when installed, 3/8” of space (play) to allow for any potential thermal expansion between posts. For this same reason, any custom panel widths should be cut to the distance between channels but minus 3/8”.



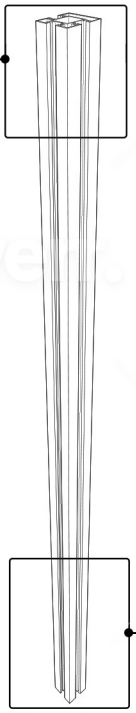
top tip: when setting posts, it can be helpful, as well as comforting, to check you have the distance between posts correct, by the early assembly of a bottom rail [STEP FIVE] and offering it between posts for fit.

It is very important to check the orientation of all the posts as they are set, to be sure they are in the correct position to suit your desired fence line and corners.

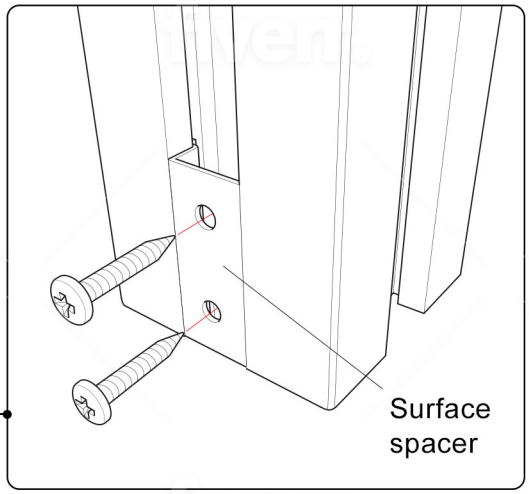
STEP FOUR - fitting the ground spacers



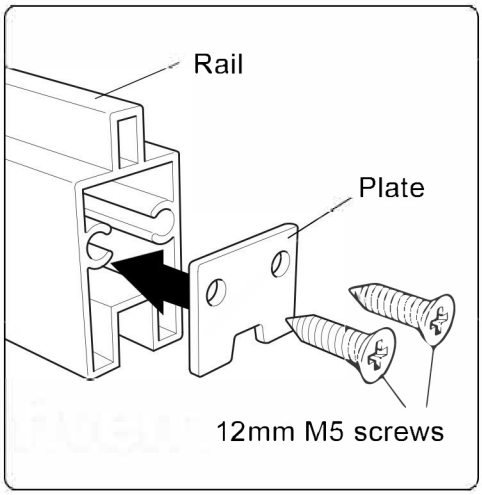
With both posts set, slide the two long spacers down the channels that are to house the slats, one in each upright.



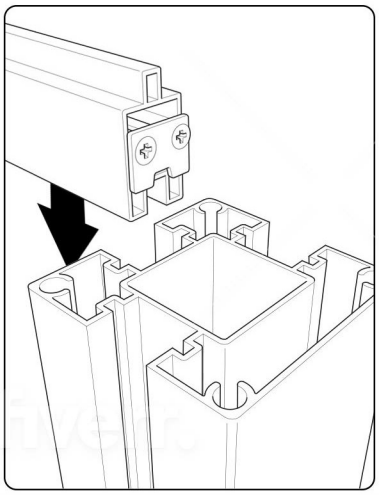
The ground spacers will be secured to the posts using pairs of 25mm M4 self-tapping screws. But it is advisable to delay this final mount until all posts are in place, to allow adjustment/levelling of all the bottom rails at one time.



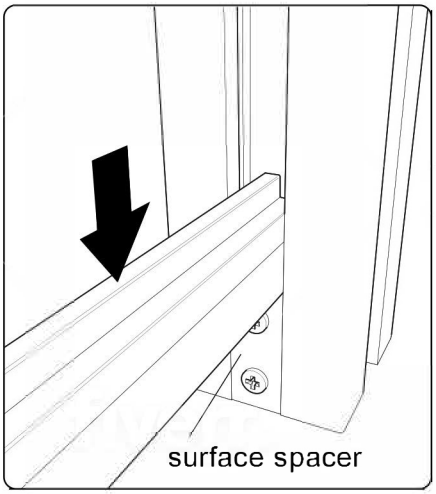
STEP FIVE - preparing and fitting the bottom rail



Before it is dropped into the post channel, the rail must first be fitted with an insertion plate at either end. Screw these plates in position, leaving a small space for play on each rail end. Use a drill or Phillips head screwdriver.



