

The Replacement Wood Fencing Construction Details

There has been some interest on Next Door about how the new Wood Fence is designed to be long lasting - even designed to be easily repaired if any damage occurs.

These are the major features:

1. High quality construction materials are used exclusively that are sourced from North American suppliers
2. 4x6 treated posts are the first line of support and are sunk 3 feet into the existing/stable soil and stabilized with 2 bags of concrete inside a 10 inch auger hole
3. These 4x6 posts are treated with a novel "post saver" material that is literally "burned" into the area of the post that forms the interface at the concrete and top of soil. This provides us with a 20 year warranty on posts
4. In addition, the inside post surface along the top of concrete is "sleeved" with a three sided metal protector so that homeowner's weed eaters will not "eat" the bottom of the post - that has caused the so familiar failure of our "Bayou/Walkway" fences.
5. A 2x12 inch treated "rot" board is installed along the bottom that both adds substantial structural strength AND provides the needed "wet soil" interface to last for years. This can also be replaced quite easily if ever needed.
6. Three rails of treated 2x6 inch boards are **face nailed** to the 4x6 posts (not toe nailed) for superior strength and longevity. All nails are ring shank design and made of stainless steel.
7. 5 foot North American grade 2 cedar pickets are nailed to the face boards and are spaced slightly above the beveled "rot" board to minimize decay at the picket bottom.
8. The top of the pickets are finished off with 2 inch cedar lumber of various widths to form both a protection of the pickets against top rot AND for a great visual appeal. A 1x1 inch trim piece is added for even more aesthetic appeal.
9. We are considering deck screws rather than nails to hold the top cedar lumber to the 2x6 top rail so that is as stable as possible - we should not see the warping at the end bevels that we now have with the 1x6 lumber
10. Finally, we are using probably the best paint system available (Sherwin Williams Duck Back) to the outside of the fence surface with a professional paint installer (part of the FenceKeeper team). Every homeowner that gets a new fence will have the opportunity to have the side facing them painted also - at their expense.

We believe that this fence construction will provide our homeowners with over a decade of service before any maintenance is required. As the fence "foundation" of posts, rot board and rails is so robust in construction, that only picket replacement should be required for repairs. Periodic painting/mildew removal is the only expected maintenance requirements for years to come.

Comments appreciated.