How to Stop Gabion Baskets Bulging

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Below you will find different methods on how to stop gabion baskets bulging.



- **Experience Required:** Low
- **Tools Required:** Protective gloves, Wire cutter, Pliers, Screwdriver
- **Materials Required:** Corner braces, Lacing wire

Introduction



- Bulging usually occurs when gabion baskets warp out of shape due to thin wire, increased force on the face or choosing the wrong shape of stones.

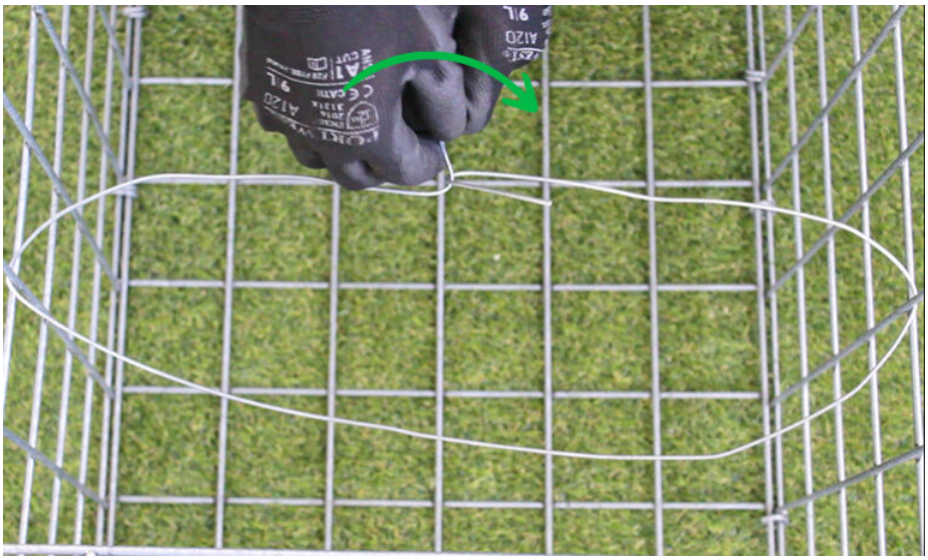
- This can be corrected by bracing the baskets with bracing wire or by using corner braces.

Step 1) Start Filling



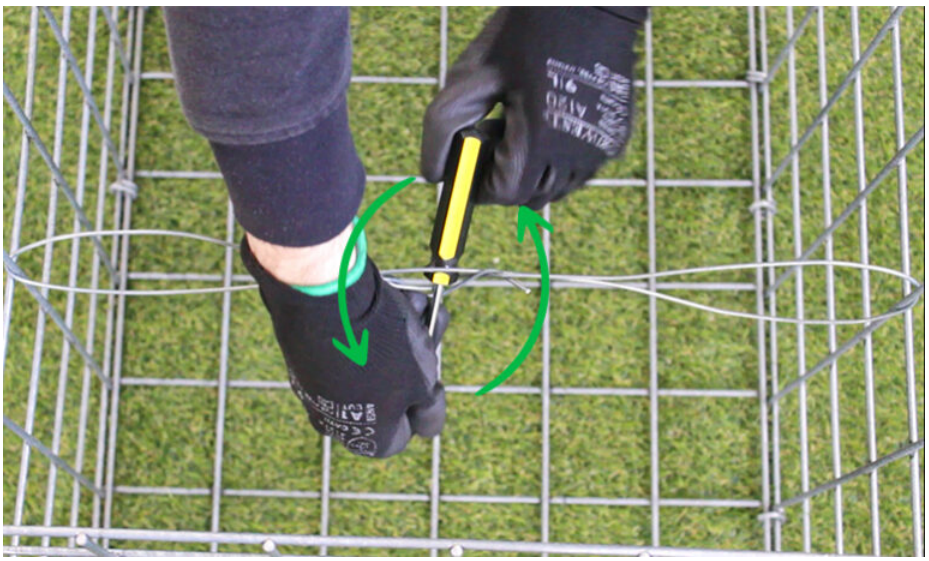
- Start filling the basket with stones until you reach 1/3.
- Brace the gabions at 1/3 and 2/3 or at every 3rd hole vertically to prevent bulging.

