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WILDLIFE & COUNTRYSIDE SERVICES

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BADGER GATES FOR FENCING: INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

The oak badger gates you have purchased are designed to allow badgers to pass through fencing without allowing other animals to pass through. The gate flap is too heavy for rabbits and other small animals, and the gate frame is too small for larger animals such as deer and dogs.

The badger gates supplied comprise a sturdy wooden frame made from 2" x 2" (50 x 50mm) green oak, and a solid oak gate flap of 8" x 10" (200 x 250mm) which swings on strong coach-screws. The gates have pointed 'feet' to aid installation.

The gate must be located along the fence-line, and holes should be made to locate the gate's 'feet', together with a groove for the bottom of the frame. It is not recommended to locate the 'feet' by hammering the gate, although light taps to the top of the posts will help to seat it securely in place. Once securely located against the fence, fasten the fencing to the gate frame using small staples or nails, and cut out a hole for the gate flap to swing. It is not recommended to use large staples or nails, as these may cause the wood to split.

Setting the gate:

Undo the two screws, which act as pivot pins for the gate flap, sufficiently to free the flap, but leave the screws in the frame for safe-keeping. The gate is now set to allow free unobstructed movement of the badgers. Note the orientation of the gate flap, as it may not fit as well the other way around. Leave like this for a few days, to allow the badgers to become accustomed to passing through the gate frame.

To set the gate, hold the gate flap in position and carefully screw in the pivot pins, leaving an equal gap on each side between the flap and the frame. Screw the pins in fully, then unscrew one turn, and test the gate flap for free movement in both directions. The badgers are now able to pass through the fence, by pushing on the gate flap.

Our badger gates should last for a reasonable length of time, and therefore offer better value than softwood gates, which may rot or generally disintegrate. Dimensions quoted are approximate, and due to the nature of the materials used, the gates may suffer some warping during use – this does not usually prevent the gates working, but it is advisable to occasionally check the gate flaps for free movement. Each gate is checked before despatch to ensure that it operates properly. Provided these instructions are followed carefully, the gates should perform well. If you have any problems with our gates, or suggestions for improvements to their design, we would be pleased to hear from you. Please e-mail us at badgerfencegates@wildlifeservices.co.uk.

Badgers and their setts are fully protected by the Protection of Badgers Act 1992, and it is illegal to disturb the badgers, or damage or destroy their setts, without a licence.

Wildlife & Countryside Services provide a full ecological consultancy service, and can assist with licensing and mitigations, including badger sett exclusions, as well as supply of badger gates.

We also provide surveys for a wide range of wildlife species, as well as newt, badger and deer fencing