

Select Your Fence To Suit Your Home

THE PRIMARY function of fences is to create greater enjoyment and use of your property. Wood's design flexibility fits it well for a wide variety of patterns for fence installations. And within a single basic style, there are numerous variations of construction possible, depending upon the needs of the home owner and the demands of the site.

Before you touch a pencil to paper or a hammer to nails, know local zoning laws on fencing. Don't assume that the fence you plan to build corresponds to local or state ordinances just because it will be similar to a neighbor's built a few years ago. Zoning changes may have been made in the meantime, so check with your local authorities before proceeding.

A protection fence is one tall enough to keep small children from toddling into the street, and tight enough to keep wandering dogs out of the yard. This type of fencing makes for complete privacy but need not be for bidding. Properly designed, such a fence can adapt itself to changing family requirements, starting out a solid board fence and changed later to a more open type, such as board and board.

Both of these are essentially the same, except that the board fence is solid and the other is more open. Both use standard post and rail construction and one-inch boards of various widths for vertical members. Consider breaking up the expense of wall with pattern or texture such as alternate panels of horizontal and vertical boards. Solid foundations are a must for both types of fence.

The board - and - board fence combines the privacy of the board fence with the openness of the picket fence. It gives both privacy and ventilation. Construction is simple; the boards are nailed to the frame, leaving space between each board, almost equal to board width. Another row of boards, similarly placed but on the opposite side of frame covers alternate spaces.

Louvered fences which combine privacy with ventilation can be both functional and handsome. In its most elaborate form, the louvers are movable to take advantage of, or shield you from, the sun's rays. In others, the louvers are fixed at a 45 degree angle, determined best for privacy. Construct top bottom rails of 2 by 6 or 2 by 8 material. Movable louvers are made of 2 by 4 and 2 by 6 stock. If louvers are fixed to top and bottom rails, saw the rails and nail boards on angled cuts for a fully enclosed or open effect.

Boundary fences can be low and simple and patterned in a design that complements house and yard, since their main purposes are definition and interest. Rail fences have the advantage of being the least expensive of all fences to construct and maintain.

No top or bottom rails are required, and posts can be of 4 by 4 or 6 by 6 material. In this simplest version, the rail fence requires only 1 by 4 or 1 by 6 boards at top, center and bottom. More elaborate rail fences are made of dimension lumber, (2 by 4, 2 by 6), with mortised joints at each fence post.

The basket weave fence using one-inch or even 1/2-inch boards for the woven effect is a great favorite. A bottom rail is not required, and a top rail is optional. Usually, ed effect to the weaving, produces a more disciplined appearance. Long strips — up to 16 feet — are best; and the strips should be separated halfway between each post with a one-inch spacer. Strips should not be nailed to the spacer, only to the posts. The woven appearance is more effective if alternate strips, rather than every strip, end up on the same post.

THREE SIMILAR TYPES Picket, slat and lattice fences are similar in construction and easy to build. All require a standard post and rail frame. The picket and lattice use 4 by 4 or 4 by 6 posts, 2 by 4 rails. A lattice fence is usually a divider within a fenced area, or is used as a support in a garden, and consequently requires only 2 by 4 or 2 by 6 posts. Lattice fences are the perfect choice to double as trellises. They make excellent patio and entryway screens when used a free-standing panels.

Picket fence tops are patterned or pointed and extend above the top rail. Slat fence tops are sawn square and usually placed level with top rail. Vertical members of picket, slat and lattice fences are of one-inch stock. To assure long life, all fence posts and bottom rails should be treated with a protective solution.

PRIVACY You can design a fence with inch or two-inch wide strips which provides a certain privacy and yet, from the inside, does not give one that cooped up feeling. Either western red cedar or Douglas fir make good fence lumber.

Hot water and strong soaps should never be used to clean resilient flooring. They may fade or discolor the material and cause it to become hard and brittle.



SCALLOPED CONTOUR of top rail gives distinctive touch to this fence, which marks line between trimmed and untrimmed grass.

