

# CRITTERFENCE

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MANUFACTURER - **WHOLESALE DIRECT TO THE PUBLIC**

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## FENCE TO KEEP ANIMALS IN OR OUT

- These are UNIVERSAL instructions for all our fence kits, from simple set ups to complex. For example, we show you how to install both with tension wire and without. Components such as tension wire and rodent barrier may be added later if you choose.
- Each project and application is different; please email us with questions (preferred) at email [customerservice@critterfence.com](mailto:customerservice@critterfence.com) - We are able to answer installation email questions time permitting on the weekends and after hours.

### (A) Site Preparation And Layout

- Use surveying flags to mark where posts will go or flagging tape for trees
- For post spacing, poly or metal, spacing can range from 8' apart to 15' apart, please calculate using the post count in your specific fence kit
- If hanging from trees with 8ga cable, maximum suggested spacing is 20ft-25ft
- Clear/trim the area of vegetation and obstacles
- Layout all your ground sleeves, placing one next to each flag
- Tap caps into your posts (some posts may have caps installed already) and lay besides the sleeves next to each flag.
- If you have no-climb extenders, slide them over the post and lightly secure with a wrench; you will tighten them down after adjusting the finished height later.
- If you have post extensions (for 10ft tall posts for example), slide them in and secure with an included self tapping screw. Drive the screw through the post with a Phillips bit driver. Note: you can also pre-drill the hole with a drill bit, using 1/8" drill bit.
- If you have 2 1/2" corner or end posts, install the cap (if applicable) and lay out along with braces and hardware (if applicable). Brace hardware includes a band with carriage bolt and a cup that's attached with the carriage bolt. Drive a self tapping screw through the aluminum cup to secure the end of the brace.

### (B) Sleeve Installation – see section C for post install with concrete

- For dry and compacted ground, use an auger or **digging bar** to pilot a hole. Using the digging bar, stick the pointed end into the ground like a spear. Move it in small circular pattern to break up the earth. Pull the bar out of the ground and repeat until reaching the

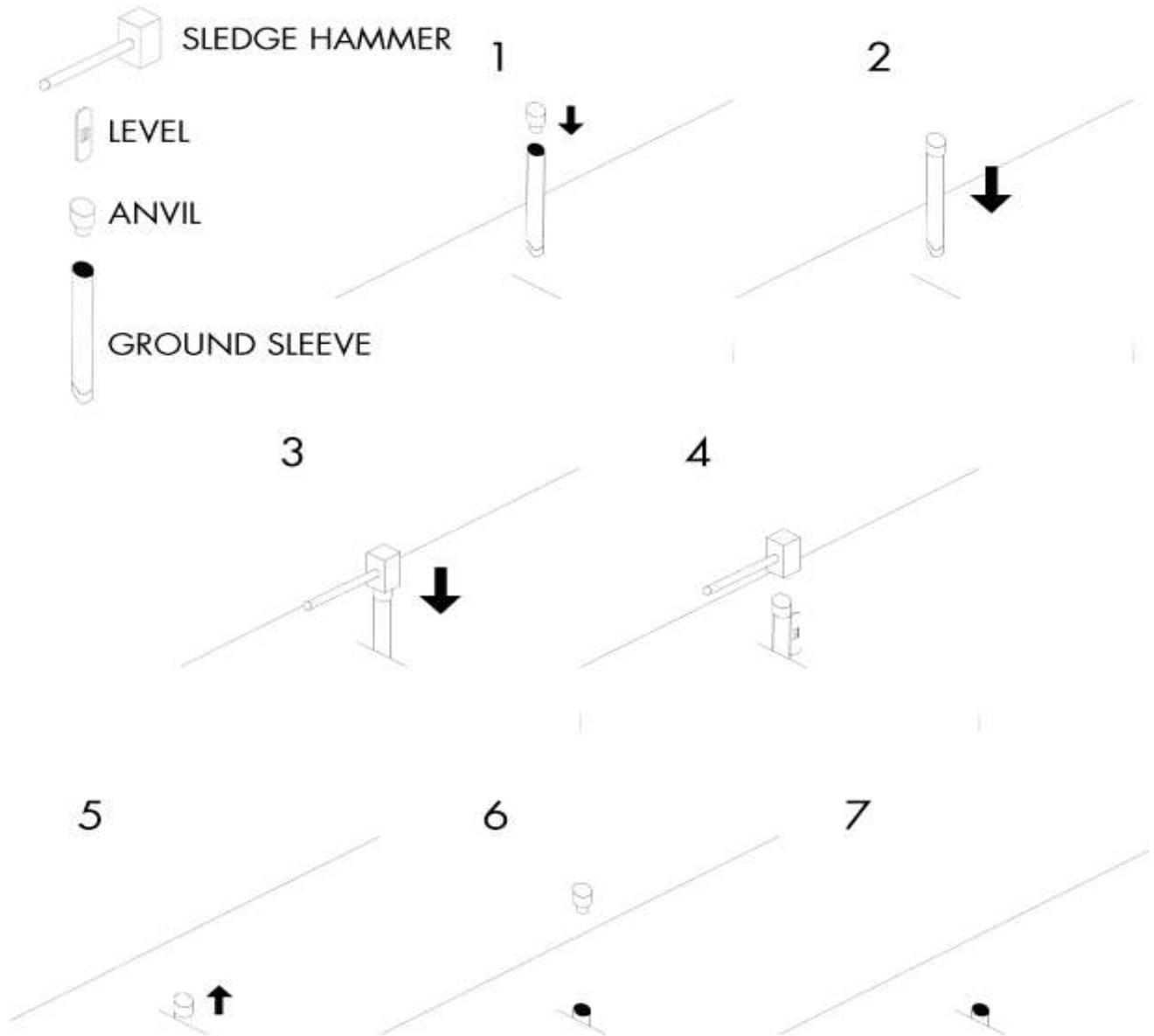
depth of the sleeve (30"). You can also mark 30" directly on the bar to make it easier with bright paint or tape.

- Once holes are piloted for your ground sleeves, the driving anvil is used along with a sledge hammer to drive the sleeves into the ground.
- Use a small 5lb sledge hammer to start off the sleeve.
- Use a small magnetic level to plumb up the sleeve as it goes into the ground.
- Once the sleeve is well seated, use a large 10lb or heavier sledge hammer. Adjust and level as needed.
- Drive the sleeve fully into the ground except for 1" to prevent silt and sediment from backfilling into the sleeve. There is a drainage hole and a reservoir at the bottom for water to collect and drain out.
- Note: the crimped or pressed section of the sleeve 10" down is by design, don't force the post past this crimped section. If you leave the ground sleeve higher than 1" the overall height of your post will also be higher. The reverse is also true if you drive the sleeve into the ground too far.
- Next, slide each post into the sleeve and check with a level. Insert the included (patent pending) set screw bolt into the threaded hole in the sleeve to secure the post inside the sleeve (DO NOT OVER TIGHTEN YOU MAY STRIP THE THREADS).
- If the post is still out of plumb, you can push or pull on the post to level it.
- Notes on post and sleeve installation: If building a long, straight run of multiple posts start on the two ends first. You can then run a string or line between both corners to exactly justify the posts and sleeves inline. This creates a very straight, professional finished look. If you have gates in any of these straight runs it's a good idea to install them now (see gate install instructions).

