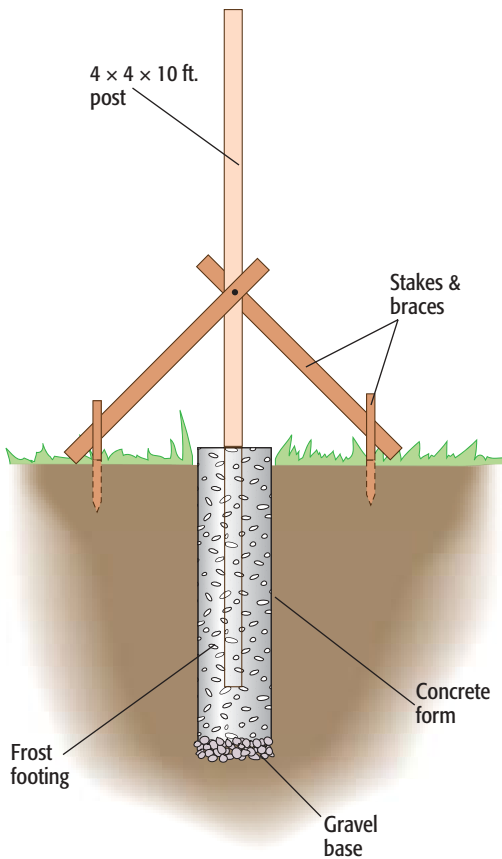


# Setting Posts



After plotting your fence line with stakes and string, dig the postholes and set the posts. It is critical that the posts be perfectly aligned and plumb. Dig post holes 6" deeper than the post footing depth specified by local building codes, or 12" past the winter frost line in cold climates. Good post-setting techniques let you breeze through this process and on to the most satisfying part of fence construction: attaching the fencing to the framework.

## HOW TO INSTALL POSTS

### Step A: Mark Post Locations

1. Transfer the marks from

## TOOLS & MATERIALS

- Plumb bob
- Stakes
- Hand maul
- Power auger or post hole digger
- Shovel
- Coarse gravel
- Carpenter's level
- Concrete
- Mason's trowel
- Pressure-treated, cedar, or redwood 4 x 4 posts
- Scrap lengths of 2 x 4

the string to the ground, using a plumb bob to pinpoint the post locations.

2. Mark each post location with a stake, and remove the string.

### Step B: Dig Post Holes

1. Dig post holes using a power auger (available at rental centers) or post hole digger. Make each hole 6" deeper than the post footing depth specified by local building code or 12" past the frost



**A.** Drop a plumb bob from each post reference mark on the string to pinpoint the post centers on the ground.



**B.** Dig post holes 6" deeper than specified by local building code. Pour 6" of gravel into each hole to improve drainage.



**C.** Position each post in its hole. Brace the post with scrap pieces of 2 x 4 on adjacent sides, and adjust it until it is plumb.