

Deer Fence - high cost

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For recent changes to this guidance, please see the [bottom of the page](#).

This item is available throughout Scotland. A short statement of justification explaining why the high cost deer fence is required should be included in your operational plan and is subject to approval by your local Conservancy office.

This item can be used for all [Woodland Creation options](#).

You must erect a fence which will be fit for purpose and will form a deer-proof barrier.

The appropriateness of any new deer fencing should be considered in the context of the Joint Agency Fencing Guidance.

For deer fencing:

- the minimum fence height for protection against roe deer is 1.5 metres*
- the minimum fence height for protection against red, sika or fallow deer is 1.8 metres*
- you must use woven high tensile, mild steel or welded rectangular mesh, the netting can vary from half to full length. Combination fences are not acceptable

Your choice of mesh size should be governed by the following:

	Max width between vertical on mesh	Max heights between horizontals on mesh
Red/sika	30cm	22cm
Fallow	20cm	20cm
Roe	15cm	20cm

- all fencing woodwork must be treated
- you must install gates to allow for responsible access, management activities, or husbandry operations
- any water gates must be designed to keep watercourses stock / deer-proof, whatever the level of the water

** For areas in excess of five hectares or along roadsides at least 1.8 metres in height is recommended for fallow, roe or muntjac and two metres for red and sika.*

This capital payment does not cover the cost of any gates (except water gates, flake gates, and sections of rail fence for access). Gates are covered as a separate capital item.

Your local capercaillie / black grouse project officer or RSPB advisory officer can provide advice on the siting of fences to reduce potential problems and can advise on the most suitable fence marking.

We require this item to be in place, meeting minimum specifications and in good order for a period of at least five years following the date you received your payment.

Further information

[Fence Marking to Reduce Grouse Collisions](#)

[Technical Guide: Forest Fencing](#)

Please make sure you abide by conditions set out in the Forestry Grant Scheme [claim form and guidance](#).

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