

****PLEASE READ BEFORE INSTALLING****

INSTALLATION PROCEDURES FOR GATES, DRIVE GATES, ARBORS AND PANELS

(Note: We greatly appreciate the Hi-Resolution jpegs of your completed installation. If possible, close-up, as well as a fuller view of the residence or grounds.)

PEDESTRIAN GATES

In-swinging gates are set to the far edge of the post or jambs. Out-swinging gates to the near edge.

All hinges are surface-mounted. Do NOT mortise in the hinges. The vast majority of CPW gates are hung with 4” ball-bearing butt hinges.

Install the provided hinges to your gate by aligning them with the pre-set hinge holes in the edge of the gate. Because the ball-bearing hinges do not have removable pins, you must set the gate on blocks that will bring it to the desired height-- normally 2" off the grade. On the post or jamb, scribe a pencil-line along the top of the upper hinge, and another scribe in from the edge of the post or jamb that is equal to the depth of the hinge setting on the gate. Re-position the gate at 90-degrees in the open position—supporting the gate with blocks and shims-- providing access to mark, pre-drill, and set only the top hinge screw of the top hinge in place.

The top hinge, with only one screw, has been allowed to pivot its alignment to the bottom screw and prevent binding. For the bottom hinge, mark that distance depth on the post with the same dimension as the top (for 1-1/2”-thick gates, this is 1-1/2”). Mark and pre-bore the top screw hole of this bottom hinge and set this hinge screw in place. The gate is now self-supporting, and evenly hung without binding or misaligned hinge settings. Go ahead and set all the hinge screws for all the hinges. .

The net gate width is 5/8” less than the rough opening. (Deleted sentence) This allows 1/4” for the surface-mounted hinges, and 3/8” for swing. It is important to **recess or mortise the latch strike plates flush to their post** or jamb, otherwise you lose a portion of the swing clearance. Often, the gates will arrive slightly wide , requiring a little planing along this latch edge (This occurs when your post or column is not plumb and we must build to the wider dimension). The gates are often pre-bored for their latches upon arrival, depending on whether the latch was ordered through CPW. Shipped gates will not arrive with the latches in place.

Pool Code Gates:

Pool Code gates must be 1) self-closing, 2) self latching, 3) out-swinging (away from the pool), and 4) a specified height for the latch, depending on local codes (usually between

48”- 60” from the grade). Set the spring hinge tension by using the provided Allen wrench and turning clockwise, or away from the gate, until the gate swings shut with the proper speed. Over-torquing the setting will result in a slamming gate.

Gate Stops:

Every gate arrives with two gate stops. One will have two small felt pads to indicate the latch-side. The gate should be in the closed position, setting the latch stop snugly to the edge of the gate so the pads touch the gate. The pads are to minimize the noise of a slamming gate. The hinge-side stop should be set perhaps 1/16” away from the edge of the gate to prevent binding.

Latches:

CPW may or may not provide the latches to the gate. Most latches are configured so that in-swing gates see the horizontal latch bar on the inside, or residence side of the gate. Out-swing gate has this horizontal latch bar on the street side, upon approaching the gate. (** If you are using the popular “Euro” bronze lever latch from European Hardware, the plate requires that the ‘latch-side gate-stops’ be cut into two pieces, places above and below the latch plate to allow the clearance of the 1/2”-thick plate.)

Gate Jambs:

Jambs accompany all gates that are mounded from masonry, brick, stucco, or stone columns and walls. These can be mounted with either masonry spread bolts or threaded rod embedded with epoxy. If possible, bore for these mounting bolt along the edge of the jambs that will be covered with the gate stops. The jambs are not pre-bored, to insure that the mounting bolts are not inadvertently aligned to mortar joints. The mounting bolt bores should be recessed so the nuts are flush to the surface. It is suggested that a weatherizing tape is applied to the back of the jambs (after the mounting holes are drilled). This tape is to prevent decay from developing between the jamb and wall where there is no light or air and where moisture can collect.

