

DIY INSTRUCTIONS

Congratulations! Your dog is going to love you!

Thank you for ordering your non-electric dog fence kit from Pet Playgrounds. In a very short time you'll have your very own personal dog park right in your backyard. It might take a little bit of *elbow grease*, but trust us it will be worth it.

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO INSTALL YOUR KIT WITHOUT FIRST WATCHING OUR VIDEO COMPLETELY **AND** READING THIS MANUAL.

Our kits utilize mesh material of different heights. For example, our 6 foot tall fence has both 4 foot tall mesh materials and 6 foot tall mesh materials that are overlapped. To view our complete video instructions please visit petplaygrounds.com/install

If you need to expand your existing Pet Playgrounds Dog Fence please visit petplaygroundsmore.com which offers parts and accessories to expand your existing Pet Playgrounds fence.

If you purchased a MAX Strength Dog Fence, make sure you watch the MAX Strength addendum at the end of the video. If you still have questions after watching the video please call our installation, parts and help line at **1 (866) 985-8547** or schedule a phone call with a Dog Fence expert by visiting petplaygrounds.com/schedule



Please note that Pet Playgrounds may substitute similar or better materials to provide you with the fastest delivery of your Dog Fence.

What does this mean? Here's an example:

Usually, we ship 100 foot rolls of our 1800 pound rubber coated welded wire mesh netting material that is used as a dig guard. However, sometimes we may substitute 2 (two) 50 foot rolls instead.

All substitutions are of equal or better value. These are only made to provide items as fast as possible.

If you have questions after reading this manual AND watching our full installation video please call our installation, parts and help line at **1 (866) 985-8547** or schedule a phone call with a Dog Fence expert by visiting petplaygrounds.com/schedule

Table of Contents

	What's in your kit?	iii
1	Getting Started	1
	How to Measure	1
	Tools Required	1
2	Step by Step Instructions	2
	Step 1: Measure, Plan and Layout.	2
	Step 2: Install no-dig sleeves	3
	Step 3: Install your posts and post collars	4
	Step 3 (con't): Add trees and other structures as post replacements.	5
	Step 4: Install post corner kits	6
	Step 5: Install the cable	7
	Step 6: Install the galvanized rubber coated welded wire	8
	Step 7: Install the polypropylene mesh	9
	Step 8: Install ground stakes	10
	Step 9: Finish attaching the fence to the house	11
	Step 10: Protect other areas	12
3	Gate Installation	13
4	MAX Strength Dog Fence Installation	17
	Differences between our MAX strength vs. our standard fence.	17
5	Resolving Common Issues	20
	Sleeve Issues	20
	Get Help	21

What's in your kit?



All kits come with a hog ringer included.

1 Getting Started

Pet Playgrounds offers 4 foot, 5 foot, and 6 foot tall fencing systems. We also offer a MAX Strength dog fence kit for dogs that try to chew through just about everything. Our gates are 5 foot wide, 8 foot wide and 14 foot wide. Visit petplaygrounds.com/order to customize and order your kit.

How to Measure

Our dog fencing system has been designed to use your home as one side of your fence. This saves you money and makes installation easier. If you are assembling your kit for a commercial application, such as rescue organization, you may want to create a free standing enclosure which requires you to add 2 corner post kits to your order. Our website will help you decide if you need these extra parts when you place your order at petplaygrounds.com/order

The best way to measure how many linear feet you need is by simply walking the perimeter of your proposed enclosure. Count your steps, and then multiply that number by 2.5 – it's that easy. Visit petplaygrounds.com/measure for details.

Our fencing system is able to use trees, storage sheds, and garages as replacements for posts. This has the added benefit of blending your Pet Playgrounds fence into your existing natural environment and making installation easier. You can also use a free iOS and Android app called [AirMeasure](#).

If you have any questions about location of any possible hazards, please have your utilities marked. This is a FREE service provided by your state. Visit call811.com for details.