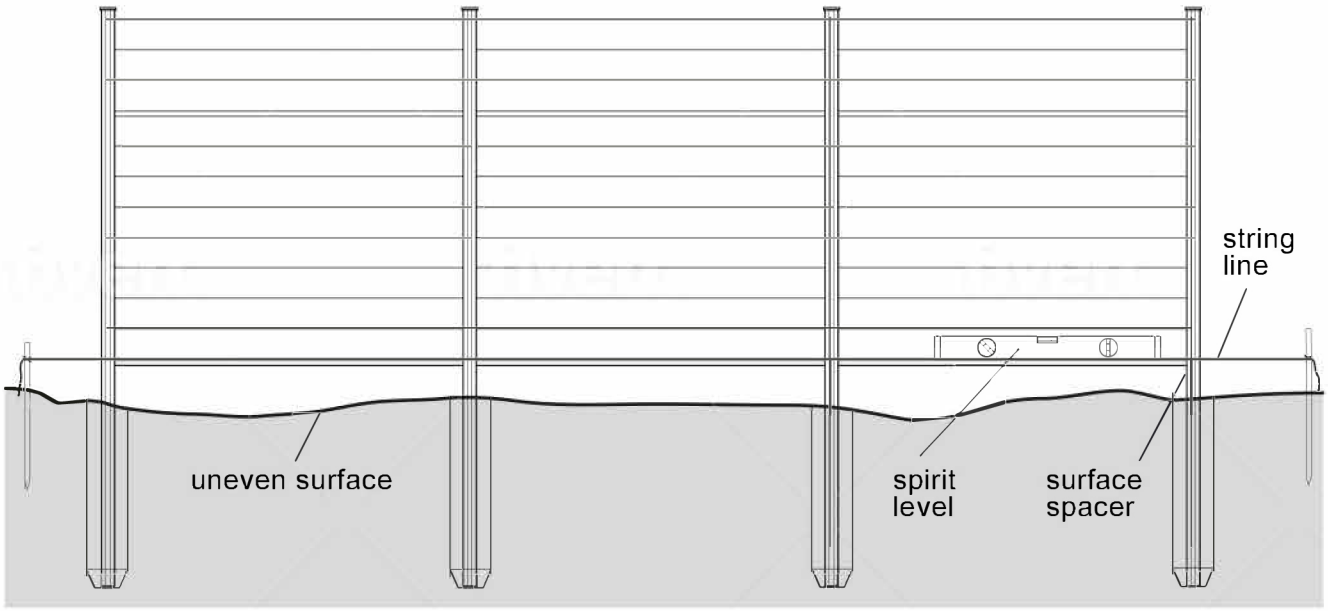
Place the completed rail into the post channels with the groove side faced down and the tongue side faced up, as shown here.



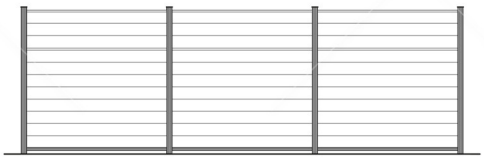
Slide the rail down the post channels until it is resting on the surface spacers. These spacers should be in place, but may still be loose until a final fit, once all the posts are in place.

STEP SIX - levelling the bottom rails

As most terrain is not perfectly level, the surface spacers will need to be individually adjusted to keep the bottom rail level. First, set your string line to your desired height for the top of the bottom rail, using a spirit level to ensure it's level. Second, raise each surface spacer until its top aligns with the string line. Mount the surface spacer to its post with the provided 25mm M4 self-tapping screws. Finally, adjust the position of the surface spacer at the other end of that bottom rail until the string line and spirit level confirm it is the both level and the correct height. Secure it in place, and move on to the next rail, until they are all mounted.

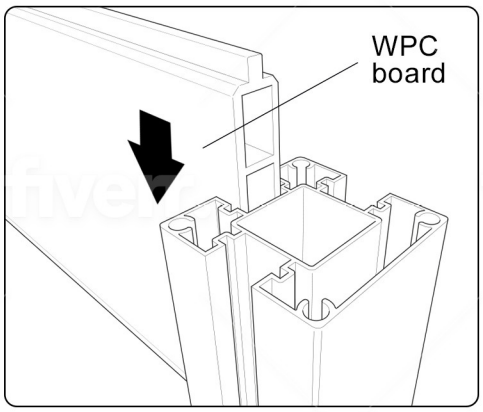


note: An alternate method is to postpone this final fixing until all the composite boards are fitted, but as the load is heavier, a crowbar must be used to lift each section for alignment and fixing. This method allows you to visually confirm every board in adjacent fence panels lines up perfectly.

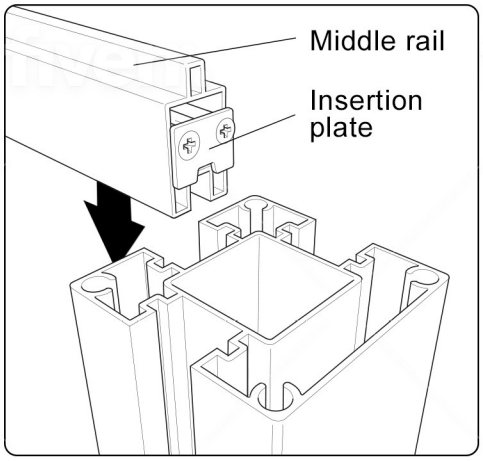


STEP SEVEN - fitting WPC boards, other rails and covers

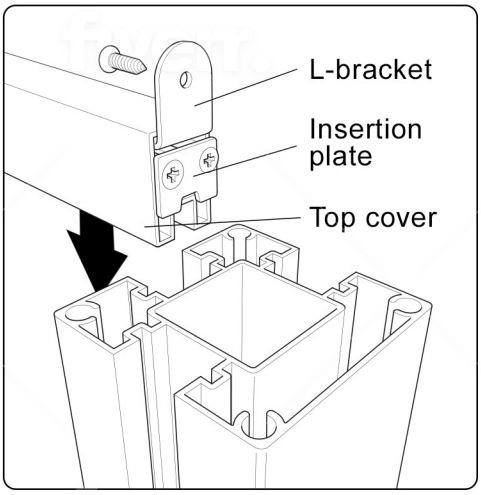
After the bottom rail is in place, insert the WPC boards into the post slots. Make sure they are the correct way up as shown below, and that they interlock with the board/rail beneath before adding the next.