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Plywood Edges Get A New Look

What to do with the edges of plywood has long been a problem for the home handyman. Although some persons prefer the striped effect of plywood edges—caused by the various layers of wood—most figure out ways to hide or disguise them.

One simple solution is to cover the edges with pieces of moulding, stained or painted to harmonize with the project on which the plywood is being used. In recent years, strips of veneer, purchased in rolls, have been available. These strips are glued to the edges of the plywood. They come in various wood tones to match or contrast with the facing of the plywood.

One of the latest products for covering plywood edges is a u-shaped aluminum channel. It fits snugly over the edge of the plywood, not only covering the edges but providing a decorative effect.

The channel also can be used for hardboard or similar material.

The aluminum edging comes in strips eight feet long and can be sawed and drilled with regular hand or power woodworking tools. By obtaining the proper width, the channel can be slipped on the edges without any outside fastening agency. But a more permanent grip results if glue or nuts and bolts are used.

A somewhat similar item is an aluminum corner post. Plywood panels are fitted into open grooves on each side of the aluminum section. They are fastened in place with glue or screws to make a tight corner. The corner sections also come in eight-foot lengths, with groove sizes for various plywood thicknesses.

WOOD TO 'FLOAT' MICHELANGELO'S PIETA TO WORLD'S FAIR

Wood will play an important role in transporting Michelangelo's masterpiece, the Pieta, "with tender loving care," from St. Peter's in Rome to the New York World's Fair, according to the National Lumber Manufacturers Association. For the trip, the priceless Renaissance sculpture, weighing 6,700 pounds, will be placed in a wood box and braced so that it cannot be jostled.

This box will be placed in a second wood crate and wood shavings will fill the space between the two boxes so that the box containing the Pieta will be "floating" inside the outer container. The two wood boxes will then be placed in a third container and wood shavings will fill the space between the second and third boxes to supply a second "floating" effect and absorb all shock of movement.

When ready for shipment, the Pieta and its packing will

New FHA Standards Call For Roofing That's Wind-Resistant

New York — Recognizing the benefits to home owners of new but thoroughly tested building techniques and materials, the Federal Housing Administration has revised its Minimum Property Standards for house construction. The standards are rules for consumer protection.

One part of the revision, which typifies the FHA's concern with quality and low home upkeep costs, is aimed at making roofs more resistant to wind.

The new requirement divides the United States into high-wind, medium-wind, and low-wind zones. High-wind areas are those in which winds of 90 mph or greater have been recorded. Gusts of wind are not counted. The coastal hurricane-belt of the Gulf states and the Southeast is considered a high-wind area, as is the coast of the Pacific Northwest.

THE MEDIUM-WIND zone, with recorded wind velocities of 80 to 90 mph, includes much of the Midwest, the Rocky Mountain states, the East, northern California, the Northwest, as well as inland areas of the South adjoining the hurricane region.

The new standard calls for cementing down the tabs of asphalt shingles on low-slope roofs in all zones. An alternative is to secure asphalt shingles by other means acceptable to the FHA field office having local jurisdiction.

All roofs, regardless of slope, must receive the same treatment in the high-wind zone.

The general practice among roofing contractors is to use special "wind-resistant" types of asphalt shingles. The most popular of these is the self-sealing shingle, to which strips or spots of cement are applied at the factory. After shingles are laid on a roof, the sun's heat softens the cement, causing the shingle tabs to stick down firmly.

SELF-SEALING SHINGLES repeatedly have withstood hurricane winds. They also bear the special "wind-resistant" label of the Underwriters' Laboratories.

In the medium-wind (80 to 90 mph) zone, shingle tabs on steep roofs must be cemented or the asphalt shingles used must weigh 275 pounds or more per 100 square feet of roof area. Shingles

It is sometimes difficult to remove a screw from hardware if it has been covered with paint. While the paint sometimes can be chipped from the slot of the screw, an effective job can be done with a stubborn case by putting a drop of paint remover on the head of the screw.

gles of this weight are in the "heavyweight" class and provide greater durability and textural appearance as well as wind-resistance. In the low-wind zone, FHA field offices may set their own requirements, though the more.

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