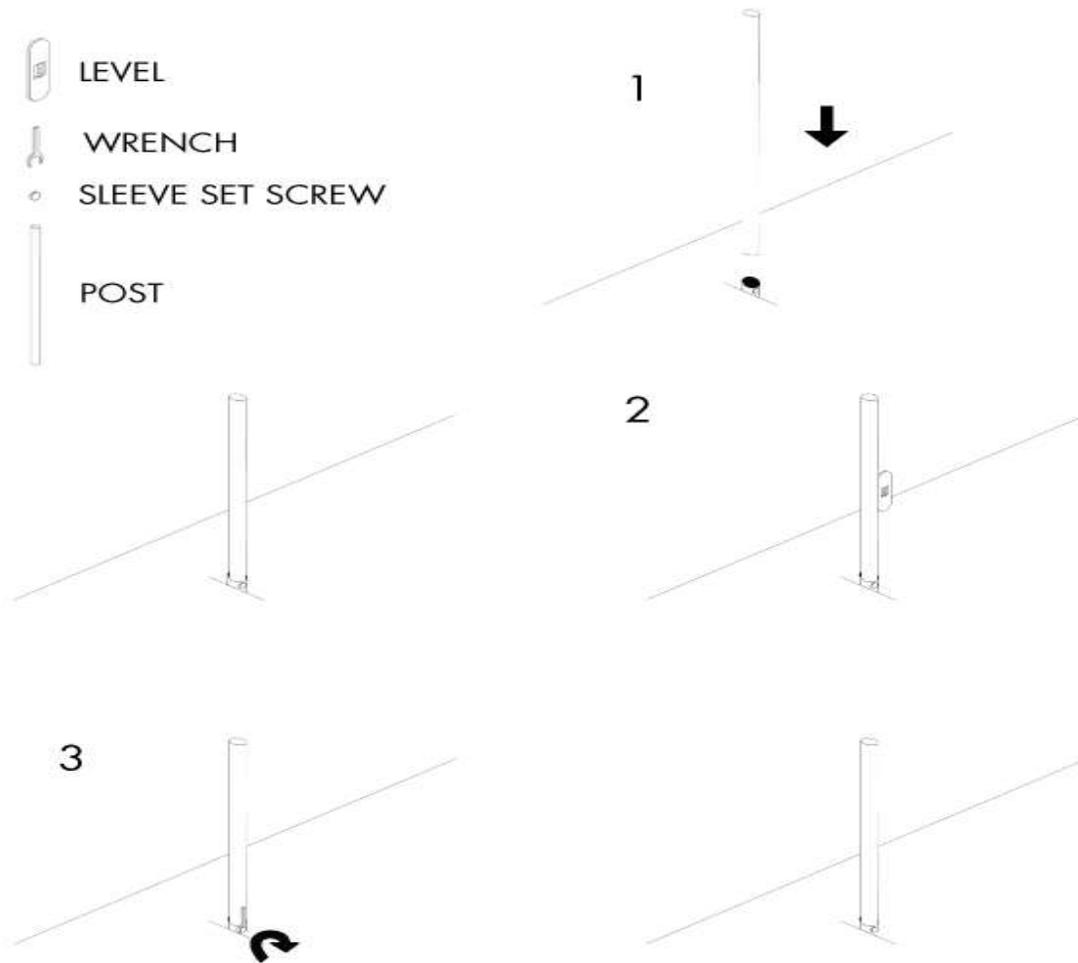
Please note: The diagrams below are quick examples of video animations available on our website here:

<https://www.critterfence.com/fence-instructions/>

# GROUND SLEEVE INSTALLATION



# POST INSTALLATION



## (C) Corner, End Post Installation And Braces (also concrete line posts)

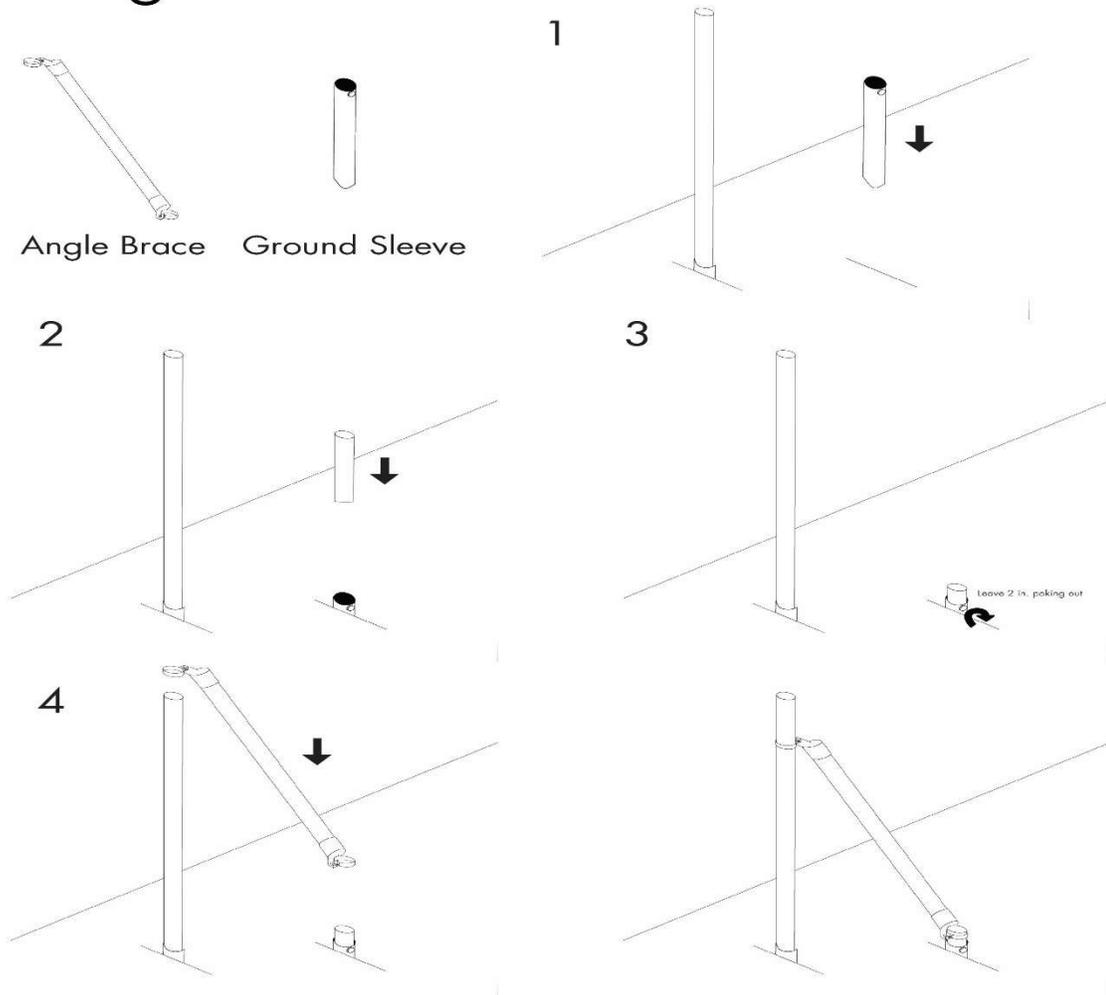
- Use sleeve installation instructions to drive sleeves in the ground for corners and ends. The install method is the same for corner posts as it is for line posts.
- Concrete installation (set sleeves in concrete) specs for line posts and corner posts:
  - 4ft, 5ft, 6ft, 7ft, 7.5ft and 8ft finished height post: 30 inches of concrete or more at 10 inches in diameter approximately.
  - 10' finished height post: 40 inches of concrete or more

**ENGINEERING NOTE:** Post stability comes from leverage. In general, most customers install our sleeves directly into the ground without concrete. Some customers install the ground sleeves in concrete - especially for tall fence corners (10ft tall) or large driveway

gates that support a lot of weight. The deeper and wider your concrete footing is, the more leverage it will have. Sleeves in concrete are stronger than posts directly in concrete by themselves. Additionally, ground sleeves are not round – as concrete cures/shrinks over time the ground sleeve will not spin in the concrete footing as a round post would.