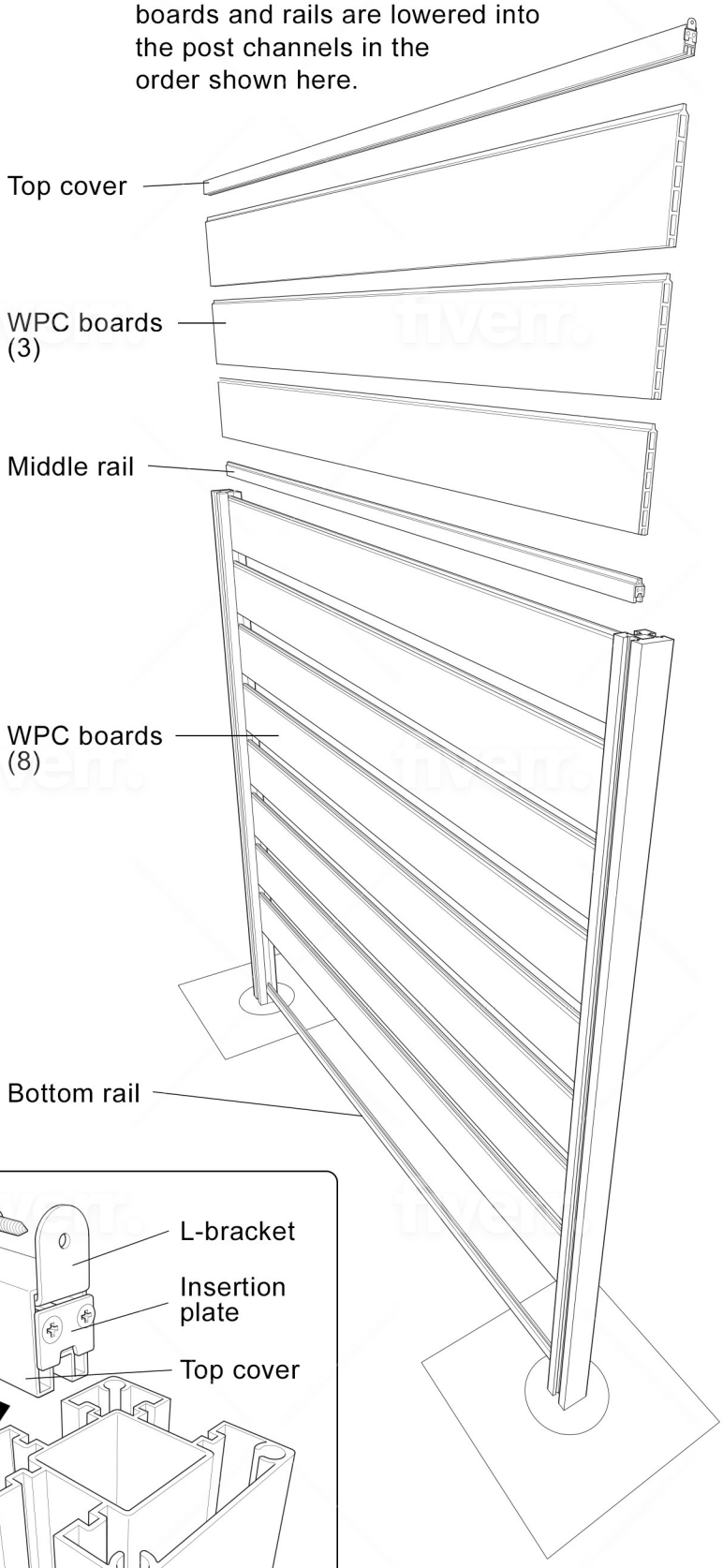
Mount insertion plates to both ends of the middle rail, as was done on the bottom rail, and insert into the channel after the lower 8 WPC boards, but before the top 3.

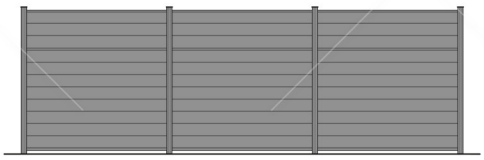


Before it is dropped into the post channel, the top cover must also first be fitted with insertion plates at either end. Screw these plates in place with a drill or Phillips head screwdriver. The top rails will be secured to the posts with self-tapping screws through L-brackets that slide above these plates. But it is best to check the final heights of all fence panels and of all posts before this is done.



