



# Wooden Fence Picket Replacement

This guide will demonstrate how to remove and replace a picket on a wooden fence.

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## INTRODUCTION

A broken fence may cause many issues, such as your pet getting out, the pesky home owners association giving you a fine, or maybe you just do not like the way it looks. Replacing a picket on a wooden fence is much easier than it seems, and this guide is here to prove that. With just a few simple steps and a quick run to the hardware store, you will have that picket replaced in no time.

Before completing the rest of this guide, complete **Step 1**. This is needed to get the measurements of the picket you are replacing so you can purchase a replacement.

This materials listed in this guide reflect the materials needed to replace a single picket. **For every additional picket being replaced, add 6 x 2 1/2" Wood Nails.**



### TOOLS:

- [Hammer](#) (1)
- [2 1/2" Wood Nails](#) (6)
- [Pry Bar](#) (1)
- [Leather Work Gloves](#) (1)

*Optional*

- [Trigger Clamp](#) (1)

*Optional*

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## Step 1 — Picket



**⚠ IMPORTANT:** This step will need to be completed before continuing. You will need to use these measurements to purchase a replacement picket needed later in the guide.

- Use the tape measure to measure the height, width, and depth of the picket.
- ⓘ Use these measurements to purchase a replacement picket. Home Depot and Lowe's are good places to purchase a picket. If you are unfamiliar with what you are doing, ask any worker there for some help and they will help you get your replacement.

## Step 2



- Place the tip of the pry bar under the picket, in line with the nails.
- Use a hammer to push the pry bar under the picket.
- ⚠ Use soft taps with the hammer when hitting the pry bar. Using too much force may reduce accuracy and lead to injury.
- Pull the pry bar away from the fence to remove the picket.

### Step 3



- Only complete this step if there are still nails in the wood after you have removed the picket. If all nails are removed, continue to **Step 4**.
- Slide the claw of the hammer underneath the nail.
  - ❗ The claw is the forked area of the hammer. This is commonly used to aid in the removal of nails.
- While holding the handle, pull on the hammer to remove the nail.

### Step 4



- Before installing the new picket, clear the area of any debris.
  - ❗ Obstructions may cause the picket to be crooked when installing, or make a gap too large for the nails to work properly.
- Use the tape measure to measure the gaps between the left and right side of the picket.
  - ❗ Doing this allows the replacement picket to be centered directly between the other pickets.



## Step 5



**⚠ Caution:** This step involves hitting nails with a hammer in close proximity to your fingers. Work gloves are recommended if you are unfamiliar with using a hammer.

- Hold a wood nail approximately 1 inch from the side of the picket.
  - You may place the first nail 1 inch away from either the left or right side of the picket. Each section uses 2 nails so it does not matter which side you choose to work on first.
- Lightly tap on the wood nail with the hammer to begin pushing the nail into the picket. Continue until the nail is fully in the picket.
- Repeat until there are 2 nails inserted in the picket at every cross section.

This guide only demonstrates how to replace a picket on a wooden fence. For questions regarding staining your fence and finding the right stain, I recommend talking with a worker at a hardware store near you. They can help you find the right product and make sure your new picket matches the rest of your fence.