

“Braces that Last”

The single or double H brace design (with variations to suit local circumstances) is our preference for high-tensile woven and smooth wire fences.

Single braces are often enough for HT fences that include offset energized wires because they need less tension—**if** the soil is firm (neither sandy nor swampy).



(above) Single H braces on the corner of a woven wire fence at Premier.

High-tensile fences that don't include an energized wire require a double H brace. *(Maybe it's my age, but we recently switched to double H braces in most situations.)*

Keeping the wire tension to the minimum possible enables braces to perform without maintenance for decades.

There are 2 ways to reduce wire tension and still have good fences.

1. Energize one or more wires to prevent animals from rubbing on the fence.
2. Use woven wire. The verticals keep the horizontal wires together when an animal challenges it. So less tension is needed in the horizontal wires.

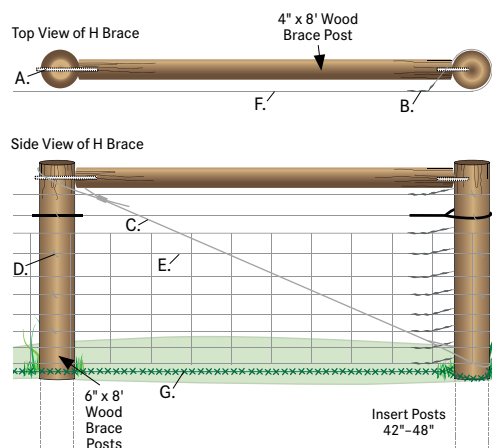
We strain our high-tensile woven and smooth wires just past “taut.” We adjust them as needed—rarely more than once.

TwistLinks were our preferred method for terminating woven wire around end posts until the “T” Gripper “arrived.”

Instead of the high-tensile brace wire and Round In-Line Strainer (shown in photo below), we now use Speed Brace Cables (see diagram letter C). It's more expensive—but we value the speed and ease of installation.



(above) Note the lower the cross-brace height in this H brace assembly. Why? To prevent end posts rising out of the very soft clay during Iowa's spring thaws. This method, in our view, is a superior method for all H braces.



Fence diagram

Product Name	Item
A. Brace Pins, 10"	#339100
Brace Pins, 5"	#339200
B. TwistLink	#336500
C. Speed Brace (2 pk)	#336840
D. HT Barbed Staples	#360200
SupaTube Staples	#360000
E. HT Woven Wire	#411400
GreenCote WW	#411000
F. HT Smooth	#301200
GreenCote Smooth	#301210
G. GreenCote Barbed	#301400

Items not shown

Product Name	Item
Chain Wire Strainer	#404000
WW Clamp	#404100
Wire Twister	#408300
HT Sleeves	#339000
Round In-Line Strainer	#330100
Round Strainer Handle	#408200
HT Dispenser	#402000
“T” Gripper	#336855
Tensioning Tool	#336830



Single H brace end assembly with GreenCote wire. This works because the energized live wires enable reduced peak wire tension.

How to assemble an H-Brace



Constructing a permanent fence that may last over 40 years is a job best done once and done right. Be sure that enough time and thought is given to the planning stages.



Installing Brace Post, 8 ft. (inside to inside) down fence line from end post.



Measuring 3 in. down for installation of Brace Pins.

Installation:

1. Install end post (A) at pre-determined location. A 6 in. post should be installed a minimum of 42 in. into soil. Deeper is always better. Leave the top of the post out of the ground enough for your fencing application.
2. Install brace post (B), 8 ft. (inside to inside) down fence line from end post (A). Brace post (B) should be installed same depth as the end post (A).
3. Three inches down from top of end post (on brace side of post) drill a 3/8" hole, 2.75 in. deep. Also drill a 3/8" hole, 2.75 in. deep into the end of the 4 in. horizontal wood brace post (C).
4. Insert 5 in. brace pin into hole of the end post (A).
5. Align hole in horizontal brace (C) with brace pin and slide on.
6. With the horizontal brace post (C) level and held in position, drill a 3/8 in. hole all the way through the vertical brace post (B) and 3 in. into the 4 in. horizontal brace (C). If the horizontal brace (C) is too long, the post can be trimmed with a saw to fit.
7. Insert 10 in. brace pin through vertical brace post (B) and into the horizontal brace post (C) leaving 1 in. of the brace pin sticking out.
8. Install 2 galvanized staples vertically, 4 to 5 in. apart, 3 to 4 in. from the ground on the outside of the end post. Do not pound the staple all the way into the posts, leave 1/2 in. of the crown of the staple not pounded into the posts.
9. Using High-Tensile 12.5 gauge wire install the brace wire. Start the wire through the staples installed in Step 8 and go diagonally up to the 1 in. tail of the 10 in. brace pin, (installed in step 7) and over the top of the brace pin tail. Continue back down to and through the staples on the bottom of the end post (A). Repeat this process to produce 2 complete wraps around the total brace assembly using one continuous length of wire. Note brace wire can also be run in a figure "8" allowing wire to cross in middle of brace post assembly. This will help get brace wires away from any electrified wires.
10. Fasten the 2 ends of High-Tensile wire together (a Gripper, 2 Crimping Sleeves or a TwistLink work well). Brace wire will not be tight. Place an InLine Strainer onto one of the two loops of the brace wire. Tighten the strainer until all slack is removed from the double wraps of wire. Pulling on the High-Tensile wire from either side will help remove slack from wire. When proper tension is achieved, secure the strainer with "U" shaped pin. There may be a slight gap between end post (A) and the soil, but be careful to not over-tighten the brace wire and move your brace posts.



Drilling a hole in the center of the wood brace post.



Inserting the Brace Pin and the wood brace post.



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