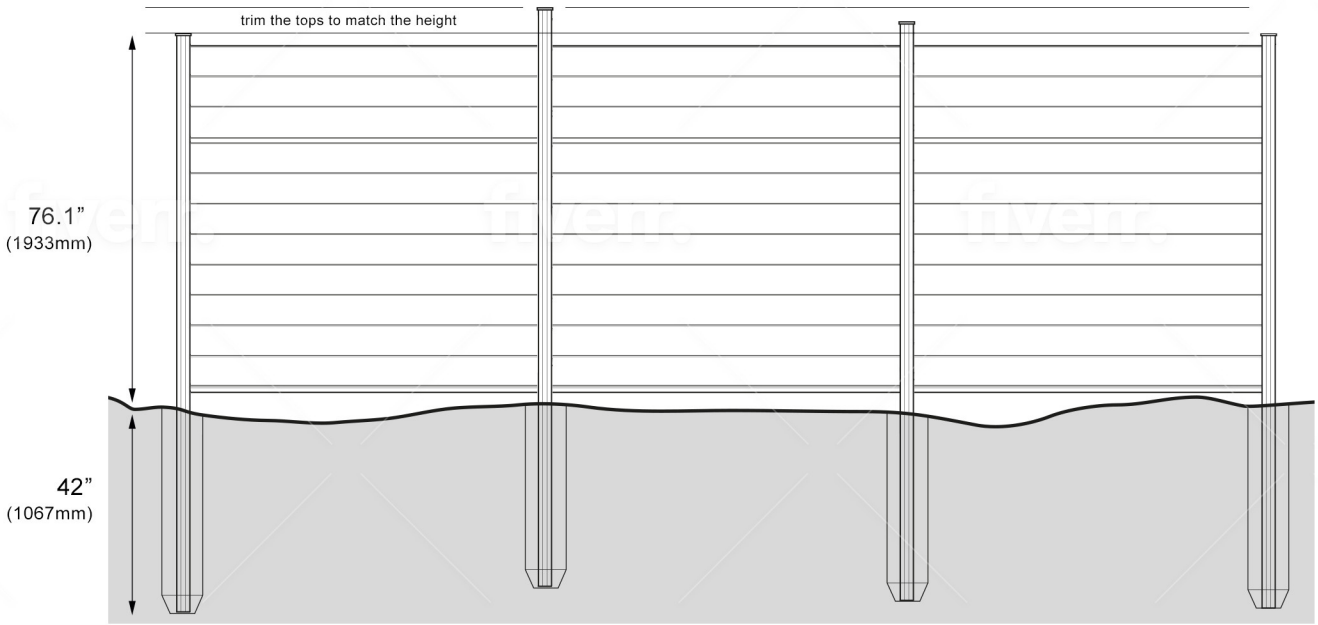
The Wood Plastic Composite (WPC) boards and rails are lowered into the post channels in the order shown here.





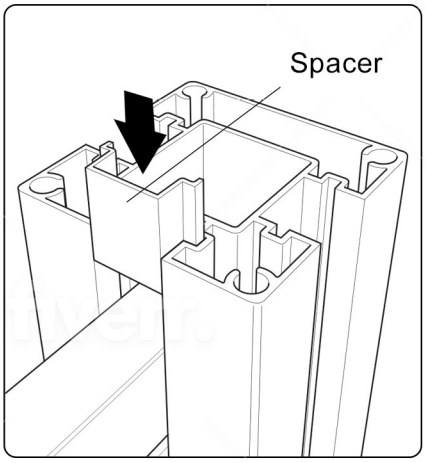
STEP EIGHT - checking post heights

It is not unusual for post heights to vary along a newly set fence line. This can be for a multitude of reasons, but it is best to check and correct any variance before finally mounting the top covers, spacers, side post covers and caps. The optimal height for the posts is with 74.8” above the ground surface, but with the bottom rails all now set level, measure 72.8” up from them.
Use a hacksaw with a metal-cutting blade to cut the taller posts to match the desired height.

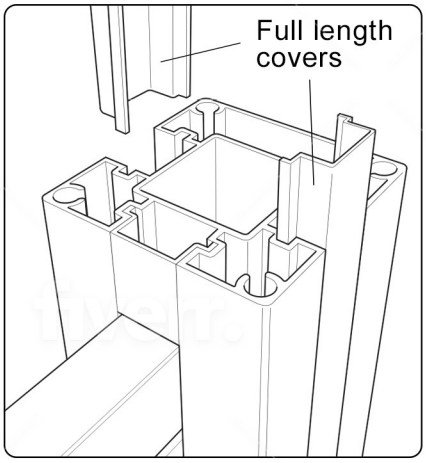


STEP NINE - finishing the post tops.

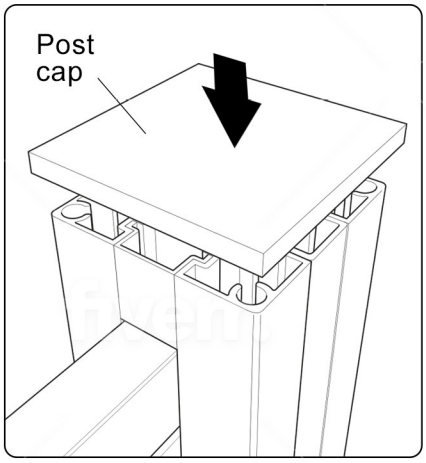
With the post tops now all level, refit the top covers, which can now be screwed in place using the L-brackets, as described at the end of step seven, this fastening is then hidden behind spacers.



Trim short lengths of spacer for the remaining space at the top of the channels in each upright, to fit flush with the top of the post. Ensure any exposed portions of post channels are filled, these clean lines are a part of the overall fence design.



