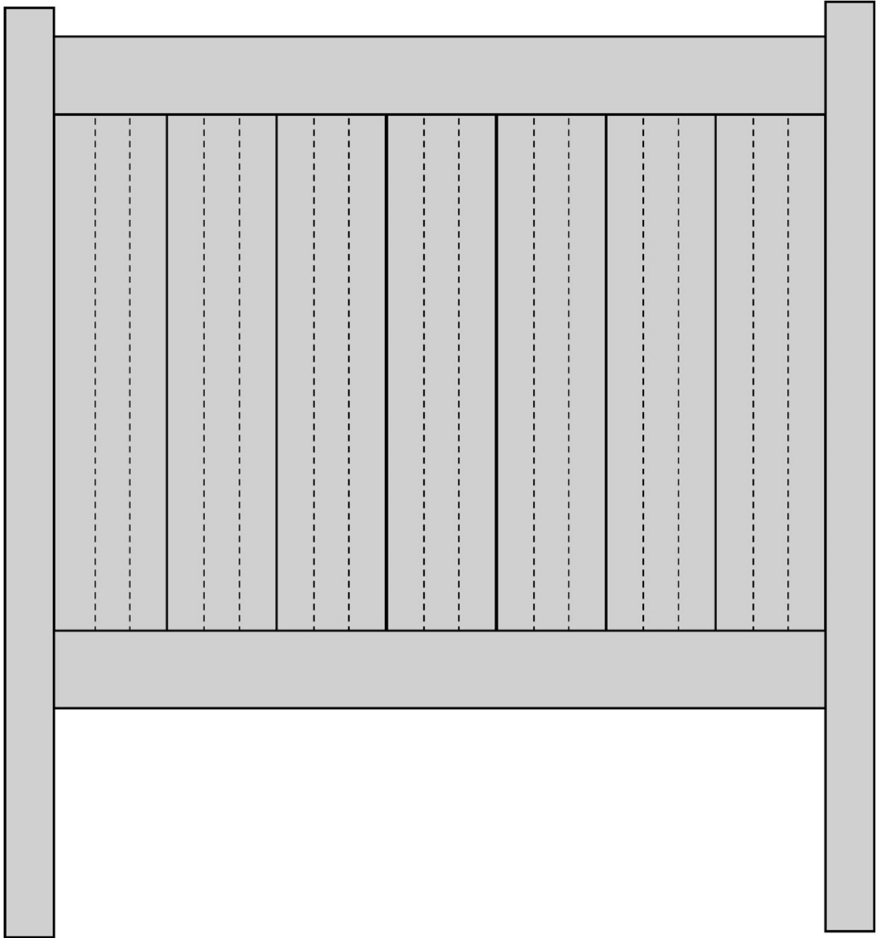


Vinyl Fence Installation Guide

Privacy Fence



PRIVACY FENCE INSTALLATION GUIDE

Tools Required:

- Power auger or post hole digger (clamshell type)
- Shovel
- Optional: Digging bar
- Brightly colored spray paint
- String line, stakes, and level
- Cordless or electric drill with drill and screw bits
- Tape measure
- Safety glasses and work gloves
- Chop saw or circular saw for cutting rails (if needed)
- Table saw or circular saw for cutting slats (table saw preferred)
- PVC adhesive
- Rag and cleaner
- Level at least 2' long
- Notching tool (recommended)

Necessary Items for Installation:

- **Post Spacing Jig:** Create a jig from a 2x4 wood piece, measuring 68" for 73" on-center fences or 79" for 84" on-center fences.
- **Align Posts:** Install all corner, end, and gate posts first. This helps ensure all posts are at the correct height by running a string line from the top of one post to the next.

Before You Begin:

- **Find Property Lines:** Locate property markers, which can be a pin in the curb, a buried stake, or a T post in the back. If markers are missing, refer to a plot map or hire a surveyor.
- **Check Local Regulations:** Verify city regulations for fence placement and height. Some cities have height restrictions (e.g., 3' or 4') for front yard fences, and permits might be needed for fences taller than 6'. Submit your application online via your city's website to ensure your fence meets approved height and style regulations and does not obstruct any required sight lines for your lot.
- **HOA Approval:** Obtain approval from your HOA for fence color and height to avoid potential fines or delays.
- **Utility Location:** Contact Blue Stakes to locate underground utilities before digging. This is legally required.

