# How to Build a Cemetery Fence 

## By Ron Yemmans II

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July 02, 2005

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## Bill of Materials

I recommend a minimum of 5 sections of Cemetery fence. This allows you to create a Cemetery 6 feet deep by 18 feet wide. Your cemetery will look very impressive when placed against the front of your house. If you go all out and build 12 sections you end up with a cemetery 18 feet deep by 36 feet wide. The kids will absolutely love it. Consider an opening between 2 sections which forces the kids to walk up through the cemetery to get their candy.

| Description | QTY 1 - <br> Section | QTY 5 - <br> Sections | QTY 7 - <br> Sections | QTY 12 - <br> Sections |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10' Long - 1/2" SCH 40 PVC Pipe | 3 | 15 | 21 | 36 |
| 1" $\times$ 2" $\times$ 8' Firing Strip | 2 | 10 | 14 | 24 |
| 1-1/4" Black Dry Wall Screws | 18 | 90 | 126 | 225 |
| Skull Whistles (Pole Toppers) | 9 | 45 | 63 | 108 |
| Flat Black Spray Paint 12 - 13 oz. | 1 | 5 | 7 | 12 |
| Rebar/rod 24" long 1/2" Diameter | 2 | 10 | 14 | 24 |
| Spray Paint Handle (optional) |  |  |  |  |

## Notes:

Buy the Spray Handle for the spray paint cans. Your index finger will thank me.
The 1 " x 2 " x 6 ' Furring strip actually/usually measure $3 / 4 " \times 1-1 / 2 " \times 6$ '. I have found that the last 6 " to 8 " are curved on each end. This is why I decided to cut 12 " off each end and have my 1 " $\times 2$ " $\times 6$ '. The main reason I decided on $6^{\prime}$ fence sections is due to the fact that they are much easier to store than 8 ' sections.

Tools:

Hand Drill - Small drill press helps when drilling pipe holes through wood but is not necessary.
Drill Bit - 7/8" spade bit and set of regular bits.
Regular Drill Bit Set - Drill pilot holes for drywall screws
Screw driver - for drywall screws
Work Bench
Saw - to cut pipe
Tape Measure
Marking Pencil or Marker
Straight Edge

## STEP 1

Cut each piece of the $10^{\prime}$ long PVC pipe into:

- (1) 48 " piece
- (2) 36 " pieces

See Diagram 1, will require each pipe to have 2 cuts made. Clean up plastic shavings on inside cut edge in pipe. You will see what I mean. The $1 / 2 "$ PVC Schedule 40 pipe actually has an outer diameter of about $3 / 4$ ".

## STEP 2

Mark all hole locations (where PVC pipe will slide through) on the face ( 2 " wide side) of the 1 " $\times 2$ " x 6 ' furring strip.

## See Diagram 2

## STEP 3

Drill the holes in the face (2" side of furring strip) on the marks you made in STEP 2 using a 7/8" spade drill bit:

- 9 holes per piece of furring strip
- Drill slowly and straight
- If you have a drill press you can clamp 2 pieces of furring strip together and minimize the time you spend drilling holes. The holes will also be straighter than using a hand drill.


## See Diagram 3

## STEP 4

Lay all cut pipe and drilled wood on large piece of cardboard or newspapers and spray paint them black.

- Spray paint exposed surface, allow them to dry, rotate each and repeat, until all surfaces are covered in FLAT BLACK spray paint.
- Try to get holes in furring strip completed coated with paint. It tends to rain once in a while during the month of October in Michigan.

Allow to dry completely - Overnight if possible

## STEP 5

Take 2 pieces of the $6^{\prime}$ furring strip (with pipe holes drilled in them) and lay them (on 1 " side) parallel to each other about 24 " apart and line the ends up on a flat surface (workbench):

See Diagram 4

## STEP 6

Insert three of the 48 " pieces of PVC pipe into the holes marked "B":

- Be careful when inserting the pipe, you want to minimize how much paint you scratch off it.


## See Diagram 5

STEP 7

Using a measuring tape, measure 12 " from the outer side of the furring strip, to the closest end of the 48 " PVC pipe ("B").

See Diagram 5

STEP 8

Drill pilot holes (for drywall screws) where the "B" pipe and furring strips intersect:

- Be careful not to drill all the way through the other side of furring strip.
- Drill the holes large enough to allow the screws to go in fairly easy. If you make the holes to small the screw might split the wood.

See Diagram 6

STEP 9

Carefully screw in drywall screws in the pilot holes drilled in previous STEP:

- Be careful not to over tighten the screws as it may cause the wood to CRACK.

STEP 10

Insert the 36" pieces of PVC pipe into the holes marked "A":

- Be careful when inserting the pipe, you want to minimize how much paint you scratch off it.

See Diagram 7

STEP 11

Drill pilot holes where the "A" pipe and furring strips intersect:

- Be careful not to drill all the way through the other side of furring strip.

See Diagram 8

STEP 12

Carefully screw in drywall screws in the pilot holes drilled in previous STEP:

- Be careful not to over tighten the screws as it may cause the wood to CRACK.

STEP 13

Touch up any places where you might have scratched the paint off the PVC pipe.

Congratulation - You have completed building a section of Cemetery fence. Now build as many sections as you need.

STEP 14 - Installing - Setting Up The Fence
Carefully lay the fence section on the ground with the ends of the outer 2 (48") pipes where you want them to be when the fence section is standing.

## STEP 15

Hammer a piece of the 24 " long rebar/rod into the ground at the base of the outer $2(48$ ") pipes:

- You should now have a section of fence laying flat on the ground with 2 pieces of rebar/rod sticking straight up aligned with the outer 2 ( 48 ") sections of pipe.
- Make sure that pound the rebar/rod at least 14 " into the ground. You do not want the weight of the fence section pressing on the lower drywall screws. The weight may cause the screws to break.

See Diagram 9

STEP 16
Carefully lift the fence section off the ground and slide the outer 2 (48") PVC pipes over their respective rebar/rod sticking out of the ground.

See Diagram 10

## STEP 17

Repeat the steps listed above for as many sections of fence that you built.

STEP 18

Once you have all of your fence sections up insert the skull whistles into the top of each pipe and paint.

- I painted mine flat black to match the poles. I have seen the whistles placed in the pipes unpainted which also looks very good.

See Diagram 10






## Notes:

1) Slide 6 Pieces $\square f$ The $36^{\prime \prime}$ PVC Pipe Through The Holes Marked " $A$ ".

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