



Pictured - Stone Grey Fencing Panels, Charcoal Post and Post Cap

# CLADCO COMPOSITE FENCING

Installation Guide,  
Aftercare and FAQs

**CLADCO**  
PROFILES



Pictured - Teak Composite Fencing

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Pictured - Teak Composite Fencing



## STORAGE AND HANDLING

Cladco Composite Fencing Panels should always be stored in a cool shaded spot, on a flat and level surface which supports the whole length of the Panel. It is recommended to store the Panels on a pallet to ensure they are not sat directly on wet or cold ground. Panels should be stored properly until they are ready to acclimate prior to installation.

Wear protective gloves when handling the Panels and take care when lifting them. We recommend that a minimum of two physically capable persons carry the Panels. Always ensure persons assisting with installation or handling are physically capable.

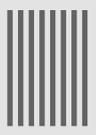


## PANEL COLOUR VARIATION

Cladco Composite Fencing Panels are made with a combination of materials, including wood, making them a natural product that will exhibit colour variations. As a result, the colour will differ between batches, even when ordered at the same time. You may also notice slight colour differences within a single batch. Orders purchased at different times will display noticeable shade differences.

Products purchased together but then split into two separate projects will stabilise at different rates. For example, if an area is installed and extended sometime later, variations may occur within the Panels, even if they come from the same batch. If Composite Panels are used across multiple projects, the stabilisation process will vary for each set, leading to differences in appearance over time.

To ensure a balanced and visually pleasing result, we recommend laying out all the Panels out before installation to evenly distribute the natural variations across your Fencing area.



### COLOUR VARIATION

To ensure a balanced and visually pleasing result, we recommend laying out all the Panels before installation to evenly distribute the natural variations across your installation.



## 10 YEAR WARRANTY

Cladco Composite Fencing Panels are supplied with a 10-year warranty, subject to terms and conditions. Cladco Fencing Panels should be installed as per this Installation Guide, and failure to do so may invalidate the warranty.

For further information, see [www.cladcodecking.co.uk/cladco-profiles-limited-conditions-sale](http://www.cladcodecking.co.uk/cladco-profiles-limited-conditions-sale).



## COLOUR STABILISATION

All Cladco Composite products contain UV stabilisers; however, due to their natural elements, all Composite products will undergo an initial colour stabilisation process. This may result in some changes in colour during the first few months after installation as the product acclimatises to its environment.



## NATURAL WEATHERING

As Cladco Composite Fencing Panels contain natural wood elements, they will fade from weathering over time. This process is most noticeable within the first six months after installation.

Please be aware that the appearance of Composite Panels will change depending on weather conditions and, when wet, Panels will display a different tone compared to when they are dry.



## TEMPERATURE GUIDE

Cladco Composite Fencing Panels will naturally expand and contract with changing temperatures. To account for this, it is essential to follow our recommended guidelines when installing Panels, particularly where two Boards meet end-to-end at butt joints.

Spacing guidelines for butt joints:

7mm spacing at temperatures of 5°C and below

6mm spacing at temperatures between 5°C and 15°C

5mm spacing at temperatures of 15°C and above

# TOOLS

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## Protective Equipment

When handling or carrying Fencing Panels it is advised to wear long sleeves and gloves. When cutting the Panels, we suggest you wear a protective dust mask, ear defenders and safety glasses.



## Tool Set

Standard everyday carpentry tools will be needed to complete the installation, including: tape measure, pencil, stanley knife and string.



## Power Drill Or Driver

Standard power drills can be used when installing Composite Fencing.



## Jigsaw Or Handsaw

Composite Fencing Panels and Posts can be cut using any standard wood cutting tools. We recommend using a fine toothed blade to get the cleanest finish to your cut edge.



## Spirit Level and String

A spirit level is essential when installing your Posts to ensure a level support system.



## Shovel

A shovel will be required to dig the Post holes, along with a bucket, water and postcrete to form the concrete base for each Post.

# PREPARING YOUR AREA



**1** If using the slot between method, cut up to four channels per Post. Please ensure you leave an adequate expansion gap when using the slot in method to allow for natural expansion of the Panels.



