INSTALLATION GUIDE

These instructions are designed to assist both professional installers and do-it-yourselfers of SimTek™ decorative rock-walls. These instructions are detailed to insure an excellent finished wall.

A quality finished wall is a result of a quality installation. The layout must be consistent with ground contours; posts must be appropriately spaced and properly anchored. Follow SimTek™ installation instructions carefully and your wall will be both structurally correct and a beautiful addition to your project or property.

Before any installation, check all local regulations regarding fencing, location of all buried utility lines, and correct property lines. Be certain that you are in compliance will all local codes, permits, county and state laws. Ensure that you have all the components needed to complete your fence configuration.

TOOLS NEEDED

Tape Measure

Level

Auger or Post Hole Digger

Shovel

Power Drill

Circular Saw

Concrete

Spray Paint

Mallet or Hammer

Fence String

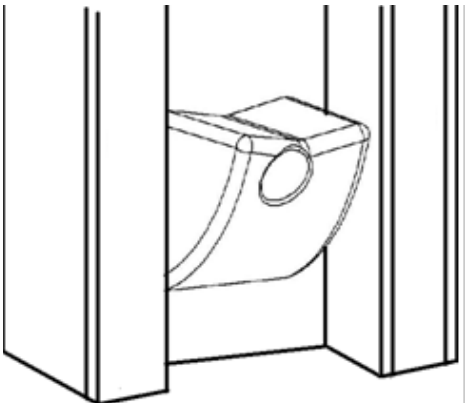
Step 3: Installing Fence Brackets

If posts are to be installed in level ground attaching brackets in advance of post installation is easiest when using a measuring template for faster repetitive bracket installation. It is easier to change a bracket in the field if necessary than to install brackets once posts are installed in the ground.

Installed brackets provide a leveling point on each post.

DISTANCE FROM TOP OF POST TO SUPPORT BRACKET SURFACE

Panel Size	3’	4’	6’	8’
Bracket location	37.5”	49.5”	73.5”	99”



Tip

Note: Brackets come packaged at the tip of the post during shipping. They must be removed and reattached in the channel of the post at the desired height during installation.

Step 4: Setting Posts

1. Set a post in the hole with concrete. Using a mallet or hammer, tap the post into the concrete until the top of the post meets the desired height.

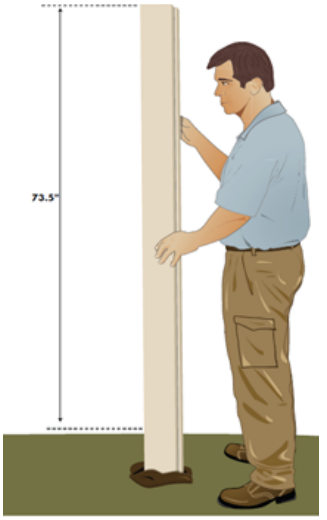
2. Fill the remainder of the hole with concrete. Using a level, check two adjacent sides of the post. Two-way levels are useful. Adjust the post until it is both vertical and at the correct height.

3. If using a dry mix method, first place the post in the hole in the approximate position at the bottom of the hole. Pour the dry mix in the hole, positioning the post as soon as it is feasible.

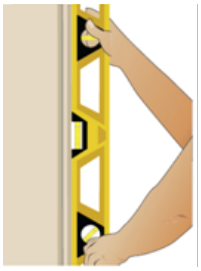
4. Using the steel stiffener out of the panel, which is exactly 70.25″ for the six foot wall and 95” for the eight foot wall, as a spacer, set the next post the same as the first.

5. Do not move the post which is now in position. Leave the panel stiffener spacer in place for one hour minimum, as concrete begins to cure, to keep the posts from moving. Set 3 to 4 posts with panel stiffeners as spacers, then advance them one at a time, by moving the first spacer placed. Allow the concrete to cure for a minimum of 24 to 48 hours.

6. For a complete step-by-step installation video, visit our website at: http://www.simtekfence.com/product-information or for personalized assistance call our customer service line at 1-866-648-9336.



Make sure post is straight, plumb, and evenly spaced



Tip

Note: All SimTek posts are reinforced with galvanized steel. If posts need to be cut, we suggest cutting them at the tip. Do not cut the top of the post.

