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Chicken Pen Fencing | Electric Predation | PVC Wire Coated

Chicken Pen Fencing is Very Important



Chicken pen fencing are more about keeping predators out than they are about keeping the chickens in.

Therefore it is not only important to make sure that you use appropriate materials, but you should also pay attention as to how you assemble your pen.

When constructing a chicken pen, you want both durability as well as strength from your chicken pen fencing.

There is now point in using materials that might be strong, but that you have to replace every few months. This would be too costly. The best materials to use

would be Chicken wire, GAW (Galvanized After Weave) fencing or a vinyl coated fence.

Chicken Pen Fencing - Materials

Heavy gauge mesh also works well as does Welded mesh. When using welded mesh, be sure to only use mesh with small openings or predators might get in.

Stay away from any plastic or poly meshes as they are neither strong, nor durable. Of all these different types of meshes, Vinyl coated and GAW fencing will last the longest.

For those who are willing to go the extra mile, and thus also pay a bit more, you can look into electric fencing.

Chicken Pen Fencing - Electric

Electric fencing for chicken pens might be expensive, but essentially it is easy to install. Once you have bought the right materials (someone at a hardware store will be able to help you with this).

Simply run one electric wire on the outside of your fence, about 4 – 5 inches from the fence, and one at the top of your fence. Connect all the bits and there you have an electrified chicken fence that will not hurt your chickens.

This however is more of a luxury than a necessity. If your pen has a cover over it, or is at least 5-6 feet high, you will have no need for electric fencing.

There are however simpler and cheaper ways of chicken pen fencing that are just as good at keeping your chickens safe. One cheaper way to keep your chickens safe is to make sure that when you start constructing your chicken pen, that you dig a trench around your pen.

The trench should be 10 to 12 inches deep. Bury the bottom of your fence in the trench. Before filling the trench up you can also place some big rocks on the fencing. This will provide extra protection against burrowing predators.

You can also leave the jagged wire bits at the top of your chicken pen fence (that is if your pen does not have a roof) exposed, thus creating a painful deterrent for any predator who might consider trying to jump into the fence. This might not be pretty, but it is effective.

Chicken Pen Fencing Summary

Finally, it is important to check your chicken pen fence every day. Check for rust, check for any holes that could give predators access to your chickens, check for anything that might compromise the effectiveness of your fence. If you find a weakness, fix it immediately before a predator finds it.

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