

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATION**

**FENCE
(Feet)**

CODE 382

WOODEN BOARD FENCE (WBF)

Field Fence.

A wooden board fence shall have a minimum of 3 boards. The maximum board spacing shall be 16-inches center to center. The top edge of the uppermost board shall be at least 48 inches above the ground line, and the top edge of the lowest board shall be no greater than 16 inches above the ground line.

Each board shall be attached to each post with a minimum of two 20 d. galvanized or cadmium coated nails. A continuous vertical 1" x 4" face board will be used at each line post to cover and help to secure the horizontal boards (rails) to the line post. They will be attached with four 4-inch long galvanized or cadmium coated nails or decking screws. The nail holes for the rails will be predrilled where the ends of the boards butt together. For better holding power, use ring-shank, spiral, or screw-shank instead of common nails. Two 3-inch decking screws may be used instead of nails.

Unless painting is selected, lumber shall be treated with preservative.

1. Materials.

a. Rails.

The rails should be twice the post spacing with staggered seams on the posts. The rails shall be a minimum size of 1" x 6" (nominal) and a minimum of 8 feet in length. Wooden boards (horizontal rails) shall be well seasoned or kiln-dried to minimize warping. Use untreated durable wood of such species as red cedar, black locust, or a non-durable wood that is preservative pressure treated. Treated lumber shall be treated with a minimum of 0.40 lbs./cubic foot chromated copper arsenate (CCA), type A, B, or C, or equivalent non-CCA treatment. Boards and posts may be painted if desired.

b. Posts.

All bark shall be removed from red cedar, osage orange, and black locust. At least half the diameter of red cedar shall be heartwood. Pressure treated pine or other wood of equal life and strength are acceptable. All posts will have a minimum top diameter of 6 inches and angular posts shall have a minimum top, nominal dimension of 6 x 6 inches. The post will be of sufficient length to support the height of the fence and be firmly set or driven in the ground. Line posts will be set or driven a minimum of 36 inches. Gate and corner posts will be firmly set or driven in the ground a minimum of 48 inches.

2. Post Spacing.

Posts shall be spaced a maximum of 8 feet on center to accommodate rail lengths.

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