



# The Kissing Gate

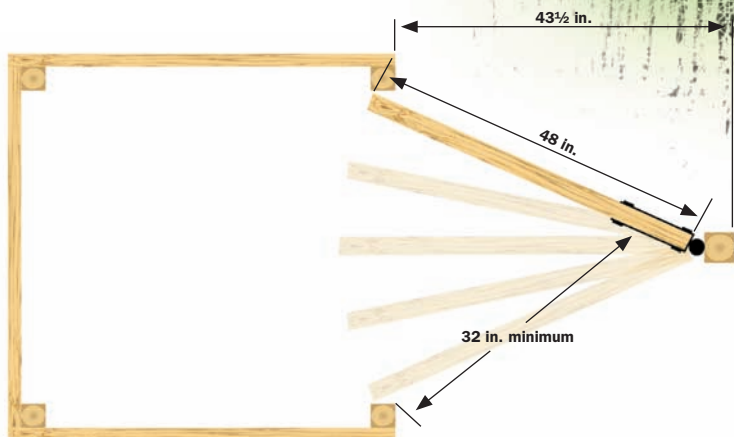
The “kissing gate” isn’t as familiar in the U.S. and Canada as it once was, but it still is widely used in Great Britain. The gate is an old-fashioned—though quite practical—way of quickly walking from one side of a fence to the other.

The gate gives a person entry into a small enclosure, and when the gate is swung to its other position, it allows an exit to the other side. People pass through, but livestock cannot. The gate is usually not latched, though it might have a spring or weight to keep it closed on the side opposite of the livestock.

And the name? Many say the gate simply “kisses” each post of the enclosure. But a fun game is associated with the gate, as well. Traditionally, when a boy and girl would pass through, they could only do so one at a time. If the boy went through first, he can refuse entry to the girl—unless she kisses him.

You can adjust the scale and sizes of this plan to fit your needs. It is a fun, unusual addition to any farmstead, one the children in particular will love to use.

—Joe Link



*The traditional enclosure is a simple V-shape, but rectangle spaces are gaining in popularity because they allow more space for older people, especially those with handicaps.*

ILLUSTRATIONS: CHRIS VAN ES (ABOVE); JAMIE COLE (LEFT)

