CAT FENCE

## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS WOOD or VINYL FENCING

First of all, relax! This is easy...a bit tedious, perhaps, but well worth it!

## Your kit contains the following:

(1) Brackets: One bracket for every 8 feet of your yard, plus gates.
(2) Screws and Washers: \#10 x 3/4, three per bracket plus enough for each washer to secure the bottom of the netting to fence.
(3) Netting: Enough linear feet for your yard, your gates, and any problem areas you may discover.
(4) Cable-ties
(5) $5 / 16$ " nut driver

## Tools you will need:

(1) Cordless drill/screwdriver.
(2) Scissors for trimming netting.
(3) A friend to help and keep you company (optional)

If you have trees in your yard to provide a natural escape route (and danger to songbirds), we recommend attaching metal flashing (which can be purchased in rolls from your local hardware store) around the trunk of the tree to prevent your cat from climbing. Email or call us if you have any questions.

## Step 1: Install brackets for the whole yard

- Each bracket has a small hole very near the top end; the longer (bottom) end fits flush against the fence and is secured to the fence through the 3 larger holes at the bottom.


## For flat side of fence

1. Place a bracket approximately every 8 feet and attach to the fence with 2 ( $\# 10 \times 3 / 4$ ") screws provided, leaving the middle hole empty

- Mount bracket with bend from bottom as close to top of fence as practical (See pictures on pg 2).
- Please note: This is typical, but not a requirement, i.e., you can raise or lower the brackets as you desire, but the higher the bracket, the smaller the pocket that catches leaves and snow in the netting. Also, you can space the brackets differently, but no more than 10 ' apart.

2. Continue along fence until termination of section, reaching a corner, or reaching a gate. If it's a gate, see instructions on back page for placing brackets. If you have reached a corner, put last bracket approximately $2^{\prime}$ to $3^{\prime}$ before corner
3. Begin mounting brackets on intersecting fence $2^{\prime}$ to $3^{\prime}$ from corner. Continue for all sections of fence before attaching netting.

For fence with $2 " \times 4$ " crossbar near the top

- Instructions differ slightly for a "Neighbor-Friendly" Fence, i.e., those with a 2 " X 4 " crossbar near the top of the fence. While necessary to the structural integrity of the fence, the crossbar provides an additional challenge. There are 3 ways of dealing with this:
(1) Mount the brackets just under the crossbar
(2) Screw the brackets to the fence from the other side, maintaining the same orientation, or
(3) Loosen a fence slat enough to slide the bracket between the slat and the crossbar, screwing the bracket to the slat and replacing the slat in its original position.


## Step 2: Install netting by sections

- Attach the netting with cable ties. (Loop cable-ties through the FLAT side of the end of the cable tie.)
- Netting goes on the yard side (not the fence side) of bracket.
- Trim the cable ties as you go and it will look neater.
- Tension on netting should be moderate, not so tight that pressure is constant.


## For flat side of fence:

1. Go back to the first bracket in a section, attach top 2 or $\mathbf{3}$ horizontal strands of netting to the top hole of each bracket with cable-ties.
2. Continue along fence until termination of section, reaching a corner, or reaching a gate. If it's a gate see instructions for gates. If you have reached a corner, continue with steps (3) and (4) before going around the corner.
3. Return to starting point and tie netting through the remaining two small holes of bracket, using the vertical rows of the netting as much as possible as a guide to ensure uniformity. For the fourth cable tie, tie the netting to the bracket at the top of the fence with a cable tie through the netting and simply wrapped around the bracket. There is no hole there for purposes of stability in heavy snow. Remember, there is no need to place unnecessary tension on netting, so do not stretch.
4. Go back to starting point. Without exerting undue pressure on netting, insert middle screw with washer through netting and tighten; repeat for all brackets. Excess netting on bottom should now be in a relatively even line along fence. Return to starting point and fasten netting as close to the top of the wood fence as possible (to minimize the "pocket" between the netting and the fence) at 3 or more places between each bracket using screws and washers to hold the netting to the wood fence.
5. To continue around corner: There should be a bracket $2^{\prime}$ to $3^{\prime}$ from corner on both segments of fence. Bring netting around corner and secure the bottom of the netting to the fence into the corner with screws and washers. Be sure to attach the netting into the corner before attaching to the second corner bracket. this will ensure that the bottom of the netting reaches to all points of the corner. You will have excess netting on the top side; simply bunch it up and cable-tie to the corner brackets.
6. Repeat for all sections of fence.

## For fence with $\mathbf{2 " x 4 "}$ crossbar near the top:

- For all fences that are not flat you must secure netting in all 5 places one bracket at a time.
- Between each bracket attach netting to the fence with screws and washers as necessary to keep cats from sliding between the fence and the netting.
- If there are any posts or uneven spots in the fence, you must wrap the netting around them and attach with screws and washers before attaching netting to the next bracket. This will leave some slack in the top of the netting which can be taken up and attached to the top of the next bracket with cable ties.


## For gates:

- If your gate swings into your yard, you may stretch the netting across the hinged area of the gate without cutting.
- If your gate swings out of your yard, you must treat each section of the gate as a separate fence with a bracket at the end and the netting cut. Ensure that the brackets on adjoining fence and gate sections come close together when gate is shut.
- Brackets may need to be installed on the outside of your fence if there is a 2 " $x 4$ " crossbar.


## THAT'S IT! YOU'RE DONE!

Check the spaces between fence and gateposts, under the fence, particularly under gates and between gateposts where the gates come together. You may need to put a few patches of netting here and there. If so, pay attention to what happens when a gate opens...you may need to leave extra slack on the corners to accommodate the stretch of opening.... it's all right, they can't get through the netting whether it's slack or taut.

Final Check: Imagine you're a cat. Walk around the yard and see where you might escape. If it looks like a possibility, it's a probability! Close it off! If cats find no obvious escape routes during their first few weeks of yard-freedom, they seem to resign themselves to exploring within the yard rather than constantly seeking a way out. From time to time, however, you'd be well advised to don your feline persona and prowl the fences, looking for ties that have loosened. Good luck!


Gate with one bracket installed on the outside. Often all of the gate brackets will have to be installed on the outside. The netting must be on the inside.

## Corner installation

Fences with a 2"x4" crossbar:


1. Bracket installed on support post

2. Bracket installed next to support post below crossbar

1 and 2 not recommended for snow areas because it creates a pocket between the netting and the fence that can catch snow and cause brackets to break.

3. Bracket installed behind crossbar: tap the slat away from the crossbar and slide the bracket behind. Screw it to the wood and then tap the slat back in place. This is the way to install in snow areas.