- EZ-side braces for corners: To install a brace, the post that it's attaching to must be installed first. Attach the 2 ½ to 1 5/8 brace hardware on one end of the brace and the 1 5/8 to 1 5/8 brace hardware on the other end. Hold up the completed brace assembly to the corner/end post to get a basic visual where it needs to meet the ground. Next, insert a 1 5/8 ground sleeve into the ground in that spot. Slide in the short length of 1 5/8 12 inch long tube into the sleeve. Lastly, connect the 2 ½ brace band assembly to the corner/end post and the 1 5/8 brace band assembly into the 1 5/8 tube in the ground sleeve and secure. Note: make sure you install a post collar (if applicable - see next section) below the brace hardware if tensioning first. Note: the 12" tube in the ground sleeve does not have a cap on purpose. The ground sleeve has drainage holes in the bottom.

## Angle Brace With Ground Sleeve



## (D) Post Cable Collars And Tensioning (Optional Upgrade)

- Start by sliding over and positioning cable collars on all your posts, 2 collars per post. If using trees, you will need to drive lag eye bolts and screw them into trees. The first cable collar or lag is at the top, and the second bottom collar height will depend on the height of your bottom wire (if applicable) and desired amount of overlap.

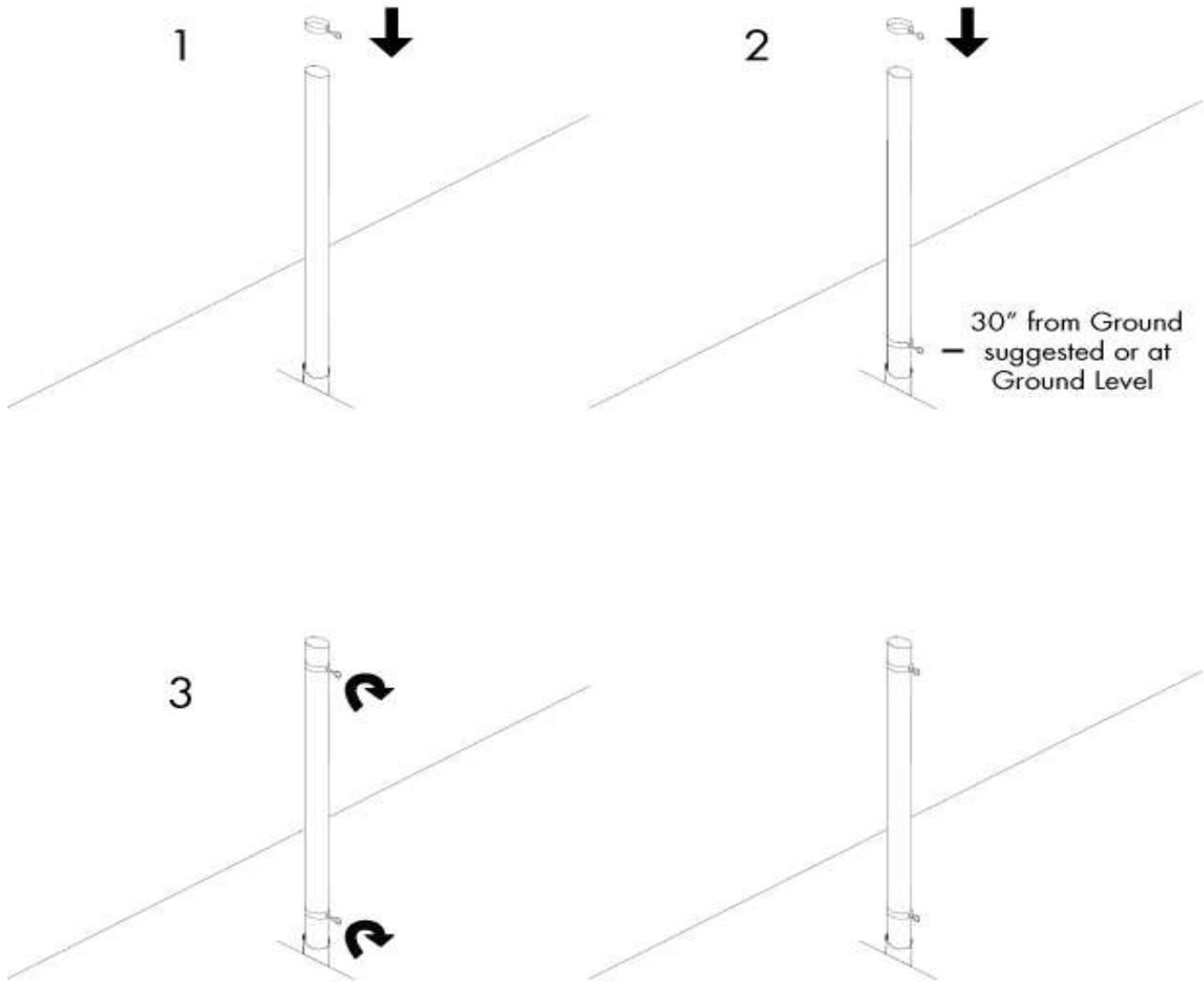
Some examples:

1. 24" bottom wire, install the bottom collar 18" from the ground (leaves 6" overlap)
  2. **36" bottom wire**, install the bottom collar 30" from the ground (leaves 6" overlap)
  3. 48" bottom wire, install the bottom collar 40" from the ground (leaves 8" overlap)
  4. Without bottom wire, when adding tensioning to one layer of fence, typical bottom collar location is either 30" from the ground (which is the deer impact zone - the height in which deer would run into the fence, this cable reinforces the area) or near the bottom 2 to 4 inches from the ground (helps prevent large animals from pushing up under the fence for access, along with ground stakes - if applicable)
- For fences primarily designed to keep animals out, put your cable and collars on the outside. For containment fences, like a fence to keep in dogs, put collars on the inside.
  - Plan to make a loop with the cable between every 3-4 posts or trees (if applicable) or when changing direction. Run the cable through the eyes in that loop, top and bottom, and join with a Gripper connector. Hand tighten only at this point. After all of your cable is up and suspended, go back and tighten each section in succession. The cable loops will then be pulling against itself.
  - Corner and end posts use our larger 2 1/2" post collars. Driveway gates and Dual driveway gates have the same support posts as corners and ends and also need the larger collars.
  - After cable is installed, fencing can be unrolled and hung from cable using hogrings or alternatively, fence ties (see next section for more detail on hanging fence)

