

# INSTALLATION GUIDE

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## 1 FENCE POST CONSTRUCTION

End posts (3-1/2' to 4' deep) and line posts (30") should be sunk with concrete (see fig. 1) or driven into the ground. "The type of soil may help you determine how the posts are set. Extremely wet or sandy ground requires posts be set deep in concrete. A freezing climate requires putting posts below the frost line to prevent them from being moved by frozen ground."

"There should be no sharp protrusions such as nails, bolts, or brackets. Generally, the smoother and more visible a fence is, the safer. To prevent horses from pushing fencing off posts, attach fencing material to the inside face of posts." Michael Plumb's Horse Journal, Nov. 1996.

If the fence line is to be longer than 160', set concrete for pull posts 160' apart to help erect tight wire. Use string to line up the inside of the posts.

Set line posts in 7' 10" intervals, and again line up posts in position and wait until concrete has completely set before you begin attaching fence.

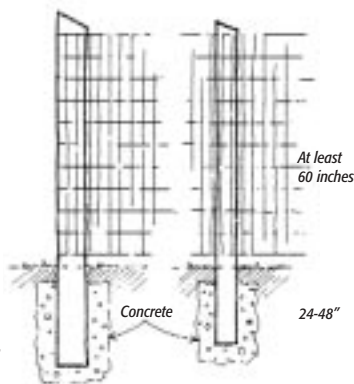


Figure 1. Set posts in concrete.

## 2 ANGLED CORNERS

Corners set in at an angle give horses a sense of security. Construct angled corners for your pasture with these steps.

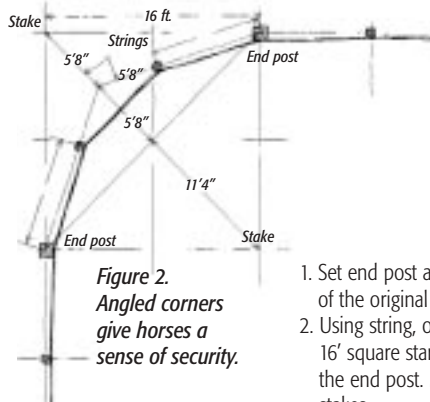


Figure 2. Angled corners give horses a sense of security.

1. Set end post at the end of the original line.
2. Using string, outline a 16' square starting from the end post. Mark with stakes.
3. Set another end post in the opposite corner of the square.
4. Again using the string, draw a diagonal line from post to post. From the midpoint of this line (11' 4"), attach string to the corner of the square. Attach another string from the midpoint of this line (5' 8") to the center of each end post (see fig. 2).
5. Set line posts 7' 10" from the center of each end post.
6. Attach fence to the outside of the end posts and line posts and back to the inside of the first line post in the new direction. The wire pulled against the posts in the corner will increase fence strength.

If square corners are used, line wire should be stapled to the outside of the corner post to achieve proper tension.

1. Set end post at the end of the original line.
2. Using string, outline a 16' square starting from the end post. Mark with stakes.

## 4 STRETCHING FENCE

Use a tractor-adaptable stretcher or hand stretcher to straighten fence between posts. If using a hand stretcher, erect a wood dummy post 4' or 5' past the pull post and secure with a heavy brace. Attach stretcher bar to fence and stretcher chains to dummy post. Stretch fence slowly between the pull post and dummy post, keeping stay wires as vertical as possible. Pull the top and bottom of the fence at an equal rate. During stretching, make sure the fence does not catch on posts or kink (see fig. 5).

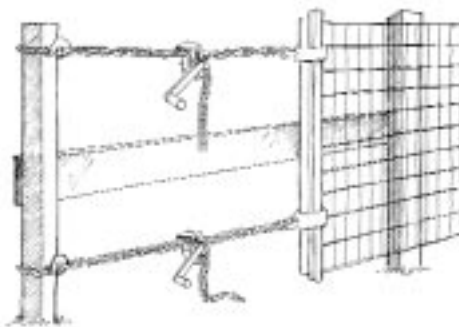


Figure 5. Specially constructed to be flexible and gentle on horses, Square Deal Non-Climb and Keepsafe Diamond Mesh fences and strong, but should not be stretched with a truck or car. Stretch fence slowly and carefully.

