How to install Electric Netting

1. Site preparation

Carry roll(s) of net to proposed fence line. Prepare line by flattening or mowing all vegetation over 4 inches tall. We often use a vehicle to make a track through grass or weeds and then install the fence along the wheel track. For long fences needing 2 or more nets, we put the rolls into the back of a vehicle and throw them out at intervals (determined by length of rolls) as we drive along making the path.

2. Untying the roll of netting

Untie the 2 tie strings and pull apart the 2 metal clips to release the roll of net *(see arrows in photo at left).*

3. Unrolling the net

Grip all the posts as a group and lift them up in front of you. This allows the netting to unroll in front of you in a series of folded "pleats," each attached to the posts in your hands. Lay unrolled pleats on the ground. Locate the beginning post. (It's the post with 2 tie strings attached and a stainless-steel connector at the top.

For PermaNet (above), this job is easier with 2 people.

4. Inserting the first post

Insert the beginning post into the soil beside a stronger support post or an existing fence. Use the 2 tie strings to secure the first post to the support post or fence.

Keep the net end post(s) at least 2" away from anything that is conductive (metal, wood, concrete).

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5. Unfolding the net

Grip all remaining posts as a group and lift them up in front of you. Then walk backwards along the intended fence line, "feeding out" each post as it's pulled from your hands, thereby unfolding the netting. To reduce the risk of tangling the netting, try to drop or toss each post in sequence, helping to free it from the other posts you are still holding. Unfold entire roll of netting along the fence line.

For PermaNet (above), this job is easier with 2 people.

6. Installing line posts

Starting at the first post, walk along fence line, picking up each post in turn and pushing it into the ground. Apply only enough sideways tension to each post to keep the netting erect and straight.

Stretch netting just tight enough to stand up well. If the netting is too tight, it cannot adjust to changes in terrain.

7. Joining 2 rolls of standard net

Start the second roll by placing its first end post next to the last end post of the first net. Use the 2 tie strings to tie them together *(see photo at left).*

8. Joining 2 rolls electrically

To join one roll of standard netting to the next to provide an electrical connection, simply slide the built-in, stainless-steel male/female "power" connectors together by hand at one end. Do not use pliers to force them. The 2 pieces of metal only need to make and maintain contact.

To connect Pos/Neg, refer to "Connecting Pos/Neg Netting" section at far right.

9. Ends, corners and curves

Use a FiberTuff, PowerPost or FiberRod to provide extra support at the ends and corners. More support may be needed depending on the type of netting, terrain and shape of the enclosure.

10. Connect energizer to standard net

For either a battery (DC) or plug-in (AC) energizer, attach the lead wire from the fence terminal on energizer top clip at one end of the net. Attach the ground wire from the ground terminal on the energizer to the ground-rod system.

To connect Pos/Neg, refer to "Connecting Pos/Neg Netting" section at right.

11. Checking voltage

Never put animals into an electric fence enclosure without first checking it for adequate voltage with an electric fence tester. Touch one contact point to the soil or metal spike of the end post and the other contact point to the clip at the end of the fence. Voltage on a newly installed fence should exceed 3,000v. As time passes, grass or weeds will grow and touch the fence, causing the voltage to drop. Never allow it to drop below 2,000v.

12. Moving (or removing) net

Disconnect the fence from the energizer. Then walk along the fence, progressively removing the posts from the soil and holding them in your hand in a tidy bundle *(at left).* This allows the netting to fold together into 6-foot-long pleats as it drags along behind you. To keep the bundle of posts tidy, rest the tops against your belt or hip as you walk.

Removing twigs and trash from the net as you fold it up. This will save time later when you reinstall the net.

For PermaNet (Step 5. photo), this job is easier with 2 people.

13. Rolling up net

After the length of netting is folded up, pick up the posts as a group and shake the net a bit. This allows the folded pleats to straighten themselves. Then lay netting on the ground *(as shown at left)* and roll up the folds. Start at the end without posts and roll toward the posts. This will produce a roll much like it began—with all the posts on outside and the folds of net rolled up inside.

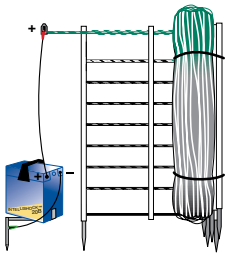
14. Tying up a roll

Firmly tie the roll using the 2 tie strings. It doesn't have to be as tight as when new, but it needs to be tight enough to be easily carried or stored.

Standard Netting Connection

1. Connecting energizer to netting

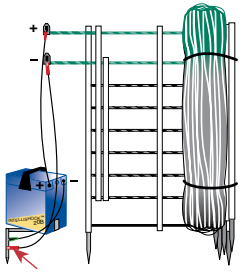
For either a battery (DC) or plug-in (AC) energizer, attach the lead wire from the fence terminal of energizer to the top clip at the beginning of the net. Attach ground wire from the ground terminal of energizer to ground rod.