Privacy Section Components:

Each 4', 5', and 6' privacy section contains:

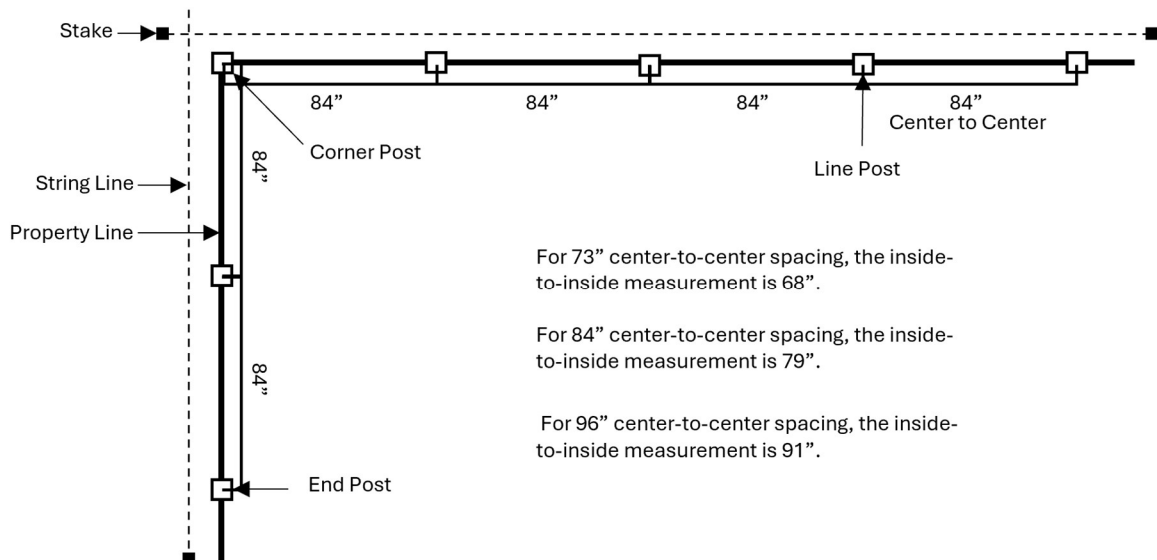
- Two Pocket Rails either 1.5" x 5.5", 1.75" x 5.5" Nexus, or 1.5" x 8" Deco.
- Six or seven (for 7' centers) 7/8" x 11.3" tongue and groove slats
- Two 7/8" U-channels and corresponding 3/4" screws (U-channels and screws sold separately)
- When using 5.5" tall rails use 1 steel insert per section.

Essential Steps Before Starting:

1. Call 811 or 1-800-662-4111 to mark underground utilities.

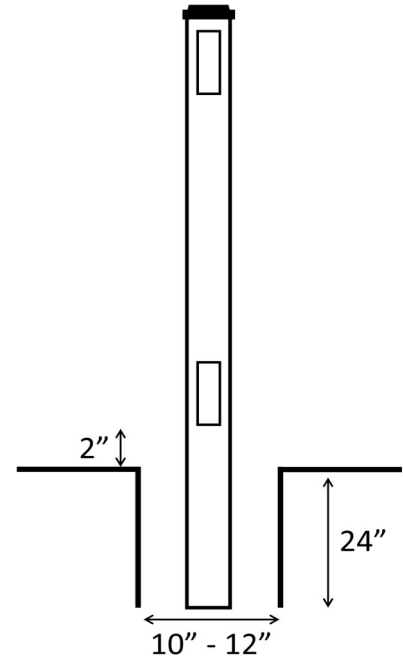
Fence Layout:

1. **Identify Property Lines.**
2. **Set Stakes:** Drive stakes into the ground just beyond post positions, off-center from the property line. Stretch a string between the stakes.
 - **Tip:** Keep the string line 6"-8" above the ground to minimize interference.
3. **Mark Post Locations:** Use spray paint to mark where each post hole will be. Space holes 73" apart for 6' sections and 84" apart for 7' sections.
 - **Tip:** If you don't have your neighbor's consent to split the fence on the property line, align the string with the property line to save time and money.
 - **Note:** To evenly space your posts along the fence line, first determine the number of sections needed by dividing the total length of the fence by the desired maximum post center (e.g., 7'). Round up to the next whole number. Divide the total length of the fence by this number to find the exact spacing. Calculate in inches for precision when marking the post holes.