Slide the full length covers into any unused channels of each post. Trim with a metal cutting saw if necessary.



Lastly, fit the fence post caps. These are designed to pressure fit and firmly cover each post.

note: If desired, silicone may be used to further adhere the cap to the post.

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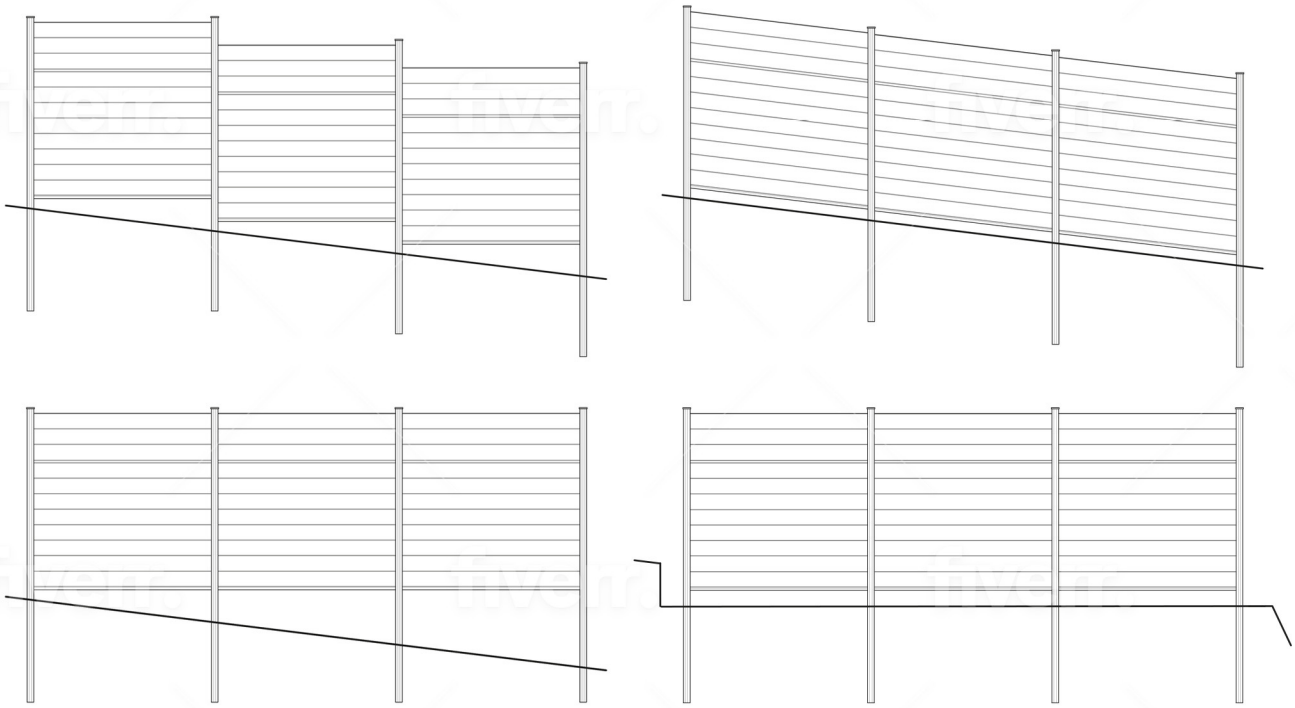
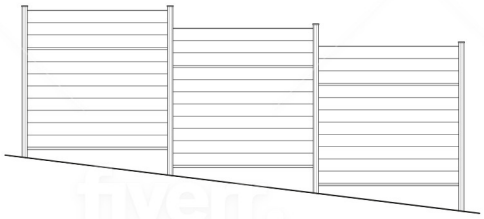


