



# Wood Fencing

Central Fence's complete guide  
to choosing and caring for your  
wood fence.

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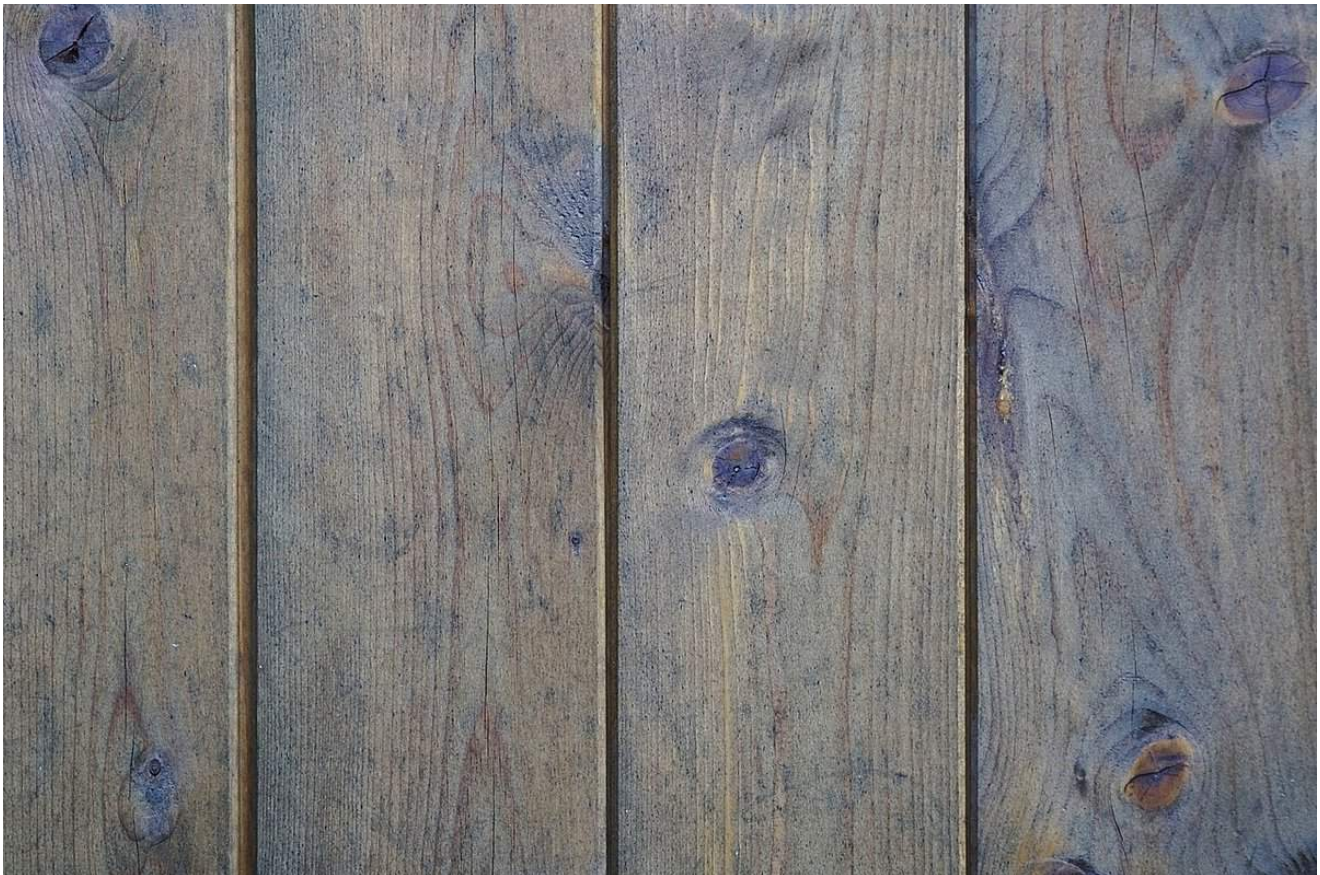


# Introduction

Are you ready for a fence?

Whether it is for a farm or a residential backyard, wood is one of the most reliable and hassle-free forms of fencing possible. Keep reading; we're sure that you will agree!

After you purchase a wood fence, we'll help you care for it for years to come!



If you can't enjoy your backyard, pool area, and garden the way you want to because you need a fence, it can put a damper on your plans. Don't waste another weekend without a fence!

# Choosing the Right Fence in 4 Easy Steps

Do you need a new fence for your yard or farm? Whether you desire more privacy in your outdoor space, need to block animals in, mask a street view, secure your pool, or keep your dog from running, there is a fence for you.