Post Installation:

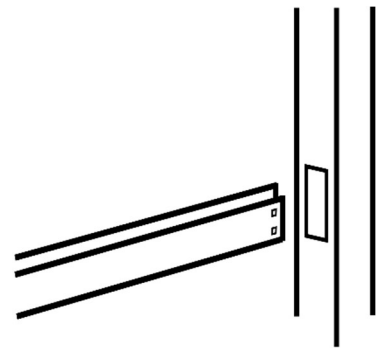
1. **Dig Post Holes:** Holes should be 10"-12" in diameter and 24" deep.
2. **Position the Posts:** Place each post in the center of the hole, aligning it with the fence line. Use a level to ensure the post is plumb. Adjust the post height, leaving a 2" gap from the bottom of the rail to the ground.
3. **Set Posts with Concrete:** Pour concrete around the posts, filling up to 2" below ground level. If using wet concrete, ensure it's only slightly wet to set faster and prevent leaning. For dry concrete, add a third of the bag, mix with water, and repeat until filled.
 - o **Tip:** Having an extra person helps with quicker and easier post setting.
 - o **Note:** Allow posts to set for 4-7 days to ensure the concrete hardens properly.



Section Assembly:

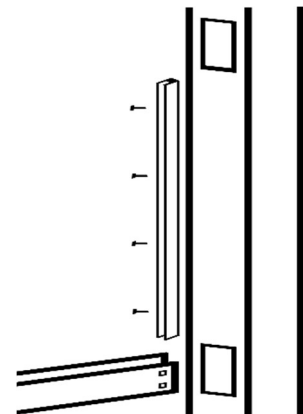
Bottom Rail:

1. **Install Bottom Rail:** Slide the rail into the post, ensuring the notches lock it in place. If un-notched, rent a notching tool or secure with screws. Cut rails 3" longer than the post-to-post distance for proper fit.



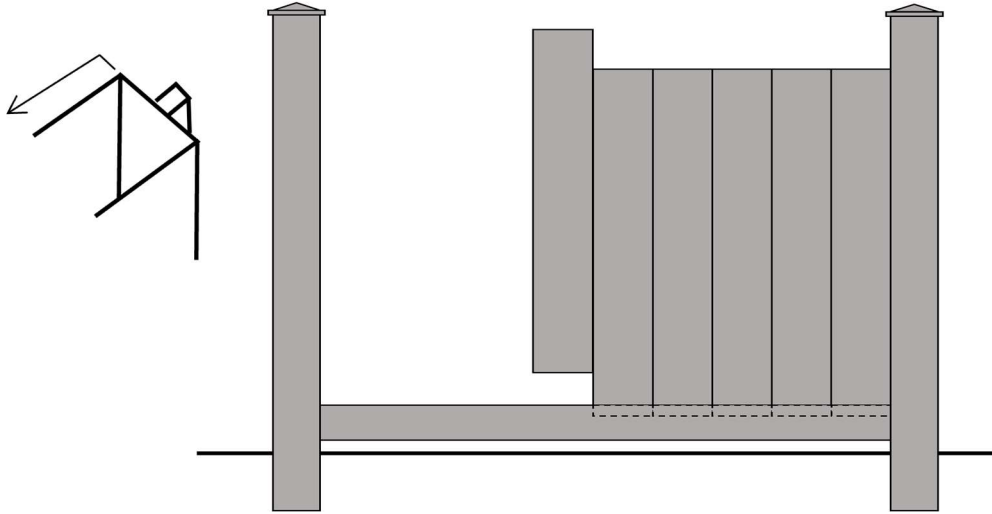
U-Channel (If Applicable):

1. **Attach U-Channels:** Place U-channels between the top and bottom rail holes on the posts, securing with 3/4" to 1" screws.
 - o **Note:** U-Channels are recommended for tan or adobe vinyl for warranty protection and aesthetic purposes.
 - o **Note:** U-Channels that are screwed to the post increase the wind resistance of the fence.

