The Ultra™ Installation Guide

Thank you for choosing *Ultra Aluminum*™ fencing! We're proud to provide you with the highest quality ornamental fencing in the industry. Under normal use and with proper installation, this Ultra fence should last a lifetime. Before getting started, please read through this entire packet.

Tools and Supplies Needed

1. Post Hole Digger or Power Auger
2. 100' tape measure
3. Level
4. String Line & Wood or Metal Stakes
5. Hacksaw or Reciprocating Saw
6. Screw Gun and Phillips Bit
7. Rubber mallet
8. 2" Wooden Blocks
9. Cement mix

*The material contained herein is for general installation information only and is not intended as a complete manual on fence installation. Ultra Aluminum Mfg. Inc is not responsible for any errors or omissions made by the installer of the fence. If you have any doubts about your ability to install your fence, we suggest that you hire a professional, experienced fence installation company to do the job for you.

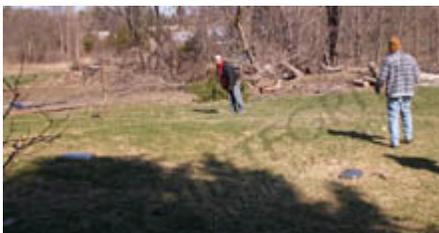*"Remember to measure twice and cut once…you'll be glad you did!"*

Let's get started…

Identify underground utility lines

Be sure that all potential underground utility lines have been identified and marked by the utility company. This can be a life and death matter!

Be aware of property lines

Be sure that you are aware of your property lines. If you are not certain about your property lines, it is advisable to have your property surveyed before installing a fence. You are ultimately liable for its location!

Walk the area

Walk the area to be fenced. Check for pool equipment and utility lines. Typically, a utility company does not mark private underground lines. If you are not 100% certain, contact your pool installer for assistance (it's a good idea to have him mark all underground lines before his final departure).

Unpack and review packing list

Unpack boxes and crosscheck all of your materials with your packing list. Doing this will ensure that everything that you need is present.

Earmark types of panels

If there are areas with a grade slope, identify and earmark your rackable panels for use in these areas before you begin. These will have wider holes for the pickets to go through.

String the line

You are now ready to begin. First, hammer wood (or metal) stakes into place and run a string along the entire line of fence. This string plays a critical role in making sure your fence is straight. Make it taut.

Mark where to dig your post holes

Mark the location of the post holes on-center. The key to running a straight and true fence is for the post holes to line up with the string line. Use 72 1/2" on-center measurements for installing 6' wide panels of Residential or Commercial Grade fences with 2" posts. Adjust accordingly for wider or narrower panels. Some accessories may change the length of a panel, so always double check measurements or call your Ultra reprehensive for information. Don't worry if you run into spacing problems. Any fence panel may be cut to fit.

The string will be your guide

The string you have already staked out will be your straight edge reference point until your project is completed! You will place all of your posts about 1/4 inch to 1 inch from the taut string. It doesn't matter what you decide. It matters that you stay consistent. IMPORTANT: Never let a post (or anything) touch or push against your string, otherwise you will interfere with the continuity of your fence line.

Dig a few holes at a time

Dig 6" wide holes between 36" to 42" deep, depending on your part of the country. Set your post in the hole. Generally, your first post should be at a termination point, such as up against your house. You do not have to pre-dig all of your holes. It is okay – better, in fact – to dig as-you-go, perhaps just a few extra holes at a time. It's a good idea to install your gate posts first. With your posts installed plumb and true, the setting concrete will better support the fence panels. Just remember to check on them to be sure they remain perfectly positioned and level until the concrete sets. If they are out of position, the gate may not function.

Installing a panel is quick and easy

Start by attaching one section of fence to the post by sliding the notched horizontal rails of the fence panel into the punched holes of the post. Then put a 1" self tapping screw into the pre-drilled pilot hole to securely attach rail to post.

Always level each post

Level each post and pour your mixed concrete into the hole. Posts should always be leveled off of your string line reference point. Never jump ahead. Always place one panel and one post at a time. Leave the concrete 3-4" below grade. Place some dirt on top of the hole and pack it tight. This will help hold the fence level. Place a 2" block under the fence panel to hold it at a consistent 2" above grade. For this, you can use pieces of wood or paver bricks.

Set the gate opening

For staking out your gate, follow these recommendations: The width of a gate refers to the width of the opening between the gate posts (inside-to-inside, not distance on-center). If you have a 4' single gate, set posts for a 4' opening. If you have a double gate, set the opening according to the gate

size. For example, if you have an 8' double gate, set posts for an 8' opening. The gate should swing out and away from area to be enclosed by fence. Always make sure that you have clearance to completely open the gate without obstruction.

Go back and adjust (if needed)

As you move along, go back and level the already installed panels. Posts may shift until the concrete has set.

Use your sight to determine adjustments

Using your sight, a level, and the reference point string, "tweak" the posts in and out and up and down. If you are following the grade, stand back along the fence and adjust the fence up or down to flow with the grade.

Corner Posts

If your line ends with a corner, the horizontal rails of the next panel must be notched to fit the post. If you have to cut a panel to length, you must cut a ¾" long x ¼" tall notch in the rail to fit into the post.

Snap the caps into place

When all panels have been installed and cement around posts is fully set, install the post caps by snapping them into place. They do not require screws! A rubber mallet may be helpful but is not absolutely necessary. Just be careful.
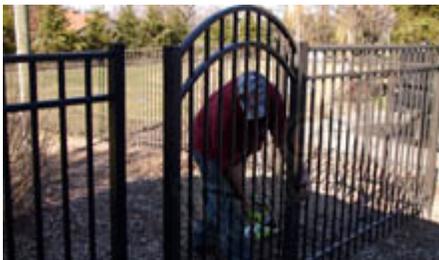
Time for the gate

After you have installed all of your fence panels and have leveled the gate posts, it's time to hang the gates.

Preparing to attach the gate

After you make sure your gate posts are level and the cement is fully set, confirm the direction of the swing and bring in the gate.

Install the hinges

Install hinges on the gate posts first. Use 1" long self tapping screws. Center the gate in the opening and put only one screw in each hinge. This is to allow for some final adjustment. If installing self-closing hinges, adjust tension in the hinges for a proper swing rate.

Install the gate latch

Now install the gate latch per the included instructions.

Putting in the remaining screws

If the gate swings properly, put the remaining screws in the hinges. Do not use the gate until the cement fully sets. **YOU ARE DONE!**