

POST & RAIL INSTALLATION GUIDE

How to install your
Saltram Rural DIY-Ready
Post & Rail Fence Kit

Our Service :

Custom Timber Post & Rail Fencing ✓

Morticed, Ready-to-Install DIY Fence Kits ✓

Rural Gates & Entrance Solutions ✓

Delivery Across Regional NSW & Australia ✓

1300 202 959



WELCOME

Thank you for choosing Saltram Rural.

Your post & rail fence has been supplied as a ready-to-install timber DIY kit, with pre-morticed posts and cut-to-length rails.

This guide provides clear, practical steps to ensure a strong, straight and long-lasting fence installation.





Site Preparation & Safety

Whether you're enclosing a paddock, enhancing property frontage, or creating an equine-safe boundry, post & rail fencing offers timeless style and durability. This guide will walk you through the complete installation process - from site preparation to finishing touches - ensuring professional-grade results.

Before you begin, ensure you have the following:

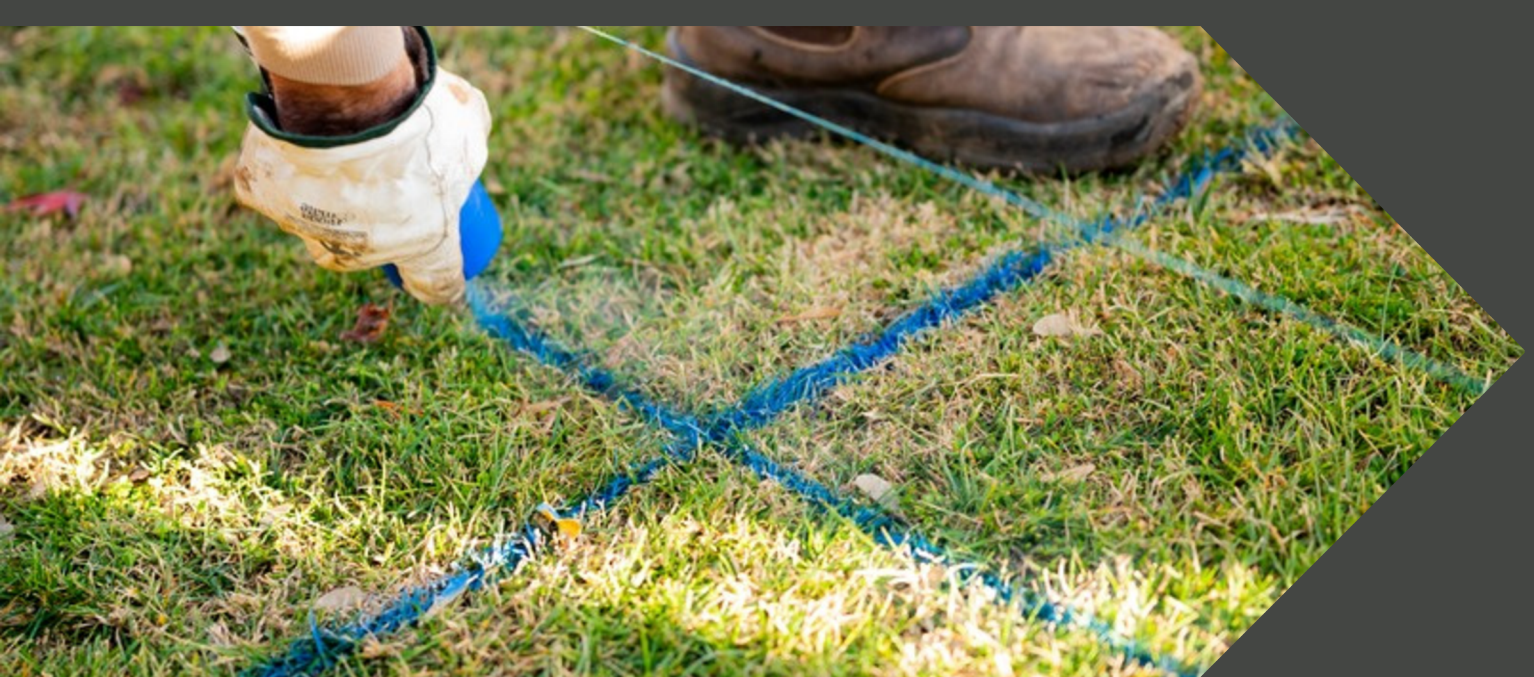
- Personal protective equipment (gloves, boots, eye protection)
- Auger (Post hole digger) *350mm diameter*
- String lines & star pickets
- Saw (to trim rails to size)
- Water source, hose & buckets
- Concrete (pre-mix bags)
- Sledge Hammer or Heavy Mallet
- Spray marking paint
- Shovel and crowbar
- Tape measure
- Pencil
- Spirit level