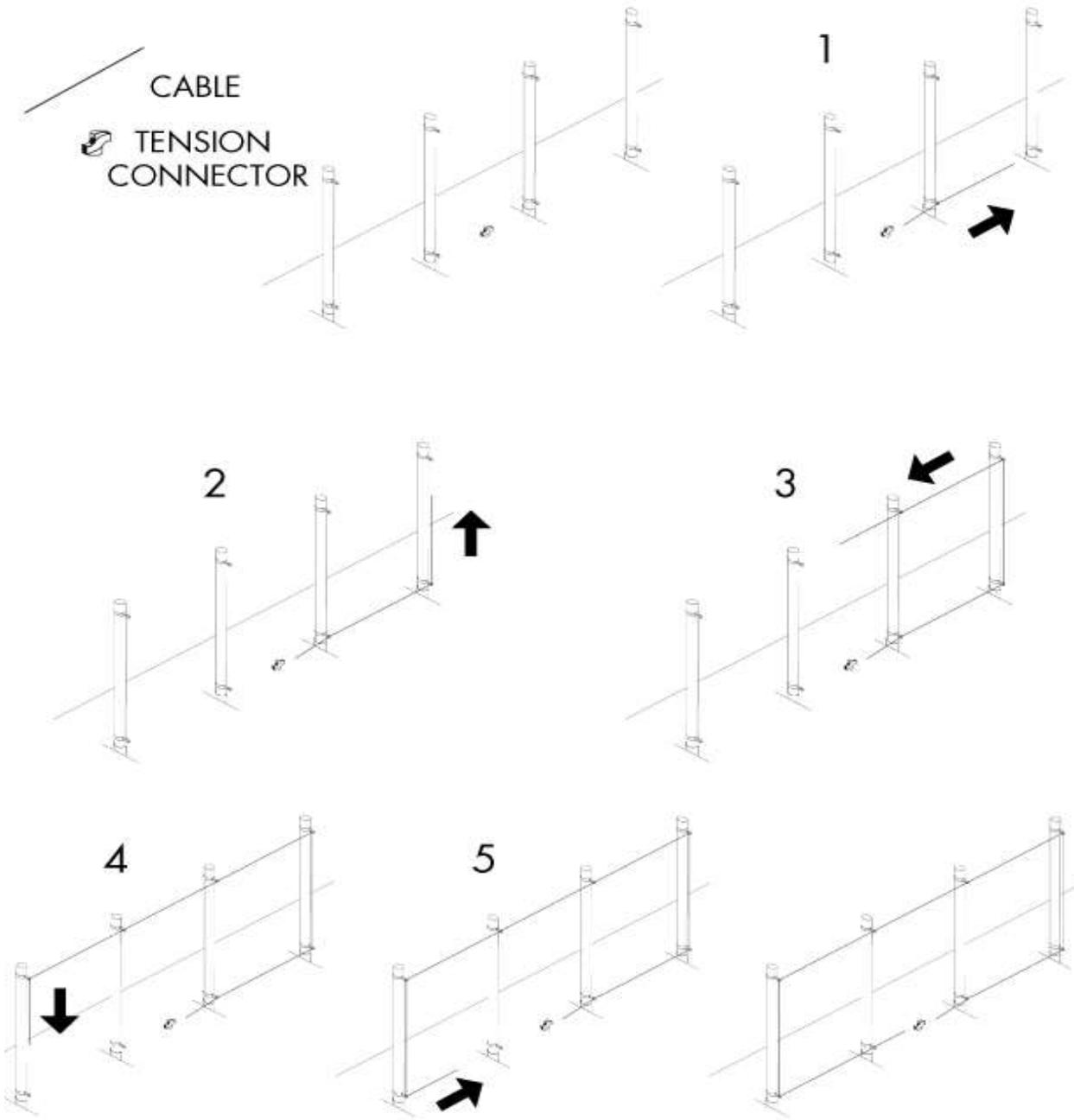
# POST CABLE COLLARS INSTALLATION



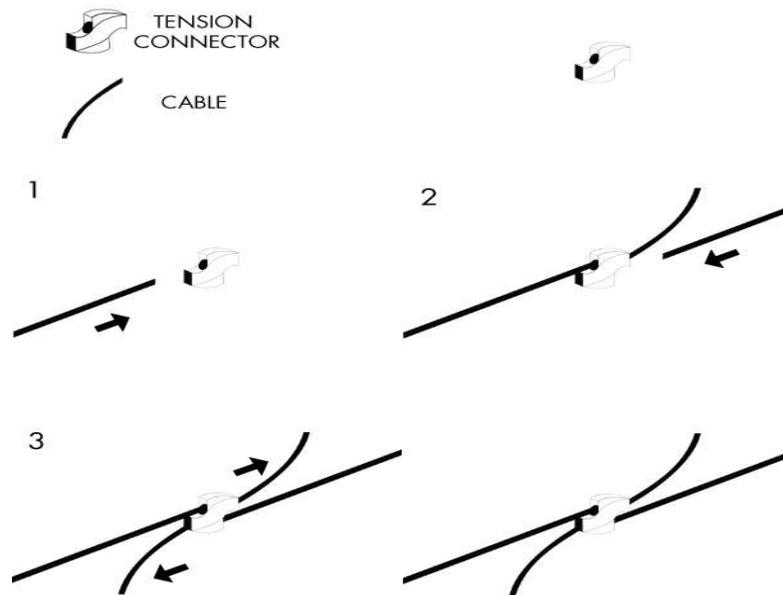
POST CABLE COLLARS



# CABLE INSTALLATION



## TENSION CONNECTOR INSTALLATION



### (E) Installing Rolls Of Fencing

- For fences with the primary purpose to keep in animals, like dogs, install all your fencing on the inside. For fences where the primary purpose is to keep animals out, the fencing should go on the outside.
- If you're installing multiple fence kits, try and end one roll on a post and start the next roll on a post. This will hide the seam or splice
- When installing posts next to a building, you may not be able to get close because of concrete footings. Use bunched up fencing to cover the gap between the building and the post.
- If you have access gates, unroll your fence material over everything including the gates. This includes bottom wire fencing if applicable. Tie off the fencing as if the gate will never open and close; as a last step, make one cut of the fence material between the latch side post and the gate. This allows the gate to function, but fence material is covering all the gaps between the gate, support posts and framing. If you want the gate to swing both ways, you will also have to make one cut between the hinge side post and the gate.
- If this fence is for deer or wildlife exclusion, try and put up all rolls of fencing in one day. If you put up a partial fence, animals can get corralled and will panic. This happens a lot

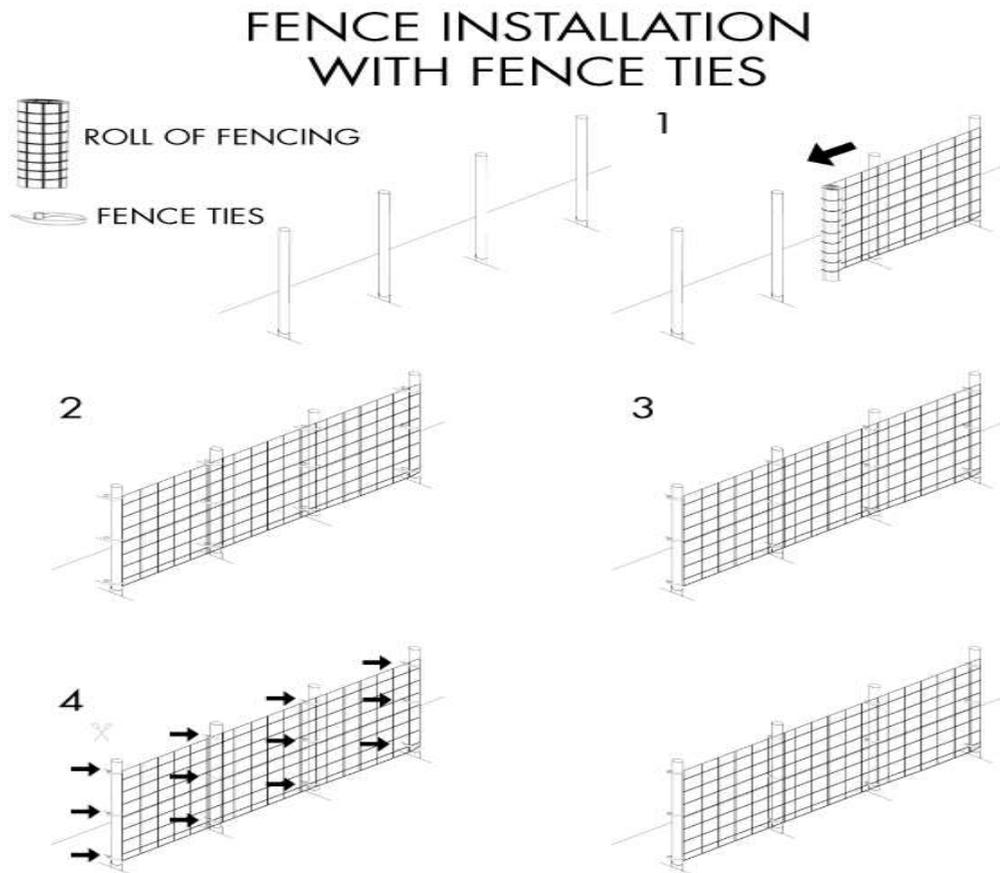
with deer; if they feel they are trapped they will ram gates, fence posts etc which can be dangerous. Please be careful around stressed wild animals!

