

SQUARE PVC COLUMN INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

INSTALLATION TIPS

TEMPERATURE RELATED ISSUES:

Columns become more brittle in colder temperatures. When the columns become more brittle, they are more susceptible to damage. It is recommended that the column be warmed to 50° to 55° before installing. This can be accomplished by moving the column into a heated space, and allowing adequate time for the temperature of the columns to warm up. The columns can then be installed with reduced risk of damaging them in the process. The outdoor ambient temperature can be considerably colder than 50°. If you are unable to warm the columns before installation, you should first drill pilot holes before screwing or nailing them together. Be careful when nailing the columns and try to avoid striking the column faces with a hammer. Note that if your particular columns are designed in such a way that they include miter folded corners, which have not been folded, closed, they will definitely be susceptible to fracture if they cannot be warmed. If a miter-folded corner does fracture, you will still have a good miter joint, which consists of (2) separate pieces.

CUTTING AND FASTENING:

The cellular pvc material that the columns are constructed of can easily be cut with conventional carpentry and woodworking tools. Pneumatic finish nailers and staplers can be used to fasten cellular pvc parts together. Large pneumatic framing staplers and nailers are not suitable for fastening this material as the percussion of the drivers of large nail guns can fracture the pvc material. Coarse thread, galvanized drywall screws are also suitable for fastening cellular pvc parts together. It is suggested that pilot holes be used for screws longer than 1 5/8".

PAINTING AND FINISHING:

Caulk where required using Siroflex brand Sealant and Adhesive provided by manufacturer. Putty any holes using acrylic putty or caulk. Lightly sand or scuff surface of column. Clean surface of column to remove any dirt or oil residue with light detergent and water. Be sure to remove soap residue with clean water. Apply one coat of 100% acrylic exterior primer and one or more finish coats of 100% acrylic exterior paint.



1. THE FIRST STEP IS TO CUT THE COLUMN TO THE DESIRED LENGTH. THIS CAN BE DONE USING A SKILL SAW.



2. THE SECOND STEP IN THE INSTALLATION PROCESS IS TO INSTALL THE SQUARING BLOCKS TO THE FLOOR AND TO THE HEADER. THIS MAY BE DONE USING STAPLES, NAILS, SCREWS, OR ADHESIVE. THE SQUARING BLOCKS WRAP AROUND THE STRUCTURAL POST AND ACT AS AN INDEXING BLOCK FOR THE COLUMN SO BE SURE THAT THEY ARE SQUARE AND PLUMB AT THE TOP AND BOTTOM.



3. NEXT INSTALL ONE HALF OF THE COLUMN AND ATTACH IT TO THE SQUARING BLOCKS AT THE TOP AND BOTTOM.



4. NOW YOU NEED TO APPLY ADHESIVE TO BOTH EDGES OF THE REMAINING HALF OF THE COLUMN



5. NEXT LINE UP THE OTHER HALF OF THE COLUMN AND FASTEN IT TO THE FIRST HALF. FASTEN THE COLUMN ON BOTH EDGES AS WELL AS ATTACHING IT TO THE SQUARING BLOCKS. WE RECOMMEND FASTENING THE COLUMN EVERY 8 TO 10 INCHES USING 1-1/4" STAPLES.



6. NOW YOU NEED TO ATTACH THE COLLARS TO THE SHAFT. DO THIS BY WRAPING THE COLLARS AROUND THE SHAFT AT THE TOP AND BOTTOM AND FASTENING THEM TO THE SHAFT AS WELL AS FASTENING BOTH HALVES TOGETHER AT THE CORNERS. PLEASE NOTE THAT IF YOU ORDERED A SPECIAL CAP IT IS INSTALLED THE SAME WAY AS A COLLAR.



THE PVC COLUMN HAS NO TESTED STRUCTURAL PROPERTIES. The column is designed to install around a previously installed structural post. The structural post inside column, supplied by others, provides the load-bearing component of the column. Load bearing capacity of column is determined by the physical properties of the structural post. Architect will specify load-bearing requirements of the structural post. Structural post must be of CCA treated lumber, CCA treated engineered lumber or steel. **Do not use untreated lumber for structural posts.** Possible infiltration of water and possible condensation inside pvc column shaft will cause degradation of untreated lumber! Bottom of structural post should be mounted to wooden deck or concrete/masonry porch floor using code-approved method and code approved post anchor. Top of structural post should be mounted to beam using code-approved method and code approved post-to-beam mounting bracket.

