

HOME IMPROVEMENT TIPS

Today's Beaver home improvement tip is about how to build and repair wood-fences. Before you start, be sure to check your property line and follow local building codes.

Fence posts should be approximately 6 to 8 feet apart. Set the corner or end posts first, then stretch a line from each post to make sure all posts are properly aligned.

All wood fence posts should be set with about 1/3 of their length buried in the ground. Put a stone or about 2 shovels of gravel into the hole. This provides drainage and keeps excess moisture away from the base of the post. Pack the posts with either dirt or concrete at the bottom but be sure the posts remain in an upright position. The posts should be allowed to stand for several days to settle into position.

As a rule, top and bottom rails must be attached to fence posts. There are a number of ways to joint fence posts, the most common being the lap joint or the grooved joint.

Broken fences should be repaired to avoid rot. Remove old pickets and use them as a pattern for cutting new ones. Use galvanized nails to fasten the new picket and set the nails below the surface of the wood and then fill in the holes with putty before painting.

Good luck, and remember, if you need further advice or assistance, pick up a brochure or talk to the approachable home improvement experts at Beaver Lumber.

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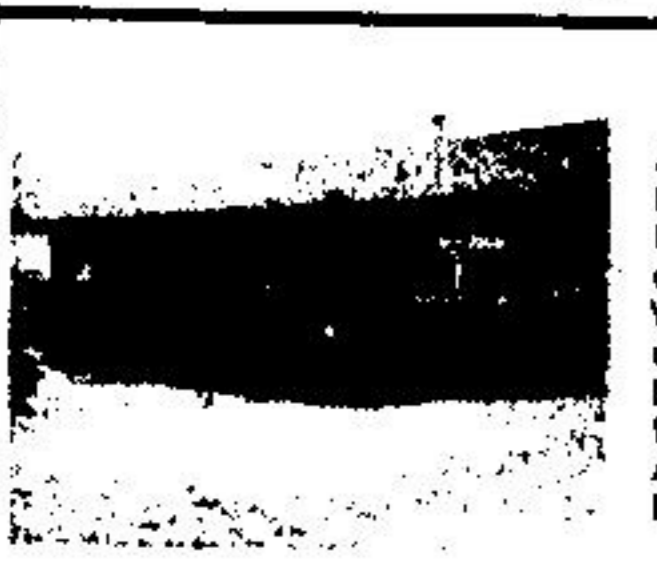
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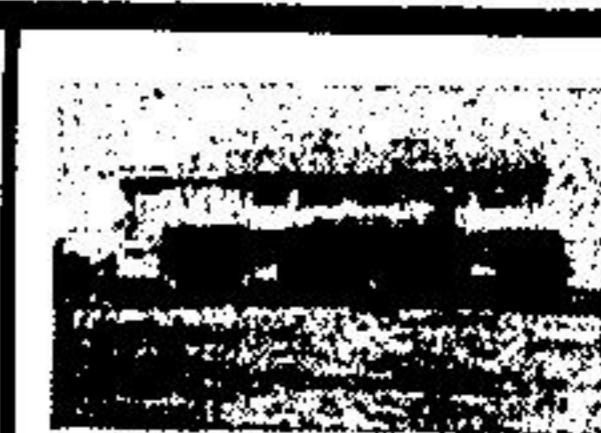
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