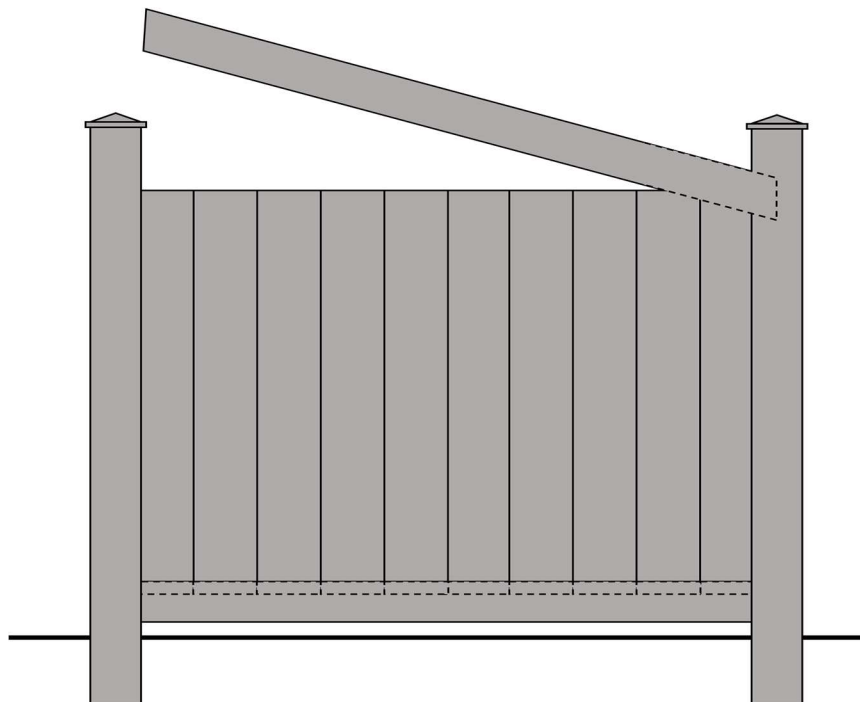


Slats:

1. **Install Slats:** Starting at one end, insert slats into the bottom rail, continuing along the section. If posts are perfectly spaced, proceed to the next step. Otherwise, trim slats to fit.
 - **Tip:** Measure from the exposed part of the slat for accurate cuts.
 - **Tip:** if the cut off piece of slat is more than 1" it can be used to begin the next section of fence. Doing so will minimize the number of slats needed for your job.

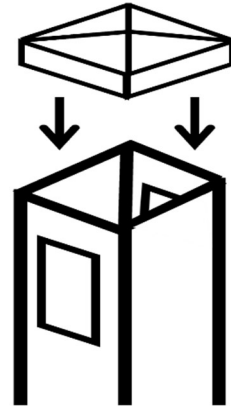
**Top Rail:**

1. **Fit Top Rail:** Place the top rail at an angle onto the slats, sliding it into the post. Lower the rail onto the remaining slats, then slide it into the opposite post.
 - **Note:** If rails aren't pre-notched, rent a notching tool or secure with screws.



Post Caps:

1. **Attach Caps:** Apply PVC glue to the inside rim of the cap and place it on the post. Ensure it is firmly attached.
 - o **Tip:** Use minimal glue for easy removal if needed.



Cleaning:

During installation, the fence may gather vinyl residue and dirt. Rinse with a hose, or for tougher stains, use Simple Green cleaner with a non-abrasive pad. This method is also recommended for future cleanings.

Securing Rails with Screws:

1. **Bottom Rail:** Angle a screw into the rail wall towards the post's interior for secure attachment.
2. **Top Rail:** Angle a screw next to the post to hold the rail securely in place.