- If burying the bottom of the fence (if applicable) you can keep the "L" shape and stake the fencing to the bottom of the trench. This will help stop digging animals that try and dig down once they run into fence digging forward.

There are many different configurations. Here's a breakdown of the basic different types:

### 1) One full length roll of fencing, simplest = no tension cable upgrade and no overlap on the ground

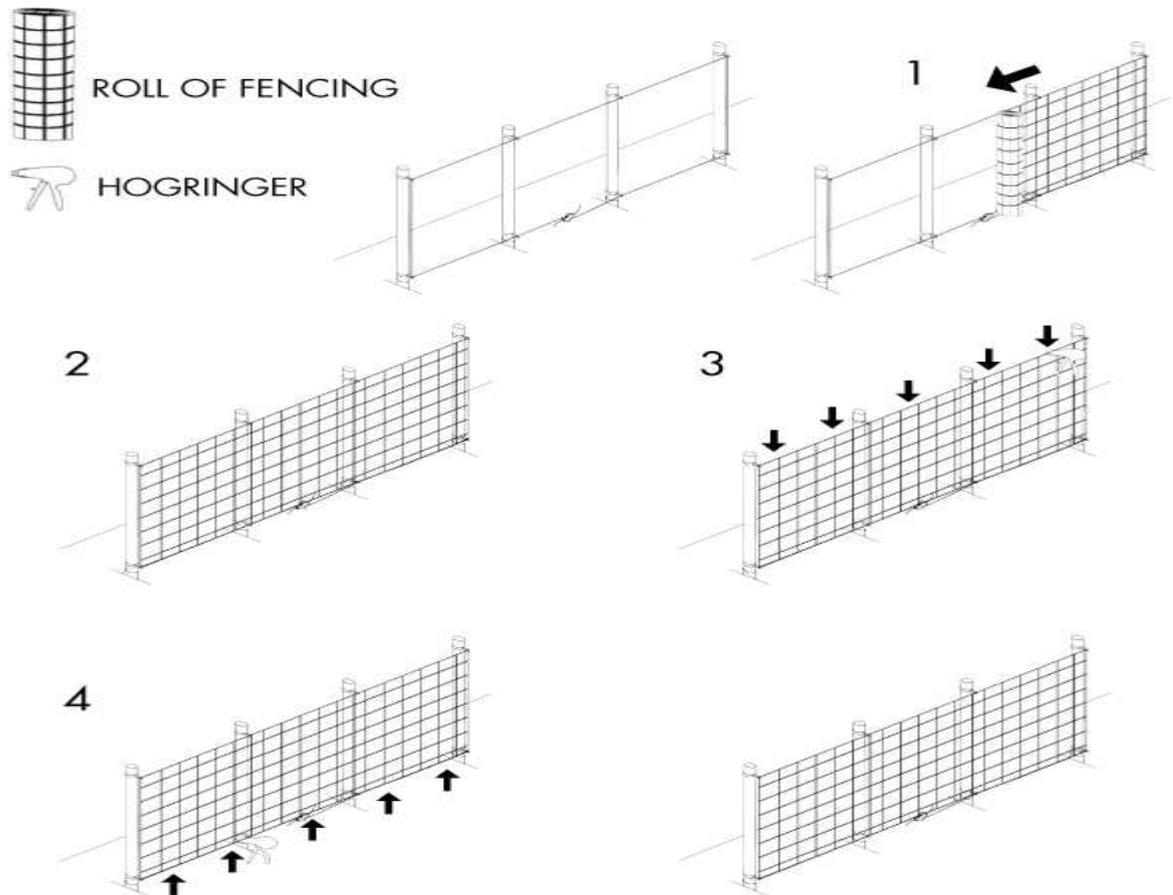
- Find the end of the fence roll and the unfinished (if applicable) end of the roll on the ground and the finished end up top.
- Attach with three fence ties to the first post at the top, middle and bottom and unroll to the next post and repeat.
- Depending on grade changes up and down within your fence line you may have some fencing touching the ground and some raised up off the ground a bit.



## 2) The same as above but with a tension kit

- Use above instructions to install tension wire first.
- Start by hanging the fence on the first post or tree on the eye bolts themselves. Secure around the eye bolt with hogrings or with fence ties. Pull hand tight to the next post.
- Once you have the fencing attached to two posts, go back and attach the fencing to the horizontal cable. Before moving on, it's important to fully attach the fencing to the cable, section to section in order to remove slack in the fence.
- As for the vertical up and down cables because you've run your cable in a complete loop, save those to the very end; you can catch different strands of fencing with this cable to also take out slack and tweak your fence as a final step.
- Except for the top cable, don't worry about trying to attach the cable to the same line of squares going across. You should try and catch the place where the cable meets the fencing regardless of the line.

## FENCE INSTALLATION WITH TENSIONING



### 3) One roll of fencing with overlap on the ground (with or without tensioning)

- Install your fence as outlined in #1 or #2 above. You will be left with extra fence material on the ground. This overlap gets conformed and pinned/staked to the ground.
- For containment fences, stake inward towards the animal you are containing. For exclusion fences, stake outwards towards the wild animals. This creates a barrier along the ground to prevent digging under the fence.
- Suggested spacing for ground stakes: divide up the number of stakes in your kit by your linear footage to determine spacing. Spacing ranges from one stake every 4 feet to one stake every 2 feet.
- To install ground stakes, use a hammer to drive the stake straight through the fence, pinning it to the ground. When ground areas are rocky or heavily compacted, standard stakes will start to bend. You may have to drive the stake down on an angle to get it into the ground. You can also use heavier rebar ground stakes, or in extreme scenarios use heavy rocks on top of the fence to hold the overlap down.
- If you wait to install your stakes after a good rainfall, they will go in easier. After the ground dries the stakes will seat in the ground firmly with more holding power.
- As time passes, vegetation will grow up through the overlapped area of fencing and help pull everything to the ground. The ground stakes help hold the fence until this happens.
- With poly fence overlapped and staked you don't need to do much; the fencing will conform by itself because it's flexible. With steel fencing, you can step on it to create an "L" shaped bend. This creates a nice shape to stake to the ground. When staking overlap to the ground, we suggest alternating the stakes in towards the fence and out towards the end of the fencing.