Tools Required

- ◆ Medium-sized sledge hammer
- ◆ Screwdriver
- ◆ Small hammer
- ◆ Pliers
- ◆ Wire Snips
- ◆ Electric hand drill
- ◆ An adjustable ratchet or ratchet set
- ◆ Sawzall® with metal cutting blade (optional)

2 Step by Step Instructions



Step 1: Measure, Plan and Layout

The first step is to unpack all of the materials that you received and start laying out your no-dig sleeves approximately 20-25 feet from each other. If you ordered a gate, make sure you also lay out the 2 no-dig sleeves that you will use to install your gate posts – they are included in your kit. If you have lots of trees in your yard you can use them as post replacements. This will make your installation faster and will also help blend the fence into your natural surroundings. TIP: For aesthetic purposes, use a string to help you layout your fence. This will ensure the portion of your fence that needs to be straight is indeed straight.



Step 2: Install no-dig sleeves

Our no-dig sleeves come pre-drilled with a bolt to make it easier to plumb your posts. This is optional as most customers choose to use the nails that are provided to make their posts plumb. First, push the no-dig sleeve into the ground with your hands as much as you can. Then place the driving cap right on the no-dig sleeve. Use a medium sized sledge hammer to pound the sleeve into the ground. If you come across a rock or hard ground simply move the sleeve 2 to 3 feet in every direction until you completely avoid the obstacle. Our system has been designed to be incredibly flexible, so if you come across an obstacle you can modify your plan on-the-fly to accommodate whatever you run into. Sleeves should be driven down at least 50% or until they are solid. If it is not possible to drive your no-dig sleeve all the way down you can easily cut it with a reciprocating saw.

Note: Some customers may not receive black no-dig sleeves with bolts. It is a new feature that we are testing. You can choose to use it or disregard it. Let us know what you think of this new edition by sending an email to sales@petplaygrounds.com



Step 3: Install your posts and post collars

Now, it's time to add post collars to your posts. Simply slide the post collar to its proper position and tighten the eye lag. Use the provided magnetic level to plumb your posts, front to back and right to left. While the bolt will help level your post, you may need to use up to 2 nails per post to achieve a perfect level. Determine how much and which direction the post needs to go to make it plum. Put your foot at the base of the post, then hold the top of the post firmly. Tilt and pull it using your weight while holding the base with your foot. This will bend the post within the sleeve in the direction needed to get it plum. Use the provided nails to secure the post into the no-dig sleeve. For a 6 foot fence you should place your post collars at 3 feet for the bottom cable and 6 feet for the top cable. For 4 and 5 foot fences you should place your post collars 2 feet off the ground for the bottom cable. For the top cable you should place your post collars at 4 feet and 5 feet respectively. Just make sure to leave 1/4 inch of space for your decorative cap.



Step 3 (con't): Add trees and other structures as post replacements

You can use trees and other structures as posts. To use a tree as a post first pre-drill holes at the same heights where you placed your post collars. Use a screwdriver to twist the provided eye lag into the tree or any other structure. If you are using a tree, make sure the tree is at least 6 inches in diameter. When using a structure like a shed, make sure there is solid wood to hold the eye lag and you are not too close to the edge of the structure.



Step 4: Install post corner kits

Our fencing system is designed to use your home as one side of your fence, and our kits come with 2 full post corner kits, 1 start post and one end (or stop) post. What's the difference between a start and stop post and a full post corner kit? A start and stop post is installed flush to your home and only requires one angled post to secure it. A full corner post requires 2 angled posts on both sides of the corner that you are creating. If you are not using your house to act as one side of your fence, you will need to order 1 extra post corner kit.

