## STIP CHAIN LINK FENCE STEP



Step 1: Be sure that the desired location of fence lines do not exceed property boundaries. This is very important!
We recommend that all posts be set approximately 4 " inside the properly line to avoid encroaching on adjoining property with the concrete foundations. This may be done by stretching string or chalk lines on the property line and setting posts approximately 4 " inside them. We recommend having your property line surveyed.

Step 2: First, determine the locations of the end, corner, and gate posts (which are referred to as terminal posts). Distance between gate posts is determined by adding the actual width of the gate to an allowance for hinges and latches. Single walk gates normally require 3-3/4" for hinges and latches, and double drive gates normally require $5-1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$. For example, a 3' walk gate should measure $32-1 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ wide. Adding $3-3 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ to the width means that the distance between posts (inside face to inside face) should be 36 ".

Now, dig holes as shown in figure 2. Posts holes should be a minimum of 2'6" in depth.


Next, mark all posts with chalk for the correct height of fence you are installing. Terminal posts should be set 2" higher than the height of the fabric and line posts should be 2 " lower than the fabric height.

## POURING THE CONCRETE

Using a bagged concrete stone mix or concrete mix (read bagged mix instructions), combine as follows:

- 1 part cement
- 2 parts sand
- 4 parts gravel


Mix a fairly heavy solution as too much water weakens concrete and may cause cracking. Set the terminal posts in poured concrete. Use a carpenter's level to set posts plumb. Crown all post footings for water drainage by sloping concrete away from post.

Step 3: Mark the grade line on all posts measuring from the top down. Then measure the distance between the terminal posts and check the line post spacing (should be a maximum of 10 feet).


Next stretch a mason's line from outside of terminal posts (be sure the concrete has set up sufficiently so as not to lose plumb). The line posts should be lined up so that when they are set in the center of their holes, their centers will line up with the terminal post centers. This means the outside faces of the line posts will be about $11 / 4$ inside of the line stretched between the outside of the terminal posts.

Now dig the line posts holes and set the line posts.
Next, stretch your masons line taut four inches below terminal post tops and use as a guide to align the height of the line posts (Figure 3). If necessary to adjust height of any posts up or down, simply raise or lower posts as illustrated before concrete sets up. Use your level to keep plumb while adjusting post height.

Step 4: After the posts have been installed and the concrete allowed to set up, slip tension and brace bands on terminal posts. (See Figure 1) The tension bands should be spaced approximately $10-12$ " apart. Do not spread or distort bands. All bolt heads for bands are on the outside of fence and the threaded ends are on the inside. Then apply all terminal post caps. Do not leave posts uncapped overnight. This is to ensure water is not inside the post over winter months. This water can freeze and cause a seam split at base of post.

Step 5: Next, attach line post caps (See Figure 1). They are set with the top rail hole offset toward the outside fence making flush the outside face of the top rail through the loop caps. Join the toprail with the swaged end where required. Plain end of the toprail fits into rail end fittings on the terminal post.

Step 6: After assembling framework, unroll the fabric on the ground along the fence line starting at the terminal post. Then slide the tension bar through the last link in your fabric and attach this combination to the terminal post using tension band and bolts. If more or less fabric is required to span the opening, an additional amount can be connected or removed. The fabric should be on the outside face of all posts and loosely attached to the top rail by a tie wire.


FRAME COLLAR



LATCH CATCH

Step 7: Fabric should be stretched from the terminal post already attached to the opposite terminal post. Insert tension bar in the end of the fabric and attach fence stretcher to bar (ratchet type power pull - can be rented or purchased at Roma Fence)

As you stretch the fabric, test it for tension. It is stretched enough when it gives slightly. The top of the fabric should be located approximately $1 / 2$ " above the top rail to ensure proper height. After fence fabric is sufficiently tight, remove the excess fabric and connect the tension bar to the post with tension bands. Also fasten the fabric to the toprail and line posts with tie wires spaced about 18 " apart.

Step 8: After the entire fence has been completed, apply post collars to one of the gate posts. Loosely apply frame collars on the gate frame connect them to the hinge bolts provided to you. Hinge bolts connect the post collar to the frame collar. Set hinges to allow for full swing of the gate and align the top of the gate with the top of the fence. Tighten all hinges securely. Install latch catch to the other gate post and attach the gate finger to the other side of the gate frame so that the gate finger closes into the gate latch catch. For double gates, use the same procedure as on walk gates, but install latch catch and gate finger in centre.

## ADDITIONAL NOTES

To remove excess mesh from roll (reduce roll length): Using pliers, untwist the top and bottom loops on one strand of wire where you want to separate the mesh. Work the freed strand out of the links until the two sections separate.

To join sections of mesh together as needed (increase roll length): Using a single strand of wire removed from one end of the mesh, join two sections by corkscrewing the loose strand through the end links. A second strand may have to be removed to provide the correct line-up of "diamonds."

HINT: Roll out the two pieces of chain link fence on the ground with the area to be joined close together. In order to join these, you must have a male and female (convex and concave) at the top of the mesh pieces to be joined. If there are two male or two female, undo one of the spiral wires and turn counter-clockwise until the spiral wire is totally removed from the piece of chain link. Place the male and female pieces close together. Take the spiral wire that you removed, and starting at the bottom, wind the spiral wire clockwise, making sure that it travels below the first section to be joined and over the second section, binding the two together. The spiral wire must be wound and connect each male and female part of the fence section, or you will have a hole when you stretch this piece of newly joined chain link fence.

## TERMINOLOGY

Carpenter's Level: Also known as a Spirit Level or Bubble Level, is designed to indicate whether a surface is horizontal (level) or vertical (plumb).


Mason Line: A utility cord used for alignment in construction and other uses. Plumb: Is a term used to determine when something is exactly vertical.
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