FENCING A SLOPED TERRAIN: A COMPARATIVE OVERVIEW

COMPOSITE FENCE INSTALLATION GUIDE

FENCING A SLOPED TERRAIN

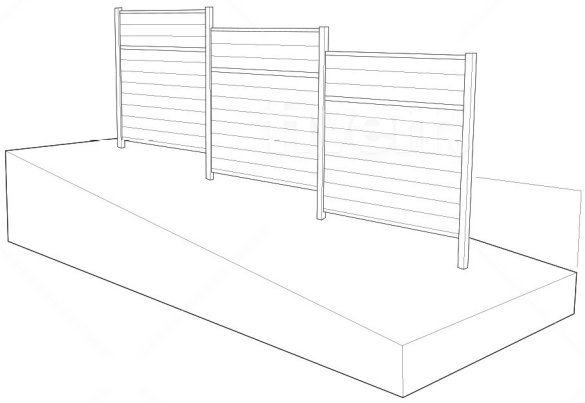


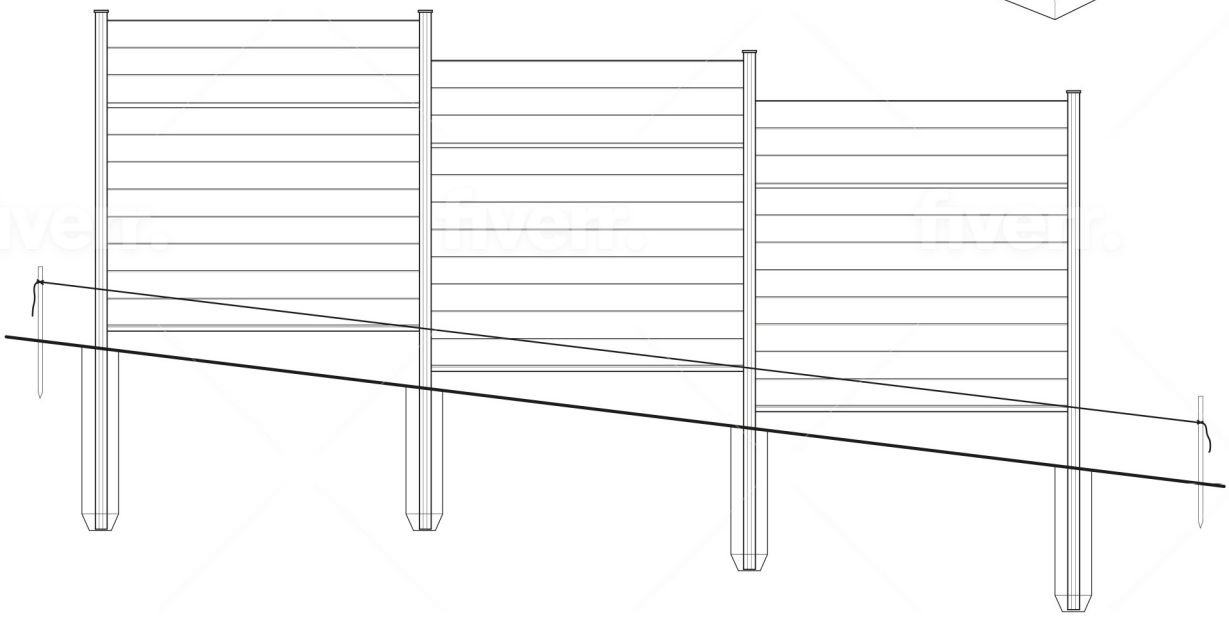
INTRODUCTION

Following is a consolidated overview of four of the most common solutions for fence installations on varying terrain. Simple diagrams provide the general idea for each of these methods, and are accompanied by a list of the major pros and cons for each.
These details will hopefully help guide the selection of the most effective fencing approach for your project.

OPTION 1 - STEPPED FENCE (most common)

A stepped fence is installed in distinct “steps” along a very steep slope. Each fence panel is aligned horizontally, creating a staggered top line that follows the rise and run of the terrain.



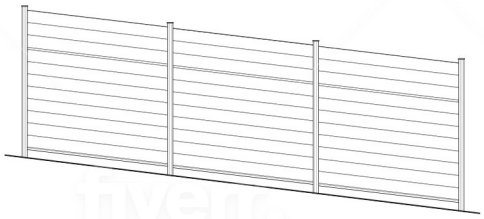


ADVANTAGES

- Ideal for very steep grades: Easily tackles extreme changes in elevation.
- Visually clear sections: Each panel has a consistent top edge, which can be appealing if you prefer a distinct stepped look.

