



# Imperial Productions® Install Instruction

## Load Bearing Round PolyComp™

It is the responsibility of the installer to meet all code and safety requirements and to obtain all required building permit. The installer should determine and implement the installation techniques appropriate for each unique installation situation. These instructions are written without prejudice as an informative dialog. These instruction must be followed exactly as written any deviation from the instructions may result in an unsuccessful installation and will void the warranty.

### Cautions:

Do not caulk base to substrate - this may cause moisture to collect and freeze. All holes must be predrilled. 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 snow and ice. Safety glasses and dust masks should be worn when cutting and sanding columns. Wear protective gloves during installation to protect hands from sharp edges and fiberglass.

### Substrate:

A stable even base is required for load bearing columns. The photo illustrates an independent footing with a gasket prior to the concrete porch pour for each column



### Install:

Determine where the shaft will make contact with the header (lintel) 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 the bottom of the header to ensure even load distribution. This can be accomplished by using 3/4" plywood or a steel plate. 100% of the bottom of the shaft must contact even substrate. The top of the shaft must be centered to the lintel as seen in the photo below.

Using a tape measure, measure opening where the column is to be installed. If there is a pitch ensure that the bottom makes 100% contact with the substrate. A plumb bob will help will determine where the base of the shaft will rest.

Use standard skill saw with an abrasive saw blade to cut the bottom of the shaft to length if required. Fine tune the cut with a course wrap and remove sharp edges that might chip when the shaft is slid into place. Note: CUT ONLY FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE SHAFT TO THE DESIRED LENGTH.

If you are integrating railings predrill holes for screws to affix railings larger than the screw to avoid cracking. Use a long enough screw to go through the shaft and penetrate into the backer board. Do not over tighten.

For replacement projects insert a jackpost as illustrated in the photo and raise the lintel higher than the shaft height. Slide in the new shaft and lower the jackpost.



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## SHAFTS

The shaft must bear the load not the capital. Center the column shaft to the center of the lintel as illustrated in the picture. Failure to center the load may result in shaft failure

If the Shaft is exposed after installing the capital cut the top of the shaft slightly higher (1/8") than the top of the capital.

## DORIC CAPITALS

The top of the doric capital sits on the astragal or top ring

## DECORATIVE CAPITALS

Scamozzi, Roman Ionic, Temple Winds, Roman Corinthian capitals sit snug to the astragal. If the shaft exceeds the capital cut the top of the shaft leaving 1/8" higher than the top of the capital.

Astragal=>

## LATERAL MOVEMENT & CAPITALS

Top of Shaft: Secure the top of the shaft with L-Brackets that affix the top of shaft to the lintel. To attach the L-Bracket predrill a slightly larger hole and use tapcons to affix the bracket. In certain cases use steel strapping to affix the top of the shaft. In addition one can supplement construction adhesive to secure the capital



## ATTIC & TUSCAN BASES

Base Free Float around the column shaft. During install to keep the base 1 foot from the bottom of the shaft, use shims. Use paintable caulking to seal the gap around the intersection of the base and the shaft.

Although the weight of the lintel bears down on the shaft for earthquake and related vibrations, affix the bottom of the shaft with L-brackets to the substrate. The L-brackets should be placed so they are hidden by the floating base. Pre-drill any screw holes slightly larger than the screws and counter-sink the screw-tops. Lower the base that will cover the L-brackets and screws.



## COLUMN REPAIR

Small cracks, chips can be repaired with Bondo Car body compound. Apply filler let dry and sand.

## PAINTING INSTRUCTION

Do not use colors with a LRV of 56 or less. Sand column with 100 grit sand paper or a sanding sponge. Make sure all surfaces are clean prior to painting. Wash each column with soapy water and soft scrub brush. After washing column rinse to remove all soap residue. Allow column to dry prior to painting. Follow paint instructions. Use high quality exterior grade primer and exterior paint.

\* All PolyComp columns are sold as unfinished building components. Integration hardware (ie brackets, steel strapping, tapcons and any other install products are supplied by others.

