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Site fencing

EXPRESS HIRE

Site Fencing

The rules and procedures in force where people are at work may require the person responsible for this equipment to carry out a specific risk assessment.

It is important to read this entire leaflet BEFORE using the Site Fencing

1. Plan the use of the Site Fencing so that it can always be used safely.
2. Site fencing is designed to provide temporary security and protection when properly erected.
3. This site fencing must be erected properly using the correct number of bases (or feet) and stabilisers.
4. Site fencing can only be erected safely on level ground or on ground with a gentle slope; it cannot be erected on an incline that is too steep.
5. The weight, and the awkward size and shape, of each section of fencing, and of each concrete or rubber base, can cause injury to people or damage to property if not handled and erected carefully and properly.
6. If you have not erected site fencing before, familiarise yourself with how it all fits together before you start work.
7. If you have no prior instructions regarding fence position and design, decide on the fence layout before you start work. Try to foresee any problems so that you can plan how to deal with them.
8. You should wear the following items of personal protective equipment: safety boots (EN345 or BS1870 / 4972); safety helmet – EN397 or BS5240; overalls; strong gloves.
9. Site fencing is designed for erection by a minimum of two able bodied adults. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before setting up site fencing.

Please keep this leaflet safely as it may be required for future reference

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Maintaining the Fencing

TEMPORARY HOARDING

(continued...)

4. Narrow vertical 'infill' panels, the full height of the hoarding can be fastened to the junction between two hoardings to ensure absolute privacy. Panels are also available to fit between the base of the hoarding and the ground to prevent intruders crawling under the hoarding.
5. Secure extension panels can be fitted along the top of each section of hoarding, increasing the height to approximately 2.5m (8 feet), further ensuring privacy and preventing entry.
6. Stabilisers should only be installed on the 'unused' side of the fence to cause the minimum trip hazard to people.
7. Short fence runs of up to about four panels between corners may not need any extra stabilising devices.

MAINTAINING THE FENCING

1. Periodically check the fencing for damage, or loose or missing clamps. If you find faulty or damaged items, do not attempt to repair them. Contact the hire company.
2. Check that there are no slabs, heavy equipment, or anything else left leaning against the fence, which might cause it to fall over.
3. Check that the bases have not been pushed or moved away from the most stable position.
4. If a fence panel is temporarily removed, perhaps to allow a delivery, check that it is replaced correctly with the parallel couplers properly fastened.
5. Do not fasten anything to the fencing with the exception of appropriate warning signs. Large signs or banners can create extra wind loading and may require more stabilisers to be fitted.
6. Do not string or tie any electrical or lighting cables to the fencing.

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Before Starting Work...

WORK AREA

1. Protect other persons from any danger, put up signs to advise them and to warn them to keep away.
2. Clear rubble and obstacles off the proposed fence line and roughly level it if possible.
3. The site fencing should be positioned where it will be most effective and stable, even if this makes the job of erecting the fence more difficult.
4. The line of the fence should not be relocated by the erectors without the prior agreement of the supervisor or manager. Remember! Repositioning the fence may make it less effective in keeping out intruders. Site fencing cannot be erected safely on an incline that is too steep. Ask the hire company for guidance if you plan to work on a steep slope.

INSTALLERS

1. The following items of personal protective equipment (ppe) are the minimum that should be worn whenever you are working with the site fencing. Particular jobs or environments may require a higher level of protection.
2. You must wear safety boots (EN 345 or BS1870 / 4972).
3. You should wear a helmet (EN397 or BS5240) when putting up temporary site fencing. Remember you must always wear a helmet whenever you are working on a construction site.
4. Strong gloves will help protect your hands.
5. Anybody who is working near to you will also need to wear appropriate personal protective equipment.

SITE FENCING

1. Check your fence panels, concrete or rubber bases, stabilisers and parallel couplers (fence clamps). Do not use anything found damaged – contact the hire company.
2. Check that the ends of the fence tubes are not damaged and will fit into the holes in the concrete bases.
3. Check that the rubber or concrete bases are not split, damaged and that the holes are not blocked by concrete or other material.

STABILITY AND SECURITY

1. You must make sure that the fence will be stable and secure when it has been put up.
2. The fence must not be able to blow over in the wind, or fall over if someone pulls on it or tries to climb it.
3. Make sure that the concrete or rubber feet are set at right-angles, to the line of the fence.
4. You can use stabilisers on the inside of the fence to help prevent it falling. The number of stabilisers used, and their locations will depend on the slope and contour of the ground; and the straightness, or lack of corners in the fence. As a guide on open mesh fences, fix a stabiliser every two or three panels.
5. On solid hoarding panels, stabilisers should be used for every panel.
6. Stabilisers should only be installed on the 'unused' side of the fence to cause the minimum trip hazard to people.
7. Short fence runs of up to about four panels between corners may not need any extra stabilising devices.
8. A fence can also be made stable by offsetting panels alternately left and right, to form a zigzag plan. Although this may remove the need to install stabilisers, this shape of fence requires more space and may not be suitable for certain requirements.
9. The fence should be erected to prevent intruders crawling underneath, or climbing over it.
10. Remember that young children can fit through very small gaps. Fencing around construction sites must be put up so as to prevent children getting on the site.
11. Panels are available with the mesh extended to ground level to stop intruders crawling under the fence.
12. Temporary additional security at events or similar short-term applications can be gained by using barbed wire or razor wire strung along extension arms inserted into the tops of all the panel end tubes.
13. To prevent a panel being lifted from its bases, anti-lift devices are available. When installed properly these securely clamp the concrete base to the ends of the two fence panels.

TEMPORARY HOARDING

1. Solid, pressed steel, hoarding panels can be used instead of the mesh panels if privacy and security are paramount.
2. These solid panels are approximately 2m (6'6") high. The erection procedure is the same as for mesh panels except that a stabiliser must be used at every junction.
3. On temporary hoarding each concrete base used at the bottom of each stabiliser must be completely secured and weighted down. This can be done by placing extra bases one on each side and at least one more base across the top.

(continued overleaf...)

Useful Reference Points • www.hae.org.uk/businessguard