Step 1: Marking your Fence Line

String Line Setup

- Use star pickets driven into the ground no more than 10m apart. Set the first star picket where you want the fence to begin and the last picket where you want the fence to end.
- Run the string line on the fence side of the star pickets. Keep the string line 150mm off the ground and as tight as possible. Mark your post holes using linemarking paint at the spacings of your fence style - 2.4, 2.7 or 3.0 metres.
- Some post spacings may need to be altered due to obstructions in the ground - including rocks, roots and irrigation.
- Mark the linemarking paint cross large enough to see the centre after you have dug the hole.
- When you have finished marking your holes, take down the string line, leaving the star pickets in place. You can now dig your holes.





Step 2: Digging Post Holes

• BEFORE DIGGING

- Clear the fence line
- Check for hidden obstacles including irrigation, pipes, electrical cables
- Dig the correct size post holes to the suggested depth at the centre of your linemarked cross.

Intermediate Posts:

These are recommended to be dug in to a depth of 600mm. Install in a concrete and dry dirt mix.

If hand digging - the holes should be 100mm larger than the post.

End & Corner Posts:

These are recommended to be dug to a depth of 600mm. Install in concrete only to anchor the fence.

Bracing is essential when setting these posts as tension from the rails can shift unbraced posts out of alignment.

Gate Posts:

These are recommended to be dug to a depth between 900mm - 1200mm. Install with 3 bags of concrete and dirt mix.

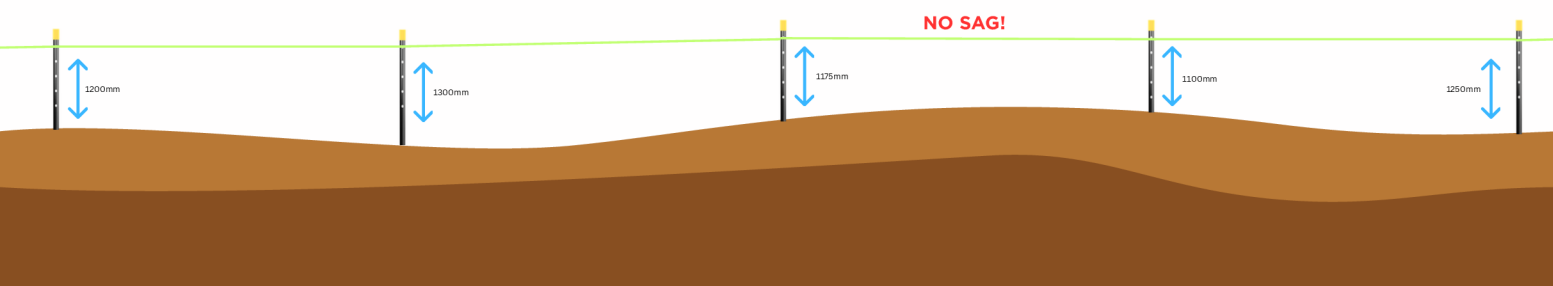


Step 3: Installing Your Posts

Run your first string line at the measurement of the the top height of the posts. This will be 1.2 m from ground level for fence posts (unless otherwise instructed). This it your TOP LINE.

Play around with the top line, moving it up and down to get the preferred height and flow of your fence before any posts are set. Take your time and get the flow you want, walk around and look from both sides of the fence line.

