# CHECKLIST 17: Silt fence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contractor:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Consent number:</th>
<th>Site:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Construction checklist**

Check back to sections 5.3 [link] for full information. Also see the Figures over the page.

- The silt fence material suits the site conditions and is used to the manufacturer’s specifications
- Silt fences are installed along the contour
- There is a trench at least 100 mm wide and 200 mm deep along the proposed line of the silt fence
- Support posts/steel waratahs are installed at least 1.5 m long and 2–4 m apart
- Support posts/waratahs are installed on the downslope edge of the trench, with silt fence fabric on the upslope side of the support posts to the full depth of the trench. The trench is backfilled with compacted soil
- The top of the silt fence fabric is reinforced with a support made of high tensile 2.5 mm diameter galvanised wire. The wire is tensioned using permanent wire strainers attached to angled waratahs at the end of the silt fence
- The silt fence fabric is doubled over and fastened to the wire with silt fence clips at 500 mm spacings
- Where ends of the silt fence fabric come together, they are overlapped, folded and stapled/screwed to prevent sediment bypass
- Inspection and maintenance checks are done, recorded and dated, along with any comments

Yes ✓ No ✗
(Add comments to explain)

Note: this is an on-site, self-check list for contractors to use. Keep your completed checklists to show Compliance Officers your set up, monitoring and maintenance, if requested.

**Signature:**

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## CHECKLIST 17

### FIGURES:

**Silt fence**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Slope steepness %</th>
<th>Slope length (m) (maximum)</th>
<th>Spacing of returns (m)</th>
<th>Silt fence length (m) (maximum)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flatter than 2%</td>
<td>Unlimited</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Unlimited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - 10%</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 - 20%</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 - 33%</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33 - 50%</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 50%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Silt fence design criteria

- Geotextile fixed firmly to post/waratah
- Compacted backfill
- Trench geotextile 200mm minimum
- 600mm minimum height of geotextile
- 200mm depth of fabric

### Cross-section

**Silt fence cross section**
Schematic of a silt fence

Returns 1-3m in length to reduce velocity along the silt fence and provide intermediate impoundment

Steel standards such as waratahs or standard wooden fenceposts (no.3 rounds minimum) driven a minimum of 400mm into the ground

Elevation

Trench geotextile a minimum of 200 mm into the ground

Ends of return wired back to stake or waratah

Provide leakproof joint at junction of the returns and main silt fence alignment

Provide leakproof joint at join using wooden stakes buried 200mm in to the ground and extending the full height of the fabric

Schematic of a silt fence