

PLANNING YOUR FENCE

Items you will need

Tools	Materials
Table or circular saw with carbide tip blade	Veranda fence panels
Hammer	Veranda gate kit(s) with hardware
String level	Veranda fence post sleeves with hardware
Speed square	Veranda fence post caps
Tape measure	Cedar or pressure-treated pine 4x4 posts
Drill/power screwdriver	2x4s for bracing posts
Carpenter's pencil	String
Safety glasses/goggles	Grade stakes
Construction adhesive	Concrete and gravel
Posthole digger or power auger	

For most recent installation instructions, go to our Web site at www.verandapremiumfence.com.

Preparation

Prior to construction, check with your local regulatory agency for special code requirements in your area. Before digging postholes, contact your local utility companies to mark any underground cables and pipelines. In addition, it's a good idea to discuss plans with any neighbors along your proposed fence line.

Pre-drilling of all fence components is essential to successful installation. Do not over-tighten screws. Read instructions completely to get an understanding of how the product goes together and how each piece affects the other. PLEASE NOTE: Only use brackets and screws provided with the post to install Veranda Premium Composite Fence; failure to do so shall cause your warranty to be null and void. This unique bracket system is designed to allow for thermal movement. Be sure that the panel rail supports are in contact with the expansion tabs in the back and on the closed end of the brackets. DO NOT FORCE THE PANELS TO FIT TIGHTLY BETWEEN POSTS. SPACE MUST BE ALLOWED FOR THE PANEL TO EXPAND AND CONTRACT.

Design and layout

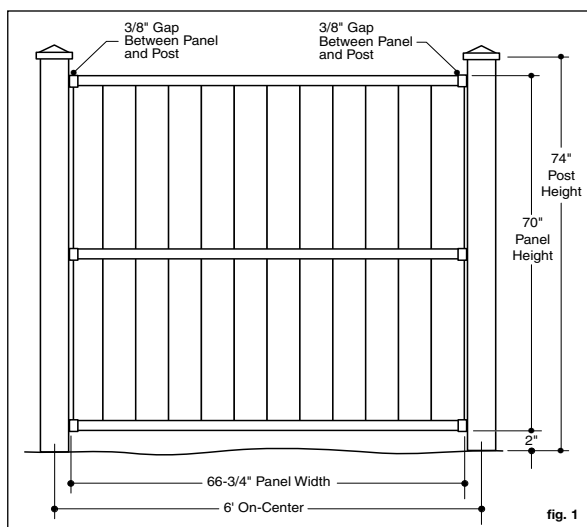
Step 1: Determine the number of posts, panels and gates needed to complete the job based on total linear footage. The system is designed for posts set at 6' on-center (Figure 1). Determine the gate locations, paying close attention to the gate opening sizes below. From this point, measure the total distance remaining to the boundary and divide by 6.

<u>Gate size* and style</u>	<u>Required opening between post sleeves</u>
46" Single Gate	48"
46" Double Gate	95"
58" Single Gate	60"
58" Double Gate	119"

Step 2: Adjust layout to accommodate as many full panels as possible. Place partial panels in the farthest rear corner of the fence, where they will be less noticeable.

Step 3: Locate property boundaries and drive stakes into the ground at the corners and ends of the fence, 6" inside the property line.

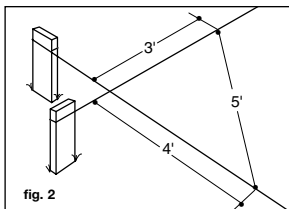
INSTALLING YOUR FENCE *continued*



*Recommended: 2" between grade and bottom of fence panel

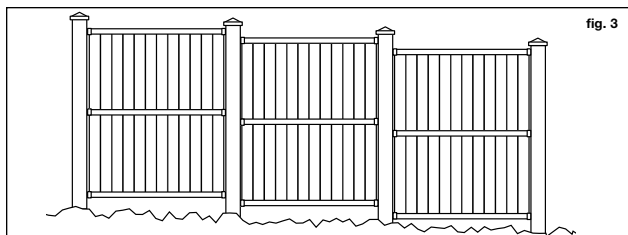
Step 4: Stretch twine or heavy string between stakes and pull tight to mark layout of the fence line.

