

# 4 Tips On Fence Post Hole Digging

## FOR HIGH-SECURITY FENCING

Planning for the installation of a high-security fencing system requires some fundamental considerations, and one of the most critical involves digging fence post holes for proper alignment, sturdiness and long-term strength. As the fence post digging process is foundational to proper installation, following are four important tips for managing the effort safely and effectively.

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### DETERMINE DIGGING SPECS BASED ON THE FENCING SOLUTION.

High-security fencing solutions are varied in form and function. From security mesh panels to palisade fencing and concrete walls, each solution will have its own requirements for digging posts. Horizontal and vertical measurements will hinge on the specific solution, as well as other considerations such as height specifications, site conditions, physical scale of the property, perimeter security needs and access points, etc. Confirm all of these elements before beginning the fence post digging and installation process.

02

### PLAN AND PERFORM ALL PRE-DIGGING SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.

Fence post digging for a high-security fence installation comes with inherent safety risks, including strikes on underground infrastructure. In order to mitigate these risks and approach excavation in the safest way possible, it is paramount to plan and implement all necessary safety measures. One of the first is calling 8-1-1, the One Call system, to arrange for the identification and location of underground utilities so you can safely dig around them. Then there's a **host of additional steps** to carry out in the interest of ensuring safe digging for a high-security fence.

03

### IDENTIFY THE BEST FENCE POST HOLE DIGGING METHOD(S) FOR THE JOB.

There's more than one way to dig fence post holes, though not all methods are ideally suited for high-security applications. Depending on the particular circumstances of the site and fencing solution, digging options may include one or more of the following:

#### Machine augering (aka auger drilling):

To install fence posts atop soil or other ground material, auger drilling is used to penetrate and extract the material via a large spiral or helical-shaped tool (otherwise known as an auger). The auger rotates into the soil, transferring the ground material up through the spiraled shaft and out of the drilled hole.

#### Vacuum excavation:

Fence post digging that utilizes vacuum excavation is one of the safest, most precise and efficient methods. It is a process of employing highly pressurized streams of water or air to break up ground soil and then suctioning it out through a heavy-duty vacuum.

#### Fence post pounding:

This method negates the use of a drill or excavator. Instead, it involves driving the fence posts into the ground either manually or via a machine driver. While no digging is required, this option must be handled skillfully so as to maintain the posts' evenness and stability throughout the driving process.

#### Core drilling:

When fence posts are being installed on concrete (or other hard material, like pavers or tile), core drilling is often applied. This involves the use of a handheld drilling machine equipped with a diamond tip to make a clean cylindrical cut through the material without cracking it.

#### Hand digging:

Holes for fence posts may be dug manually using a spade or shovel, but this is both a physically demanding and time-consuming effort—particularly for high-security fencing solutions. This option has become increasingly outdated and unnecessary, replaced by more modern and efficient approaches where possible.



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### RELY ON THE SERVICES OF A QUALIFIED FENCING COMPANY.

Given the importance of properly installing fencing for high-security facilities and properties, it's best to partner with a highly knowledgeable, skilled and experienced professional. These types of fencing projects require no less than expert recommendations on specific system applications, site grading concerns, creative solutions and the best methods to employ based on an evaluation of site-specific details. Be sure to find a qualified company that will manage the job in accordance with proper standards for safety, security, preventative maintenance and OSHA compliance.

**INTERESTED IN LEARNING HOW RUTKOSKI FENCING CAN HELP WITH YOUR HIGH-SECURITY FENCING INSTALLATION?**

Our professionals are ready to answer your questions.

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