



Conforms to BS 5709	Stockproof	Ease of use for Pedestrians	Accessible to Motorised Wheelchair Users	Accessible to Manual Wheelchair and Pushchair Users	Accessible to Horseriders	Accessible to Pedal Cyclists	Accessible to Motorcyclists
✓	✓	☺	✓ ^{1,2}	✓ ^{1,2}	✓	✓	✓

¹ accessible, but not very convenient or suitable for the purpose
² assumes the fitting of a latch suitable for wheelchair users



• **Notes**

A standard design of timber bridle gate, commonly available from fencing contractors and suppliers of fencing materials. Design details will vary between manufacturers and according to local/traditional styles. Key differences will be in the timber sizes used in construction and in the separation between the rails.

The minimum clear width through the gate should be 1525 to comply with BS5709. This width is sufficient to provide access for horseriders, cyclists, and pedestrians. It will also be accessible to disabled people using manual and motorised wheelchairs, provided a suitable latch mechanism is fitted (see below for details).

The gate should be fitted with self-closing hinges to improve ease of use, particularly for horseriders, and to reduce the risk of the gate being inadvertently left open.

Bridle gates should be fitted with a latch that is safe and easy to use for both horseriders (without dismounting) and pedestrians e.g. throw-over chain, hook-on chain, 'Gateasy' or 'Easy Latch' (see below for details). If the gate is likely to be used by people in wheelchairs, this should be replaced by a latch that is also easy to manipulate and can be reached from a wheelchair; e.g. the 'Easy Latch' from Centrewire Ltd.

A hinge and latching system to allow timber bridle gates to be two-way self-closing is currently being developed by Centrewire Ltd. This will only be suitable for use on new bridle gates because it requires a different layout in the positioning of the hanging and shutting posts.

• **Construction and Installation Details**

Hanging Post : 2440 x 150 x 150.

Shutting Post : 2440 x 150 x 150.

Hanging Stile : 1320 x 125 x 75.

Shutting Stile : 1320 x 75 x 75.

Top Rail : 100 x 75 at hanging stile tapering to 75 x 75 at shutting stile.

Cross Rails : 85 x 25 (approx.) planed.

Braces : 85 x 25 (approx.) planed.

Self-closing Hinges : Top - 600 double strap band with offset eye } hinges offset by 35mm.
 Bottom - adjustable

Top and bottom rail should be morticed the full width and pegged; others should be half morticed. Braces should be morticed to the stiles and bolted to the rails.

When installing hanging and shutting posts, make the hole as narrow as possible and backfill with well rammed earth and stones. Concrete should not be required, except where ground conditions prevent the post hole being dug to the full depth.

The bottom hinge pin should be reversed, if necessary, to prevent gate removal.

• **Design Source and Contacts for Further Information**

Design Source : Adapted from Design F5 (Bridle Gate - Timber) in 'Pennine Bridleway National Trail Design Guide' published by the Countryside Agency.

Suppliers: 'Throw-over chain' and 'hook-on chain' available from most agricultural suppliers and fencing contractors.

'Easy Latch' and self-closing hinges (with fitting instructions) available from Centrewire Ltd., PO Box 11, Wymondham, Norfolk. NR18 0XD. Tel 01491 614490 Fax 01953 605637.

'Gateasy' available from Paddock Farm, Fairwarp, Uckfield, East Sussex. TN22 3DT. Tel/Fax 01825 712303.