Step 5: Ensure the corners of the fence are square (at 90° angles) using the 3-4-5 method. Measure 3' from the corner on one string and 4' from the corner on the adjacent string. The diagonal distance between these two points will measure 5' when the corner is square (Figure 2).



Installing fences on sloped landscapes

For sloping landscapes, the pre-assembled fence sections are installed using the stair-step method. The fence gradually steps up the slope with the rails level rather than parallel to the slope (Figure 3).



INSTALLING YOUR FENCE

Digging postholes

Remember: Posts are installed a maximum of 6' on-center.

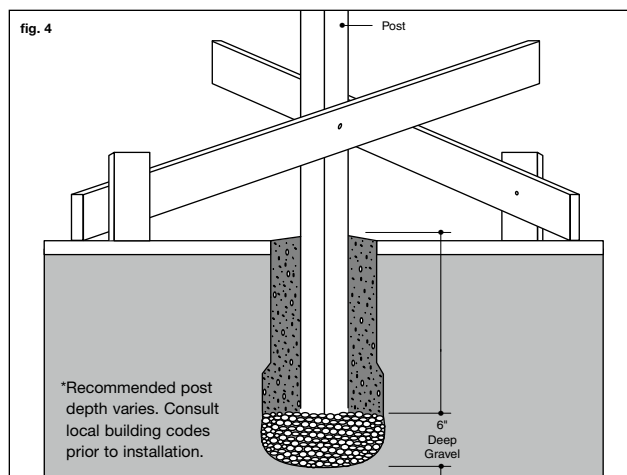
Step 1: The required depth varies based on the local frost line. Check for requirements in your area. The fence will be stronger if the end, corner and gate posts are set at least 6" deeper than the line posts. Using a posthole digger or power auger, dig postholes 10-12" in diameter and 6" deeper than needed. Tamp down any loose dirt to compact. Backfill the holes with 6" of gravel to drain water away from the bottom of the post. Keep the height of your fence panels in mind when digging your postholes.

Setting the posts

Step 1: Install the end and corner posts first. Tie a string between the posts along the fence line. This establishes a reference, ensuring the posts are in line.

Step 2: Position the 4x4 wood post in the posthole. Check for plumb (vertically level) on two adjacent sides.

Step 3: Brace the posts using 2x4s nailed to both the wood posts and stakes in the ground (Figure 4).



*Recommended post depth varies. Consult local building codes prior to installation.

Step 4: Fill the holes with ready-mix concrete following the package instructions. Tamp the concrete to remove any air pockets. Overfill the holes at the top and slope the concrete away from the post to keep water from collecting around it and prevent the post sleeve from making ground contact. Recheck plumb, spacing and alignment of all posts, and allow concrete to cure for 24 to 48 hours.

Step 5: Slide a composite post sleeve over each post, and allow it to rest on the concrete. Due to the weight and length of the post sleeve, we recommend using a stepladder and having someone assist you with this step.

Mounting the bottom rail brackets

Step 1: Measure 2" up from the ground level, and make a mark on the inside face of the post sleeve.

Step 2: Use a string level, and make a mark on the inside face of the opposing post sleeve.

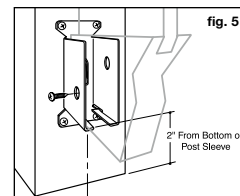
Step 3: Find the center line of the post, and draw an intersecting line. Line up the center of the bracket with the center of the post.

Step 4: Position the bracket so that the open end of the bracket is in the "up" position, and align the bottom tabs flush with the 2" mark (Figure 5).

Step 5: Check plumb to ensure that the bracket is in a true vertical position.

Step 6: Mark the four hole positions of the bracket on the post sleeve. Repeat on other post.

Step 7: Pre-drill the marked holes with a 1/8" drill bit and then mount the brackets using the 1-5/8" color-matched screws.



INSTALLING YOUR FENCE *continued*

Installation of the panel

Step 1: To aid in centering the remaining brackets, measure the distance from the edge of the post sleeve to the edge of centered bottom bracket.

Step 2: Raise the panel above the bottom bracket and lower into position. Note: The appearance of the fence panels may change when viewed from different ends. To achieve the most consistent color, install all of the fence panels with the product stickers on the same side and the arrows on the product stickers pointing up.