# FENCE INSTALLATION WITH FENCE TIES AND OVERLAP



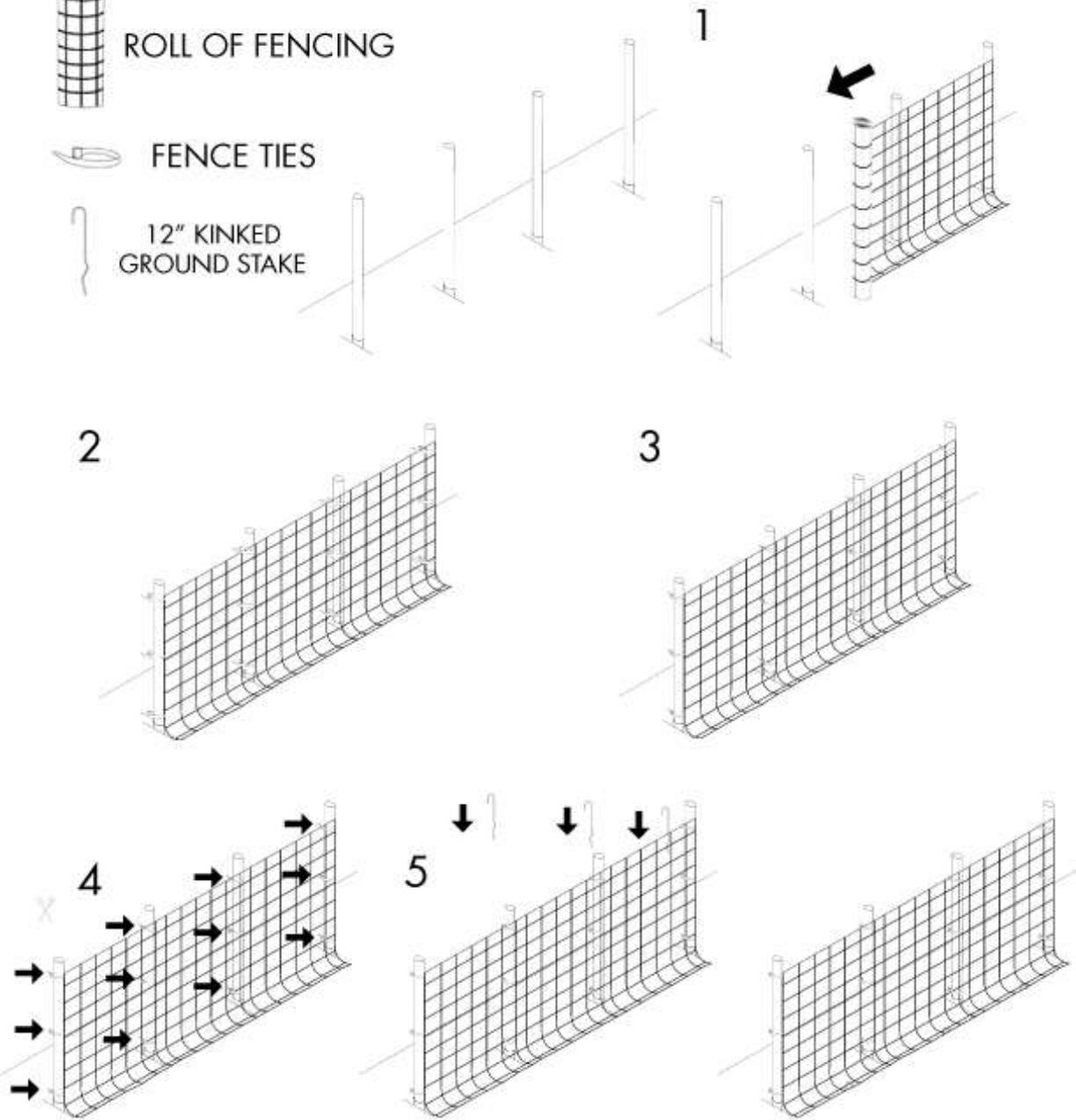
ROLL OF FENCING



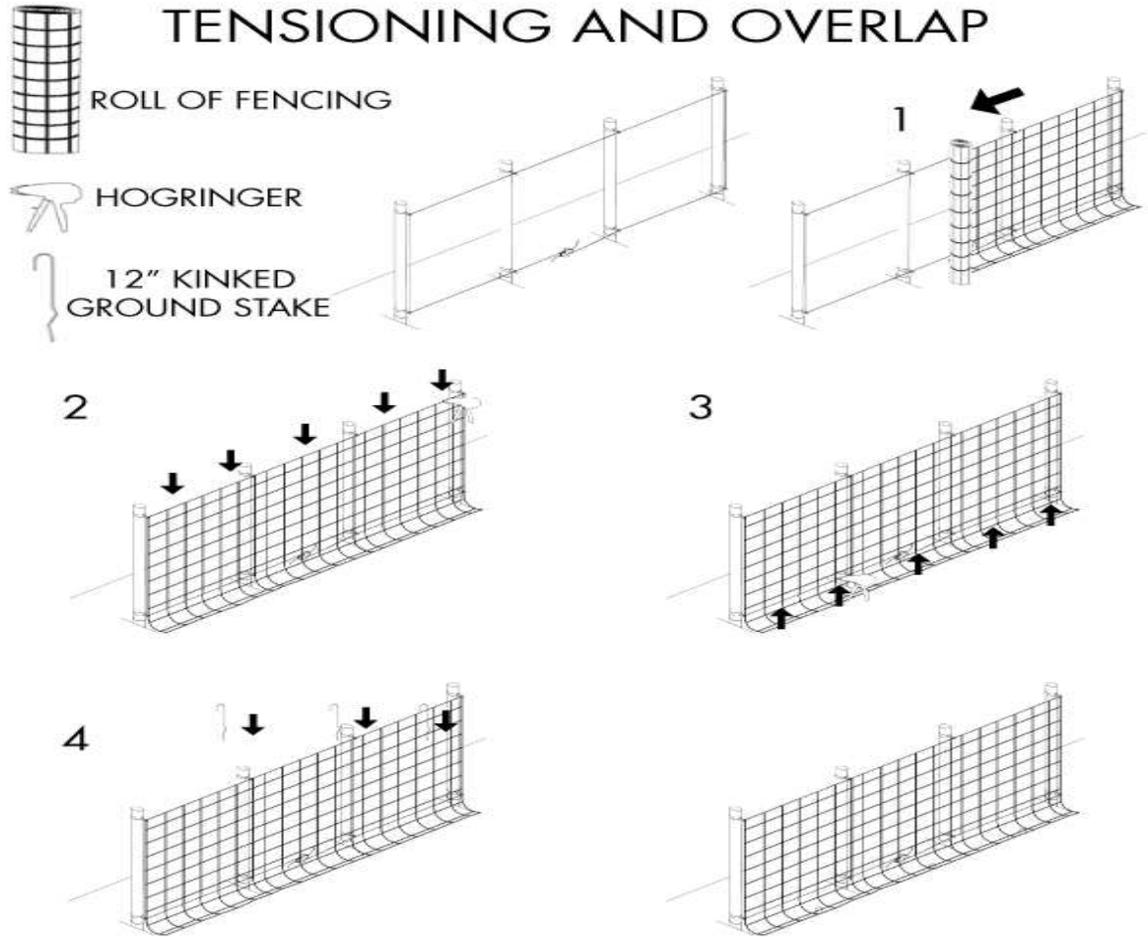
FENCE TIES



12" KINKED GROUND STAKE



# FENCE INSTALLATION WITH TENSIONING AND OVERLAP



## 4) Two Layers of Fences (With Chew Barrier/Bottom Wire And Overlap)

- The same as #3 above with a few exceptions. You will install your bottom wire fencing first, fully attaching it and staking it to the ground 100%. Bottom wire is used over access gates as well. You can either trim the wire where it meets the ground, creating a sweep that gently drags along the ground or trim it higher, closer to the gate. Some customers initially also create the 6" L shaped overlap on the ground in front of the gate until animals are trained to move along (usually for vegetable gardens or cat containment fences). When changing angles, you will need to snip the overlapped 6" fencing or it will bind up
- Next, install your rolls of full length fencing. You can hang the fence rolls at the very top of each post. Continue installing using zip ties or cable as outlined above.

