

Post & Rail Fencing — Installation Guide

This guide covers the installation of BRP Post & Rail fencing in 100% recycled plastic. The system is rot-free, splinter-free and BS EN 1722 compliant, with no need for painting, staining or treating.

FENCE HEIGHT AND STYLE

Choose the height of your fence and how many bars or rails it will have. Typically, a 900 to 1500 mm high fence is used for gardens, housing and parks. An 1800 mm high fence is commonly used for garden boundaries, parks, railways and commercial buildings.

We recommend a 100 mm gap between the top of the post and the first rail; 250 to 500 mm between rails; and 250 to 400 mm between the bottom rail and the ground. The number of bars or rails and the spacing is down to personal choice and intended use.

INSTALLING POSTS

As a general rule, one third of a fence post should be concreted into the ground with two thirds above ground (minimum 500 mm). For example, a 1650 mm high fence will need 2500 mm posts. If the perfect post size isn't available, buy the next post size up and bury a little deeper. Posts over 1500 mm high should always be concreted in; unlike wood, recycled plastic is 100% waterproof and rot-free.

The standard BRP Post & Rail Fence uses a 3000 mm rail with an 1500 mm gap between post centres. Other rail spans are possible but rails will need to be cut to size. Concrete the posts in vertically to a suitable line and level. Allow concrete to set for 24 hours before installing rails.

INSTALLING RAILS

BRP Post & Rail Fencing uses long rails that span the width of three posts. Begin by marking the spacing of the rails on the first post and use a string line between posts for consistent line and level. Centre the brackets on the post and attach with 6 x 40 mm weatherproof screws.

Using two people, insert the end of the rail into the bracket of the first post while the other person holds the rail in position on the second post. Nudge the rail to the correct expansion gap in the first bracket.

Following line and level, centre and attach a bracket to the second post with the rail running through it. Put two screws at either end of the bracket slots and secure the rail; this allows the rail to expand and contract freely.

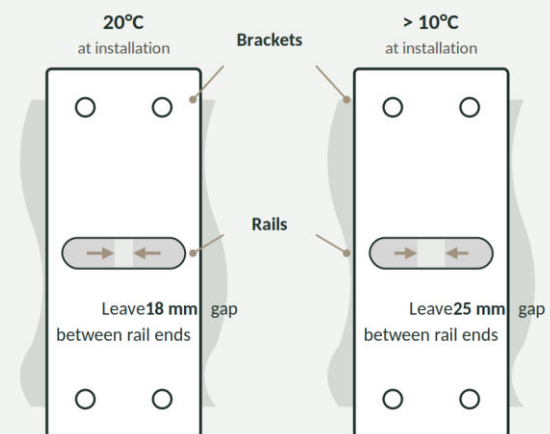
Place the bracket in position on the third post, mark the rail to the correct expansion gap size and cut to length. Attach the third bracket, lining up the rail with the expansion gap.

IMPORTANT: only fix the rail securely to the bracket on the second (middle) post. On multi-rail fences, stagger these fixed points for increased strength and stability.

Expansion gaps

Like many materials, recycled plastic expands and contracts with temperature fluctuations. Always use the supplied slotted brackets as they are designed for British Recycled Plastic rails. The slots allow accurate positioning dependent on the installation temperature.

N.B. This allows for 70°C of thermal movement.



CORNERS AND JUNCTIONS

External 90-degree corners can be made by allowing the brackets to secure the rails in place. Internal and external junctions can be made by installing a second post next to the first and attaching brackets to support the incoming rails. Be careful to keep the line and level of the rails consistent.