



Dairy Goat Society of Australia  
Tasmania Branch

## Fencing

Before bringing goats onto your property, it's important to make sure that your fences are suitable for goats. Quality fencing is key to maintaining a happy and healthy herd.

The basic requirements of good goat fencing are:

**Height:** the fence should be at least 1.2 meters tall. If you aren't running a hot-wire at the top of the fence then it may need to be taller.

**Tension:** the fence should be tightly strained and able to be easily re-tensioned as needed.

**Electricity:** there should be at least one hot-wire at rubbing height (approximately 60cm from the ground for standard sized dairy goats.)

**Materials:** the fences in this example were made using 90cm high ringlock mesh, plain wire for the hot-wires, treated timber posts, nail-on insulators plus plastic and ratchet insulators on either end of the hot-wires, gripples, nails and fencing staples. These are all products that are readily available through your local rural supply store.

### Construction:

The posts are set at six meter intervals and the stay assemblies are built. We recommend building H-box stay assemblies over N Stay assemblies as the diagonal post running from the ground to the top of the fence may become a fun climbing frame for your goats.

Then the mesh is tensioned with gripples and stapled into place. The hot-wires are run along the fence, one at rubbing height and another at the top of the fence to prevent leaning over the fence to eat anything promising on the other side. Nail-on insulators are added to every post to keep the hot-wires in place, and the wire is tensioned with a ratchet strainer at one end, while a plain plastic insulator can be used at the opposite end.