## 5 CRIMPING AND SPLICING

Before stapling, check that the stay wires are as vertical as possible and the bottom wire is within two inches of the ground.

1. Staple fence line wires to the center of the line posts, one at a time from the bottom up (see fig. 6).
2. Use a claw hammer to crimp fence horizontally and tighten wire. This will allow you to keep the fence level to the ground and maintain proper tension between posts.
3. Attach staples to the pull post, then release stretcher.
4. Position next 10-rod section of wire. Splice wire end together with a lap-type sleeve by cutting all loose vertical wires and inserting horizontal wires into sleeve. Press sleeve tightly to wire with splicing tool (see fig. 7). Or, splice by hand by securely wrapping each set of horizontal wires five or six times. Make sure fence is clear of sharp ends to avoid injury.
5. Attach stretcher to new wire end and repeat stretching procedure for next 165" section of fence.

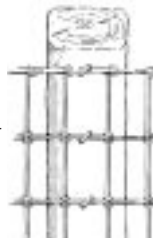


Figure 6. Staple wires diagonally.



Figure 7. Crimp lap-type sleeves with tool to create a strong splice.

## 3 ATTACHING FENCE

Because of the weight of the rolls, installing horse fence is not a one-person job. Don't try to erect the fence alone. Fence should be attached on the inside of the posts with the smooth side towards the horses. Unroll fence and position it alongside the fence line. Attach fence wires to post using the following steps:

1. Cut vertical wires 1' from the starting end and wrap horizontal wire around the end post (see fig. 3).
2. Staple each line wire diagonally into the outside and inside of the post, making sure that the bottom line wire is no more than 2' above ground.
3. Use fence sleeves or wrap the horizontal wires three or four times around the corresponding wires on the fence line to secure. Crimp with large pliers or crimping tool (see fig. 4).
4. Cut off any protruding ends.

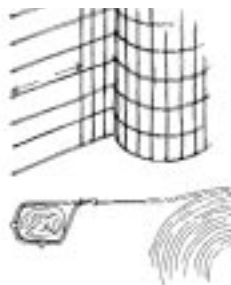


Figure 3. Wrap 1' of horizontal wires around end posts.

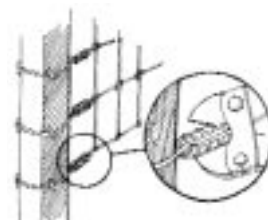
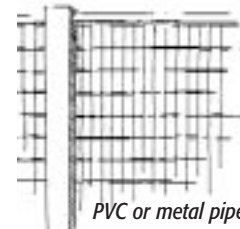


Figure 4. Crimp lap-type sleeves with crimping tool.

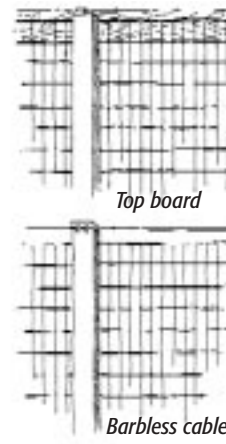
## 6 TOPPING IT OFF

To give your fence a sight line, choose one of the following:

1. Top boards, 1-1/8" by 6" in 16' lengths, are recommended for your horses' safety and to give your fence a custom-designed look. If boards are installed on the inside of the fence, as shown, it may help keep horses from rubbing on the fencing wire.
2. PVC or metal pipe.
3. Barbless cable.
4. Finish off your Square Deal Horse Fence with a custom-designed look by adding wooden boards to provide a sight line. Sight line boards should be attached to the inside of the posts. Other options for finishing installation include using steel pipe framing or barbless cable as a top wire (see fig. 8).



PVC or metal pipe



Barbless cable splice