

**Step 1:**

Use a posthole digger to dig a hole 3 feet deep and large enough in diameter for the post and room on all sides for a tamping bar. The post should be 6 inches taller than the highest wire when placed 3 feet in the ground. Eight-inch diameter posts are preferred. At minimum, use a 6-inch diameter post.

**Step 2:**

Place the post in the hole and add 6 inches of dirt at a time. Check often the post is plumb, tamping dirt until firm. This initial tamping is crucial for a solid post. Take your time and tamp the post in well. Having the post set solid is very important.

**Step 3:**

Set other post at least 4 feet from the first post in direction of fence travel.

**Step 4:**

Notch both posts for the cross member by eye-balling them level, and attach a horizontal piece using spikes angled from the horizontal piece back into the brace post. A smaller diameter post (4 inches) can be used for the horizontal piece.



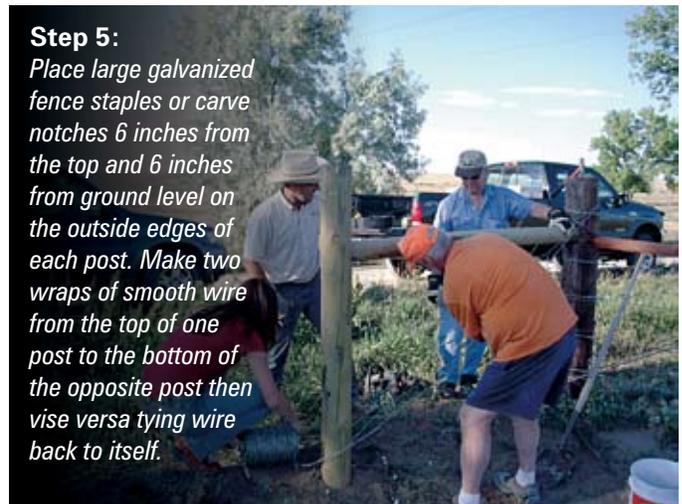
# Building a wire FENCE BRACE



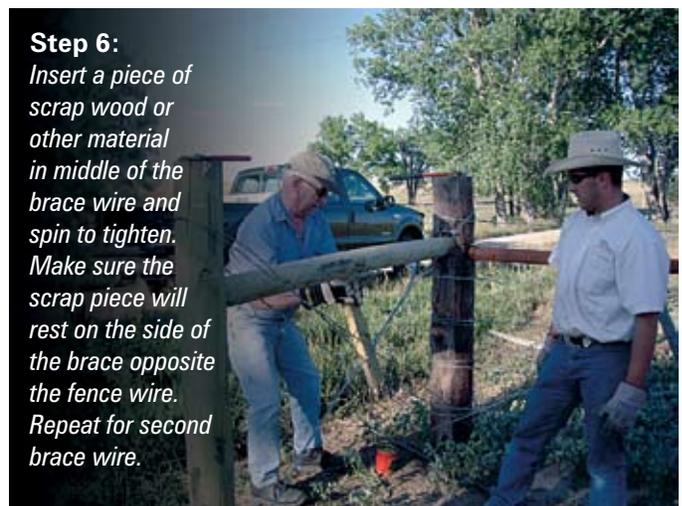
The fence brace is the most critical part to ensure a fence will last many years.

**Step 5:**

Place large galvanized fence staples or carve notches 6 inches from the top and 6 inches from ground level on the outside edges of each post. Make two wraps of smooth wire from the top of one post to the bottom of the opposite post then vise versa tying wire back to itself.

**Step 6:**

Insert a piece of scrap wood or other material in middle of the brace wire and spin to tighten. Make sure the scrap piece will rest on the side of the brace opposite the fence wire. Repeat for second brace wire.



Stretch the fence from the post on the far end making sure to double wrap the wire around the post at the start and end of the run. A staple on each wire will help hold it in place and assists in stretching the fence.

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