**2** Prepare your area by removing any stones, debris or hazardous material. Dig the Fence Post holes to 25% of the Post height. The Fence Posts must be a maximum of 1.8m apart to ensure they can support the Fence Panels. Run a piece of string from the first Post to last Post to make sure they are positioned square to each other.



**3** Make sure every Fence Post is 100% level before using postcrete. Fence Posts must have at least 25% of their height concreted into place.



## FENCING POSTS

**Please note**, due to variations within the manufacturing process of these Posts, we advise to leave an adequate expansion gap when using the slot in method to allow for natural expansion of the boards. If installing by securing to the front of the Post, this process does not need to be followed.

We recommend a **maximum total fence length of 15 metres** when using Cladco Composite Fence Posts.

**Please note:** The performance of Composite Fence Posts may be impacted when installed in areas exposed to strong winds or prolonged direct sunlight. For optimal performance and longevity, we recommend installing them in locations with natural shelter from wind and sun.

# INSTALLATION - METHOD 1 CONTINUED



**1** When using the slot between method, Fence Panels need to be cut into 1.8m lengths. Posts must be 1.8m apart and include an extra 5mm gap each end to allow for expansion of the Panels.

**2** Simply slide the Fence Panels into the grooves of the Posts, ensuring the Panels are slotted into place securely and are level.



**3** Finish your Fence Post with a Fence Post Cap. Fencing Panels can be finished with Cladco Fencing Rails, manufactured from hard-wearing steel. Rails can be cut down to size using Straight Cut Tin Snips and slotted onto the top of the Panels for neat edge.



## COLOUR SELECTION

Cladco Composite Fencing products are available in a range of attractive colours. Have you considered using different colours for the Posts and Panels to complement or contrast your garden design?



Pictured - Stone Grey Fencing Panels, Charcoal Posts and Post Caps

# INSTALLATION - METHOD TWO



**1** Alternatively, each 3.6m Panel can be secured to the front of the Post, with a supporting Post every 1.8m behind to provide stability. When adding the first Fence Panel, ensure it is 100% level before fixing to Posts. Screw the top and bottom of each Fence Panel to the Fence Posts behind.



**2** As you start to add more Panels ensure each Panel is 100% level before fixing. Each Fence Panel slots on top of the Panel previously fitted. (Example shows 3.6m Fence Panels with Fence Post in between).



**3** Once the desired height has been reached (no more than 2.25m or 10 Panels) simply place the Composite Fence Cap on top of the Post. These are also available in all eight colours to match your Composite Fence. Fence Post Caps simply sit on top of the Post and do not need to be secured.



## EXTREME TEMPERATURES

Extreme temperature changes could cause the Panels to expand or contract. Ensure Panels have had sufficient time to acclimatise to the temperature before installing. Do not install in extreme temperatures.



## CUTTING

If Panels need to be cut to size, ensure the Panels are installed and secured immediately after cutting.

# AFTERCARE AND MAINTENANCE

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It is important to keep your Composite Fencing clean and free from debris to ensure a long-lasting Fencing structure.

To keep your Composite Fencing well maintained, we advise avoiding:

- Using cleaning tools that may scratch or damage the surface.
- Using corrosive or strong chemical treatments such as bleach.

As a Composite material, Cladco Composite Fencing Panels will naturally accumulate dirt when exposed to outdoor conditions. For everyday debris such as plants, leaves, berries, or animal droppings, simply brush your Fencing Panels with warm, soapy water.



**1** Use a brush to remove any debris, such as leaves, off the Fencing to create a clear surface ready for cleaning.



**2** Prepare a bucket of hot soapy water. You may want to wear rubber gloves.



**3** Apply the hot soapy water to your Fencing. Once applied use a brush to scrub the surface of the Fencing. Any surface debris will start to lift off.



**4** Leave the hot soapy water on the surface for several minutes before rinsing. Ensure all soap and debris have been successfully removed from the Panels before leaving to dry.

## FIRE AND HEAT SOURCES

Precautions should be taken when using fire pits and BBQs near Composite Fencing. Caution should be taken with embers coming into contact with the Fencing. Cladco cannot be held responsible for any fire damage or flames that come into contact with the Fencing. To use a heat source near the Fencing is entirely at the risk of the customer.

