



Selecting the Right Fence (continued)

Initial Cost and Maintenance Cost

Of course, budget drives many decisions when it comes to a major investment. Safety-coated high tensile wire and braided rope horse fence are some of the least expensive options and require little in long-term maintenance. Woven wire also has lower cost upfront without costly upkeep. Wood rail fencing is a little higher on the cost scale with painting and repair required on an ongoing basis. Reinforced flexible fencing (Centaur HTP®) will have initial costs comparable to wood, but is virtually maintenance free. Rigid PVC fencing is the most expensive alternative initially, with limited maintenance demands.

Ease of Installation

Do-it-yourselfers looking for a quick-to-install fence will find safety-coated high tensile products, like Centaur's PolyPlus® HTP®, and braided rope fence fairly simple to install. With the right tools and enough time, wood, reinforced flexible rail, rigid PVC and woven can be installed by the property owner as well, although many opt for professional installation with these fence types.

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Appearance – Initial and Long-Term

Whether or not you want a fence that will visually complement your property is an importance consideration. Reinforced flexible fence and rigid PVC replicate the traditional styling of a wood rail fence, and will stay looking good longer without the maintenance issues. Safety-coated high tensile wire and braided rope are very minimalist in appearance and will remain virtually unchanged for the life of the fence. Woven wire bears a resemblance to chain link and is probably the least aesthetically pleasing fence; it tends to sag and rust over time.

Warranty

Centaur HTP® rail fencing is warranted for either 20 or 30 years, depending on the particular product. Centaur's safety-coated high tensile wire fencing, both electric and non-electric, has a 20-year warranty.

Centaur HTP® fencing is a subsidiary of ES Robbins, an industry leader in polymer and plastics manufacturing.

Our founder, Ed Robbins, is a devoted horseman and avid — and we mean avid — polo player. In years past, he's also cut cattle, ridden to hounds, and been involved with nearly every full-speed equestrian sport there is.



During the mid-1970s, he was visiting a friend of his who had just purchased new acreage. This friend, who happened to be an equine vet, intended to change the fencing as soon as possible, but had gone ahead and turned his polo string out to play. Mr. Robbins witnessed his friend's best horse mangle himself on the fence, and watched while his friend put the horse down.

Knowing the characteristics of plastics, Mr. Robbins set out to create a fence that would be as safe as a fence could be — offering absolute containment, yet gently rebound by any horse that encountered the fence. The goal? No horse owner, no matter what their income, would ever have to settle for less-than-safe fencing again.