READY TO INSPECT — FIELD CHECKLIST

Fencing and gates rough-in inspection checklist

Fencing and gates rough-in is the last time the work is fully visible. Once the cover inspection passes and the walls, ceilings and slabs close, every defect left behind becomes a demolition bill. This checklist walks the rough-in in the order the work goes in, with the photo each item needs before it gets buried. Work is commonly verified against the project specifications, manufacturer's published instructions. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The fence crew foreman setting posts, or the GC's superintendent checking the line before concrete sets. When: As posts are set and before the footing concrete takes its set, so a hole that's short or a post out of plumb can still be reset.

Submittals and materials

- [ ] Fence shop drawings and post schedule approved before setting
  Approved shop drawings on site showing post sizes, spacing, footing detail and gate hardware, the crew working from the current revision.
  No photo required

- [ ] Post material tagged or stamped to the approved submittal
  Bundle tag or stamped marking on the posts photographed, size, wall thickness and coating matched to the submittal before any post is set.
  1 photo required

Layout and alignment

- [ ] Fence line and gate openings set to the survey and plan
  Line pulled off survey control, offsets from property lines and setbacks confirmed, gate openings measured to the specified rough width before posts go in.
  2 photos required

- [ ] Underground utilities located and marked along the fence line
  Locate marks visible and current along the run, locate ticket on file, post holes shifted off any marked line rather than dug through it.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Grade along the run checked for stepping or racking
  Slope sighted post to post, sections planned to step or rack within the manufacturer's limits, bottom clearance to grade held at dips and rises.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Gate swing arc or slide path clear of grade and obstructions
  Full leaf path checked for rising grade, curbs, valve boxes and bollards, including the run-back area behind a slide gate, before gate posts are set.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Gate operator location coordinated with its pad and conduit
  Where a powered gate is shown, operator position, pad and conduit sleeve locations confirmed with the electrician and GC against the gate post layout.
  No photo required

Post holes and footings

- [ ] Post-hole depth and diameter meet the specified embedment
  Hole depth and width checked against the spec, deeper and wider footings at gate, corner and end posts, bottoms clean and not caved.
  2 photos required

- [ ] Footing concrete placed and crowned to shed water
  Concrete filling the hole with no voids around the post, top crowned above grade to drain away, embedded post depth confirmed before the set.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Footing concrete mix matches the specification
  Bag label or delivery ticket photographed and matched to the specified mix, water added only as the product label allows.
  1 photo required

Post spacing and plumb

- [ ] Post spacing matches panel or fabric runs
  On-center spacing checked against panel length or the fabric stretch, so no field-cut short panel or over-stretched run is forced at the end.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Posts plumb and on line before the set
  Each post checked plumb two ways and sighted down the run, gate posts braced against the pull of the leaf, corrected while the concrete is still workable.
  2 photos required

- [ ] Terminal posts set at every corner, end and grade break
  Heavier corner, end, gate and pull posts at each change in direction or slope as the shop drawings show, no line post standing in for a terminal.
  1 photo required

- [ ] Post tops set to the fence height on the drawings
  Post height above grade checked against the drawings along the run, tops stringlined so rails and caps will land level or follow the planned step.
  1 photo required

- [ ] No rails, fabric or gates hung before the footing cure time
  Sequence confirmed with the foreman: posts left braced and unloaded for the cure time the concrete product or spec lists before anything pulls on them.
  No photo required