Set the jamb against the wall or column and mark the hole placement on the masonry by using a punch or drill. Set the jamb aside and drill out a hole into the masonry using a masonry bit approximately 2-1/2” deep (take a pencil and test the depth of the hole to insure you have reached the desired depth before setting the bolts). While boring, it helps to have a can of water nearby, cooling your bit frequently to prevent it from overheating and growing dull. Reset the jamb in place and insert the masonry bolts. Back off the nut to flush with the end of the bolt and tap the bolt lightly into place. Do this with all the bolts of a given jamb and then, using a ratchet, tighten the nut until the jamb is snug and firm. Do not over-tighten. If you are using Spread-Bolts, the opposite end of the bolt

expands within the hole. The bolt heads are hidden by the accompanying gate stops. Check to insure the jambs are plumb. If not, use shims where needed. (Note: Because every application may call for a specific type of masonry bolt and installers have their own preferences, CPW does not provide the masonry mounting bolts).

Threaded Rod: The use of threaded rod is advisable when mounting jambs to an irregular surface such as stone. This prevents the jambs from rocking on a high stone. Set the jambs in place, plumb, and mark and make two marks on the stone to indicate where to bore for the rod. Remove the jambs and bore into the columns by choosing, if possible, a stable mortar joint. Set the threaded rod into the columns using an epoxy adhesive. The rod can be left proud, or extended of the column by as much as several inches. The jambs are then marked to correspond to the rod before being bored. First recessing for the wider washer/nut, and then bored through for the rod diameter. Once this is done, you can apply the weatherizing tape to the back and cut away the tape that covers the holes you just bored. Fit the jamb over the threaded rod and thread the washers and nuts in place, adjusting to plumb as they are tightened. Cut the rod off flush to the jamb.

--Those gates provided with jambs have the option of adjusting the jamb clearance by loosening the nuts on the threaded rod or masonry bolts and shimming between the jambs and masonry. Caulking or dry-packing the void.

It can often help to sculpt the back of the jamb or chisel the high stones to gain a better seat between the jamb and stone surface. (Deleted sentences here)

If you have not yet built your irregular stone columns, it is best to plan on mounting the jambs directly to the column block core. This requires providing CPW with a rough opening width dimension from one column block core to the other. Then determining the depth from the block to the proudest stone face. CPW will call this out in the drawings, with jamb thickness that is 1/2" beyond this dimension to insure the gate swings unimpeded by high stones.

In the meantime, so the construction of your pillars can continue while waiting for the CPW gate, the installer must use mock jambs (Jambs are 3-1/2" wide. --Deleted phrase). The mock jambs are temporarily fixed to the pillar core to allow setting the stone. Once the stone is set, the temporary jambs can be removed and when the gate arrives, installing the permanent CPW jambs for a solid seating to the block core.

Electronic released gates: The Magna Locks are our choice for electronic release access. They are expensive, and they are ugly. But they are the only reliable electronic access with gates that expand and contract from season to season. If you prefer, or are asked to install an electronic strike system, such as the Rofu, you must consider that the swing clearance for these is a maximum 1/4" and such that the gate may likely swell in the winter to where it will not close at all.

The Magnal Lok is surface-mounted and allow the gates to continue to expand and shrink with the seasons. One plate is surface-mounted to the jamb(which has been laminated to an appropriate thickness here in the shop) The back of this jamb has been dadoed to accept the cat-5 wiring that will arrive installed in the jamb and stubbed out at the bottom. If you are mounting to a wood post, the plate will arrive with a conduit thread

and conduit can be run exposed down the post to the connection box. The corresponding Z-plate is mounted to the gate stile.

Gate Posts: Your post height is best extended 3-3/4" beyond the height of the gate at the hinge and lock spring-points. The slip-over post caps are set by pre-drilling 1/8" holes on four sides and setting the cap to the post using a tube of construction adhesive or adhesive caulking, working the cap into place before nailing it to the post. Check to insure the cap is set squarely and not tilted. Four pre-drilled holes--on each side of the cap, and set with exterior screws to insure the cap will not cup or warp in years to come.

