

Unsafe Horse Fencing

Fencing is supposed to keep our horses safe from the outside world—from cars, hunters, whakosthe list goes on. It is also supposed to keep the outside world safe from your horse. If your horse gets loose and someone is hurt or killed, you can be held liable for any damages. Safe, secure fencing is vital to property owners with horses! Horses are definitely accident prone, they can and will find the one protruding nail in a ten acre pasture. However, as owners we are responsible for their well being and must at least make an attempt to keep them safe.

The obvious really old fencing with nails protruding and boards falling down is not safe. If you cannot replace the fence try to make it safer by adding hot wire and walking the fence line to remove any nails, loose wire, and repair weak spots.

The biggest “NO NO” in horse fencing is barbed wire. Barbed wire was designed for cattle. Horses are more reactive and spooky and horses tend to panic when their legs get caughtWhich leads to injury. We hear the comment “my horses have been just fine in barbed wire”. There is an enormous potential for injury there, and it only takes one incident for the horse to NOT be fine anymore. If you want to be cost effective, T-posts, Fiberglass rods and hot tape are the cheapest.

Click on blue link to view photo.

[Warning Graphic Photo of Barb Wire Injury](#)

T-Posts which were mentioned earlier can be very unsafe. The metal top of the post is just waiting to be run into it. We have seen horses impale their chests and abdomens or slicing their faces and necks. Luckily there is a cheap and easy solution to this; T-Post caps or T-post Sleeves . T-post caps sit directly on top of T-posts protecting horses from the sharp metal top.

Click on blue link to view T-post injury photo.

[Warning Graphic Photo of T-post Injury](#)

If you are replacing or building a new fence, SC Barns would highly recommend using either; non-climb wire fencing (with all wood posts, or T-posts with caps) , 3 or 4 rail wood

board fencing, pipe panels, or running rail fence. Remember to always stretch wire on the INSIDE of your fence so that your horse is protected from the brace wire and cannot eat the wood posts.

A safe fence can SAVE you thousands in rehabilitation and vet bills.