Connecting Pos/Neg Netting

1. Connecting energizer to pos/neg netting

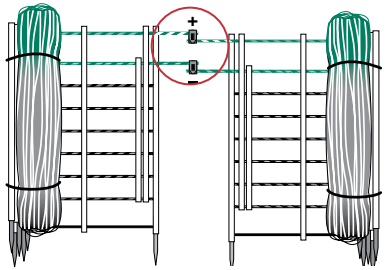
For either a battery (DC) or plug-in (AC) energizer, attach the lead wire from the fence terminal of energizer to the top clip at the beginning of the net. Attach ground wire from the ground terminal of the energizer to the ground rod. Then attach an additional wire from the second (lower) clip on the Pos/Neg net to the ground rod.



Note: We used a PowerLink 3.0 (#335500) for an easy connection.

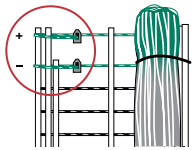
2. Connecting 2 rolls of pos/neg netting together

When connecting 2 rolls of Pos/Neg netting, always connect the top clip to the top clip (positive +) and the second clip to the second clip (negative –).



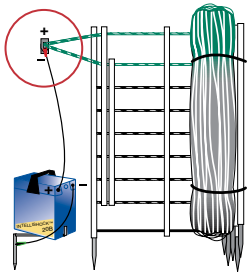
3. Terminating the end of pos/neg netting

At the end of a roll of Pos/Neg netting, do not let the positive and negative clips hang loose. Instead, attach each clip back to its respective wire. (Positive clip to positive wire, and negative clip to negative wire.)



4. Converting pos/neg netting to standard netting

At the beginning of the first net, attach the top clip of the net to the lower clip. Then connect the lead wire from the energizer fence terminal to that combined set of clips. From the ground terminal of energizer, connect the ground wire to the ground rod system only. To convert multiple rolls, attach first net as described here. Thereafter, connect top clip to top clip and lower clip to lower clip, just as you would for Pos/Neg netting.

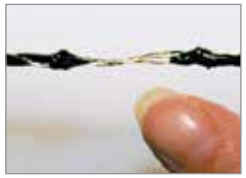


What NOT to do with net!

Do not try to roll up the fence like carpet (photo at left) instead—fold it up into pleats with the posts at one end. Result: A tedious chore that takes forever. People who try to "roll instead of fold" assume we're liars about ElectroNet being an "instant fence." Of course, the cure is to read the instructions—but nearly everyone assumes they don't need to do that!

Do not use weak energizers (less than .25 joule energizers). Many units are too weak to be effective with netting. This is particularly true of inadequately powered battery units and energizers with small solar panels.

Result: Animals feel very little shock and therefore try to push through or under the netting. As soon as weeds grow and touch the net, the weak pulse becomes no pulse at all. Animals will escape, netting is damaged and the user is upset and very frustrated.



Do not use a "weed chopper" (a high impedance) energizer with electric netting. Result: The long-duration pulse of "weed chopper" energizers melts plastic parts of netting (example at left) where it touches vegetation. Also, their pulse is very weak, so even if there are no weeds, animals will challenge the fence.

Do not store rolled-up fence on the ground near stored feed in a barn with rats and mice present. Result: Rodents chew into the rolls, make themselves at home and severely damage the net. Instead, store netting far away from rodents and grain, or hang the roll off the ground on nails driven into a wall.

Please Read! *In 1991, an accidental fatality occurred when a very young child's head came in contact with an electrified fence wire while the child was crawling through wet grass. The fence was correctly installed and functioning properly. The energizer was a small plug-in unit and UL approved. The fence wire was electroplastic twine—a relatively poor conductor compared to steel, copper or aluminum wire.*

We strongly caution adults to keep all small children away from all electrified fences. Children should be warned not to play in an area where electrified fences exist. Individuals of all ages should take extra care to avoid accidentally contacting electrified fences with their head or neck.

Basic Net Repair Kit *(included with net)*

Contains:

- Polywire
- Brass ferrules
- Replacement caps for top of net posts
- Replacement caps for bottom of net posts

If a horizontal wire is broken:

1. Disconnect from power source.
2. Use scissors to cut out the damaged portion of the horizontal wire.
3. Measure out an appropriate amount of the replacement conductive or non conductive material.
4. Tie the replacement material to one side of the break with a square knot. (If possible, twist together the metal filaments of the original material and the splicing material before tying the knot.)
5. Repeat step #4 on the other side of the break.
6. Place a brass ferrule over each of the square knots and clamp together with pliers.

Netting shown for illustration purposes only.
Note: Please check local codes and ordinances for use of electric fence in your area. Electric fence is not recommended for use in areas readily accessible by uninformed adults and children.

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