Post Setting

(The Example Post Hole sketch can be found on the Fence Pricing and General Information page, under the Site Map)

Fenceline posts are set on a bed of 3-inches of gravel to allow better drainage beyond the vulnerable bottom-cut. Filling the posthole with pea gravel to two-thirds its depth allows further improved drainage while eliminating the need for post stakes. (The pea gravel essentially stabilizes the post while allowing for final adjustments in plumbing) The final 6-8 inch capping of concrete acts as a washer to create stability. A slightly tapered cap will help to insure water runs away from the post. Gate posts, however, with the extra load of a hinged gate and the stress of flanking fencelines, should sit on a bed of gravel and the entire posthole filled with concrete. For these posts it is advisable to treat the post with a wood-to-dirt preservative. For fenceline posts, no preservative is needed.

Post Caps

Posts are ideally cut 3-1/2 inches above the top rail of the fence panels. Post ends should be sealed with primer or an emulsion product.(This is particularly important when the fence panels and posts are painted a white or light color, as the tanins from the post-ends will bleed out onto the body of the posts) Undersides of post caps should also be sealed prior to installation. Silicone adhesive caulk, or construction adhesive, applied to post end, working the cap into place. A square against the post and the bottom edges of the cap insure the cap sets level. Pre-drill through the top and screw off with four weather-resistant screws. (using finish nails may result in the caps warping, or curling.)

The caps can be ordered directly off the site, under the Site Map.

Mounting to CPW Gate Columns

For those Garden Gates flanked by the CPW Gate Columns, the procedure varies. The Columns arrive as three-sided assemblies to be slipped around your wood posts. Two faces of the Columns are detailed and exposed to face the street and residence. The other

two sides are solid, parallel to the gate opening. Your posted drawing call out the exact dimensional requirement for where to set the posts in allowing for the needed clearance

of the Columns themselves. In most cases, there is the net width of the gate, plus the standard 5/8" clearance (1/4" for surface-mounted hinges and 3/8" for swing clearance). In addition to this, the Column dimension is accommodated by setting the post, as a surfaced 6x6, another 2-1/16". For surfaced 4x4 posts, the post is set another 3-5/16". So a 42" net gate width using surfaced 6x6 posts will have the posts with a rough opening dimension between them at 46-7/8".

We suggest 4" heavy-duty solid brass ball-bearing butt hinge with a bronze tint, surface-mounted to the solid face of the Column in the exact same manner outlined above, as if the column were a standard wood post.

Lighted Columns: When the gate Columns are lighted, the fixture arrive in place and the wiring is stubbed out at the bottom of the Column, where it can be junctioned to the source as a low-voltage fixture.

DRIVE GATES--

CPW Drive gates of 12' overall width and less are 2-1/4" thickness and require no steel frame. For overall widths beyond 12', all gates require embedded steel frames.

Four Applications

(Illustrated guidelines can be found under **Drive Gate Specifications page on the web site**)

<http://www.prowellwoodworks.com/driveway_gates/specifications.htm>

- 1) Mounting to steel posts (with masonry or CPW Gate Columns)
- 2) Mounting to masonry columns (without steel posts)
- 3) Mounting to wood posts (with or without CPW Gate Columns)
- 4) Mounting single-span sliding gates
- 5) Mounting pivot hinges for the below grade SEA motors.

1) Mounting to steel posts (with masonry or CPW Gate Columns)

CPW will supply a hinge system that is to be welded directly to your installed 6x6 steel posts at a height called out in the CPW drawings. This hinge "sleeve" will arrive at the job site at a prescribed length prior to the gate's arrival to facilitate the coordination and completion of pillar construction. Often times the steel posts will be clad with concrete block and surfaced with stucco, stone or veneer to fashion a masonry column. It is best to embed the CPW hinge system directly to the core steel post prior to the masonry. If the

steel posts are to be wrapped by a CPW Gate Column, the same application occurs but with a CPW-supplied hinge that extends 2-1/16" longer for Gate Column installation.

