

# Polyurethane Structural Columns & Porch Posts

## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS



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Be sure to verify load-bearing capacity of any structural element of the project before ordering to ensure that each component meets specific requirements. Check applicable building codes since this procedure may require alterations to meet applicable building code regulations. Fypon does not, under any circumstances, warrant the installation of its products.

### Materials needed:

- Ladder
- Tape Measure
- Hacksaw or Reciprocating Saw
- Polyurethane Compatible Filler
- Pencil
- Safety Glasses
- Sandpaper
- Corrosion-Resistant Fasteners
- Paint Brush
- Latex Paint
- Circular or Hand Saw
- 13/64" Drill Bit
- 1/2" Drill Bit
- Power Drill
- Plumb Bob
- Hydraulic Jack
- Phillips Head Driver
- Combination Square
- Zinc Based Primer Spray Paint (*Steel use only*)
- Caulk Gun
- Exterior Grade Caulk

### 1. Measure and Cut Column to Fit

- A) Determine the required height of the column or porch post by carefully measuring the distance from the floor to the bottom of the porch overhang or other structure being supported.
- B) The column or porch post is a load bearing support post. It can be trimmed to various heights without affecting the integrity of the post. If sizing is needed, the porch post has a steel pipe molded into the center which must be cut with a hack saw or reciprocating saw with metal cutting blade. If column or porch post is trimmed, and is going to be used in combination with rail sections, be sure to maintain adequate flat area at bottom to mount rail sections..

### 2. Slide the Base onto the Column (if Base is not attached to Column)

- A) Slide base high-enough up the shaft as to not interfere with installation.

### 3. Drill the Mounting Holes

- A) Pre-drill holes approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$ " up from the bottom of the post using a  $\frac{13}{64}$ " drill bit. Drill through both the polymer shell and the steel reinforcement. Now use a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " drill bit to expand the drill holes through the polymer only (do not drill through the steel reinforcement). Repeat this process at the top of the post, pre-drilling holes approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$ " from the top and centered on the top side.
- B) Paint all exposed steel at both the top and bottom of the post, using a high-quality, zinc base primer spray paint to help prevent corrosion.

### 4. Attach the Mounting Plates

- A) Identify the correct location of the top mounting plate first, and use a plumb line dropped from the center point of the top plate location to accurately align the center point location for the bottom post mounting plate.
- B) Install the top and bottom mounting plates using corrosion-resistant mechanical fasteners. For installation into concrete, stone or other floor and ceiling materials, appropriate masonry and/or other fasteners must be used.

### 5. Raise the Upper Structure and Set Column or Porch Post Into Place

- A) Lift (jack) the upper structure just high enough to allow the post to be set into place between the bottom anchor plate and top plate.

### 6. Fasten the Column or Porch Post to the Mounting Plates

- A) Use the  $\frac{13}{64}$ " holes drilled in Step 2 as guide holes to drill  $\frac{13}{64}$ " holes through the post mounting plates. Attach the post to the top and bottom plates, with corrosion resistant screws (four screws provided, two for the top plate and two for the bottom).
- B) Patch screw holes using a quality exterior grade, non-shrinking wood filler. Sand and paint as desired.

### 7. Slide Base into Position

- A) Secure the base to the column using corrosion-resistant fasteners.
- B) Caulk around the seam between the top of base and column.

### 8. Patch screw holes using a quality exterior grade, non-shrinking wood filler. Sand and paint as desired.

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## General Installation Notes

Any adhesives, sealants, fillers or paint used must be compatible with the material that is being installed (*see manufacturer's recommendations in the Finishing and Adhesives section below*). Always use corrosion-resistant mechanical nails or screws along with manufacturer's recommended adhesive product when installing all Fypon products. This combination provides a secure, long-lasting bond. Countersink all fasteners about  $\frac{1}{8}$ " and fill with product compatible filler. Exterior installations should be finished using a manufacturer's recommended caulk to prevent water infiltration behind siding, windows and doors. Some exterior installations, in particular new construction before siding is applied, may require a J-channel and/or flashing to prevent water infiltration. Installers must determine which installation technique is best for the specific situation.

## Finishing and Adhesives

**Polyurethane (PUR)** – Fypon polyurethane products are factory primed. Depending on product location, always use interior/exterior-grade, PUR compatible adhesives, sealants, and fillers when installing Fypon products. Consult the manufacturer's recommendations for your particular climate and the substrate you are installing to.

**Cellular PVC** – Depending on product location, always use interior/exterior-grade, PVC compatible adhesives, sealants, and fillers when installing Fypon products. Consult the manufacturer's recommendations for your particular climate and the substrate you are installing to. If painting is desired, a 100% acrylic latex paint with a Light Reflectance Value (LRV) of 55% or higher must be used. **Applying paint with an LRV of 54% or lower will void the warranty.**

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### IMPORTANT:

Please read these installation guidelines thoroughly before beginning installation. Please note that these guidelines are provided only to assist with the installation of Fypon moulding and millwork products. Modified procedures may be required in order to meet specific situations, unique applications and local building codes. The manufacturer does not, under any circumstances, warrant the installation of its products. Be sure to wear appropriate protective clothing, gloves and safety glasses when working with any tools. Installer should check for and relocate all electrical wiring within the proposed installation area, as needed (be sure to disconnect all electric power before working with any electrical wiring and follow all applicable local electrical codes and safety procedures).