

Universal Black Gate Hardware Kit

How to Hang Your Gate

Framed steel gates in hog wire, cattle panel and corrugated infills, supplied with hinges and latch hardware. A gate is the only moving part of your fence — nearly every gate that sags was hung correctly onto a post that was not set for the job.

Note. Every gate needs its OWN post on each side, on top of your line posts. The hinge post carries the gate cantilevered off one edge and takes far more load than any line post in the run.

This product

Configurations	1
Example SKU	UBGHK-001

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
- Level (4 ft)
- Tape measure
- Shims or timber blocks
- Spanner or socket set
- Concrete mix
- 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 the hinge post for the load, not the line

The hinge post holds the whole gate hanging off one side of it. Dig it deeper and wider than a line post and use more concrete — for a standard residential gate, going a foot deeper than your line posts is money well spent. On wide or double gates, deeper again. The latch post takes far less load but should still be set properly.

2 Let the concrete cure fully before you hang anything

This is the step people skip and the one that causes a dropped gate. Hanging a gate on green concrete levers the hinge post out of plumb before the mix has any strength, and it never comes back. Give it a full 48 hours, and longer in cold weather.

3 Measure the GATE, then set the posts to it

Measure the gate itself, add your clearances, and set the posts to that number. Do not measure a gap you have already concreted and hope the gate fits it. Typical clearances: about 1/2 in on the hinge side, 1/2 to 3/4 in on the latch side, and 2 to 3 in off the ground so the gate clears frost heave, gravel and snow.

4 Block the gate in its final position before touching a hinge

Shim and block the gate exactly where it will hang — correct height, even gap top to bottom, level across the top rail. Wedge it so it cannot move. Every hinge you fix from here references that position, which is why the blocking matters more than the hinging.

5 Hang the hinges wide apart, and bolt through where you can

Put the top hinge as high on the gate as the frame allows and the bottom hinge as low. The further apart they are, the less leverage the gate has to pull the top hinge out. Through-bolt into the post rather than relying on screws alone wherever the post allows it. Only remove the blocking once every hinge is fixed.

6 Get the brace diagonal the right way round

If your gate is braced, the brace must run from the BOTTOM of the HINGE side UP to the TOP of the LATCH side, so it works in compression and pushes the latch corner up. Run it the other way and it works in tension, stretches, and the gate drops — this is the single most common gate mistake. A steel-framed BarrierBoss gate is already braced in the frame; do not add one.

7 Fit the latch to the closed position

Close the gate to where it should sit, then mark and fit the latch to it. Fitting the latch first and then forcing the gate to meet it racks the frame.

8 Swing it, then check it again in a week

Swing through the full arc — it should not drop, bind or scrape at any point. Fit a gate stop so it cannot swing past its limit and lever the hinges. Re-check hinge bolts after the first week and again after the first season; a new gate settles.

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 snipped 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
Pressure-treated lumber	Lifetime Limited (fungal decay and termite)
Western Red Cedar frame	10-Year Limited
Factory assembly	5-Year Limited Workmanship
Corten weathering steel	No coating warranty — the patina is intentional and protective

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.