

# Pedestrian Gate

This guide is based on the law, best practice and established local policy. It has been produced to help anyone who wants to help create safe and accessible rights of way in Staffordshire.

Pedestrian gates provide good access for most path users, are less expensive than kissing gates, and can be designed to be self-closing. Pedestrian gates should only be installed on footpaths and only when a gap is not feasible. Kissing gates are not as desirable as they are less accessible than pedestrian gates although, generally, landowners feel kissing gates allow for safer stock control.

## Responsibilities

- Landowners are responsible for the maintenance of, and are liable for, any gates on public rights of way over their land.
- The County Council is obliged to provide at least 25% of the costs of replacing or repairing gates on public rights of way. It does this by providing standard gates at a subsidised rate.
- Landowners must seek authorisation from the County Council before installing any new gates on public rights of way.

## Good Practice

- The minimum width of a pedestrian gate is 1000mm.
- Latches, if fitted, should be visible, accessible and simple to operate from both sides.
- Self-closing gates should be two-way opening, except where adjoining a road where a one-way gate is more appropriate.
- Gates should swing freely.
- A manoeuvring space should be provided on either side of the gate.
- On a two-way gate, the space between the gate and the closing post should be at least 30mm.
- On a one-way gate, the overlap onto the closing post should be at least 30mm.
- The hanging post should be dug at least 1100mm into the ground.
- New gates must be set back from vehicular roads at a distance of at least 2000mm.

## Components

z1	150mm x 150mm x 2400mm	Hanging post
1	150mm x 150mm x 2000mm	Closing post
1	1000mm	Gate
2		Hinge sets
1		Latch kit



## Equipment

Screwdriver	Secateurs	Panel saw	Post holer
Spirit level	Spade	Mallet	Screws
Drill and bits	Hedge cutter	Post cement	Digging bar

## Potential Hazards

- Hidden or unexpected objects (e.g. litter, rocks and posts) that may cause damage to tools and or injury to yourself or others.
- Check for underground pipes and cables before commencing work.
- The possibility of injury from the incorrect or careless use or machinery and tools.
- The potential for damage to be caused to private property.
- The potential that your presence and the noise that you create might agitate livestock.
- Where cuttings or other materials need to be manually lifted, ensure that they are appropriately contained and of a manageable weight, so as to avoid personal or public injury.

These guides are intended to provide solutions for most situations found on Staffordshire's rights of way network. They are not comprehensive or exhaustive, and there are situations where other solutions will be more appropriate. If in doubt, or if you would like further advice, please do not hesitate to contact us via [rightsofway@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:rightsofway@staffordshire.gov.uk)

This leaflet should be read in conjunction with the General Advice Note.