To set the height of the hinge to the steel post, use a transit. The hinge sleeve can be cut to length on-site so it is flush with the masonry. For gates without embedded steel frames,

the opposite plate mounts to the edge of the gate with a provided 1/4" lag bolt. For gates with embedded steel frames, the opposite plate arrives already welded to the embedded steel frame through a mortised section on the edge of the gate.

CPW Columns: The hinge sleeve is welded to the steel post at the points called out in the drawings. This enables the columns to slip around the post as three-sided assemblies and the column to be bored on the fourth face. This face is slipped over the two hinge sleeves and screwed into place at the provided bores.

2) Mounting to masonry columns (without steel posts)

CPW will supply a hinge system that is to be attached directly to the core of your masonry column at a height called out in the CPW drawings. This hinge "sleeve" will arrive at the job site at a prescribed length prior to the gate's arrival to facilitate the coordination and completion of pillar construction. Often times the concrete core will be surfaced with stucco, stone or veneer to fashion a masonry column. It is best to embed the CPW hinge system directly to the concrete core prior to the final masonry application.

To set the height of the hinge to the concrete core, use a transit. To bore into the stone or block, use a roto hammer drill, and bore the full depth of the hinge sleeve. Embed the sleeve into the bore with epoxy. The hinge sleeve can be cut to length on-site so the female-threaded end is flush with the final masonry application. If there is need for incremental height adjustment due to run-out on the boring bit, spacing washers can be added to the rob end of the hinge.

For gates without embedded steel frames, the opposite plate mounts to the edge of the gate with a provided 1/4" lag bolt. For gates with embedded steel frames, the opposite plate arrives already welded to the embedded steel frame through a mortised section on the edge of the gate.

3) Mounting to wood posts (with or without CPW Gate Columns)

CPW bi-partitioning drive gates (two panels that open in the center) with an overall width of 12-feet or less do not require an embedded steel frame and can be mounted off 6x6 wood posts. In this case, CPW will supply three pairs of 4-1/2" heavy-duty, ball-bearing, surface-mounted butt hinges and pre-bore for the hinges prior to installation.

CPW Columns: The drive gate hinges from the CPW columns in the same manner as a Garden Gate. The CPW column arrives as a three-side assembly, slipped around the wood post and the fourth face mounting to place with the provided bores and plugs. The solid faces of the column faces is parallel with the gate and this face accepting the hinges. An added distance in allowing for the Column thickness is 2-1/16" per column for surfaced 6x6 posts. This dimension is called out on your CPW dimensioned drawings.

4) Mounting single-span Sliding gates

* Sliding gates are configured as a single gate spans with embedded steel frames
Sliding gates run on a V-groove track installed in the drive surface. Wheels are mounted to CPW gates at provided locations along the bottom rail, creating approximately a 3-1/3"

clearance from the bottom of the gate and the grade. The gate is aligned in its vertical position by either a separate parallel track and that accepts the rollers mounted to the gate edge, or by a pair of rollers mounted to the post and in contact with the gate itself.

Illustrations of these applications can be viewed on the web site under drive gate hinge Specifications

<http://www.prowellwoodworks.com/driveway_gates/specifications_4.htm>

CPW provides the various access points for

- 1) Mounting the track wheels to the gate
- 2) Mounting the alignment rollers to the gate edge

Your installer or automation contractor provides:

- 1) The V-Track
- 2) Wheels
- 3) Alignment rollers
- 4) Parallel roller track.

FENCELINES

Fencelines are provided with plan view drawing, sequencing the installation order by labeling the various panels to correspond to the drawing. Panels arrive marked on the edges with their labeled numbers.

For non-gate fencelines:

Permanently install the first fence post (surfaced 6x6 or 4x4) at either the left or right ends of the given fenceline (preferably that end, if any, fixed to a structure). Temporarily set the other post establishing the other end of the fenceline and stake it plumb. Secure a tight stringline between these two end-posts.