Method A – Step 2) Make a Loop



- Cut a piece of lacing wire just over twice the length of the basket.
- Make a loop from the back to the front and twist the ends together.

Method A – Step 3) Twist the Loop



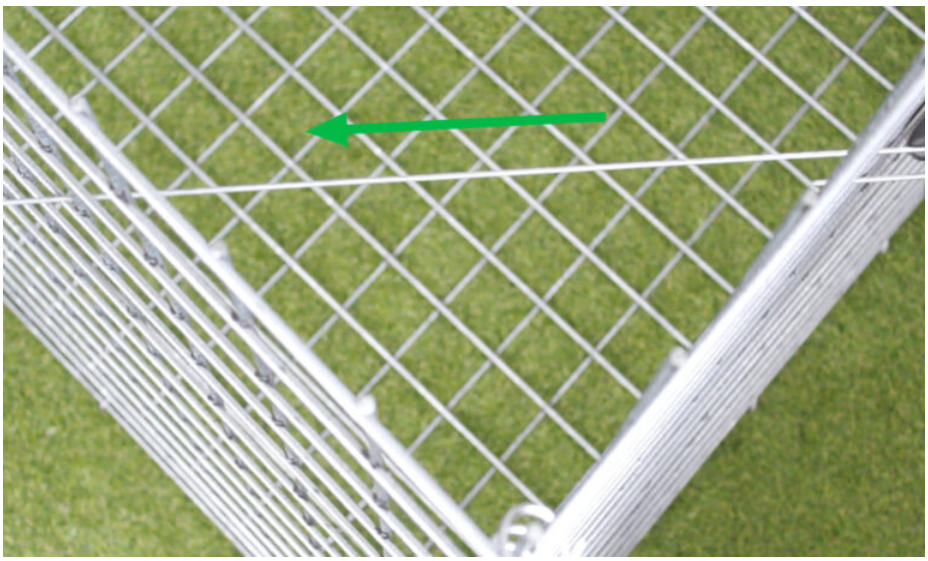
- Start twisting the loop around itself with a screwdriver or a flat stone.

Method A – Step 4) Twist Until Tensioned



- Twist until the wire is tight between the two sides of the gabion.

Method B – Step 2) Insert the Corner Braces



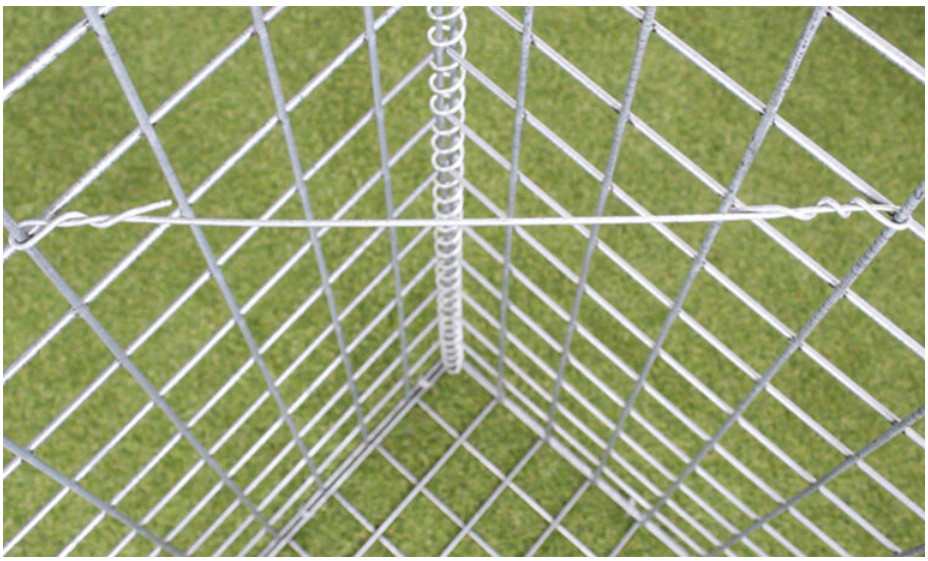
- Hook the corner brace onto the 4th wire from each corner (symmetrically on both sides).