## MOULD AND MILDEW

Mould and mildew are common in outdoor environments. The climate will affect how mould grows, dependent on temperature and moisture levels. To minimise mould growth on your Fencing, ensure it is cleaned often. If mould is present, use soapy, hot water to remove. In cases of more stubborn dirt or grime, pressure washing may be necessary to restore the Fencing's appearance.

## LOW MAINTENANCE

Composite Fencing is rot resistant, and unlike traditional timber materials, Composite Fencing products do not need to be painted or stained.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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## Where can I install my Fencing?

Cladco Composite Fencing is very practical for any outdoor space, creating a low-maintenance boundary that can be installed into grass or concrete using postcrete to secure the Posts into place.

## Composite Fencing Panels fade?

Like any Composite material, Fencing Panels will undergo a stabilisation process, during which a slight fading will occur as they reach their final colour. This process generally takes place within the first six months following installation.

## Are darker colours better than lighter ones?

In general, lighter colours will show dirt and marks more clearly. Darker colours, however, will naturally weather over time to their final colour within six months of installation.

## Can I use a pressure washer?

A pressure washer can be used to clean your Composite Fencing Panels. We recommend using a pressure washer with a psi of no greater than 2,000.

A fan tip should be used with a 40 to 60 degree spread, keeping the head 250-300mm away from the surface. Always test in an inconspicuous area first. Direct, prolonged contact could damage the surface of the Panels and should be avoided.

## Do I need planning permission to put my Fence up?

You do not require planning permission to replace, maintain or repair an existing fence, so long as it doesn't increase its original height. If you are installing an entirely new Fence, please contact your local council for rules and regulations.

## Can I use my own Posts?

Cladco Composite Fence Panels should only be used with Cladco Composite Fence Posts. This will ensure that the Fence is secure and long lasting once installed and providing all

the benefits of Composite Fencing, including low-maintenance and rot-resistance.

However, if you are installing into concrete posts, consider using Concrete Post Spacers for Composite Panels which are available on our website.

## How much do Composite Fence products weigh?

A single 3.6m Composite Fencing Panel weighs approximately 11.52kg. Each Composite Fence Post weighs up to 23kg.

## What colours are available?

Unlike traditional timber fencing, Composite Fencing is available in a range of colours to match your chosen design or to blend into the environment. Composite Fence Posts and Caps are also available in the same colours.



## What is Composite Fencing made of?

Cladco Composite Fencing products are manufactured from 60% FSC-Certified hardwood fibres and 40% recycled plastic. This makes them an environmentally-friendly, rot resistant and durable Fencing material.

## Is Composite Fencing fire rated?

As Cladco Composite Fencing Panels are part wood fibres, these are not fire rated.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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## **Is Composite Fencing maintenance-free?**

Although Composite Fencing needs much less maintenance in comparison to timber options, it is not totally maintenance-free. It is vital to clear debris from your Fencing to prevent any staining and this becomes especially important when installed underneath trees, where leaves, petals and sap will fall. If your Fencing is situated near gutters or downpipes, water run-off can cause staining, cleaning the Panels often can prevent this.

## **Why are watermarks appearing on my Fencing?**

Watermarks are a common occurrence when the weathering process in Composite Fencing is taking place. Due to the tannins that are released from the timber contents of the Fencing Panels, the marks from water can become more apparent. This is temporary and will fade naturally over time.

## **Do Composite Fencing Panels fade?**

As with other Composite products, our Composite Fencing Panels endure a stabilisation of colour, normally within the initial six months of installation, until they reach their end shade.

## **Are Composite Panels susceptible to scratching?**

Composite Boards can be vulnerable to scratching, particularly when exposed to harsh materials like metal. To minimise the likelihood of scratches, avoid using tools that could damage the Panels.

## **Do Composite Fencing Panels require an expansion gap?**

Cladco Composite Fencing is designed to expand and contract with changes in temperature. Therefore, if you are installing the Panels within the Posts, we advise leaving an expansion gap to allow for any movement.

## **Why is mould appearing on my Composite Fencing?**

Mould or mildew may develop due to airborne spores. Ensure proper airflow and spacing during installation. Regular maintenance will help keep your Fence in good condition.



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Pictured - Olive Green Fencing Panels, Posts and Post Caps