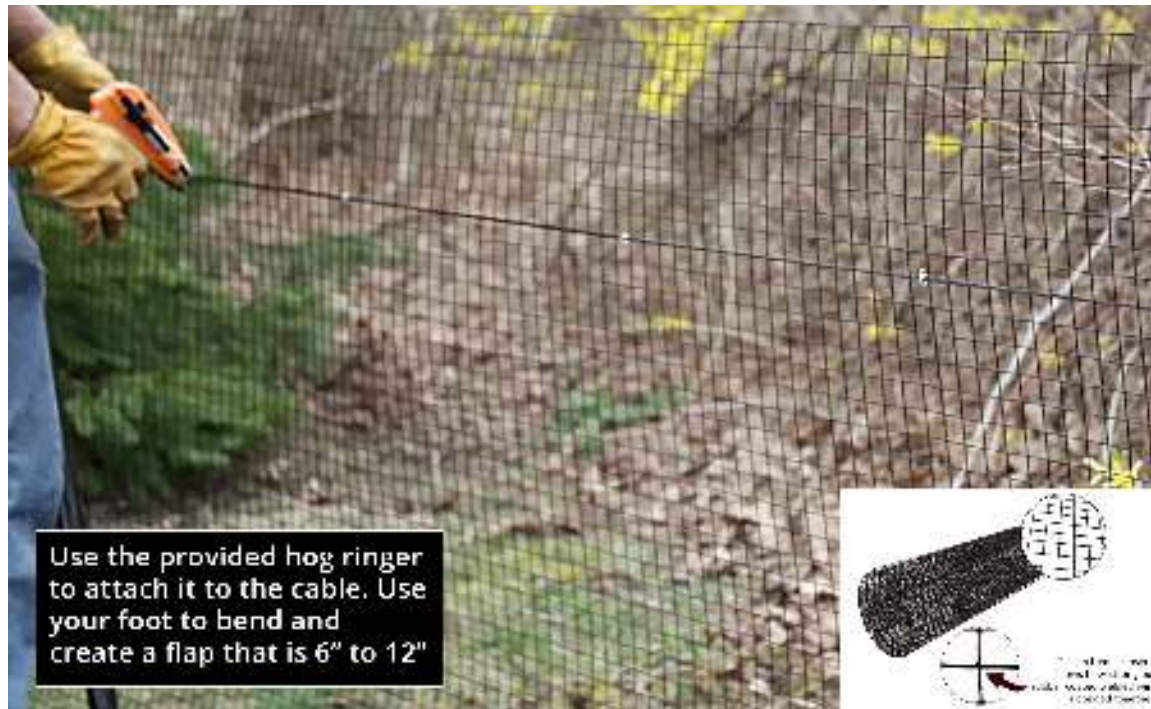
Take two of the posts that you received in your kit and drive them into the ground a few inches with your sledgehammer. Attach the cap to the brace band with the nut provided and secure one of the brace posts into the brace band. Then do the same thing with the remaining posts. For a start and stop post you will only need to use one brace post instead of two. Your corner posts will look no different than a regular post. They are both 1 5/8ths.



Step 5: Install the tension cable

Your 12 gauge braided steel cable will come on a spool. Simply run the 12 gauge tension cable through each eye lag on your post collars, or trees if you are using trees as post replacements. Create rectangular sections that are closed every 40 to 60 feet using the provided Gripple (also known as a cam lock) to attach the ends and close the rectangles. If you have a long straight stretch on level ground then you can create a 60 foot rectangle, but if you are creating a corner or are on a slop create a 40 foot rectangle instead.

This will create a top rail and bottom rail for your fence. You will attach the fencing materials to this cable. Your cable will go in to the Gripple easily, but will not come out. Use a pair of pliers to pull both sides of your cable tightly. There is no need to over tighten. Trim your cable leaving a few inches to spare. To make your fence look nice and neat you will hog ring the excess cable to the section you just created. This is not required, but it is an optional step you can take for aesthetic purposes.