Method B – Step 3) Lock the Tie into Place



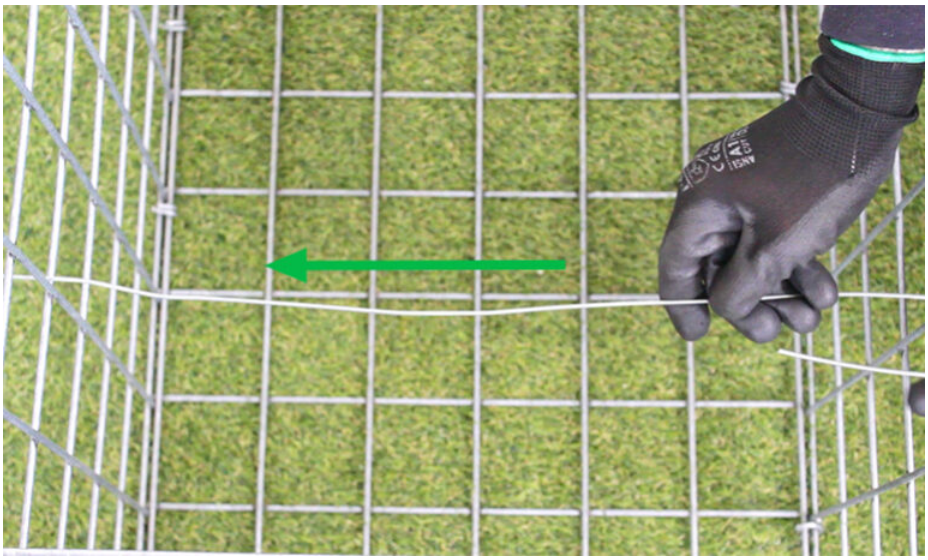
- Twist the end of the hook around the corner brace.

Method B – Step 4) Twist the Other Hook



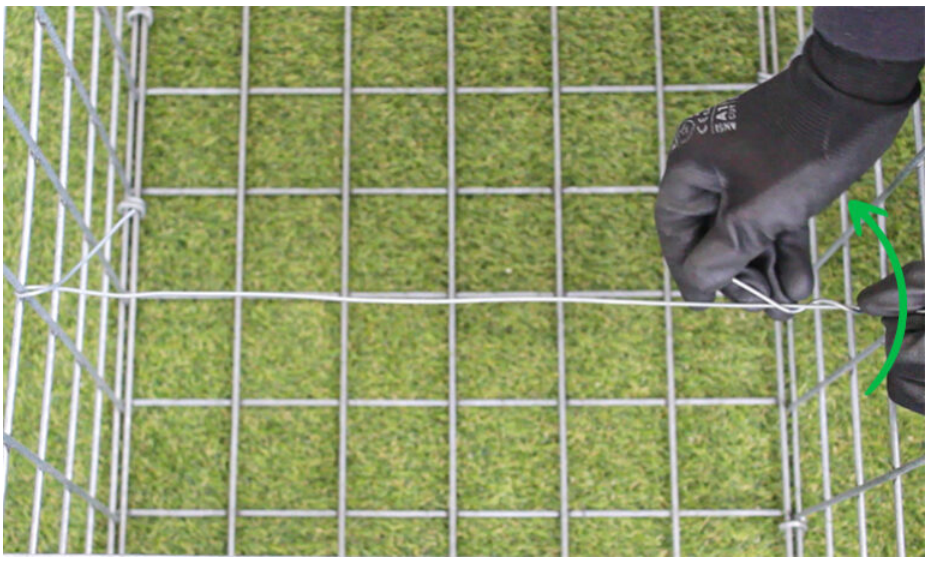
- Twist the other hook as well.
- Make several twists to ensure the tie is firmly anchored.

