

Steel Board Fencing (Sold by Linear Foot)

Installation Guide

Our steel board fencing gives you classic post-and-rail ranch style in heavy galvanized steel with an acrylic topcoat, so it won't warp, rot, or need repainting like wood. Proven safe for horses and cattle, it resists cribbing, chewing, and impact and holds posts plumb through high winds and heavy snow. Sold by the linear foot with all posts included, in 3-rail or 4-rail (top rail around 54" for horses), in Black or Brown. Specify your inline, corner, and end post counts, and

This product

Colours	Midnight Black
Configurations	2
Example SKU	SBF-3-R-BK

Receiving and handling

- Your panels arrive as finished welded units with **sealed edges** — the wire is galvanized after welding and then dip-coated, so the perimeter is already protected. There is no raw cut edge to dress on arrival.
- **Carry panels on edge, two people, one at each end.** They are rigid and heavy; carrying flat lets the middle flex and can rack the weld pattern.
- Do not drag a panel across another panel or across concrete. The finish is tough but it is not a skid plate, and a dragged corner is the one place rust starts.
- Stand panels against a wall or lay them on timber battens off the ground while you work. Left flat on wet ground, the underside sits in water.

What you will need

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| • Post hole digger or auger | • Drill and driver |
| • Tape measure and string line | • Concrete mix |
| • Level | • Work gloves |

Working out your posts

Post length	Panel height + 3 ft, rounded up to the stocked ladder — 6 ft, 9 ft or 12 ft.
How many	One post per section, plus one end post to close each run, plus one more for every gate.
Hole depth	About 3 ft for a 6 ft fence. Go deeper if your local frost line requires it — check your municipality.
Concrete	Fill while holding spacing and alignment. Brace the posts and let the concrete cure 24–48 hours before hanging anything.

Installing this product

- 1 Set out the run**

String the line and mark post centres to your rail length. Consistent spacing is what makes a board fence look right.
- 2 Set the posts**

Dig to depth for your fence height and frost line. Plumb to the string, concrete, brace, cure 24–48 hours.
- 3 Set the top rail first**

Fix the top rail across the run and level it. Everything below references off it.
- 4 Space the remaining rails**

Work down from the top with a consistent gap. Use a spacer block rather than measuring each one.
- 5 Check and finish**

Sight down the run for line and level before final tightening.

Before you call it done

- Every bolt fully tightened.
- Panels snug in their channels with no rattle.
- Frame square, plumb and level.
- Consistent reveal between panel and post along the whole run.

Cutting, drilling and sealing

Panels and sheets leave the factory with their edges finished. Cutting or drilling breaks that seal and exposes bare steel, so how you make the cut — and what you do to it afterwards — decides whether the new edge lasts as long as the rest of the panel.

DO

- **Cut cold.** Tin snips, a nibbler, or a circular saw fitted with a fine-tooth carbide metal-cutting blade. These shear the steel without heating it.

- **Cut with the finished face down** when using a saw, so the burr forms on the back and the visible face stays clean.
- **Support the sheet close to the cut** so it cannot flex and distort the profile.
- **Drill, do not punch.** Use a sharp metal bit at moderate speed and deburr the hole afterwards.

NEVER

- **Never an abrasive wheel, chop saw or angle grinder with a cutting disc.** The heat burns the zinc and paint back from the edge — rust will start at that cut and travel.
- **Never cut over other panels.** Hot filings land on the finish and embed, and every one becomes a rust freckle.
- **Never leave swarf on a panel.** Sweep filings off immediately, before they sit in dew overnight.

SEALING THE CUT EDGE

Galvanized / dip-coated steel and wire	Touch the cut edge with a zinc-rich cold-galvanizing compound. The galvanizing protects a small exposed edge sacrificially, but a cut end or a snapped wire deserves the touch-up.
HDP-painted panels and sheet	Deburr, then apply matched touch-up paint to the cut edge. Two thin coats beat one thick one.
Corten weathering steel	Leave it. Corten is designed to rust to a stable protective patina — a cut edge simply joins in. Do not seal or paint it.
316 stainless	Deburr and clean. Avoid contaminating it with carbon-steel filings from another cut — that is what causes surface rust spotting on stainless.

Cut edges that are burnt or left bare are the most common cause of early edge rust, and damage from improper cutting is not a finish defect.

Maintenance and upkeep

These systems are built to be left alone. The upkeep below is what keeps the finish warranty intact — it is not a chore list.

Twice a year	Rinse with a hose. Where road salt, coastal spray or livestock is involved, rinse more often — salt left sitting is what shortens a coated finish.
Cleaning	Mild soap and water with a soft brush or cloth. Rinse it off. Never a pressure washer at close range, never an abrasive pad, never a solvent or bleach-based cleaner — all of them cut the finish.
Scratches	Touch up promptly with matched paint or, on galvanized, a zinc-rich compound. A scratch left through a winter becomes an edge rust line.
Fixings	Check bolts and fasteners after the first season and every couple of years after. Ground movement and thermal cycling loosen hardware; a loose panel wears at its contact points.
Vegetation	Keep soil, mulch and dense planting off the panel base. Constant damp against steel is the one condition that beats any coating.

Warranty

BarrierBoss warranties are set **by component**, not by product:

COMPONENT	TERM
Steel, wire and factory finish	40-Year Warranty

Installation is the installer's responsibility. Concrete, hole diameter and depth, frost-line allowance, and setting panels square, plumb and level are down to the installer. Damage from improper installation or from cutting with an abrasive wheel is not covered.

BarrierBoss — made, moved and unloaded by us. Delivered and unloaded on your property.
 Questions about your install? Contact us before you cut, drill or concrete — we would rather answer first.