

Round Columns



Installation Instructions

- *It is the responsibility of the installer to meet all code and safety requirements and to obtain all required building permits. The installer should determine and implement the installation techniques appropriate for each unique installation situation. Digger Specialties, Inc. and its distributors shall not be held liable for improper or unsafe installations.*
- *These instructions must be followed exactly as written and the materials used must be exactly as shown in the instructions. Any deviation from the instructions or variation in the materials used/installed may result in an unsuccessful installation and will void the warranty.*

Tools Required

- Safety Glasses
- Dust Mask
- Gloves
- Saw with Abrasive Blade
- Drill and Screws
- Tape Measure
- Latex Caulk (Paintable)
- Coarse Rasp
- Plumb Bob
- 4x4 Timber
- Shims
- Caulk Gun
- 100 Grit Sandpaper or Sanding Sponge
- Polyurethane Structural Adhesive
- Sledgehammer
- Round Bracket Kit or Angle Brackets
- Level
- Pilot Drill Bit (5/32")
- Split-Fit® Reassembly Kit (for Knockout Bases)
- High Quality Auto Body Filler (Bondo®) (for Knockout Bases and Column Repairs)

CAUTIONS

- *DO NOT CAULK BASE TO SUBSTRATE. THIS MAY CAUSE MOISTURE TO BE COLLECTED AND FREEZE.*
- *ALL HOLES MUST BE PRE-DRILLED.*
- *DO NOT PUT CONCRETE OR ANY OTHER FILLER INSIDE THE COLUMN.*
- *INSTALL FLASHING TO PREVENT WATER FROM ENTERING AT THE TOP OF THE COLUMN. THIS ONLY APPLIES IF THE TOP OF THE CAPITAL PROJECTS OUT FROM THE SOFFIT AND IS EXPOSED TO THE WEATHER.*
- *SAFETY GLASSES AND DUST MASK SHOULD BE WORN WHEN CUTTING AND SANDING COLUMN.*
- *WEAR APPROPRIATE GLOVES DURING INSTALLATION TO PROTECT HANDS FROM SHARP EDGES.*

Instructions

1. Determine where the column will make contact with the header and mark the center point on the header. If the top of the column is not completely covered by the header, then a top plate must be installed between the top of the column and bottom of the header to ensure even load distribution. This can be accomplished by using 3/4" plywood or a steel plate.
NOTE: 100% of bottom must contact substrate and 100% of top must contact soffit.
2. Using a tape measure, measure opening where the column is to be installed. If there is a pitch, ensure the bottom makes 100% contact with the substrate. A plumb bob will help determine where the base of the column will rest.
3. Use standard skill saw with an abrasive saw blade to cut to length. Fine tune your cut with a coarse rasp and remove sharp edges that will chip when being slid into place.
NOTE: CUT ONLY FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE COLUMN TO DESIRED LENGTH USING AN ABRASIVE SAW BLADE.
NOTE: If using railing in conjunction with columns it is best to fasten a backer to the inside of the column wall using Polyurethane Structural Adhesive. Pre-drill holes in column wall larger than the screws used to fasten railing to backer board. Use a long enough screw to go through the column and penetrate into the backer board. Do not over tighten. Bases will need to be notched out so bottom rail can sit low enough to achieve a proper ground clearance.

Instructions Continued

4. For replacement projects, cut a 4x4 timber, 3/8" longer than the opening. Wedge the 4x4 between the floor and the header, taking the load off the column to be replaced so that it can be removed.
5. Slide the base approximately one foot up the column and wedge it in place with a shim. This will prevent the base from falling down the shaft when set into position.
6. Before putting column in place, make certain the header is centered on the column shaft that projects up through the capital.
NOTE: THE LOAD MUST REST SQUARELY ON THE SHAFT.
7. Once the column is in place, use a sledgehammer to tap the 4x4 timber partially out so the header makes contact with the column. At this time, make a final check with a level to ensure the column is straight and the load is evenly distributed.
NOTE: Be sure to place the level near the bottom of the column and not on the taper.
8. Remove the 4x4 timber the rest of the way. Mark and pre-drill holes using a 5/32" bit to secure angle brackets into the substrate at the bottom of the column.
NOTE: BRACKETS ARE NOT A WIND UPLIFT DEVICE

See Page 2 for Additional Instructions



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Instructions Continued

9. Apply adhesive to the top of the polyurethane Snug-Fit Capital and slide into final position. For cast composite capitals, pre-drill holes for screws and counter sink if necessary to conceal the screw head. Use Latex Caulk around the bottom of the capital & top of the base where it meets the shaft.
10. Remove shims from the base and rest it on the ground. Check the alignment of the base and secure with fasteners. Caulk around the capital and base where it meets shaft with Latex Caulk.
NOTE: If using bases with knockouts for railing the Split-Fit® Reassembly Kit can be used to fasten the filler pieces in place. Put adhesive on bottom and sides of the cut out areas in base that will have filler pieces. Set the filler pieces in place and align so they match with base. Once adhesive is dry fill in any gaps with high quality auto body filler (Bondo®). Sand and prep for painting.

Column Repair

Repair of Non-Structural Columns: Small cracks, chips, and scratches can be repaired with high quality auto body filler (Bondo®). Apply filler to the column per manufacturer's instructions. Let dry for appropriate time and then sand surface smooth with 100 grit sandpaper.

Repair of Structural Columns: If column is cracked at all it will need to be replaced. Small chips and scratches can be repaired with high quality auto body filler (Bondo®). Apply filler to the column per manufacturer's instructions. Let dry for appropriate time and then sand surface smooth with 100 grit sandpaper.

Painting Instructions

1. Do not paint using colors with a LRV of 56 or less.
2. Sand column with 100 grit sandpaper or a sanding sponge to prepare surface.
3. Make sure all surfaces are clean prior to painting. Wash each column with soapy water and soft scrub brush. Power washing may be used as long as pressure does not exceed 700 PSI on any polyurethane components. After washing the column rinse thoroughly to remove all soap residue. Column must be allowed to dry properly before painting begins. Times may vary due to atmospheric conditions.
4. Use a high quality exterior grade primer (latex or oil based) as a base coat.
5. Use a high quality exterior grade paint (latex or oil based) as finish coat on columns.

