

# TARTER

FARM AND RANCH EQUIPMENT

## GATE HANGING

### STEP ONE

Measure the opening where the gate is to be installed. Gates are 3" shorter than their listed length to leave room for hinges and latches. The gate can either be positioned outside of the opening to open only one way or inside the opening so the gate can swing both ways.

### STEP TWO

The gate should be even with the top of the fence. Place the gate on blocks of wood between the posts. This will show whether the gate will swing with adequate clearance. Hold the gate in the appropriate position and mark where the hinge pin holes should be drilled.

### STEP THREE

Drill the holes for the hinges where you previously marked. Use a 9/16" drill bit for 1-3/4" tube gate and a 3/4" drill bit for 2" tube gate. When drilling holes for a 1-3/4" tube gate, drill a pilot hole only (approximately 5" deep); with 2" tubing, drill the hole all the way through the post. A good guide to use when drilling holes is to drill them slightly smaller than the pin that is to be inserted. Then, a tighter, more secure fit will be achieved.



### STEP FOUR

Screw in the hinge pins using an open-ended wrench. Both hooks can be tightened so they face upward or they can be arranged so one faces up and one down. The second option will keep cattle from lifting up the gate in crowding situations.



### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q.** What will I need to hang my gate?

**A.** Here's the list:

- Gate with hinges and latch chain attached
- Tape measure
- Adjustable wrench with open end
- Cordless drill (if available)
- 9/16" drill bit for 1-3/4" gate or 3/4" drill bit for 2" gate
- Nail or wire gate staple
- Extra hinge pin or piece of wood (2 x 4 or 2 x 6 approx. 10-12" long)
- Small hand level

**Q.** Can I use old holes and hinge pins when replacing an old gate with a new one?

**A.** Yes, but be sure that the original holes and pin are still strong and secure. Sometimes it is easier to use existing holes and pins that already fit those holes, but many times they are weak or have sagged.

**Q.** How can I make my gate more secure in crowding areas where cattle could lift the gate off its hinges?

**A.** To secure the gate, you can fasten one hinge pin hook facing up and one down. This arrangement will prevent cattle from inadvertently pushing the gate up and off the hinges.

## STEP FIVE

Install the latch using a wire gate staple to secure it to the post. The latch chain can be wrapped around the gate to fasten it to the post.



## STEP SIX

Often gates are pushed down when climbing over and receive undue pressure due to this action and the pure weight of the gate. To prevent too much pressure on the hinges, use an extra hinge pin or small piece of wood to rest the gate on the latch post. Drill a hole for a hinge pin to be placed partially into the latch post so that one of the horizontal bars can rest on the pin. If an extra pin is not readily available, use a piece of wood (2 x 4 or 2 x 6 approximately 10-12" long) to attach to the post in the same way—so that one of the horizontal bars can rest on it.

## STEP SEVEN

Use a small hand level to ensure the gate is level.

## STEP EIGHT

Tighten the bolt on the hinges when complete.



## TIPS FOR GATE OWNERS

Make your gate easier to install and last longer

- Use an extra hinge pin or small piece of wood attached to the latch post to set the gate on when closed. This relieves undue pressure and stress from both the hinges and hinge post.
- When hanging a gate that is over 8 feet long, bring along a second person to help lift the gate.
- Cordless drills are always helpful and speed up the drilling process.
- Be sure to select the right type of gate for the job (i.e. economy, regular or heavy-duty).
- Use heavy-duty confinement gates when crowding livestock.

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