Step 6: Install the galvanized rubber coated welded wire

Roll out the 1800 pound galvanized rubber coated welded wire netting mesh material for an entire section with an extra few inches of material (which is always needed when starting or stopping a roll of the welded wire.) Use the provided hog ringer to attach it to the cable. Use your foot to bend and create a flap that is 12 inches and lays flat on the ground. In some areas, your ground may not be level so your dig guard in these section may not be 12 inches. That is ok. Ensure that the dig guard is at least 6 inches in these situations. Pull the welded wire material to the next post or tree and hog ring it on the other side of the posts. Then go back and ring the welded wire to the cable every 3 feet. You will be creating a 1 foot flare that will be secured with ground stakes. The exact length of the flare will vary depending on the slope of your landscape. For corners use your feet to contour the material to your terrain, trees, and corners. This particular material was chosen for the bottom half of the fence due to its incredible flexibility. Use your hog ringer to attach the material to itself. This material will be secured to the ground in a later step.



Step 7: Install the polypropylene mesh

Give yourself a few extra inches and start by attaching the cleaner flat top end of the mesh to the top cable with the hog ringer. Unroll enough polypropylene to make it to the next post or tree, then go back securing the top edge of the mesh to the top cable, hog ringing it every 2 to 3 feet apart. Allow the polypropylene mesh to overlap with the rubber coated welded wire. Hog ring the welded wire and the polypropylene mesh together every 3 feet where they naturally meet. Pull the bottom of the material to get any wrinkles out. For angles, the polypropylene mesh can be cut then overlapped at any angle to match the terrain, just as was done with the welded wire.

Note: Our system has been designed to use various mesh materials at different heights that are overlapped to create a dog fence system that uses multiple layers of protection. So, if you order a 6 foot fence (for example), you will receive a 6 foot tall roll of polypropylene mesh, but you will receive a 4 foot tall roll of rubber coated welded wire. That is a total of 10 feet of fencing to create a finished height 6 foot tall height. When these materials are properly combined you will receive a fence that is capable of withstanding 2,900 pounds of pressure per square inch.



Step 8: Install stakes into the ground

Our stakes are zig-zag shaped to help them stay into the ground even when your dog tries to escape. Use a hammer (or rubber mallet if you have one) to get these stakes into the ground.

Alternate between the front edge of the welded wire and the back where the polypropylene mesh and welded wire meet. Stakes should be installed at a 45 degree angle about every 3-4 feet. In a few weeks the ground will grow through the flared in part of welded wire that is flat on the ground adding to the strength of the fence and hiding that part of the fence. You will be able to mow your lawn right over the dig guard and these stakes with no problem. If you are unable to get your stake into the ground due to a rock or another issue simply move a few inches in any direction until you can. If you live in a particularly wet area, you may want to put heavy rocks or stones on the dig guard for 2-3 weeks until the fence is secured with your soil. If you feel that you need more stakes for your particular dog you can purchase more at petplaygroundsmore.com



Step 9: Finish attaching the fence to the house

In step 3 we showed you the difference between a full corner post kit and start and stop post kit. At this point you should have all your posts installed including the posts that will be flush to your house. Simply wrap these posts just like we've done with all the others. Your start and stop post corner kits should use ONE angled post and should be flush with the house.



Step 10: Protect other areas

In some cases you might have a deck (or another area in your yard) that you don't want your dogs to access. You can use the same methods to fence in this area as we've used throughout this installation process. Just make sure that you have measured this additional area so you have enough materials to complete your installation. If you forgot to do this when you ordered your kit the first time, just go to petplaygroundsmore.com to purchase additional materials.

You will install no-dig sleeves and posts just as you did for the rest of the yard, you will use eye lags just as you did when you used trees as post replacements, you will run the cable the same way you did with the rest of the fencing area, and you will hog ring both materials to the cable the same way as you have done with the rest of the yard. You may want to use a staple gun to help secure the mesh fencing in hard to reach corners.

3 Gate Installation

What's in your gate kit?