For fencelines with gate breaks:

Begin with setting the gate posts to their prescribed setting, using the gate width as a guide. Hinge-side posts are set in concrete, on a 3" bed of pea gravel for drainage. String a line, as above, to establish the fenceline to the corner. Beginning with the first, permanently installed gate-post, measure over the length of the first modular panel. Establish the hole for this post and set the panel & post in place for a dry fit, insuring the

hole is set the right distance and to the stringline. Remove the post and, if necessary, trim the hole and fill it with approximately 3 inches of pea gravel. Return the post to the hole and set the panel to the approximate desired height on the first permanent post (The panels are secured using 1/4" x 4" lag screws). Three lags per post set through the pre-drilled holes located on that side of the panel not exposed to the street. An arrow beneath each identifying panel number helps to identify the front-facing side.

Hold the second post plum while setting a level along the top rail of the panel, marking that level point by scribing a line on the post with an awl or nail (In the event the panels are later removed for access to painters, the scribed mark will make re-setting the panel a simple procedure, whereas a pencil mark will be lost.). Screw the panel to this second post and you have the first section in place. The second post is held plum by the rigidity of the panel . Align the post, moving the post along with its attached panel, to the stringline and insuring that it is plumb to the stringline. Fill the hole two-thirds full with pea gravel--never closer than 8-inches to the top--and the post and panel are now self-supporting. Continue this same procedure down the length of the fenceline to the last section at the far end.

Set a second stringline between end-posts at the desired fence height and fine-tune the settings of each panel (For those with slightly sloping grades, by working from left-to-right and setting the right-side frame board to the rising stringline will insure an evenly stepped pattern)

After checking that all posts are plum, the postholes can be topped with approximately 6-8 inches of concrete and allowed to cure overnight.

Gate Breaks

When a gate is to be positioned along the run of a continuous fenceline, the two gate posts can be positioned by the use of spreaders. Two 1 x 6's at top and bottom temporarily tacked to the face of the posts. Between the posts and screwed to the inside of the 1 x 6 spreaders are two blocks set to allow the rough opening width shown on the drawings.

POST SETTING

(To Example Post-Hole Sketch)

Fenceline posts are set on a bed of 3-inches of gravel to allow better drainage beyond the vulnerable bottom-cut. Filling the posthole with pea gravel to two-thirds its depth allows further improved drainage while eliminating the need for post stakes. (The pea gravel essentially stabilizes the post while allowing for final adjustments in plumbing) The final 6-8 inch capping of concrete acts as a washer to create stability. A slightly tapered cap will help to insure water runs away from the post. Gate posts, however, with the extra

load of a hinged gate and the stress of flanking fencelines, should sit on a bed of gravel and the entire posthole filled with concrete. For these posts it is advisable to treat the post with a wood-to-dirt preservative. For fenceline posts, no preservative is needed.

POST CAPS

Posts are ideally cut 3-1/2 inches above the top rail of the fence panels. Post ends should be sealed with primer or an emulsion product. (This is particularly important when the fence panels and posts are painted a white or light color, as the tanins from the post-ends

will bleed out onto the body of the posts) Undersides of post caps should also be sealed prior to installation. Silicone adhesive caulk, or construction adhesive, applied to post end, working the cap into place. A square against the post and the bottom edges of the cap insure the cap sets level. Pre-drill through the top and screw off with four weather-resistant screws. (using finish nails may result in the caps warping, or curling.)

CPW's LANDSCAPE LIGHTING GATE COLUMNS--Drive Gates

****See Drive Gate Installation Specifications--**

Gate Columns onto 6x6 Steel Posts

(Gates over 12' overall width and mounted to steel frames)

Drive Gates mounting to steel frames will require the 6x6 steel posts be configured with steel T-Bar straps that are welded to the steel posts. These small flatiron extensions are normally about 2-1/2" wide by 1/8-1/4" thick, and approximately 3-1/2" long. Two per post. The location of these are called out in the drawings provided by CPW of the steel frame dimensions. Their exact dimensions are verified from the field once the steel posts and the steel frames have been installed by the automation contractor. With this dimension, we make a small mortise in the Columns that allow them to slip over the steel posts and fit to the T-bar extensions. The T-Bar extensions are long enough to extend proud of the Column approximately 1/2", allowing for the knuckle barrel hinge on the steel frame to weld to the ends of the T-bars. This also insures that the entire bearing load of the wood gate and steel frame are drawn from the steel post and not the Wood Columns.

