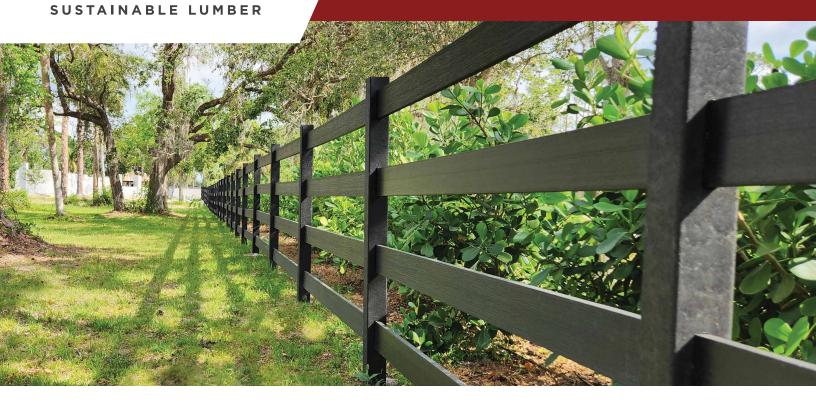


## **Split Rail Fence Installation Guide**



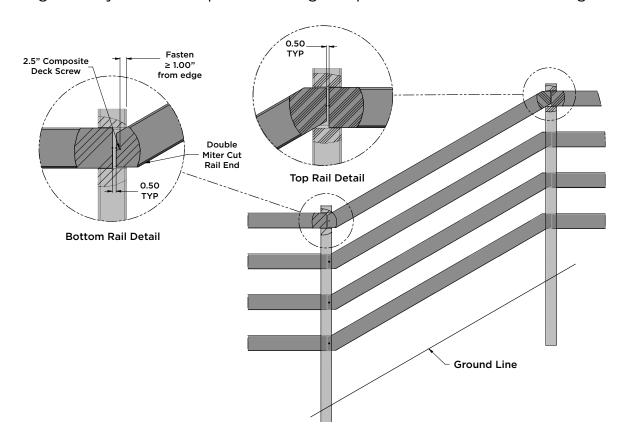
## **HOW TO INSTALL SPLIT RAIL**

- 1. Upon receiving, all material should be stored on flat ground to so as to avoid developing a permanent set or bow.
- 2. Take time to carefully plan your installation. Rails are a little over 16' long and can span two 8' bays. Plan your posts to be a maximum of 8' apart and less if the fence line is on an incline. Please do not hesitate to contact Tangent with any questions.
- 3. All materials expand and contract as temperatures change. Plastics do so more than wood. Because of this, lay out all fence rails on **flat** ground in the area where the fence is to be installed. This acclimates the rails to the ambient temperature and will take at least an hour.
- 4. Install posts as you would wooden posts. Position posts no longer than 8' apart. Consider installing a number of rails to posts before placing all of your posts. This will confirm that the bays are not too long for the rails and enable you to proceed with confidence with the post spacing.
- 5. End, terminal and gate posts should be installed last, after rails are installed into the line posts.
- 6. Rails should be flexible enough to allow "weaving" the rails into and through the rail slots in the posts.



## **Split Rail Fence Installation Guide**

- 7. Trim rails to allow for a 1/2" gap, butt to butt, between the rails.
- 8. Fasten the rail to the center post of the two bays with a single  $10 \times 2.5$ " composite deck screw. Stainless steel recommended to match durability of the fence. Position the fasteners no closer than 1-1/4" from the top and bottom edge of the rail.
- 9. Depending on the fastener, pre-drilling a pilot hole into the post may be necessary.
- 10. When installing a rail across two bays, fasten only to **the center post**. This will constrain the center of the rail and allow each end of the rail to expand and contract with changes in temperature inside the slots within the posts.
- 11. When installing 8' or shorter rails across a single bay, fasten the rails **at one end only.** The other end of it should be unconstrained, allowing for expansion and contraction inside the slots within the post.
- 12. If the terrain is uneven or on an incline, split rails will likely require cutting to span a single 8' bay and will require trimming in a patten similar the below diagram.



**Note:** Tangent Technologies, LLC, is a manufacturer of recycled plastic lumber. While Tangent will freely share its technical knowledge, Tangent does not provide engineering services and/or engineering advice. Tangent assumes no responsibility, or liability, for any element of a project's design and/or construction details.

SMA005-231011