

# How to Install Palisade Fencing

Thank you for choosing Jacksons Fencing. Our high quality fencing products will last for years and give you trouble-free service if you follow the installation instructions below, which are offered as a general guide.

## Tools

A string line                      spirit level                      hammer                      spade                      tape measures  
marker pegs                      saw                      screwdriver                      spanner                      pencil  
shuvholder, or monkey hole borer (the latter two items can be hired from us),

## Fixings

50mm galvanized nails

## Method

Clear and level the site.

- 1) Using the string line and marker pegs mark out the exact line of the fence, establishing corners and changes of direction. You should allow 2 posts on an acute/obtuse change of direction, a corner post on a right-angled corner and extra posts for gateways.
- 2) After establishing the above positions dig out the hole for the first post with vertical sides and about 300mm square. It should be deep enough to leave the height of the post above ground equal to the height of the fence plus a gap of 50mm underneath to allow for strimming.

**All Timber Posts installation require proper drainage at the base of the post to avoid rotting. For Detail refer to the installation instruction for "Timber Fence Post".**

- 3) Stand the post in the hole on a gravel base. For best result we recommend posts should be set in concrete and an 8:1 mix of ballast and cement will do for this purpose. You may have to fix a temporary strut to hold the post in position until the concrete has set. The mortise hole should face along the fence line and with the side with the mortises nearest to the side you are going to fix the pales. Always trowel off the top of the concrete so it will shed water. The concrete can finish at approximately 50mm below ground level to allow soil/turf to be at ground level.
- 4) At the end of the fence run or the first change of direction or gate, whichever comes first, drive in a temporary stake to the finished height of the fence. On a long run it would help to avoid sagging if temporary stakes are positioned at intervals along the run.
- 5) Fix a second string line to the first post and bring it over the top to the front edge and secure with a nail. Then stretch the string line taut along the fence line to the fence line to the temporary stake at the end. This line is for the post heights and should be set 50mm higher than the pale length.
- 6) Use a rail to measure the position of the next post. Dig out the hole to the correct depth and stand the next post in. Insert 2 rails in the mortises, ensure the posts are at 2.28m centres and then nail through the posts to fix the rails. At ends/gateways please ensure that rails are passed through posts and saw off the protruding ends and apply cut and treat.
- 7) Repeat the procedure until all posts and rails are fixed.
- 8) Mark out the top rail at 153mm (6") centres, starting from the centre of the first post and ending at the centre of the next post. The mark is the centre of the pale and makes it easier to see to line it up. A very useful tip to make all the marking out easier, particularly if there is a lot to do, is to get a length of elastic and then temporarily put a nail into the centre of each post in line with the top of the top rail. Make a loop in one end of the elastic and hook it over the nail. Pull the elastic so it stretches slightly, make another loop and put over the second nail. Now mark the elastic at 153mm (6") centres and transfer the mark to the rail. Now move the elastic up to the next bay and hook it over the nail i.e. between the 2nd and 3rd posts and again just transfer the mark to the rail. This method avoids tedious

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measuring and allows for slight variation in the centres and will ensure even pale spacing.

- 9) When all bays have been marked the pales need to be fixed to the rails. To do this centre the pale on the mark with the top of the pale to the string line and the pale held vertically and nail the pale with two 50mm (2") galvanized nails. Then nail the post to the bottom rail. Remember to drive the nails at an angle (dovetail) to avoid pales being easily pulled off.
- 10) Continue in this way until all the pales have been fixed.
- 11) On sloping grounds posts must be kept upright but you will have to adjust the mortises to allow the rails to slope with the fall of the ground. This means that when the pales are fixed they will step.

#### **Fixing a palisade gate 1m in the fence run**

- 12) When a gate is required in the fence run a post has to be used either side of the gate, one to hang it on, and the other which it shuts to, called the slamming post. The post should be set in the ground as previously described and a gap of 1030mm left between the inside edges of the two posts.
- 13) The gate comes complete with fitted adjustable hinges and a ring latch plus it has two shutting strips tacked to it with 50mm nails. These should be removed and set aside for later on.
- 14) All 1m wide gates hang on the right hand side as standard (however left hand are also available) and open away from you when viewed from the pale side of the gate. They are all 50mm (2") shorter than the fence height to give some clearance for it to swing. Most 1m wide gateways can be made level by digging away or adding soil to the area.
- 15) Select some packing pieces which will allow the top of the gate to be level with the top of the fence when the gate is stood on them across the gate opening with 10mm clearance on either side between the gate edge and post.
- 16) Loosen the nuts either side of the hinge plate or box section (with the plastic cap on) and unscrew the eyebolt until the centre of the eyebolt hole is about 50mm from the edge of the gate. Tighten up the nuts making sure the hole in the eyebolt faces upwards. Repeat this operation for the other hinge.
- 17) With the gate held in position offer up the top hinge ride and mark the screw positions or if you prefer offer up the hinge ride and screw in to position. This can easily be done if someone holds the gate in place for you. Repeat for the bottom ride. Each ride has four screws. The pin on the ride should face upwards.
- 18) You can now remove the gate from its packed position. Move the packers away and screw the hinge rides to the marked positions and hook the gate on to the rides. If you screwed them on whilst the gate was held, remove the packers, either way the gate should swing. Check that it is hanging upright by holding the spirit level on the closing end of the gate. If necessary use the adjusting nuts and slots on the hinges to level it up.
- 19) Fit the ring latch receiver to the slamming post.
- 20) Finally with the gate in the closed position fix the two shutting strips to the hanging and slamming post with the strip just touching the gate.
- 21) Tidy up the site making sure no off cuts or nails are lying around in case they cause injury to children or animals.
- 22) Treat any cut timber with Jakcure end grain preservative.

#### **Safety Notes:**

Biocidal Products Regulation (EU528/2012):

Jakcured articles incorporate biocidal products to protect against wood destroying organisms.

Active ingredients include: Copper(II)Carbonate / Copper(II)Hydroxide / Propiconazole / Tebuconazole

Wear gloves when handling freshly treated wood. Avoid breathing dust when cutting. Dispose of off-cuts responsibly – do not burn.

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