Step 3: Slightly tilt the panel, and position the center brackets (open end up) onto the center rails. Then return panel to vertical.

Step 4: Using the measurement from the bottom bracket, center the middle bracket on the post sleeve, ensuring that the bottom of the bracket is in contact with the bottom of the rails for proper support.

Step 5: Holding the bracket in alignment, pre-drill the holes with a 1/8" drill bit and attach to post using four 1-5/8" screws. Repeat process on other end.

Step 6: Repeat process for the top rail brackets.

Step 7: Once all six brackets are in place, center the #10 pan head screw in the bracket hole, and fasten the bracket to the fence rail loosely. DO NOT OVER-TIGHTEN SCREWS. Doing so will inhibit the panel's movement with changes in temperature and cause the panel to warp. Repeat for the remaining brackets on each side of the fence panel.

Step 8: Repeat this process for all full panels.

Step 9: For openings that are less than a full panel, measure the opening between post sleeves, and deduct 3/8" for the positioning tabs in the back of the brackets on each side (3/4" total). The panels may be trimmed to any width, even in the middle of a picket. Transfer the measurement to the panel, and cut with a circular or table saw. Any rough edges that result can be smoothed using a foamed sanding block or folded, medium grit sandpaper. Repeat the installation instructions above to install the shorter panel.

Gate installation

Step 1: Determine the swing direction of the gate (left- or right-hand open).

Step 2: The spacing between gate posts is (Figure 6):

Gate size* and style	Required opening between post sleeves
46" Single Gate	48"
46" Double Gate	95"
58" Single Gate	60"
58" Double Gate	119"

Step 3: Mount gate, referencing the instructions included with the gate hardware and pre-drilling all screw holes.

Step 4: Check for full gate swing clearance.

Step 5: Mount the latch hardware, pre-drilling all screw holes.

To finish your installation

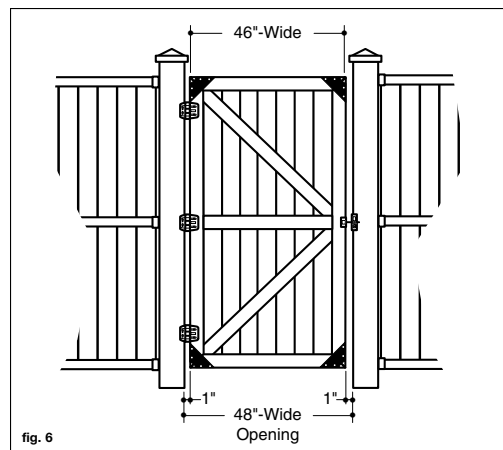
Using a circular saw, cut post sleeves and posts to a minimum height of 2" above top rail to accommodate the post caps. You may have to finish cuts through the center of the 4x4 wood post with a hand saw. Install post caps by applying construction adhesive to the underside of the cap and then slide into place.

INSTALLING YOUR FENCE *continued*

Care and maintenance

As needed, a gentle brush, mild detergent and a garden hose may be used to keep your fence looking great. DO NOT USE A POWER WASHER.

Use caution when trimming with a string trimmer to avoid contact with the fence panels and posts.



Example of spacing for a 46" single gate.

Veranda Premium Composite Fence is not suitable for structural use. It should not be used for primary load-bearing members such as posts, joists, beams or stringers. The same common-sense precautions should be taken when handling Veranda Premium Composite Fence as wood or other building materials. Dust masks and eye protection devices are recommended to avoid possible irritation from sawdust and chips. Gloves will help to protect the hands. Hands should be washed after doing construction work.

The diagrams and instructions in this brochure are for illustration purposes only and are not meant to replace a licensed professional. Any construction or use of the product must be in accordance with all local zoning and/or building codes. The consumer assumes all risks and liability associated with the construction or use of this product. The consumer or contractor should take all necessary steps to ensure the safety of everyone involved in the project, including, but not limited to, wearing the appropriate safety equipment. Except as contained in the written limited warranty, Universal Forest Products, Inc., does not provide any other warranty, either express or implied, and shall not be liable for any damages, including consequential damages.

*Actual sizes may vary slightly. Always measure prior to installing. The gate opening between posts must be 2" wider than the actual width of the gate for single gates. Add an extra 3" to the combined actual width for double gates.