# BOTTOM WIRE INSTALLATION



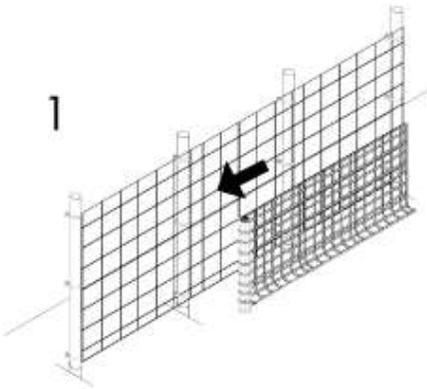
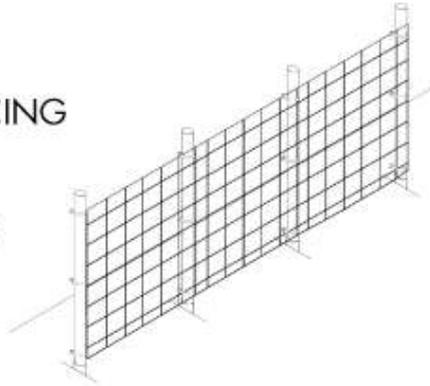
ROLL OF FENCING



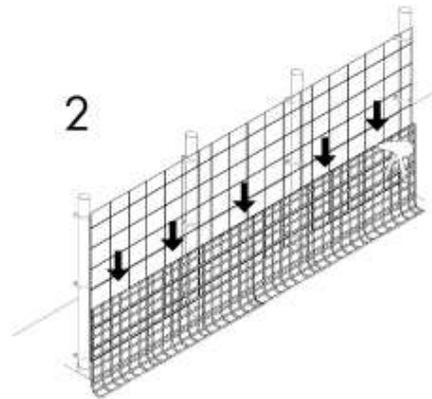
HOGRINGER



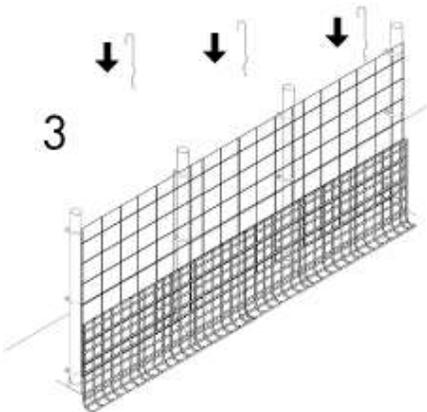
12" KINKED  
GROUND STAKE



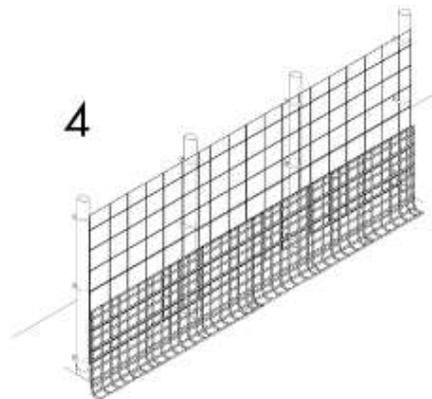
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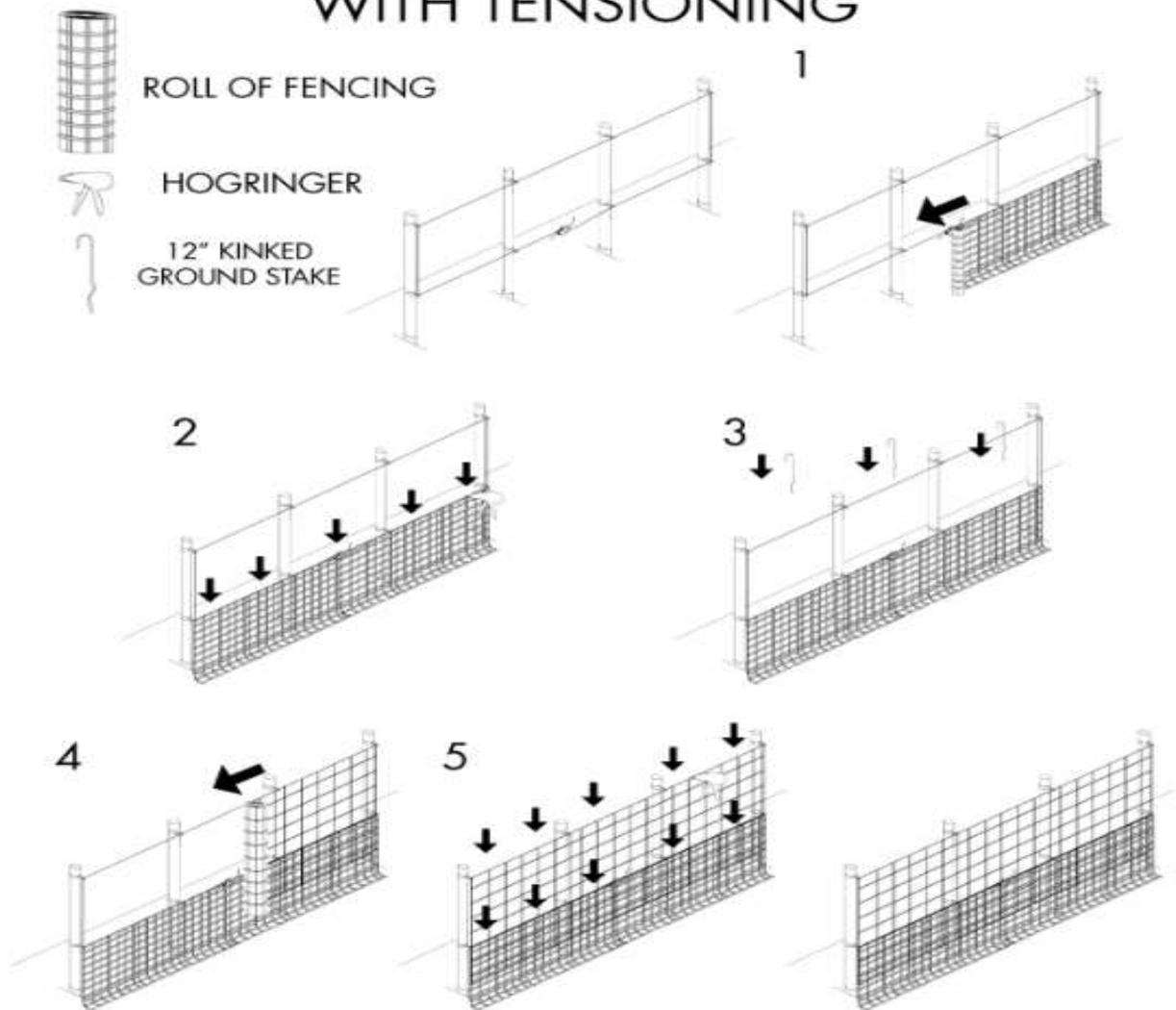