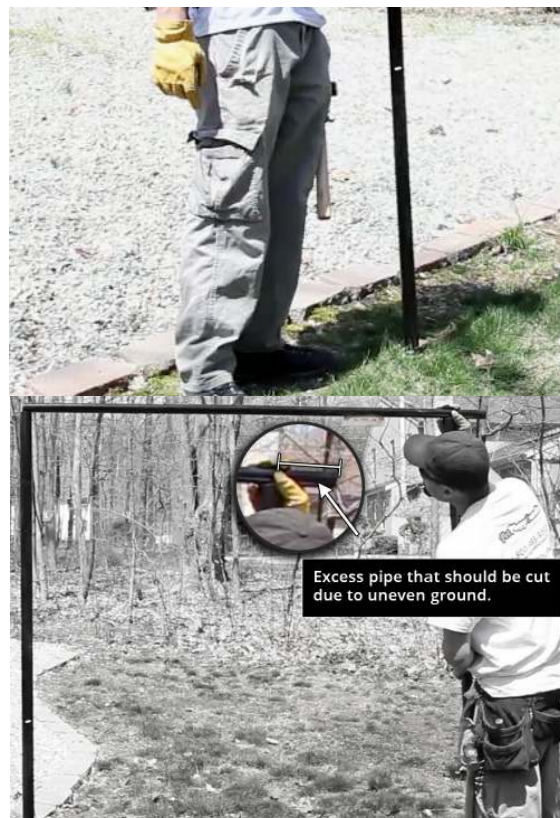
Install sleeves and posts

If you have a standard 5 foot wide gate the first step is to set the sleeves (and posts) 5 feet 2 inches apart. These no-dig sleeves should have been installed at the same time you installed all the other sleeves you needed for your fence.

If you have a larger 8ft. or 14ft. wide gate set your no-dig sleeves 8' 2" and 14' 2" apart respectively. Because most yards do not have an area that is level for 8 or 14 feet, you may need to cut the top bar with a reciprocating saw to make your gate fit. Alternatively, you can use a shovel and redistribute your soil and dirt to make this area level to avoid using a reciprocating saw.

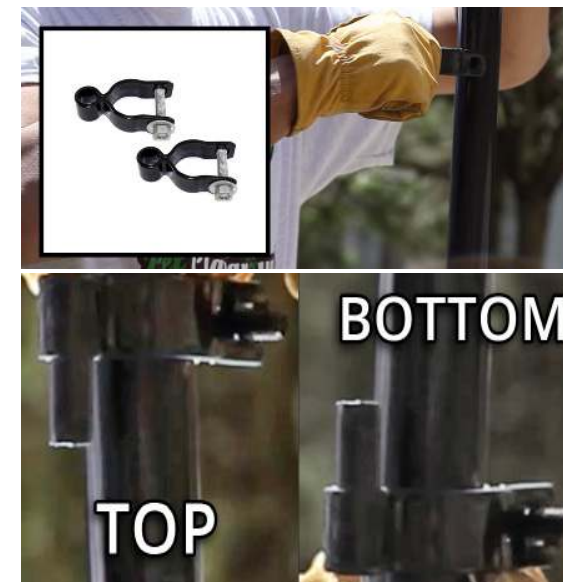
Layout frame

Connect the outer pieces together using the black corner elbows. Secure each corner elbow using the provided four self tapping screws. Attach each 1 3/8 Black Aluminum Hole Cap With Screw on each post then test the top bar to see if its level. Because most ground is not level, most homeowners will have to cut the top bar with a reciprocating saw to make your gate perfectly level. Once level you can secure the aluminum hole cap. 4 ft and 5ft tall gates do NOT have a top bar across the top of the gate.



Install female hinges

On one side of the gate, measure 12 inches from the top and 12 inches from the bottom. Attach one female hinge at each point using the nuts and bolts provided. Install the top female hinge facing downwards and the bottom hinge facing downwards (opposite). This is so smart dogs can't push up the gate.



Install gate latches

On the opposite side, attach the gate latches making sure they are 12 inches from the top and bottom, as you did with the hinges. Attach using the nuts and bolts provided, with the pad lock hole on the latch at the bottom.



Hook the turnbuckle

Hook the turnbuckle, located at the end of the corner tension wires into the center of the corner elbows on the top of the gate. Loop the tension wire through the wire clamp and then through the corner elbow on the opposite side on the bottom. 5 foot wide gates come with ONE turnbuckle. 8 and 14 foot wide gates come with two turnbuckles.



