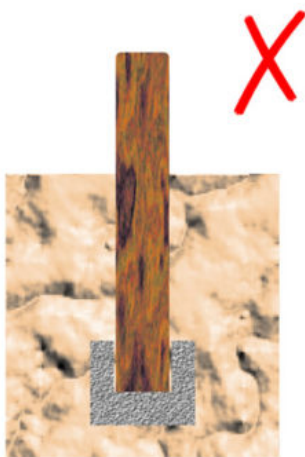


# HOW TO PLANT A TREATED WOODEN POLE

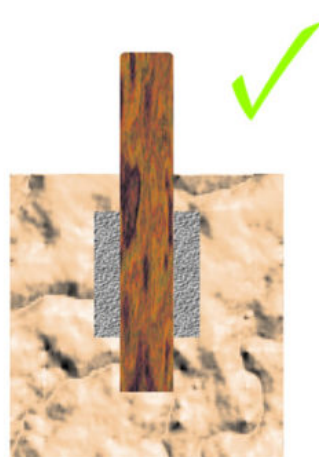
Preservative treated timber is treated in such a way in order to protect the pole from rotting. It is important to purchase a pole that is of correct size and shape for the intended use to prevent cutting the pole and exposing the inner heartwood to the environment. In the case the pole does need to be cut, do not plant the cut, exposed part of the pole. An anti-split plate should be replaced on the ends of the pole that has been cut.

## Method to Plant a Pole:

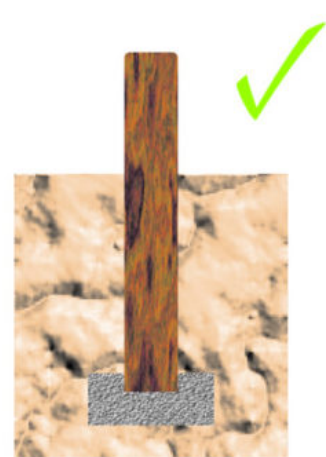
Concrete may be required if the soil is sandy or very loose and if the pole being planted needs more stability (e.g. a pole that supports a gate). The one issue with concrete is it can trap water around the base of the pole which causes a more rapid decay. It is important to use concrete in a way that will increase the chance of drainage. The following methods should and shouldn't be followed:



Do not enclose the planted end of the post in the concrete.



If you need to use concrete then let the concrete form a collar around the post with the end of the post protruding through the concrete.



If you plant the post on concrete at the bottom of the hole, let the concrete set before planting the post

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## Use the following method to plant a pole:

1. Once again use posts made from very durable wood and/or treated wood. They must be suitable for “ground contact”.
2. Dig a wide hole. For a standard fence post the hole should be about 30cm wide and the depth should allow for about 1/3 of the post to be underground. Add extra space below to accommodate the base. You can use a post hole digger or post driver to help create the hole.
3. Add about 10-15 cm of gravel to the base of the hole to allow for better drainage.
4. Position the post in the hole. Drop two stakes into the soil next to the post. Nail or screw two pieces of wood between the stakes and the post. This is just temporary to keep the post in place until the concrete has set.
5. Repeat this process for all posts that require a concrete base.
6. Add another layer of gravel around the base of the posts.
7. Mix your concrete mixture.
8. Fill the rest of the holes around your posts up to soil level.
9. Trowel the concrete into a slope shape so that it slopes downwards from the pole. This helps to allow water to run off from the post and stop decay.
10. Allow at least three days for the concrete to set before you continue building the fence or putting any weight on the post.
11. Seal the gap between post and concrete with a sealant that bonds to concrete and wood.

NB: Do not enclose the base of the pole completely in concrete as this will cause water to collect there and the pole to rot.