

Bob Cline: Fabrication of a three wire fence with posts.

Farm or ranch areas on a layout often require fences to add proper realism. These fence structure can be purchased or custom built to accommodate the layout. On either end of my layout are ranch areas requiring fences to keep the cattle at home. To fabricate a fence, a fixture must be constructed to easily construct the fence. My fixture started with a piece of 3/4" pine 32 inches long by 1 1/2 inches wide. I first measured a commercially available fence structure for proper measurements. To fabricate the fixture, the board needed to be scribed for proper position of wire and post. First scribe three lines the full length of the board. The first line at .350 thousands from the bottom of the board and then one more line .175 thousands apart from the .350 line then another .175 from the second line. Then section of the 32" in 18 sections at 1.625 inches apart. Next very accurately drive three small finish nails at the three intersections of the lines on both ends of the board. I used nails with heads and the heads get in the way. These nails will provide a way to stretch a thin copper wire back and forth to form the wires. My fences have .010 wire and stretch well. The posts are made of 20 gauge solid insulated wire cut to .750 length. Trim .175 of insulation from the bottom of the posts. Use gel super glue to glue the copper wire to the insulation of the posts. Take a thin blade under the .010 wire and slide the posts under the .010 wire making sure the posts with the striped portion of the wire are even with the bottom of the board. Locate all the post on the 1.625 division lines then super glue them to the .010 wire. Make sure to build in a brace and extra post where needed. Once the glue dries to the directions, cut the .010 wire at the ends and carefully hang it so it can be sprayed both sides with a gray primer paint. Once the primer dries, paint the post whatever color desired. A number 2 very small paint brush and acrylic paint work well.



