



Stockproof (cattle and horses)	Stockproof (sheep)	Visual Appearance	Installation Cost	Ease of Installation	Suitability for use alongside Public Paths
✓	✓	☺	££	☹	☺



• **Notes**

A fence design that is similar to Information Sheet 5.2 but substitutes a timber rail for the top plain wire. This improves the appearance of the fence and makes it more suitable for use on countryside recreation sites and alongside paths; it does, however, also make it more expensive.

The spacing of the 6 no. plain wires and top rail ensures that it is stockproof against lambs, sheep, cattle and calves.

In common with 5.2, the closer spacing of the posts makes this type of wire fence more suitable for undulating ground than 5.1.

Land managers may request that a barbed wire is added to the top of the fence, especially if cattle are present. If barbed wire is used, it should be fixed to the side of the post away from the public, but take care that it is not hidden behind the top rail, leading to accidental injury if the top rail is grasped by the hand. Mild steel, twin strand barbed wire is recommended in preference to single or twin strand high tensile barbed wire (see 5.1).

If horses are present, a single plain wire may need to be stapled to the top of the top rail to prevent it being gnawed.

• **Construction and Installation Details**

End strainers : 2440 x 175 x 175 sawn. Struts should be used on all end strainers.

Intermediate strainers : 2440 x 150 x 150 sawn at 100m intervals (maximum) and at changes in direction and slope. Struts will only be necessary at significant changes in direction or slope.

Round strainers are not recommended because the top rails cannot be easily fixed (the strainer may need to be rebated) and they can look incongruous with sawn timber posts (see below).

When installing strainers, make the hole as narrow as possible and backfill with well rammed earth and stones. Strainers rarely need to be concreted, except where ground conditions prevent the strainer hole being dug to the full depth.

Struts : 2440 x 100 x 100 sawn. Mortice into strainers. Mortices should be offset as shown in Dwg. 5.3<sup>B</sup> to prevent rotation of the strainers when the wires are tensioned.

Lean strainers back slightly against the pull of the fence. To minimise movement of the strainer when the wires are tensioned, nail a timber cross piece to the 'back' of the lower end and, during installation, place a large stone block on the 'front' side just below ground level. This can be further assisted by positioning a stone block tightly against the lower end of the strut.

Posts : pointed 1675 x 100 x 75 sawn at 1800 centres. The increase in size from 75 x 75 (c.f. 5.2) to 100 x 75 is necessary to allow for the rails to be butt jointed on alternate posts. Round timber is unsuitable because it is incompatible with fixing a top rail.

Post centres need to be exact to ensure that the top rails can be jointed correctly. The first post away from a strutted end strainer or intermediate strainer should be located on the 'wrong' side of the fence to avoid the strut. The top rail should be rebated into this post so that the post can be correctly faced up to the wires.

Wires : 6 no. 12 gauge high tensile. 10 gauge high tensile is also suitable. Fix wires to posts with 38mm (1.5") staples; angle staples to prevent splitting the post timber and do not hammer fully home so that the wires are free to move.

Rails : 3600 x 88 x 38. Butt jointed at every second post. Only nail to the strainer after the wires have been tensioned and the fence has bedded in.

• **User Notes : Design Modifications and Reference Information**