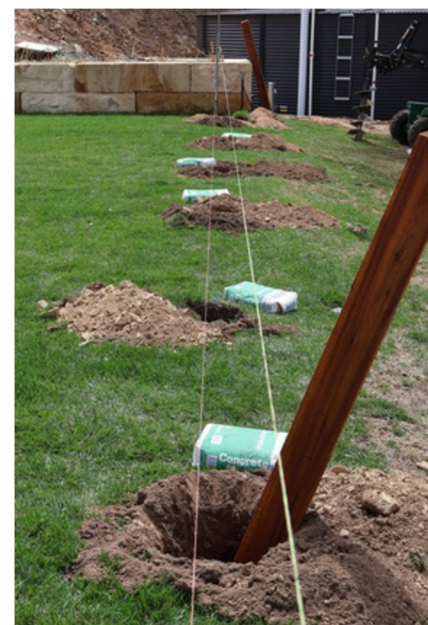
To keep a tidy flow of the top of the fence, some posts may need to be slightly higher or lower set into the ground to allow for uneven ground. We suggest you run the string line for the entire fence line, keeping the string line as tight as possible. Take your time doing this.. Make sure you are happy with the look and flow before you proceed.



REMEMBER: *A sagging string line leads to a sagging fence - tautness is key!*

Star pickets should be no more than 10 metres apart to avoid a sag in the string line and try to keep the star pickets between where the posts will go, to prevent interference when digging and installing.

Your second stringline, or your FACE STRING, should be installed at 600mm off the ground. It should be offset by half the width of your post thickness. This will then provide the accurate guide for installing the fence posts in line.



Place the post into your pre-prepared hole and level it to both the TOP STRING and the FACE STRING. Ensure the post is close (within 2-5mm) but not resting on the strings as it will interfere with the line. Use dry soil as packing to get the required height to the TOP STRING line.

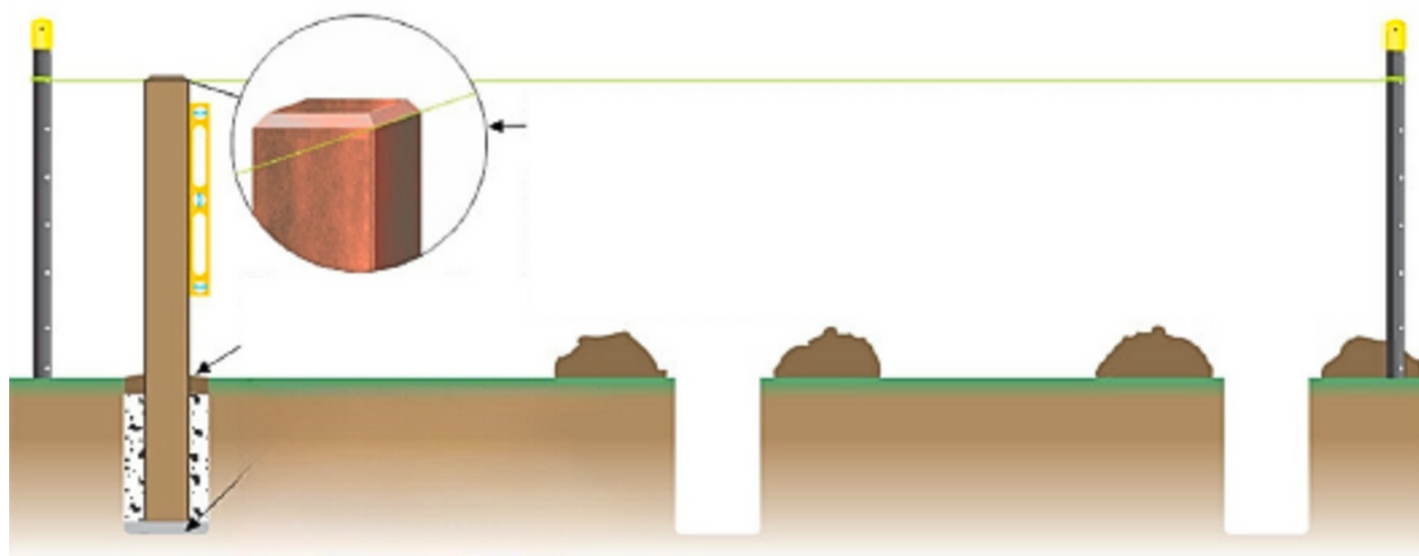
Use a level to make sure the post is straight and plumb. Once you have set the first post to the string line and you have levelled the post in both directions, fill the hole with soil and concrete to within 75mm of ground level. Use a crow bar to help firm the soil to pack the post in.