Method C – Step 2) Simple Bracing Wire Method



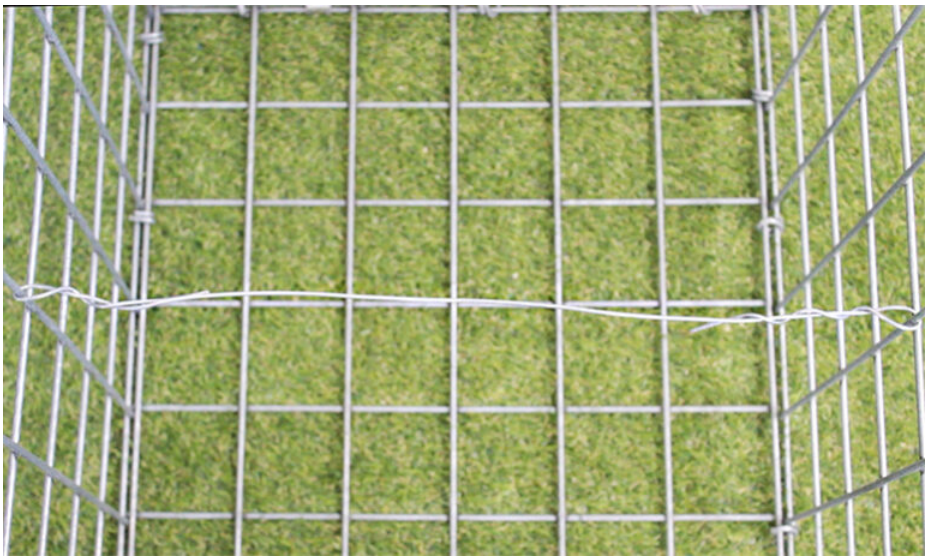
- Use a piece of bracing wire slightly longer than the gabion's length and connect the facing sides.

Method C – Step 3) Form a Loop



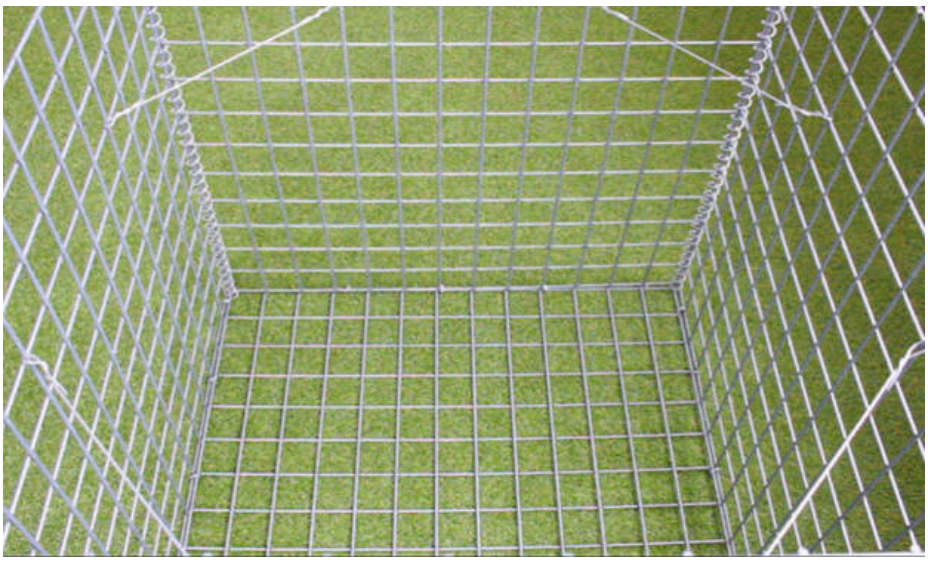
- Form a loop and twist the end of the wire around itself until the cage is sufficiently tensioned.

Method C – Step 4) Finished Result



- This is a quicker and easier method that can speed up the process of bracing.
- We recommend using the first 2 methods for a more durable result.

Step 5) Repeat Steps



- After you completed bracing the first 1/3 of the gabion, add a new layer of stones until you reach the next 3rd.
- Repeat the steps of your preferred method.

Further Tips on How to Stop Gabion Baskets Bulging

- Depending on your project, choose a suitable wire thickness steel basket (min. 4mm).
- Choose interlocking rocks to achieve straight edge finish.
- Try to position the flat surfaces of rocks against the basket walls.
- Place the rocks manually in the cage to ensure straight edges and have a better control over organising the stones.

Warnings

- Don’t neglect the use of braces at 1/3 and 2/3 filling levels.
- Avoid using low-quality or thin wire baskets.
- Don’t forget about regular inspections and maintenance.

Videos

Video: Watch the video on YouTube

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