Ask yourself a few questions:

## Think About Privacy

If you want true privacy, choose a fence with little to no space between boards- like a wood fence. A closely spaced lattice can be nearly as private as a solid material if you have a trees and bushes around. Stand up and measure each area of your yard and the street outside to see if the fence will be high enough for your privacy needs.

## Make Sure You're Secure

If you want a fence for security, the most important features to have are a tall height, a lack of places to grip and climb up, and a sturdy, lockable gate. Any security fence should be at least 8 feet high. Remember to choose a fence with flush boards, often made of wood, but with no horizontal rails that a potential intruders could attempt to climb.

## Think about who You Want to Keep in or out

You must know your pets or farm animals and their habits in order to pick the correct fence. Do they dig? How high can they jump? Are they likely to try to escape from your yard? A 3- to 4-foot fence should be adequate for a small dog while a herd of goats or cattle will need something taller and stronger.

# 3-Step Wood Fence Maintenance

Once you have chosen wood and it has been installed, it is important to learn how to care for your new fence. While wood is one of the least likely to need constant care, there are a few things you should keep in mind. With proper care, your wood fence can remain both beautiful and functional for many years.

## Painting

If you don't paint or stain your wood fence, it will very quickly fall victim to the elements of nature. Rain, ice, sunlight, and other environmental factors are really hard on a fence, and to stay in its best condition, it needs something to protect it. You can pick from a wide variety of stain colors, from light and dark brown to red and even clear. There's truly something for everyone.

## Cleaning

Over time, the planks of your fence might become faded and dingy— this is from the buildup of dirt, mold, and other grimy gunk. You can restore your fence to its original shine with a good cleaning. All you'll need is a water hose, some bleach, and a garden sprayer.

## Repairing

There are a number of different repairs that might be needed over the life of your fence. Maybe a post has rotted, or a panel has come loose. No matter what it is, taking care of it quickly will help keep any further issues from coming up. If you catch rot early, for instance, you can probably remove just a section of the fence rather than having to replace the whole thing. You should do a once-over quick inspection of your fence on a regular basis, perhaps monthly.

# How to Pressure Wash Wood

If you're about to have family, friends, and neighbors over for summertime activities outdoors, the last thing you want is for them to arrive and see a dirty backyard that ruins their appetite for your BBQ.

During the winter, a lot of dirt and dust can collect on your fence, leaving it looking less-than-stellar. Don't worry, underneath all of that gray is still a fantastic wood fence! This kind of dingy look is easy fixable before your guests arrive. You need to pressure wash!

Rent a power washer that operates at 1,500 or 2,000 PSI and avoid more powerful 3,000 or 3,500 PSI, as this is too much power for wood. Be sure to get both 15- and 25-degree spray tips. Before you leave with the machine, have the rental people demonstrate the washer's use. It's an easy machine to run, but it's also quite aggressive. The fierce spray will strip the wood as well as clean off the dirt and grime, but you can also erode the wood too deeply and ruin it if you use too much force. The key is to use the right sprayer tip and technique.

Before you start, clear the area along the fence by tying back plants that are growing alongside it. Wear water-repellent clothing, because you will probably get wet from the spray. It takes a little practice to get it exactly correct, but you'll catch on fast!

# Wood Fence Rot: What to do

Even with proper care, wood fences aren't indestructible. Over time they may break down and face fence rot. There are some steps that you as a homeowner can take to prevent this from happening. However, if you're already dealing with a rotten wood fence, we'll also help you decide whether you should try to fix it or replace it.

## Preventing Fence Rot

The best way to prevent a wood fence from rotting is to prepare the fence properly before you install it. With a wood fence, the posts are usually hit first because they are in the ground where they're constantly facing water exposure. You have several options to stave off rot in this situation. First, you can select high-quality wood that is more resistant to decay in general. Once the fence is up, you'll also need to keep up with regular maintenance. Wood fences should always be painted with a waterproof stain.

## Fixing Fence Rot

Once you've got a rotten fence, you've got two options: you can try to fix it, or you can replace it. The best option depends on a lot of factors including the extent of the damage and your budget. If just a small piece of the fence (like a single post) has started to rot, you can probably replace it (keeping the factors above in mind) and save the rest of the fence. This is the best option because it saves money as well as giving you a new, stronger piece of fence. However, if the rot has spread to several posts or is affecting the panels as well, it may be necessary to replace the entire thing.

# Ready to go wood?

Once you have done your research, you will probably find that a wood fence is the best choice for you and your situation. Contact us today to either have one installed or to repair your current wood fence. We can handle it all!

Contact Central Fence  
Today