Next, fill the remainder with soil while checking the level of the post. If the post has moved, apply pressure to the opposite side of the post to move it back. Fill around the top with 75mm or so of soil to help stabilise the post while the concrete sets.

We recommend End & Corner Posts are fully concreted in to anchor the fence.

Once you have set your start post, it is recommended to securely brace the start post using a scrap piece of timber or star picket. This will stop any movement while installing your rails along the fence.

Installation of the rails could force the start post out of level without a brace.



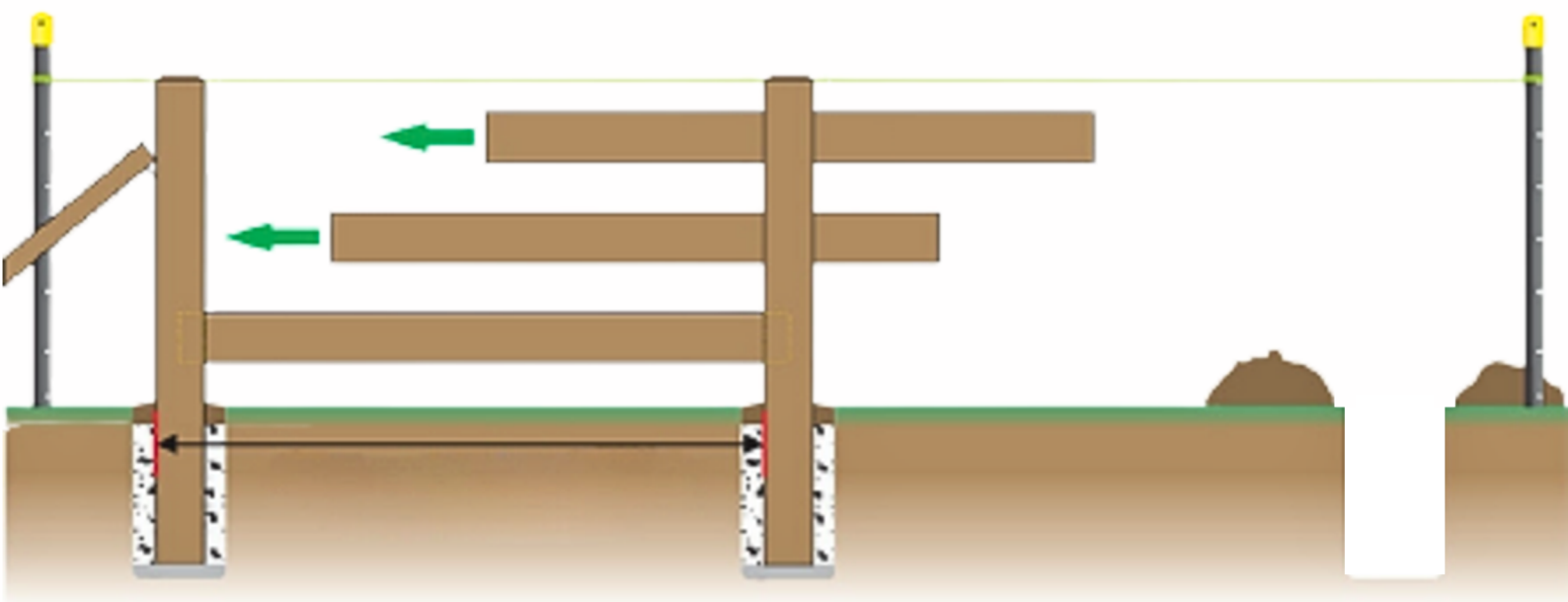


Step 4 : Installing Your Rails

Now set your second post in the same way as the first. When done, measure the centre to centre distance between the two posts, then mark and trim your rails to suit if required.

Once cut to the required length, insert as shown, starting with the lower rail until they are all firmly housed in the start post.

Measure (as shown by the black arrow) from the same two left or right hand side faces to get your centre to centre distance.



Step 5: Finishing your Fence

When it comes to the final post of the fence, you may need an extra pair of hands to assist. Set the height of your last post and lean it outwards just enough to insert the bottom rail.

Now, slowly stand the post upright, adding the middle rail then top rail.

Once that post is set in concrete, pack up the string line, star pickets, wash the barrow and shovel. You have now completed your new post & rail fence.

