



Timber Ranch and Field Gates

Operations, Maintenance & Installation Manual

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This manual provides a comprehensive overview for the installation, operation, and maintenance of the First Fence timber ranch and field gates and their associated hardware. These gates are designed to complete existing fencing in a home or agricultural setting in an aesthetically pleasing way.

Disclaimer: This guide is for informational purposes only. The installer is responsible for ensuring the installation complies with all relevant British Standards, local building regulations, codes of practice, and site-specific risk assessments. While every attempt has been made to verify the accuracy of the content in this guide upon its release, we cannot accept liability for any losses or damages resulting from inaccuracies. All tasks outlined must be carried out by certified professionals. Any deviation from these instructions nullifies any guaranteed entitlement or liability from the manufacturer.

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Contact: For enquiries regarding the installation, operation or contents of the guide in relation to this product please direct your questions to : The Product and Drawing Office Manager, First Fence Ltd, Off Kiln Way, Swadlincote, South Derbyshire DE11 8EA. Or The Product and Drawing Office Manager sales@firstfence.co.uk +44 1283 380054.

Manufacturer and/or Reseller: First Fence Ltd, Off Kiln Way, Swadlincote, South Derbyshire DE11 8EA. www.firstfence.co.uk +44 1283 380054.

Competence: This product must be installed by a person of competence, defined as an individual who possesses the necessary knowledge, skill and experience in the installation of fences and gates.

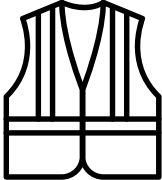
Liability: This installation guide should be understood and followed before any installation activities commence. If any area of the installation is unclear, the installer must contact the manufacturer, outlined in 'Contact.' First Fence Ltd takes no responsibility for incorrectly installed systems, product, material or components.

Safety & Tools

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

The following minimum PPE is required for installation:

Hi-Vis Jacket
Must be worn



Eye Protection
Must be worn



Safety Gloves
For all material handling



Foot Protection
Must be worn



Risk Assessment

Installers are responsible for completing a site-specific risk assessment and complying with all local risk assessments before starting work. This responsibility includes, but isn't limited to, the following:

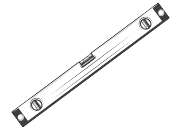
Activity	Risk Assessment Requirements and Not Limited to
Site survey	Terrain Flora Fauna Public access Buried utilities
Installation of hardware	Noise Debris Manual handling

Tools & Equipment

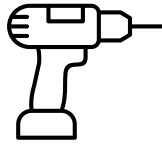
Auger
Or similar hole digging
tool



Spirit Level
For ensuring gate is level
once installed



Drill & Wood Bits
For drilling holes for
fixings and hardware



Post Driver
For driving posts into
ground



Timber post installation

Mark Post Positions:

Mark the location for the two gate posts, ensuring the gap between them allows for the gate width plus necessary clearances (e.g., 10mm minimum gap on the hinge side and latch side).

Dig Post Holes:

Dig holes for each post. The holes should be approximately 3 times wider than the post and deep enough to bury between one-third and one-half of the post's length (about 800mm to 1200mm for a 2.4m post). Place approximately 200mm of gravel at the base of the hole for drainage.

Set the Posts:

Place the hinge post first. Use a Spirit Level to ensure the post is perfectly vertical (plumb).

Mix the post mix as required and pour it around the post. We recommend 4 bags of post mix per post.

Repeat for the latch post, ensuring its alignment provides the correct clearance for the gate.

Secure the posts with temporary supports if necessary and allow the concrete/post mix to set completely before hanging the gate.

Hanging from brick

Attaching hinges:

Secure the hinge hardware to the masonry structure using appropriate mechanical fixings (e.g., self-tapping wall anchors or masonry bolts).

Ensure the hardware is mounted securely and at the correct height, ensuring there will be enough of a gap for the gate to swing freely.

Double gates:

For double gates, simply attach hinge hardware to both sides.

Hanging the gate

Fit Hardware to Post/Wall:

With the posts or wall mountings secure, measure and mark the locations for the hinge hardware (hinge pins/eyes) on the post. These marks must align precisely with the hinges already fitted to the gate.

Hang the Gate:

Use packers or wedges underneath the gate to set the required ground clearance (e.g., 50mm). Insert side packers (e.g., 10mm minimum clearance) between the gate and the hinge post to maintain equal spacing.

With the gate supported, secure the hinge pins/eyes to the post using the appropriate fixings. Note: The top hinge pin is often installed upside down to prevent the gate from being lifted off its hinges.

Install Latch Hardware:

Align the gate with the latch post and use a level to ensure the gate is straight. Install the catch/latch hardware on the gate and the receiver/keep on the latch post at a comfortable, appropriate height.

Please note:

This guide is provided for informational purposes only and is a generalised overview. The installer is responsible for ensuring the installation complies with all relevant British Standards, local building regulations, codes of practice, and site-specific risk assessments. Always refer to the manufacturer's official, current, and complete installation instructions for your specific product and hardware before commencing any work, as any deviation from those instructions may nullify guaranteed entitlement or liability.

Installation Sign-Off Checklist

Action	Description	Pass/Fail
Posts installed	Holes dug, posts positioned, levelled, and secured. (Skip if posts are pre-installed)	
Hardware Fitted	Hinges, latches, and other hardware is attached to gate and posts at correct heights for level hanging	
Gate hung	Gate is aligned correctly, swings freely and off the ground.	
Site Clean Up	Tools cleared, waste removed, and site left safe and tidy	

Sign Off Declaration:

I hereby confirm this product has been assembled and installed in accordance with the above requirements and any remedial works have been carried out before the final sign off:

Site Supervisor

Sign Off Date

Relationship to the Client

Signature

Maintenance Schedule

Regular inspection and maintenance are critical to ensure the system remains safe and effective, in line with the recommendations of the manufacturers guide and good maintenance practices. The person responsible for site safety should ensure these checks are carried out.

Check Area	Recommended Action	Frequency	Reference
General Gate Integrity	• Check swing and alignment • Inspect hardware for loosening or rust • Check wood for cracks, splits, or warping • Remove debris and vegetation	Monthly	Manufacturer's guide
Oiling, staining, and cleaning	• Clean timber surface (avoid harsh chemicals) • Re-oil or re-stain depending on wood and coating • Lubricate hinges and latches	Every 6-12 months	Manufacturer's guide
Replacements and aligning	• Re-coat painted or heavily stained gates • Replace worn or corroded hardware • Re-align if necessary	Every 1-3 years	Manufacturer's Spec
Extra cleaning	• Brush off loose organic matter • Wash with mild detergent or timber cleaner • Rinse gently with low pressure spray • Allow 24-48 hours to dry	As Needed	Good Agricultural Practice