Step 5: Installing Fence Panels

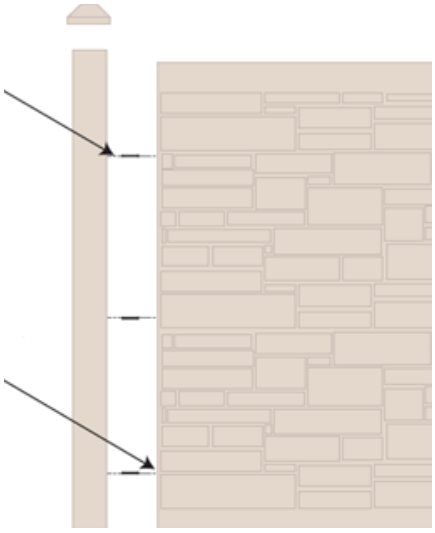
1. Panel support brackets must be attached to all posts.
2. Be certain steel stiffeners are inserted in the top and bottom rail of each panel; they come installed from the factory, but may have been removed to use as post spacers.
3. Panels are universal, with no front or back, and no top or bottom edge. Randomly installing panels gives the most pleasing aesthetic effect.
4. Lift the panel bottom edge to approximately 4' off the ground. Have one person flex the next post outward until the groove will receive the panel. Once the section is in the channel, ease the panel down onto the support brackets.
5. Install caps over the posts.
6. Caps are pressure fitted making securing them typically unnecessary; however, a 3" screw can be driven through the top of the cap into the middle of the post if desired.

Step 6: Securing Panels

1. Panels must be attached to all six foot gate posts and corner posts because they could conceivably become disengaged from the post because of the shallower groove.
2. To prevent unauthorized panel removal, you can drive one fastener per panel through the panel edge into the post.
3. Caution. Never attach both edges of any panel to posts. Polyethylene has a degree of thermal expansion and contraction.

#14 Hex Washer Head, 3" Self Tapping Screw

Fasteners should attach panels to end post and corner post inside panel grooves

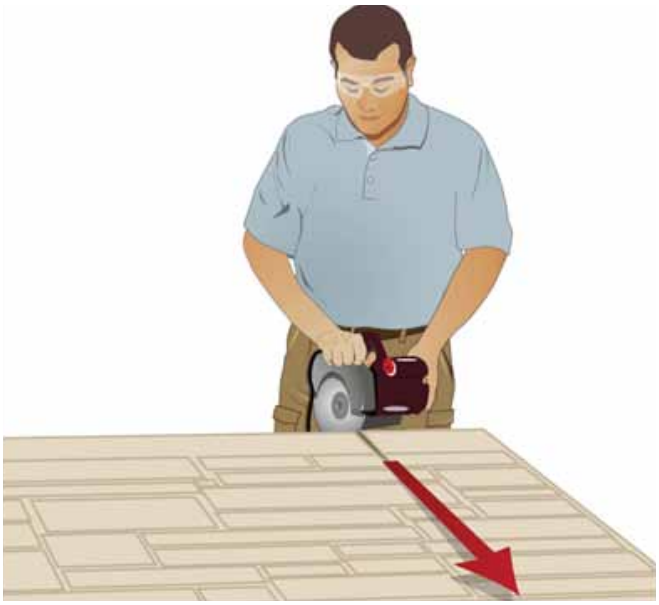


Tip

Note: Never attach both edges of any panel to posts. Polyethylene has a degree of thermal expansion and contraction.

Step 7: Cutting Panels

Where a narrower panel is required to finish a wall, panels can be cut to any desired length.



1. Remove steel stiffeners from panels. Determine the exact width between post channels. Mark and cut stiffeners to that width with a metal cutting blade.

2. Mark and cut the panel to the stiffener width, minus ½" to allow for thermal expansion and contraction of the panel. Make certain panels are cut accurately with edges parallel.

3. If a cut panel is used with an end or corner post, use the factory edge for attachment to the post.

4. For steeper slopes, panels can be cut so the step or drop in each section is 12" or less.

Installing on a Retaining Wall

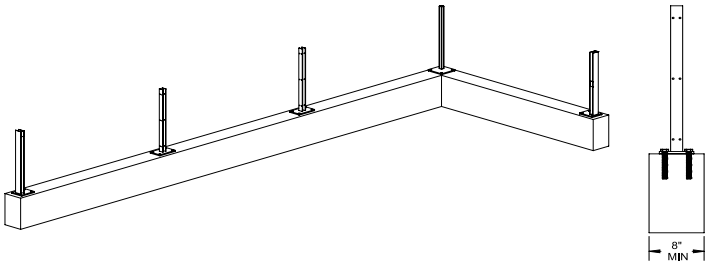
SimTek can be installed on top of an 8" minimum width poured concrete wall or on flat concrete using SimTek's Concrete Mounting Brackets. Concrete surface mounts are manufactured with a heavy steel plate with vertical members. It attaches to the concrete with anchors and bolts to the post. Specific concrete shoes are available for end post, line post and corner posts.