WELL DONE!



PAINTING YOUR NEW FENCE

Protect and Enhance Your Timber Investment

Keep your fencing looking its best with our SaltraGuard Timber Coatings — a premium range of finishes designed to withstand tough Australian conditions.

Please note: Our finish colour names have recently been updated. The coating formulas remain exactly the same — only the names have changed.

Choose from:

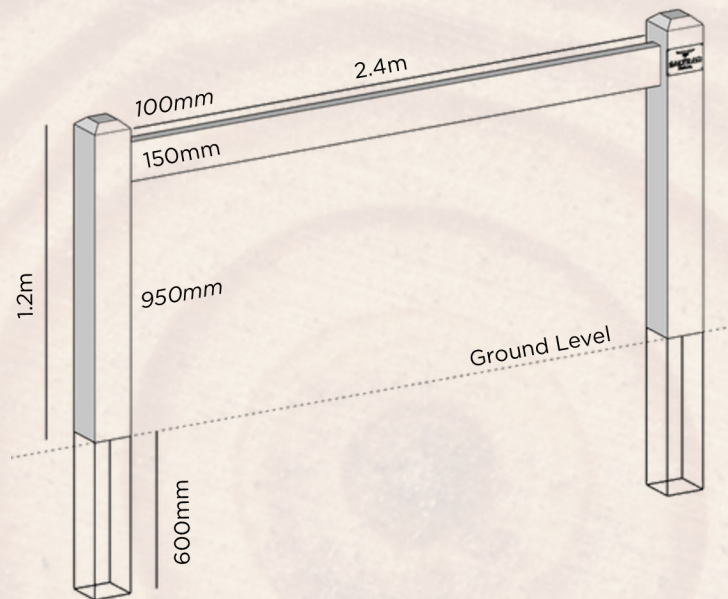
- SaltraGuard Black – strong, durable coating for a bold, timeless look (ideal for statement fencing)
- SaltraGuard White – clean, protective finish with classic appeal (perfect for modern or coastal properties)
- Natural Timber Oils & Stains – enhances timber’s natural warmth while protecting it from the elements (great for heritage or rustic styles)

Prefer convenience? Choose from our pre-coated timber kits for long-lasting protection from day one — or order our coatings to apply yourself for a hands-on finish.