Tighten and level the frame

Loop the tension wire through the wire clamp and then through the corner elbow on the opposite side on the bottom. Feed the wire through the wire clamp. Tighten the wire and then tighten the wire clamp. Repeat on the other side. Then tighten the turnbuckle. Check to make sure the gate is square, level and plumb.



Wrap your gate

Use the welded wire and polypropylene mesh to cover the gate. First use a pair of wire snips to cut the needed amount of material. Lay the welded wire on the ground. Pre-cut spaces in the welded wire for gate latches and hinges. Use the hog ringer to attach the material together. Now do the same thing with the polypropylene mesh, and hog ring both materials together.



Connect gate to your fence

Stand the assembled gate frame upright and connect it to your fence. Hang your gate to the frame using the male hinges. Use your foot to support the gate to help guide the gate to the frame. That's it! Make sure everything opens up nicely. You can make adjustments by adjusting the hinges and latches.



4 MAX Strength Differences

Step 1 MAX Differences: Measure, Plan and Layout

Your no-dig sleeves and posts should be placed 15 feet to a maximum of 20 feet part (as opposed to our standard dog fence posts that can be placed up to 25 feet apart). You'll receive more sleeves, posts and other materials than our standard dog fence to accommodate the shorter distance between each post.

Step 3 MAX Differences: Install your posts and post collars

Our 6 & 7 MAX Strength Dog Fence requires 3 post collars per post. 6 Foot MAX fences should have their bottom post collar at 24 inches from the ground. The middle post collar should be placed 48 inches from the ground, and the last one should be placed roughly 72 inches from the ground. 7 foot MAX fences should have a middle cable at 55 inches from the ground and a bottom cable at 84 inches from the ground.

Step 4 MAX Differences: Install post corner kits

There are 3 post collars required for your corner posts (similar to Step 3).

Step 5 MAX Differences: Install the tension cable

You will create a rectangle with the tension cable the same way we instructed our standard dog fence customers to do, however you will do this using the top and middle post collars *instead* of the top and bottom post collars. Then after you create a rectangle using the top and middle post collars, you will run an independent bottom line. This will NOT be connected to the top and middle post collars. You will use a Gripple to start and stop your cable run.



Step 6 **MAX Differences:** Install the MAX Strength Layer

You will install the 3 foot tall one inch metal MAX Strength Layer to the middle cable line at 48". Use the provided hog ringer to attach it to the cable about every 2-3 feet. This is completely different than the instructions for our standard dog fence as this layer is not provided to our standard dog fence customers. This is the layer that will prevent your dogs from chewing through. Even if other layers get chewed through, this layer should remain in tact.



You can identify the MAX Strength layer by looking at the size of the opening. It is one inch and it is metal.

Step 6b **MAX Differences:** Create the Dig Guard

Now, we'll install the dig guard just like standard dog fence customers do, except we'll start this at the 24" cable line (the bottom post collar). Use the provided hog ringer to attach it to the cable about every 2-3 feet, just like our standard instructions indicate. You will use the the same metal roll that is 3 foot in height with a one inch opening to create your dig guard as you used in the last step.



You can see how the metal is bent in a backwards "L" shape to create the dig guard.

Step 7 **MAX Differences:** Install the polypropylene mesh

Our standard dog fence comes with a 6 foot tall polypropylene mesh roll, however our MAX Strength comes with a 4 foot tall roll instead. The reason for this is due to the addition of our MAX Strength Layer. This layer is intended to prevent your dog from getting a grip and climbing, therefore it is mostly used at the top of the fence (as shown on the right). You will hog ring this layer to the top cable. This is the last mesh layer you will install. You might see your dog chew through this flexible layer, but it is the MAX Strength layer that will keep your dog from escaping. You can identify this layer from the others as it is incredibly flexible.



Here is how the top of your fence will look when it is complete. Note how the top of the fence only has the polypropylene mesh on top (to prevent climbing).