CPW'S Landscape Lighting Gate Columns--Pedestrian Garden Gates

For those Garden Gates flanked by the CPW Gate Columns, the procedure varies. The Columns arrive as three-sided assemblies to be slipped around your wood posts. Two faces of the Columns are detailed and exposed to face the street and residence. The other two sides are solid, parallel to the gate opening. Your posted drawing call out the exact dimensional requirement for where to set the posts in allowing for the needed clearance of the Columns themselves. In most cases, there is the net width of the gate, plus the standard 5/8" clearance (1/4" for surface-mounted hinges and 3/8" for swing clearance).

In addition to this, the Column dimension is accommodated by setting the post, as a surfaced 6x6, another 2-1/16". For surfaced 4x4 posts, the post is set another 3-5/16". So a 42" net gate width using surfaced 6x6 posts will have the posts with a rough opening dimension between them at 46-7/8".

CPW provides their 4" heavy-duty butt hinge, surface-mounted to the solid face of the Column in the exact same manner outlined above, as if the column were a standard wood post.

Lighted Columns: When the gate Columns are lighted, the fixture arrive in place and the wiring is stubbed out at the bottom of the Column, where it can be junctioned to the source as a low-voltage fixture.

CPW's Landscape Lighting Columns:

The Landscape Lighting Column was designed primarily as an architectural lighting source within the landscape. These require 4x4 or 6x6 wood or steel posts set into the grade and extending to the height called out in the provided drawings. The Column arrives as a complete four-sided assembly, slipping over the top of the set post. The wiring is fed out under the bottom of the Column and junctioned to a low-voltage power source.

The Column is secured to the post using the pre-bored screw holes and wood screws. The Column Cap slips over the Column and is secured using the clips that are mounted to the column body itself. Access to the fixture or Plexiglas sheets that back the upper grid pattern is allowed by removing the Cap.

ARBORS:

CPW Arbors are predominantly sold as extensions to existing wood posts, columns, and walls.

To Wood Posts: Two and four-post assemblies arrive with mounting caps secured to the bottom ends of the arbor posts. These are seated to the existing posts with construction adhesive and four screws set to the pre-bored locations in the mounting caps.

To Columns and Walls: These arrive without mounting caps. They are designed to mount onto the tops of columns or walls using threaded rods. The bottom of the arbor posts are pre-bored, with an accompanying template to help you align the bore into the column or wall. The threaded rod is set into the masonry or stone with epoxy and fed into the bottom of the arbor posts.

Ceiling Panels: Certain 4-post arbors are offered in a variety of designs and styles. Commonly, they consist of panels that are joined and assembled in the shop and shipped free of the corresponding beam work. The panels simply mount to the cross-beams as shown on the drawings with 3" stainless screws.

Valance Panels: These panels were designed to fit between the gate and arbor posts, mounted with screws. The Valance Panels, and the gate, determines the exact width of the post settings. Four-post square settings will often require the installer to use a plywood template to insure the posts are set square and not as a parallelogram.

Flat Grid Arbors: These are commonly delivered with the overhead grid as a half-lap joined assembly, as well as joined to the cross-beams. The entire assembly is raised into place and set atop the four set arbor posts. For square settings, the bottoms of the arbor beams will be notched with a 1/2" dado, slipping over the post for a 'seat.' For off-set

arbor entries, where the opening entry is wider than the exit, the beams, the posts are drawn in as 'set on the square', simply to make it easier for the installer. The arbor grid assembly then simply sets atop the four posts, and is bolted into the post ends with provided bolts and pre-bored holes.

