

Ranch Gate Pricing

Ranch gates can range in value from single-leaf inexpensive pipe gates up to 16 feet wide to bi-parting ornamental steel or custom wrought iron. The type of gate installed usually depends on whether the gate is simply functional and used to prevent access of animals/vehicles or whether a more attractive gate is desired as part of the architectural design of the property.

Wide single-leaf gates are usually light-weight and very flexible which may cause problems in heavy wind. They often can flex enough to separate at the latch post; this allows animals or criminals to easily enter through the gate. Wide single-leaf heavier gates may not have the deflection problems but can catch the wind because of their large area. This requires bulky and expensive support posts and actuators to keep the gate stable.

Light-weight double-leaf gates can still be deflected at the center but are much less susceptible to high winds and do not require heavy-duty support posts and actuators. Double-leaf (also known as bi-parting) gates are usually more aesthetically pleasing and are more reliable. Having two gate leaves does mean that two actuators are required. While more expensive, this expense can be deferred by the cost savings in using two smaller light-weight gate leaves instead of one large heavy gate.

Wood gates are subject to warping, splitting, and rotting and are usually more expensive because manufacturers use exotic wood to try to minimize these problems. Wood gates made from standard pine or preservative-treated lumber are usually cheaper but don't last long and are problematic when operated with electric motors. Wood support posts will warp, split, and rot over time causing problems with alignment and smooth operation. Steel support posts will practically last a lifetime and do not have any of the problems associated with wood but are much more expensive.

Sample pricing is provided below for several different options. The specific installation must be evaluated to provide an exact quote:

- One large single-leaf 4 foot high farm gate with wood support posts set in concrete with standard hinges starts in price at \$850 installed depending on the conditions of installation.
- The most reliable, efficient, and cost-effective gate for this area is a bi-parting heavy pipe gate that can be bought or fabricated. This type of gate will withstand years of use and abuse, does not require heavy duty actuators or support posts, has a low deflection, and is minimally affected by high winds. Sometimes a mesh is needed to prevent smaller animals from getting through the gate but it can be purchased or fabricated with the mesh for a small additional cost. This type of gate will cost approximately \$1900 installed for a purchased gate and around \$2200 for a custom heavy-duty design. The difference in price reflects the expense of thin-walled round pipe versus heavy-gauge square steel tubing, and paint versus powder coating.
- Two smaller ornamental steel gates with powder-coated posts and heavy-duty ball bearing hinges start at approximately \$2900 depending on the size and conditions of installation. While this type of gate can be very beautiful, it does not always fit in with barbed wire décor associated with typical ranch design.
- Custom wrought iron pricing is higher, and the design options are limitless. A pair of tall custom iron gates can easily be in the \$8000 to \$12,000 range again depending on the design and installation conditions.

The total width of a gate is dependent on the traffic that normally travels through the gate. Smaller widths such as 10-12 feet are usually used when there is little traffic, such as residents only, and where space is a problem. Gates 14-16 feet are needed in for higher traffic that may include trucks, trailers, and visitors that may not be familiar with the use of

gates. Extra wide gates 18-24 feet may be required for large truck traffic and fire equipment access. The gate width is also dependent on the width of the driveway and the existing conditions around the entrance point.

Keep in mind when considering a basic gate design that the gate panel is the least expensive part of the gate. The support posts and associated construction is the more expensive aspect of the gate installation. By installing the gate and operator system together as a package the cost of construction is minimized.

Each gate system is priced for each customers need and we will be happy to provide a recommendation and cost estimate that fits your needs.



The system pictured above with heavy-duty solar power, actuators and extensive controls can be around \$12,000