1. Cut the post to the desired height. Post may need to be cut longer to accommodate changes in elevation. Always cut off the bottom of the post, retaining the factory finished post top.

2. Panel support brackets are unnecessary when using concrete shoes. The Panels will set directly on the wall or driveway surface.

3. Start at the corner or an end post position. Locate the concrete shoe an equal distance from the edges of the concrete.

4. Mark the position of the plate. Drill all four holes through the pre-drilled holes in the steel plate.



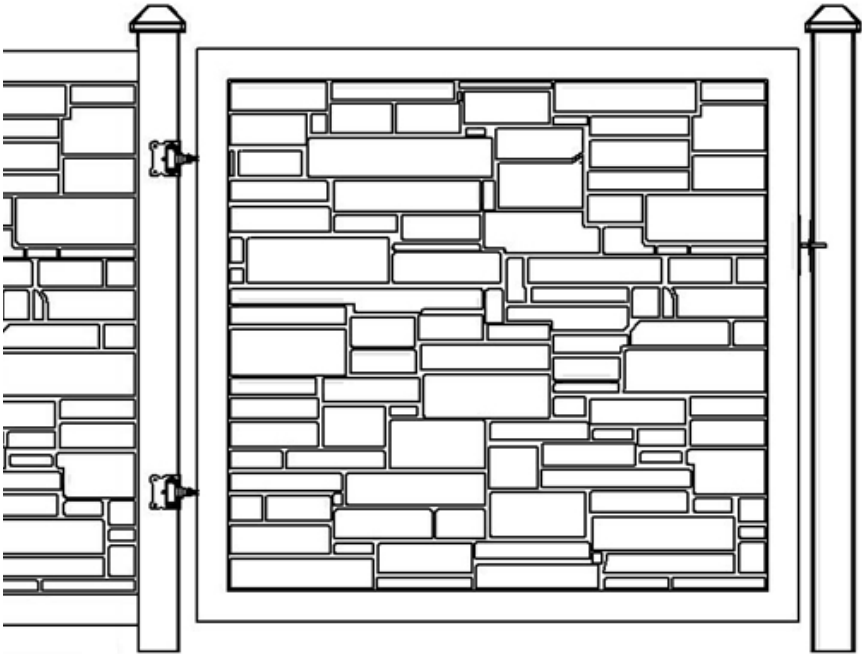
5. Next install all the concrete anchor bolts in the base plate bolt holes provided with a minimum tension and shear strength of at least 4,000 lbs. Position the bolts to fasten the mounting place of the shoe.

6. Place the shoe over the bolt and attach the shoes to the concrete with specified fasteners

SimTek Gate Installation Guide

Gate Components and Tools Needed

- Gate Post
- SimTek™ Fence Gate
- End Post
- SimTek™ Hinges
- Latch
- Striker Rod (optional)
- 2 ½” Self-tapping Screws
- Button Head Screws
- Level and Power Drill
- Concrete



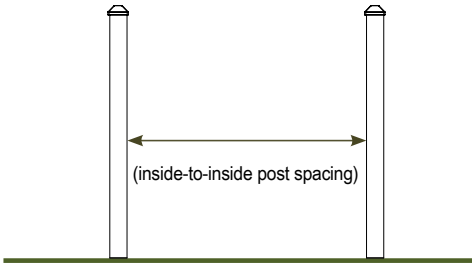
Step #1: Set the Gate Post

Gate posts have extra steel reinforcing for strength and are different than all other posts. Before setting the post in the ground, make sure that a gate post (not an end post is used)

1. Dig a hole 10” to 12” in diameter by 30” to 36” deep in the ground.
2. The flat surface (without a channel) must be in position to receive the gate and gate hardware.
3. Post spacing is critical. The ideal spacing is to have a 1” gap between the latch post and the striker bar side of the gate and 1 ½” for the hinge side. The extra gap on the hinge side is to allow for thermal expansion and con traction.
4. Set the post utilizing the same method as for other posts and fill the hole with concrete. Allow the concrete to cure for 48 to 72 hours.

Gate Post

(Hinges are attached to this post)



End Post

(The latch is attached to this post)