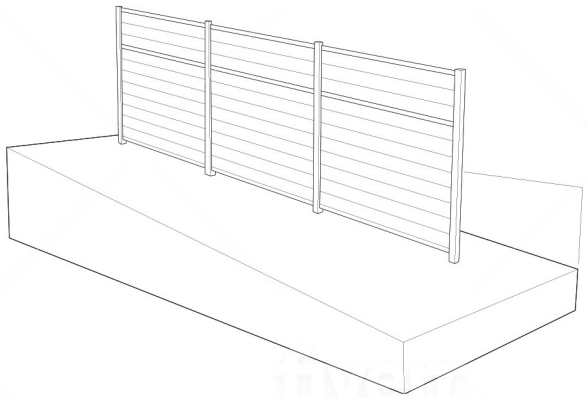
DISADVANTAGES

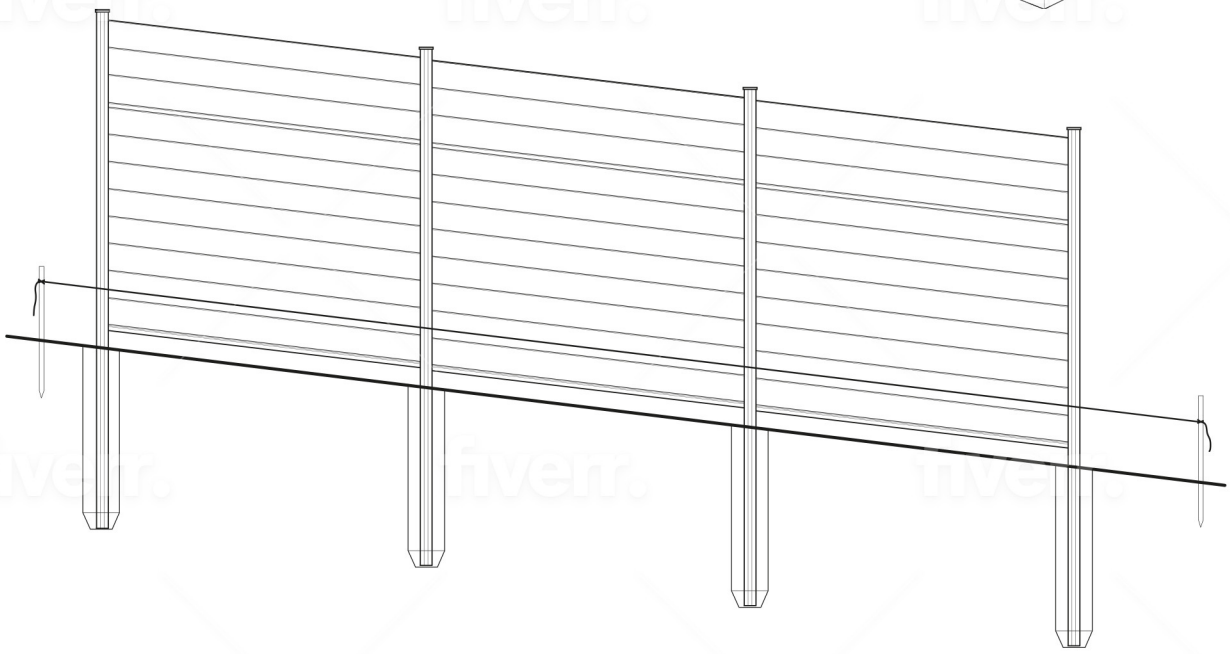
- Gaps underneath: The stepped design typically leaves gaps at the bottom of each section, limiting its effectiveness for containing small animals or protecting gardens.
- Uneven visual base line: The bottom edge can appear uneven, which might not match the aesthetic preferences for some properties.



OPTION 2 - RACKED FENCE

A racked fence contours closely to the slope, ensuring the bottom edge hugs the ground. This requires cutting the pickets or rails at angles so the fence smoothly follows the terrain.



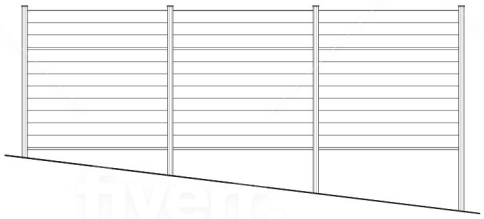


ADVANTAGES

- Gap-free installation: Offers a tight seal along the ground, ideal for containing animals or preventing unwanted entry.
- Sleek appearance: The top of the fence follows the slope seamlessly, resulting in a cleaner profile compared to stepped sections.

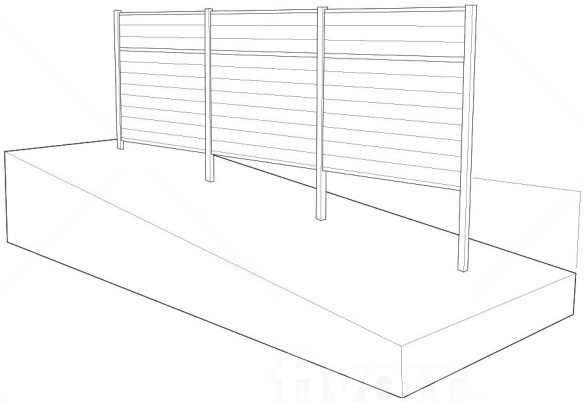
DISADVANTAGES

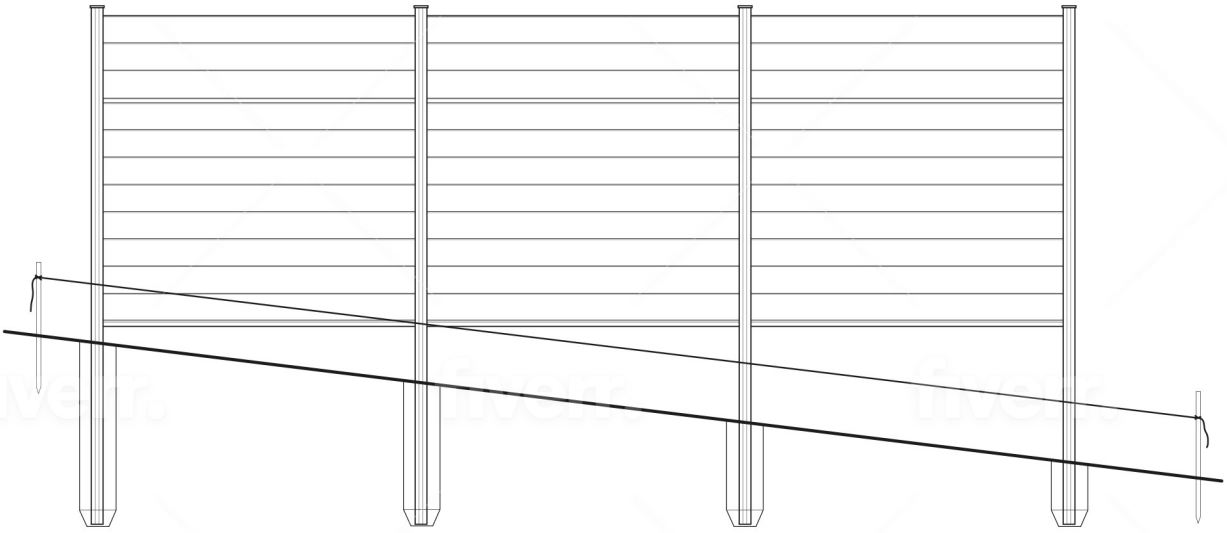
- Extra materials and labor: Cutting components at angles reduces usable lengths, which adds cost and time.
- Complex installation: The detailed fitting and measuring can be more challenging, requiring skilled labor.



