



PatureGuard[®] Badger Gates

AGRI-PASTURE-5200

Operations, Maintenance & Installation Manual

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This manual provides a comprehensive overview for the installation, operation, and maintenance of the First Fence PastureGuard® Badger Gate.

These gates are specifically engineered for use with wire, stock, and deer fencing systems. They provide a high-durability, wildlife-friendly access point that allows badgers to follow established foraging routes without compromising the structural integrity of your perimeter fencing.

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.

1.0 Safety & Tools

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

The following minimum PPE is required for installation:

Hard Hat
Must be worn



Eye Protection
Essential when cutting
high-tensile fencing wire



Safety Gloves
For handling galvanised
steel and wire mesh



Foot Protection
Steel toe-capped boots
for field installation



Risk Assessment

Installers are responsible for completing a site-specific risk assessment and complying with all local safety protocols before starting work. This includes, but is not limited to:

Activity	Risk Assessment Requirements and Not Limited to
Site Identification & Survey	Slips/Trips on uneven terrain, contact with zoonotic diseases (e.g., TB), and proximity to livestock.
Cutting wire fencing	Lacerations from sharp mesh ends and eye injuries from high-tensile wire recoil.
Manual Handling	Lifting and positioning the 4mm steel frame and any associated ground anchoring.
Excavation for Frame Bedding	Identification of underground services (e.g., water/power) and ergonomic strain from digging.
Fixing Installation	Hand/finger entrapment during wire tensioning or Gripple application.

Tools & Equipment

Heavy-Duty Wire Cutters

Required for creating the aperture in the existing mesh



Spanner/Socket Set

For adjusting hinge tension if required



Grippler Tensioning Tool

For re-securing fence wire to the gate frame



Spirit Level

For plumb (vertical) and level installation



Spade/Shovel

For clearing the swing path and bedding the frame



2.0 Pre-Installation

Site Identification

Before installation, locate active badger runs. These are typically identified by:

Worn paths leading directly to the fence line.

Hair snags on the lower wires of the existing fence.

Evidence of digging or "snag and tear" damage to the wire mesh.

Note: For maximum efficacy, the gate must be installed directly on the established path.

Materials Check

Unpack the kit and verify all components are present and undamaged, checking against the Bill of Materials. Ensure all components are free from excessive corrosion or damage.

3.0 Installation Procedure

Positioning: Place the gate frame against the fence at the identified badger run. Ensure the base of the frame is flush with the ground or set approximately 25mm into the soil to prevent "under-digging."

Marking & Cutting: Mark the section of wire mesh to be removed. Cut the mesh, leaving 50mm "tails" on the horizontal wires to allow for securement to the frame.

Securing the Frame:

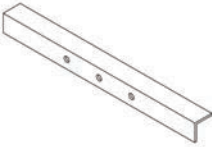

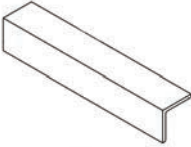

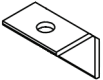




To Wire: Wrap the wire tails around the 4mm frame and secure using Grippler Medium joiners or T-Clips.

To Timber: If the run is adjacent to a fence post, secure the frame directly to the timber using heavy-duty galvanised staples.

Levelling: Use a spirit level to ensure the vertical uprights are plumb. An unlevel frame may cause the gravity-swing flap to sit ajar.

Bedding In: Badgers may be wary of new structures. It is recommended to pin the gate in the "open" position for 3–5 nights to allow the animals to get used to the gap before releasing the flap.

4.0 Bill of Materials

Illustration	SKU	Description	Quantity
	FABR-BADGER-0100	FRAME TOP CROSS RSA 40x40x4mm x 450mm LONG	1
	FABR-BADGER-0110	FRAME POST RSA 40X40X4mm x 755mm LONG	2
	FABR-BADGER-0120	FRAME BOTTOM CROSS RSA 40x40x4mm x 225mm LONG	1
	BADGER-LEAF-0010	BADGER GATE 205 X 250 LEAF	1
	FABR-BADGER-0300	LOCKING CLIP RSA 40x40x4mm x 50mm LONG	1
	FABR-BADGER-0310	HINGE BAR M10 THREADED ENDS 260mm	1
	FABR-BADGER-0320	GROUND BAR 10 DIA ROD 445mm LONG	1
	ACCS-GEN-0020	HEX HEAD BOLT M10 X 20mm	1
	RAPI-SHIELD-0050	M10 HEX NUT	7

5.0 Installation Sign-Off Checklist

Action	Description	Pass/Fail
Alignment	Gate frame is plumb and level.	
Integrity	Surrounding fence wire is taut and securely fastened to the 4mm frame.	
Safety	All cut wire 'tails' are turned inwards or capped to prevent injury to wildlife or livestock.	
Operation	The flap swings freely and returns to the closed position via gravity.	
Site Cleanliness	All wire offcuts have been removed from the site	

Sign Off Declaration:

I hereby confirm the 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



Note: This is an advisory best practice installation checklist to ensure your gates remain operational, effective, and safe.



6.0 Maintenance Schedule

Regular inspection is critical to ensure the gate remains a preferred route for wildlife and does not become a point of failure.

Check Area	Recommended Action	Frequency	Reference
Flap Operation	Manually swing the flap to ensure it moves freely in both directions. Remove any accumulated debris or soil from the pivot points.	6 months	
Wire Tension	Inspect Gripples/ties for wire slip. Re-tension if the surrounding mesh has sagged.	6 months	Manufacturer's Spec
Surface Finish	Inspect for significant corrosion or damage to the galvanised or powder-coated finish.	6-12 months	BS EN ISO 1461
Ground Clearance	Ensure the "swing path" hasn't been blocked by badger spoil (excavated soil) or growing vegetation.	6 months	Protection of Badgers Act 1992
Frame & Hinge Integrity	Visually inspect for rust, damage, or frame movement. Ensure the gate remains plumb and aligned with the wire mesh.	Annually	BS 1722