

# Split-Fit® Columns



## Reassembly 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
- Putty Knife
- 100 Grit Sandpaper or Sanding Sponge
- Polyurethane Structural Adhesive
- Split-Fit® Reassembly Kit
- 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 SPLIT-FIT® 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. Use Polyurethane Structural Adhesive available from your distributor or local hardware store. Alternately, you may use a 15-20 minute epoxy for reassembling column halves.  
**CAUTION:** SPLIT-FIT® COLUMNS ARE NOT LOAD BEARING.
2. DO NOT CUT THE WRAPPING AROUND THE SPLIT-FIT® COLUMN UNTIL YOU HAVE COMPLETED STEP 3
3. Measure the opening from floor to ceiling using a tape measure. Cut Column 1/4" shorter to ensure there is no weight resting on the finished installation of the column.  
**NOTE:** CUT ONLY FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE SPLIT-FIT® COLUMN TO DESIRED LENGTH USING AN ABRASIVE SAW BLADE.  
**NOTE:** If using railing in conjunction with columns it is best to fasten railing to support post inside of column. Pre drill holes in column wall larger than the screws that will be attaching railing to support post. Make sure screws are long enough to secure railing to support post on inside of column. Do not over tighten.
4. If using 15-20 minute epoxy, dry fit column in the location to be installed to ensure adequate space is available.
5. Lay a bead of Polyurethane Structural Adhesive to all edges to be joined. If using a 15-20 minute epoxy, mix epoxy/adhesive to manufacturer's instruction and apply to all edges to be joined.  
**NOTE:** DO NOT APPLY EPOXY OR ADHESIVE TO ALIGNMENT KEYS ON EITHER HALF.

### Instructions Continued

6. Use tape to pull halves of column together and wrap 4 times at several locations. The epoxy or adhesive will be squeezed out but do not remove until it is cured.  
**NOTE:** DO NOT USE CLAMPS.
7. Do not remove any excess epoxy or adhesive until it has gelled. Once material has gelled, remove excess with a putty knife or chisel and sand with 100 grit sandpaper until smooth and flush to the column.
8. High Quality Auto Body Filler (Bondo®) can be used to smooth out the seam as necessary.  
**NOTE:** 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.
9. Use steps 4-7 to assemble caps and bases, taking care to avoid epoxy or adhesive on the pins and in the receiver holes.  
**NOTE:** INSTALL THE CAP & BASE AFTER THE SPLIT-FIT® COLUMN HAS BEEN INSTALLED AND SANDING COMPLETED.
10. If using 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 that will have filler. 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.

See Page 2 for Additional Instructions



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## 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.