OPTION 3 - STRAIGHT-TOP FENCE

A straight-top fence features a uniform, level top edge, making it especially popular for long perimeter runs, business properties, or large housing developments where a clean, consistent appearance is desired.



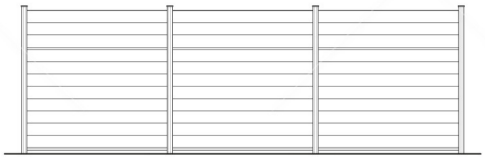


ADVANTAGES

- Ideal for long, flat runs: Maintains a neat, professional look, particularly suited to commercial or large-scale residential settings.
- Uniform top line: Creates a cohesive aesthetic that pairs well with modern or formal designs.

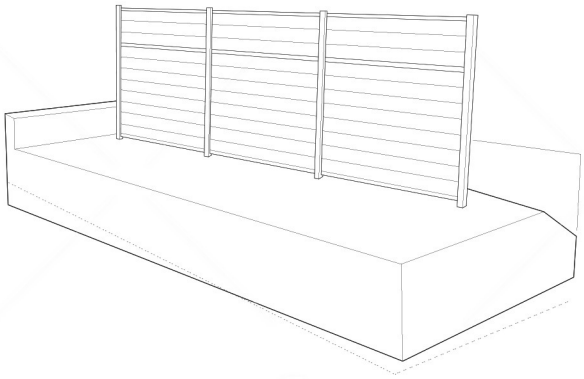
DISADVANTAGES

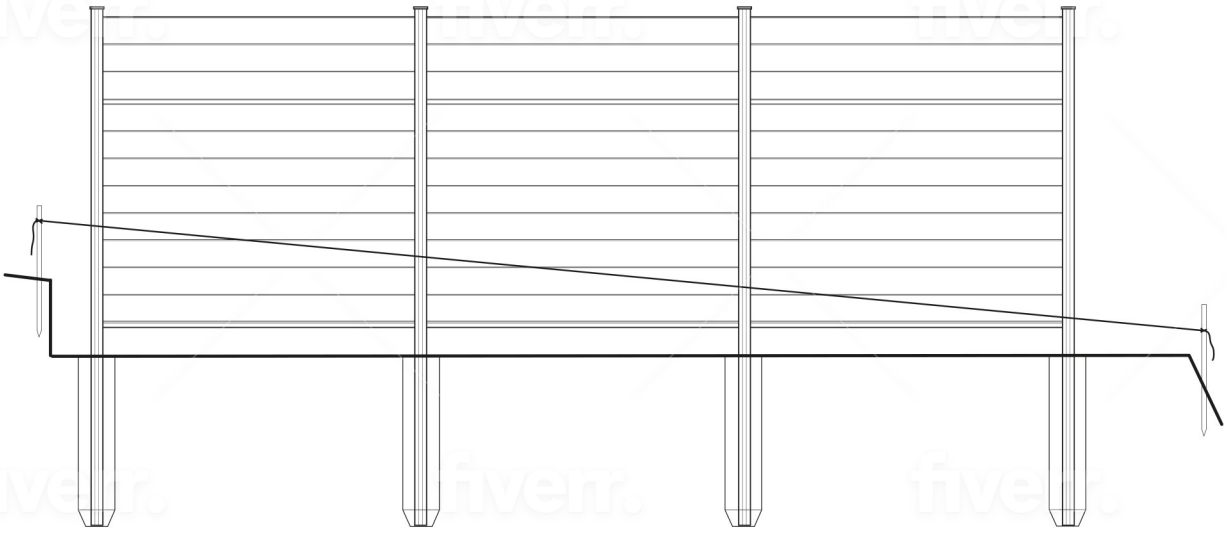
- Leaves gaps at the bottom: Not suitable for containing small animals or safeguarding gardens, as gaps can form on uneven terrain.
- Less adaptable to slopes: Significant elevation changes can require extensive modifications.



OPTION 4 - GRADING THE SLOPE

Grading the slope involves physically altering the landscape by cutting, digging, and reshaping. This creates a more level surface for fence construction.





ADVANTAGES

- Ensures uniform fence line: Provides a smooth, consistent elevation that can accommodate any fence style (stepped, racked, or straight-top) more effectively.
- Improves overall property usability: A leveled area can be beneficial for landscaping, pathways, or additional structures.

DISADVANTAGES

- Costly and time-intensive: Excavation and regrading require specialized equipment, add to labor costs, and extend your project timeline.
- Environmental impact: Significant alteration of the terrain can lead to drainage issues or soil instability if not done properly.

CONCLUSION

Choosing the right fence solution depends on the slope of your property, your desired aesthetic, and any specific containment needs. Understanding the pros and cons of stepped fences, racked fences, straight-top fences, and the option of grading the slope will help ensure your project meets both practical and visual requirements.