

DIY Fence Installation Checklist

A free, easy-to-follow guide for homeowners who want to build their own fence. Simple steps, common materials, and tips to avoid mistakes.

■ Wood Fence	■ Concrete	■ Screws	■ Gate Kit	■ Tools
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■ Planning & Prep

- Measure fence line
- Choose fence type
- Check bylaws
- Call utility locate
- Confirm property lines

■ Tools Needed

- Post hole digger
- Level
- Drill / impact
- Saw
- Safety gear

■ Panels & Gates

- Install bottom rail level
- Keep spacing even
- Reinforce gate posts
- Test gate swing

■ Materials

- Fence posts
- Panels or pickets
- Concrete mix
- Gravel drainage
- Exterior fasteners

■ Post Installation (Critical)

- Dig below frost line (~4 ft)
- Add gravel base
- Set posts perfectly straight
- Pour concrete & slope away
- Let cure 24–48 hrs

■ Final Touches

- Trim & sand edges
- Stain or seal wood
- Clean site
- Final inspection

■ Common mistakes: shallow posts, skipping utility locates, uneven spacing, rushing concrete curing.
This guide is for general information only and does not replace local building codes or professional advice.