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# BOTTOM WIRE INSTALLATION WITH TENSIONING

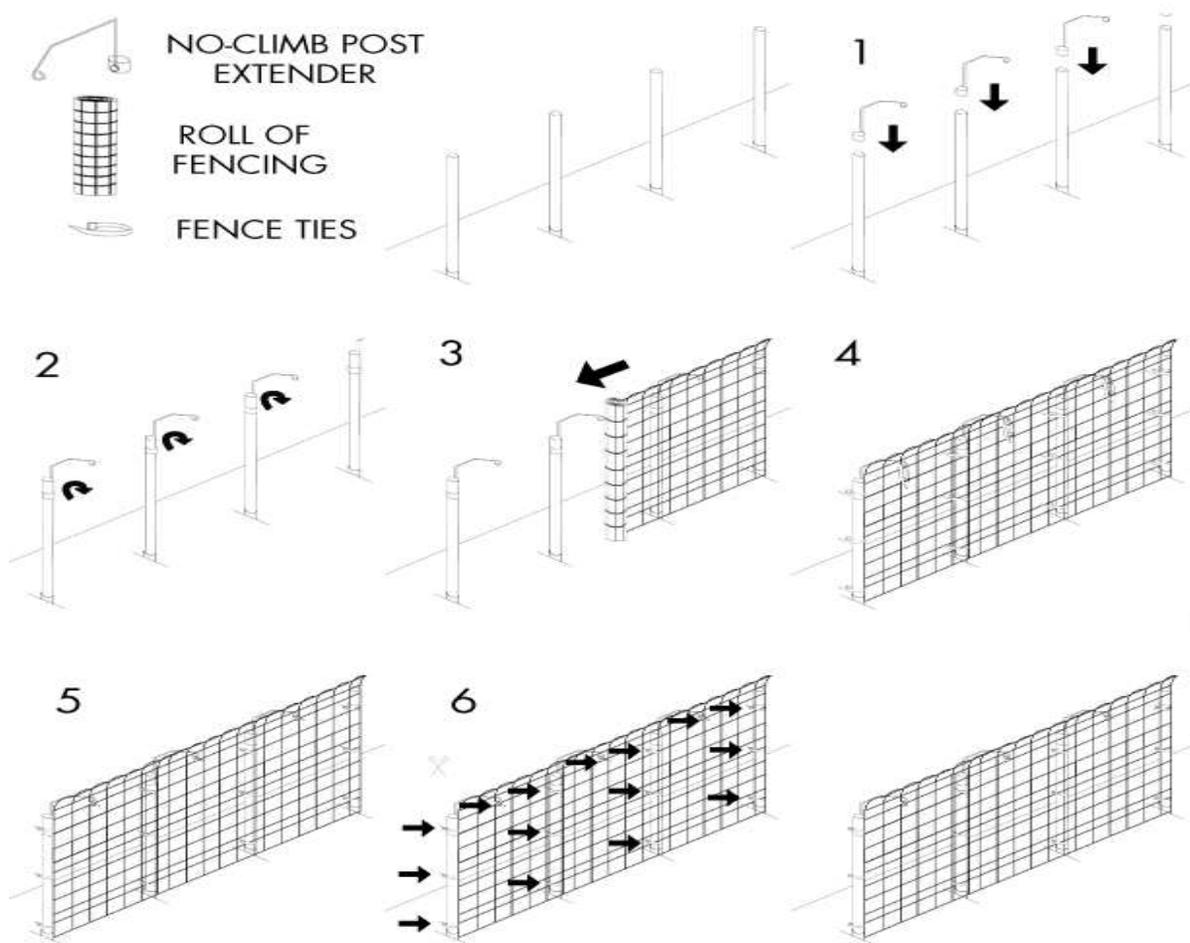


## 5) Fence Installation With No Climb Fence Extenders (Includes Cat Fence Kits)

- The same as #4 above with a few exceptions. With the no-climb extenders, you'll first need to measure from the ground to the underside of each extender and tighten the stainless hex bolt with a wrench or socket. Don't over tighten or you can strip the threads. This height will be different for each fence kit, for example 7 1/2 feet for a 7 1/2 foot standard Cat Fence kit and so on. If you adjust the extenders too high, you may not have enough fencing to overlap with the bottom of the fence.

- When you reach a corner, angle the extenders so they split the difference between the change in direction. The best possible layout for fences with extenders is a gentle sweeping change in direction rather than a stark 90 degree turn. With access gates, the same applies.
- Start by attaching the bottom wire first as outlined in #4 above. After you're done with that, start by attaching the rolls of poly fencing. The fencing is attached on the underside of the loop end of the extender with a fence tie. Start with the finished end of the fence roll at the top of the extender (the nice finished end that doesn't look cut). Every time the extender changes direction/angle, attach with another tie. Continue attaching the fencing on the inside (underside) all the way down the post. Next, pull the fencing hand tight to the next post with extender and repeat. This forms the shape of the overhead canopy and is the basic process for attaching the poly fencing. After the poly fencing is up, use ties or hogrings to tie both the bottom wire and poly together.

## NO-CLIMB INSTALLATION



### No-climb fence extender notes:

- Installing these types of fence kits requires patience and trial and error to make the finished result look good. You should be able to create nice, flat canopy runs because the post extenders are adjustable up and down. Let the bottom of the fence take up all the extra fence material or adjustment. The problem areas are when the fencing bunches up around corners. You have a few options, you can either snip the fencing up and down the corner and re-attach it, or bunch it up using fence ties or a hogringer. It looks better if you cut the fencing and re-attach it but will take longer. Be sure to snip all the ends off the fence ties. The cut ends of the ties and the ends of the poly fencing can scratch.
- The no climb extenders are made of solid steel and have some flexibility to them. Snow and ice shouldn't collect or damage the fence. During the winter, if you have heavy ice or wet snow, you may want to knock the snow off the fencing itself with a broom. In extreme cases the ties could break from enough pressure and will need to be replaced.
- If you're installing one of these fences, you're building a fence to keep climbing animals in or out. Be sure to block all possible areas with fencing (in between a house and a post for example) with fencing. Also, be sure to install your fence far enough away from objects that animals can use to jump from. For example, a picnic table that a cat can jump on top of the canopy from. This also applies to trees. We have the same shaped extenders modified for trees and other surfaces if you need them.

### (F) Warning Banners And Final Notes



- (IMPORTANT) Warning banners are 2 foot lengths of white surveying tape tied in the middle, leaving two one foot legs to sway in the wind. We tie them 30" high from the ground for a deer fence every 8 feet. For other animals, the banners should be at eye level, use your own judgment. This type of fencing is not very visible. The purpose of these banners is to let animals know there is something there so they don't run into the fence by accident. Some experts say that these banners work especially well for deer because the white color matches the color of the underside of a deer's tail, which show when a deer is running (may signal danger).

## Final Notes

- The ends of sleeves, posts, braces and gate tubing may have sharp burrs; please handle with gloves.
- If this fence is for cat or dog containment, when you let your pet(s) out for the first time please watch and see what they do. If there's a weak spot they may find it quickly. Also, it's strongly recommended that any pet fence have a shelter or pet door into a building where they can run in bad weather or when in danger.
- The poly fence material is spooled when it's warm. If you have waves in the material, most of that will come out as it warms back up in the sun and it can flex back to its original square shape.
- The poly fence material is tough but not chew proof. Over time, you may see small horseshoe shaped holes at the bottom of the fence. This is caused by small animals with sharp teeth that were either enclosed when you built the fence or chewed their way in afterwards. You can add the chew barrier fencing in these cases after the fact if needed.
- Please give us a call with questions, we're here to help with your project. Video instructions are also available under the "Instructions" tab in the middle of the home page on all of our websites. Also found directly here: <https://www.critterfence.com/fence-instructions/>

The best way to reach us after hours  
and on weekends is to email  
[customerservice@critterfence.com](mailto:customerservice@critterfence.com)

We do have staff to respond to installation questions (time permitting) after  
hours and on weekends

Please also direct questions or issues about shipping additional parts by email. We can  
lookup your information to have access to previous order information, tracking, etc.

Note about Fedex Ground shipping: Even though we ship all orders from the same place at  
the same time, sometimes FedEx delivers some packages one day with the balance the next  
day. The most common call we get is a customer stating they only got part of the order and  
something is missing. If something is missing, most of the time it's delivered the next  
business day by FedEx. **Please check all tracking emailed to you by FedEx and do not  
plan to install any fence materials until you have checked in all packages.**