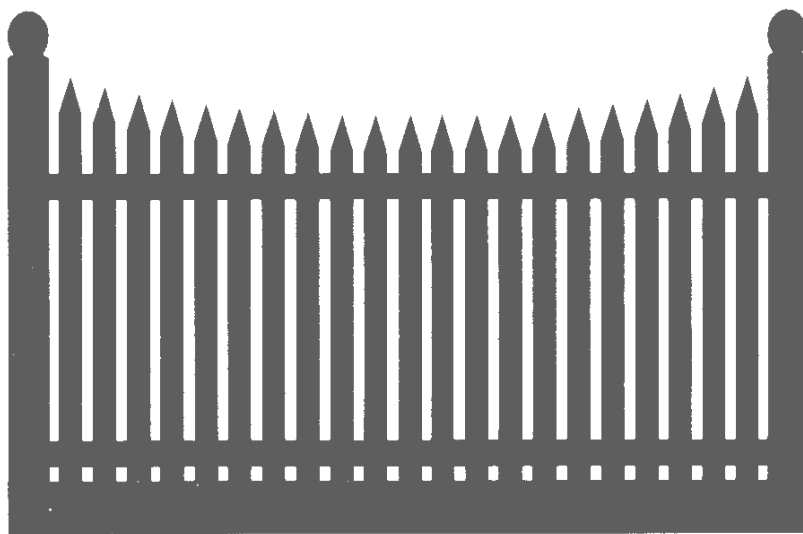


A Guide to Better Picket Fences



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POSTS

Timber Types: durability classes 1 or 2. (Suitable for in ground use)

Eg : Red Gum, CCA Treated Radiata Pine H4 AS 1604, Yellow Stringybark, Red Ironbark, Jarrah, White Cypress Pine, Turpentine, Bloodwood, etc.

Timber Post Minimum Size: For fences up to 1350mm in height, (eg. Using 1200mm pickets) posts should be a minimum of 100mm x 100mm or 125mm x 75mm. For fences over 1350mm in height (eg using 1500mm or longer pickets) posts should be a minimum of 125mm x 125mm or larger.

Gate Posts: For double gates posts should be a minimum of 125mm x 125mm. Any posts from which gates hang (including pedestrian gates) should be set in concrete.

Spacing of posts: Generally 2700mm centres – However spacing up to 3000mm may be used to complete a design component or to bridge obstructions.

PLINTHS

If and when required, the size of the plinth is determined by the style and design of the fence.

Timber Types: The same timber species as for the posts are recommended.

The minimum size should be 75mm x 25mm

Commonly used sizes are 100mm x 38mm, 150mm x 25mm, 150mm x 38mm, 150mm x 50mm, 200mm x 38mm, 200mm x 50mm.

RAILS

Timber Types: CCA Treated Radiata Pine H3 AS 1604, Jarrah, Merbau, Mountain Ash, Spotted Gum, White Cypress Pine, and Tasmanian Oak.

Minimum Size: 75mm x 50mm

The number of rails depends on the size (ie height) of the fence.

2 rails to be used with 1200mm pickets high pickets.

Fences above 1350mm high – 3 rails, unless the design limits the number to 2 rails (eg. Deep scallops)

All rails are to be of the same size and other suggested sizes are 100mm x 38mm and 100mm x 50mm

PICKETS

Timber Types: CCA Treated Radiata Pine H3 AS 1604, Jarrah, Merbau, Mountain Ash, Spotted Gum, White Cypress Pine, and Tasmanian Oak.

Sizes: Minimum thickness 19mm dressed finish.

Width may vary according to design.

Commonly used sizes are 42mm x 19mm, 70mm x 19mm and 90mm x 19mm finish

Rough sawn pickets can also be used to create a rustic effect and this should be decided at the quote stage.

It is advised that the pickets should not come in-contact with the ground.

CONSTRUCTION

A variety of joints can be used, e.g. Half Housed, Fully Housed, Mortised and Rebated.

The rails should not be butted directly on to post unless an approved metal fixing bracket used.

All nails must be galvanized or stainless steel.

Picket to rail to have a minimum of 2 (two) 50mm nails per rail per picket. (Gates are excluded.)

Rails and plinths to post have 2 (two) 75mm long nails per joint. (The nail length will vary depending on the rail and plinth thickness).

FOOTINGS

Posts to be set plumb and embedded to a Minimum Depth of 600mm where ground conditions permit.

Refill the holes with a mixture of soil and 6kg of dry cement evenly mixed and consolidate by hand ramming, tamping or wet mixing. (eg. 1/20kg bag of cement per 3 posts)

Extra post length may be required on sloping or unstable sites (eg. Sandy soil).

For extra strength as an option all posts can be set in concrete. (Note: Posts from which gates hang must be set in concrete – Refer to “Posts”)

OPTIONS and FINISHING TOUCHES

Capitols, Post Tops and One Piece Lathe Turned Top Posts, come in a variety of styles and sizes and are available at additional cost.

Seasoned or kiln dried timber can be used to maximize stability and is available at an additional cost.

Timber may be dressed or rough sawn and this should be decided at the time of quotation.

The arising and routing of posts, plinths and rails is an optional extra and available at an additional cost.

The end sealing of all timber, counter-sinking of nails, puttying nail holes, sanding of joints, priming and painting are all optional extras and are available at extra cost.

Note: Treated pine should be dried after treatment to maximize stability

SIZING

All sizes listed in this guide are nominal rough sawn dimensions. The equivalent “Dressed” finished sizes are listed below. (Dimensions below are in mm.)

SAWN	DRESSED	SAWN	DRESSED
25 X 25	19 X 19	75 X 50	70 X 45
50 X 25	42 X 19	100 X 50	90 X 45
75 X 25	70 X 19	150 X 50	140 X 45
100 X 25	90 X 19	200 X 50	190 X 45
150 X 25	140 X 19	125 X 75	120 X 70
75 X 38	70 X 35	100 X 100	90 X 90
100 X 38	90 X 35	125 X 125	120 X 120
150 X 38	140 X 35	150 X 150	140 X 140
200 X 38	190 X 35	200 x 200	190 x 190

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