

PREPARING YOUR FENCING, PASTURE AND SHELTER FOR RUMINANTS

SHELTER:

Ruminants adopted from Pasado's Safe Haven are required to have a barn that is fully enclosed. All four walls and the roof should be made of a solid material (such as wood, resin, plastic, etc).

They should be locked inside this barn overnight, every night. The barn should have adequate space for moving, sleeping, and eating. The lock should be placed on the outside of the barn – goats are often smart enough to undo a lock that they can reach or see.



FENCING:

Woven field fencing with 2x4 sized squares is highly recommended. Goats have a harder time climbing this size fencing and they can't fit their nose or head in the squares.

Larger sized field fencing is much easier for goats to get their horns stuck in or climb.



PASTURE:

Grassy pastures should be free of debris and clutter. The entire pasture should be reviewed for toxic plants (ask for a more complete list!).

Sheep will mow the grass down to nothing first and then eat blackberries or other suitable snacks. Goats will pick out their favorite things first (blackberries, pine trees, etc.) and then they will work their way back to the grass.

The amount of acreage your ruminants need depends on how many animals you have and if you have multiple pastures to rotate with. For 2 goats, a minimum of 500 sq. feet for their day-time yard is a good place to start.