



Step 1: Inspection

- ☐ Check for Damage: Inspect wooden fences for broken, rotting, or warped boards. Check vinyl fences for any holes or cracks. For aluminum fences, look for bent or broken spindles. Lastly, examine chain-link fences for holes or damaged ties.
- ☐ Stability: Ensure posts are standing straight and aren't leaning or shifting.
- ☐ Fasteners: Inspect nails, screws, or bolts for rust or loosening.

Step 2: Cleaning

- ☐ Remove Debris: Clear away dirt, leaves, or debris that might cause damage.
- ☐ For Wood Fences: Spray the fence with a sodium metasilicate mixture (cleaner), followed by an oxalic acid mixture (brightener).

Free Pro Tip! Below is the link to the brand we recommend.

<https://stainandsealsupply.com/collections/cleaners-brighteners>

Free Pro Tip! Once you've sprayed the cleaner on the fence, use a pressure washer to lightly remove the old wood fibers and dirt, revealing the fresh wood underneath. Be sure to rinse the fence thoroughly after brushing and before applying the oxalic acid mixture.

- ☐ For Vinyl Fences: Begin by spraying the fence with water and scrubbing it with soap. If you notice algae growth on the fence, utilize a mild bleach solution for effective cleaning.
- ☐ When the fence is clean, rinse the fence thoroughly to ensure all chemicals are removed.

Step 3: Stain and Seal (Wood Fence Only)

- ☐ Apply stain and sealer to a cleaned wood fence. Staining and sealing with a penetrating oil based stain and sealer is the best way to prolong the life of your wood fence.

Free Pro Tip! Below is the link to the stain and seal brand we recommend.

<https://stainandsealsupply.com/>

- ☐ It is possible to use a manual pump sprayer but we recommend buying a small airless sprayer to stain your fence.

Free Pro Tip! Below is a link to a Graco airless sprayer we recommend.

<https://www.graco.com/us/en/contractor/product/262800-magnum-x5.html>

Step 4: Repair Damaged Areas

- ☐ Replace Broken Boards/Posts: If any sections of your fence are damaged or broken, consider fixing it so it does not cause other problems with the fence.
- ☐ Inspect Fasteners: Tighten any loose screws, nails, or bolts.

Step 5: Inspect Gates

- ☐ Alignment: Ensure the gate is properly aligned and opens/closes smoothly.
- ☐ Hinges and Latches: Check hinges and latches for rust or damage. Lubricate if needed.

Free Pro Tip! Hire a fence contractor that has a minimum of a 3-year workmanship warranty on gates. This likely insures they have a gate installation method that works.

Step 6: Trim Vegetation

- ☐ Overhanging Plants/Vegatations: Trim plants or vines that may be growing over the fence as they can cause damage over time.

Step 7: Evaluate for Safety

- ☐ Sharp Edges: Check for any sharp edges or protrusions that could be a safety hazard.

Step 8: Reassess Fence Purpose

- ☐ Privacy: Ensure there are no gaps or damage that could compromise your privacy.
- ☐ Security: Verify all latches still function and lock properly.

By following this checklist, you can improve the longevity of your fence while maintaining its aesthetic appeal and functionality.