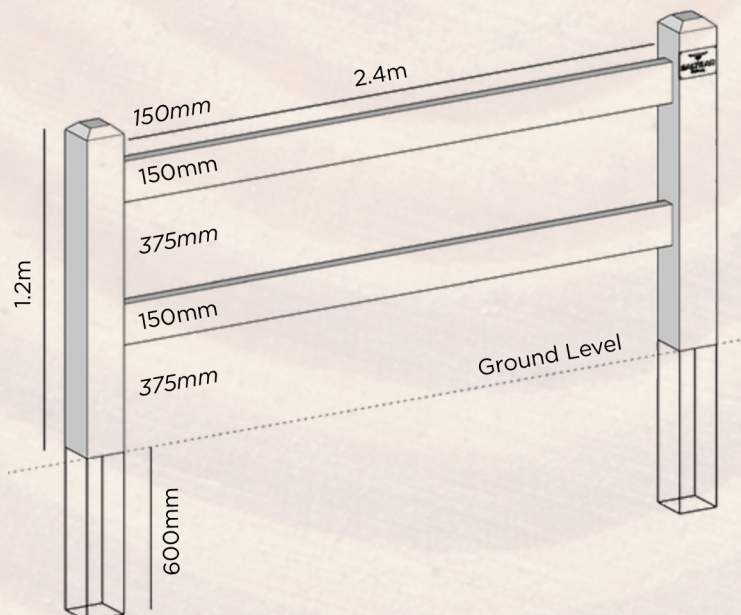




1 Rail with 150 x 50 Rails & 150 x 150 Posts

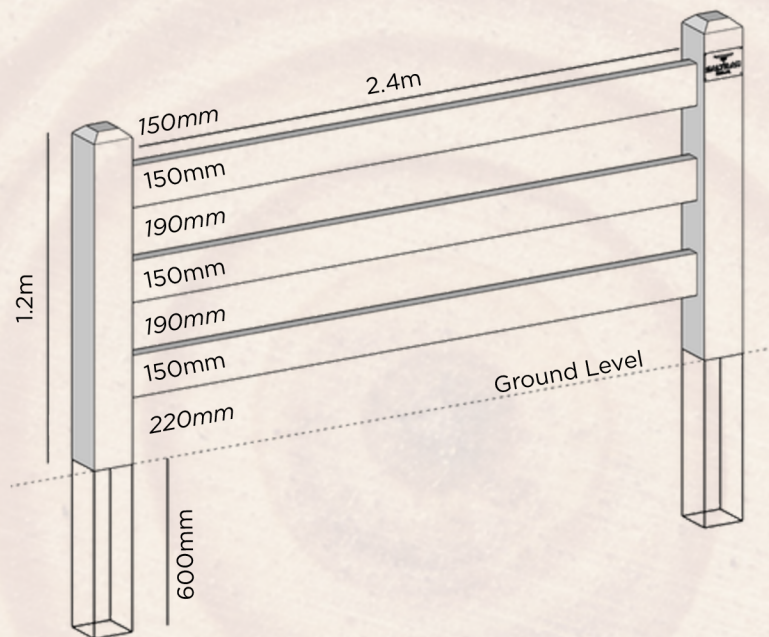


2 Rail with 150 x 50 Rails & 150 x 150 Posts

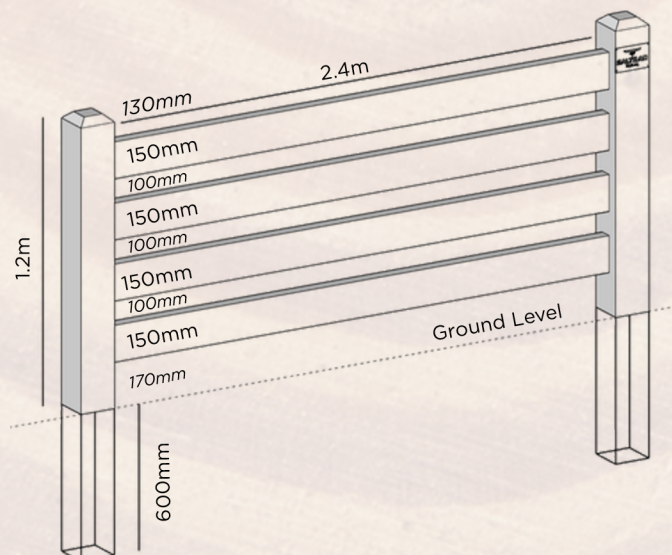




3 Rail with 150 x 50 Rails & 150 x 150 Posts

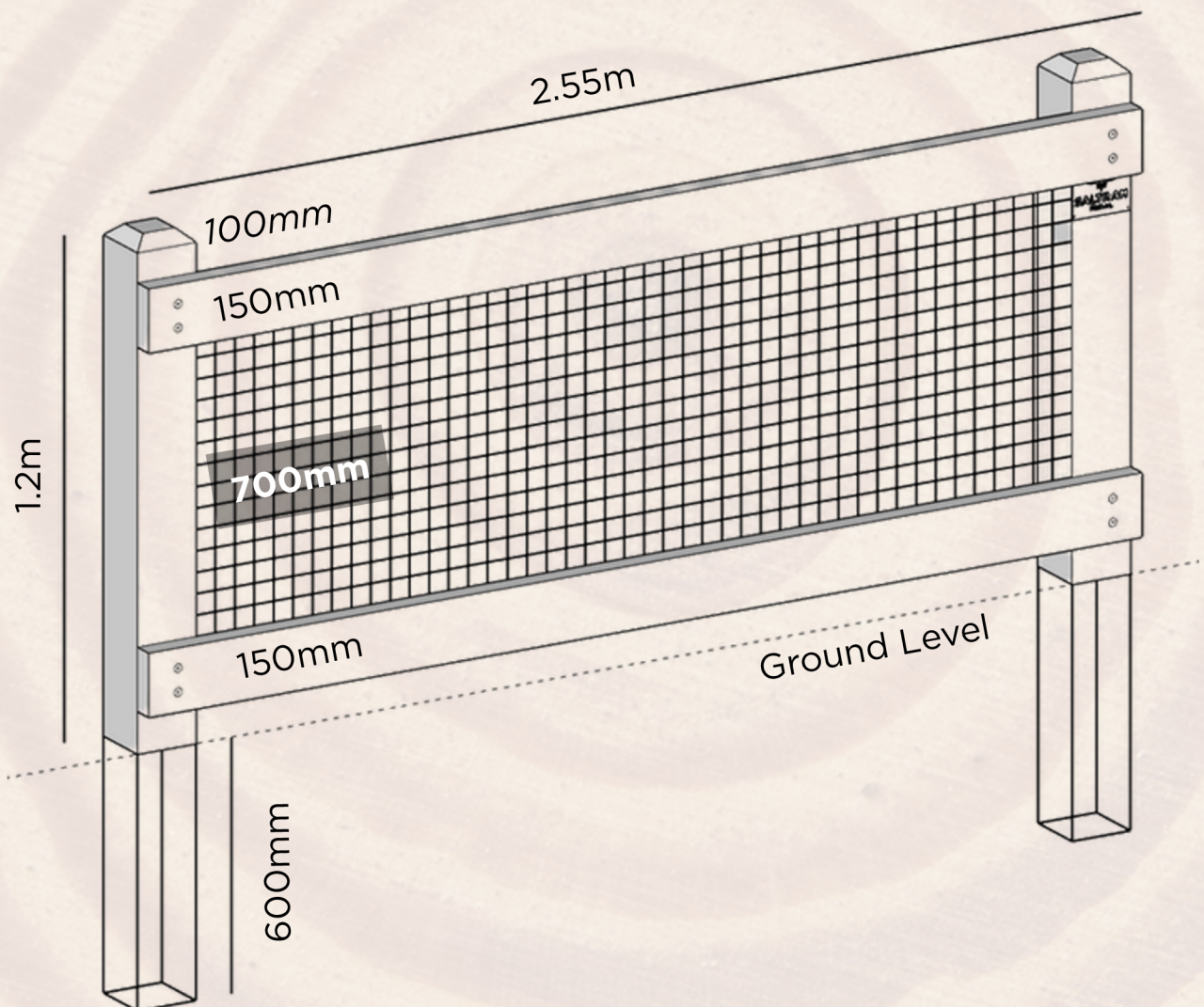


4 Rail with 150 x 50 Rails & 150 x 150 Posts





2 Rail with 150 x 50 Rails, 50 x 50 galvanised mesh infill & 150 x 150 Posts





2.4 m Bay Spacing Guide

2.4 m	52.8 m
4.8 m	55.2 m
7.2 m	57.6 m
9.6 m	60.0 m
12.0 m	62.4 m
14.4 m	64.8 m
16.8 m	67.2 m
19.2 m	69.6 m
21.6 m	72.0 m
24.0 m	74.4 m
26.4 m	76.8 m
28.8 m	79.2 m
31.2 m	81.6 m
33.6 m	84.0 m
36.0 m	86.4 m
38.4 m	88.8 m
40.8 m	91.2 m
43.2 m	93.6 m
45.6 m	96.0 m
48.0 m	98.4 m
50.4 m	Next increment: 100.8 m



2.7 m Bay Spacing Guide

2.7 m	56.7 m
5.4 m	59.4 m
8.1 m	62.1 m
10.8 m	64.8 m
13.5 m	67.5 m
16.2 m	70.2 m
18.9 m	72.9 m
21.6 m	75.6 m
24.3 m	78.3 m
27.0 m	81.0 m
29.7 m	83.7 m
32.4 m	86.4 m
35.1 m	89.1 m
37.8 m	91.8 m
40.5 m	94.5 m
43.2 m	97.2 m
45.9 m	99.9 m
48.6 m	Next increment: 102.6 m
51.3 m	
54.0 m	



Need help with Installation? We are here to support you

If you have any questions or need any extra guidance during the installation of your fence, our knowledgeable team is always here for a chat. We are happy to talk you through the process, troubleshoot any issues, or provide practical advice to keep things moving smoothly.

At Saltram Rural, your satisfaction and the successful completion of your project are our top priorities.

Dont hesitate to reach out, we are here every step of the way!

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Prefer to leave the install to the Pro's?

We can connect you to trusted fencing professionals in your area to ensure a seamless and efficient installation.