Flat Grid Arbors w/ Plexiglas Sheathing: These arbors were developed as a weather resistant arbor while providing the detailing of a lighted ceiling (the sunlight penetrates the plexiglas). To manage the run-off off rainwater, the plexiglas is set in strips the length of each grid, separated by fluted channels that direct the water to the arbor edge. As with the above grid assembly, the entire unit is set atop the posts at once. Relax..this is dry timber, and a typical 4' x 4' overhead assembly weighs in at only 75 pounds.

Gabled Arbors w/ Insert Panels: These assemblies arrive with the two gable rafters cut and mounted to the two cross-beams, with the ride board joined in place. Each side of the gable usually has two inserted panels set on the louvre. Four panels in all. These are also delivered in place. This entire assembly is set to the top of the cut posts as a pre-assembled unit.

CARE & MAINTENANCE

The maintenance schedule of your work varies to your preferred finish. Because cedar does not require a finish of any kind to prolong it's life, you can opt to leave the cedar unfinished and allowed to gray. Beyond the considerations of a finish, there are no maintenance demands to the CPW gates or products.

FINISHES

Sikkens Cetrol #1 and #23 Plus for the most durable and longest lasting oil-based finish.

(For a fuller discussion of Sikkens, you will find a link under the CPW Site Map to Finishes)

In those areas where Sikkens is unavailable, we recommend **Cabot Stains**

2 years, **3-6= years, ***= 5-10 years

* Clear Seal.....A natural graying with time. To prevent moisture absorption, Cabot's Clear-Seal Solution (completely invisible) should be reapplied when water no longer beads on the surface of the wood.

* Natural Oil.....A penetrating oil that enriches the wood tone while providing a water repellent seal. Cabots Clear Solutions is recommended.

** Cabots Semi-Transparent and Semi-Solid Stains.....The wood grain remains visible. It is a finish often preferred because the pigments provide a more organic compliment to the surrounding landscape. Requires a single coat. No primer.

*** Paint The most durable, and yet requiring one primer coat and two top coats. For gates to be painted white, all end-grains are epoxy-sealed in the shop--prior to assembly--to prevent unsightly tanin bleeding. White paint or light-colored stain finishes must be stipulated before delivery.

Finish Application

Although sealing or staining or painting your gate does not prolong the life of the cedar, it is often a preferred aesthetic while also helping to maintain the gate's dimensional stability. In most climates, the calculated spacing between the gate and lock-side post is enough, at 3/8", to allow for normal expansion and contraction. This is compounded in certain areas such as southern Florida or Hawaii where there is often rain and intense heat within the same afternoon. These considerations are minimized by a wax emulsion coating on all gates applied in the shop to the top and bottom end-grains of both stiles.

When applying your finish, start with one side, brushing the bottom rail with the grain and then the vertical stiles with the grain to avoid the brush strokes overlapping. This is for all horizontal rails, not allowing the brush stroke to dry before brushing the vertical stile. Do not apply stain to the edges of the pickets or upper pattern on this side or the stain will run down the opposite side and leave run marks penetrating the bare wood before you are able to finish the opposite side. For those with solid lower panels, do not stain the edges of your open slots until the back side is addressed. Once you turn to the other side, you can then apply stain to the picket faces and edges, knowing the run-off will not absorb against the already stained surface. Check, when finished, the direction of your brush stroke to smooth out any overlaps. Do not, with semi-transparent stains,

natural oils, or clear seals, apply a second coat once this first coat is dry. The gate has been sealed, and further applications will not absorb evenly, resulting in a splotchy build-up.

Spray finishes: You can finish your panels with clear seal, natural oil, or semi-transparent stains using a common, rented, garden pump sprayer. This quickens the process considerably and although it may require some back-brushing, it is nevertheless much

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simpler than brushing a thousand pickets. This method is not advisable for semi-solid stains and paints. Spraying these requires an industrial set-up and requires back-brushing.

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