MAX Differences: Installing your gate

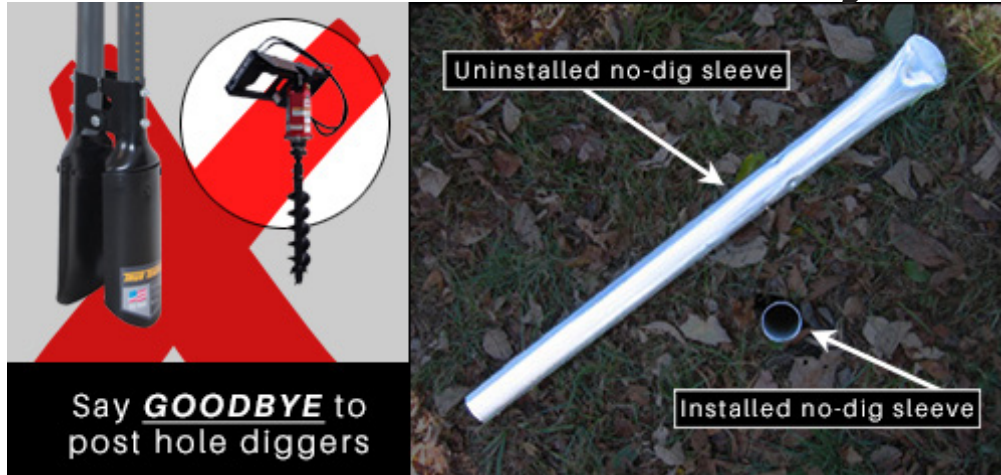
There are two differences installing your MAX Strength gate compared to a standard dog fence:

1. You will have 3 post collars on every post instead of 2
2. You will wrap your gate with 3 materials instead of two.

If you still have questions please call our installation, parts and help line at **1 (866) 985-8547** or schedule a phone call with a Dog Fence expert by visiting [petplaygrounds.com/schedule](https://www.petplaygrounds.com/schedule)

If you need to expand your existing Pet Playgrounds Dog Fence please visit [petplaygroundsmore.com](https://www.petplaygroundsmore.com) which offers parts and accessories to expand your existing Pet Playgrounds fence.

What to do when a sleeve starts to bend or won't go in?



If you haven't been able to pound the sleeve in the ground more than 50% you can simply try another location. Unlike traditional fencing systems our posts do not need to be in a straight line. That means you can move it to the left, right up or down from your original spot until you find a spot where you can pound the sleeve into the ground 50% of the height or more. If you are able to pound the sleeve into the ground 50% or more then you can simply use a reciprocating saw (like a Sawzall) to cut the excess part of the sleeve. Each sleeve is pinched 12 inches from the top. This is how far your posts will go into the sleeve.

If you pound a sleeve into the ground 50% or more it can be used as if you had pounded the sleeve into the ground the entire way as long as the ground is solid.

Sometimes your ground could be incredibly hard once you have pounded the sleeve into the ground 50% of the way or sometimes even 85% of the way. When this occurs you can simply use a reciprocating saw (like a Sawzall) or even a hacksaw with a metal blade below the pinch to remove the excess material. If your sleeve is not plumb the best thing to do is cut it near the ground so that you can use your foot to bend it straight as shown in our installation video which you can find at petplaygrounds.com/install. If all these options are unsuccessful the next option would be to modify your location or to use a strong tree or existing fence post. As a last resort you can use cement in order to get your sleeve into the ground, but this is rarely necessary.

If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to call us at 1-800-985-9202.

Having Issues?

The very first thing you should do is to watch our installation video in its entirety at petplaygrounds.com/install. Our installation video is complete with full tutorials on how to resolve several issues that you might encounter.

If you still have questions please call our installation, parts and help line at **1 (866) 985-8547** or schedule a phone call with a Dog Fence expert by visiting petplaygrounds.com/schedule

If you need to expand your existing Pet Playgrounds Dog Fence please visit petplaygroundsmore.com which offers parts and accessories to expand your existing Pet Playgrounds fence.