

Railing Installation Instructions

Always check local building codes before beginning a project. Please read these instructions completely and thoroughly before beginning installation. Always wear protective glasses when installing the railing system.

REQUIRED TOOLS

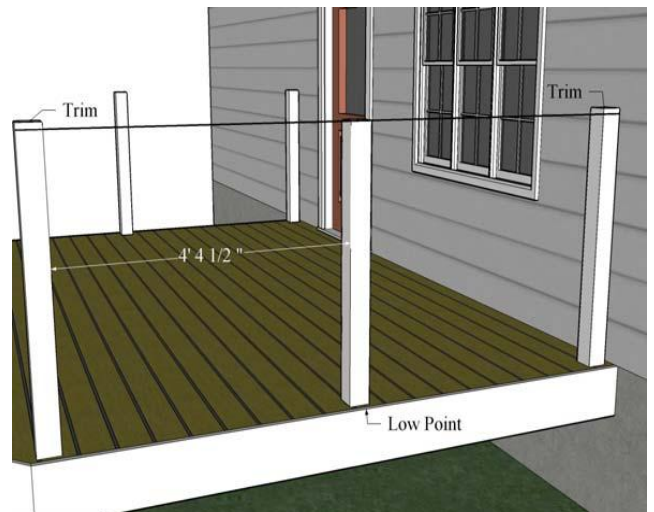
- Protective Eye Glasses
- Electric Drill/Screwdriver with Phillips Bit
- 4' Level
- Tape Measure
- Miter Saw
- PVC Glue

One section of railing contains four major components (pictured below): Top & Bottom Rail, Aluminum Inserts, Rail Brackets, and Pickets.



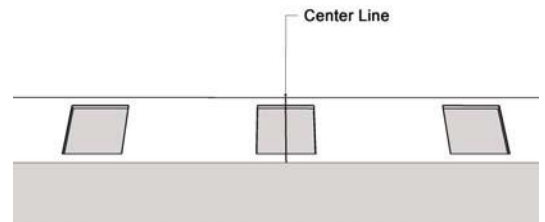
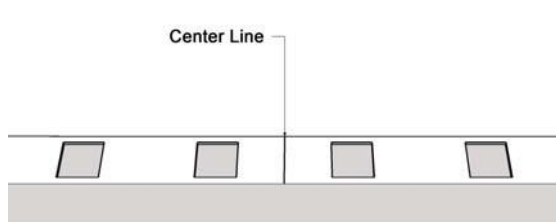
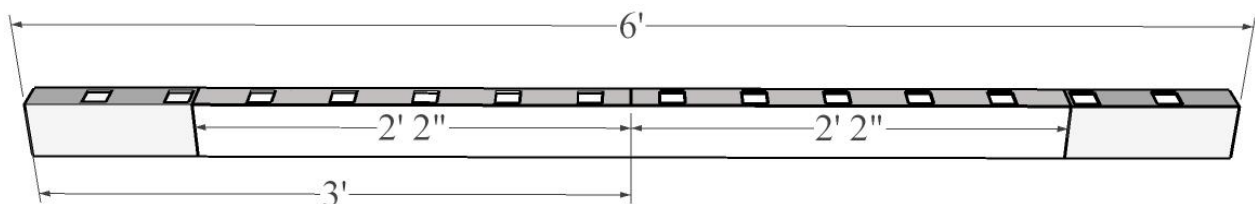
It is recommended to use this railing system with Backyard America vinyl or composite post sleeves and accessories to obtain the best look as well as the easiest installation. **Wait to snap any screws caps or bracket trim into place until the section of railing is completely installed.**

PRE-RAILING INSTALLATION: Begin by securing post sleeves. The post sleeves can be slid over top wooden posts and held in place with screws from the railing mounting brackets. For installation without a wooden post, use a post mount (available at Backyard America). Post mounts may be mounted on either wood or concrete (For more information on installing post mounts, please refer to the separate instructions supplied with the mount). Post sleeves should be trimmed down to the height of the lowest post.

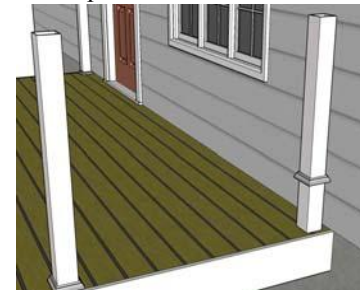


1. Cut Rails and Aluminum Inserts to Length. Once posts are installed, rails may be attached. Measure the distance between the inside of the top of the posts. Subtract the following, depending on the railing style. This will determine the length of the top rail.

Classic Manor/ Charleston	Cut an additional 1/2" off the measured length to allow spacing for the brackets
T-Rail	Cut an additional 3/8" off the measured length to allow spacing for the brackets
Contour / York	No extra spacing is needed for the brackets - cut to measured length



Measure the distance between the inside of the bottom of the posts. Subtract an additional 1/2" from the measured length to allow spacing for the brackets. This will determine the length of the bottom rail. When measuring where to cut on the rails, it is recommended to measure out from the middle of the rail, either from the center of a picket, or the center of the spacing between pickets. This is done in order to obtain equal picket spacing on both ends of the rail. **Do not leave an open picket hole where the bracket will be installed.** Trim the rails and aluminum inserts to length. The aluminum and vinyl may be cut at the same time with all rails except for the composite 2" x 3 1/2" rail; remove the insert and cut separately. This is done since the aluminum is cut shorter than the rail itself to allow room for inserting the bracket. **Vinyl rails must have aluminum inserts flush against the rail brackets.**



2. Install Post Trim. If using the optional post trim, install it before attaching any rails

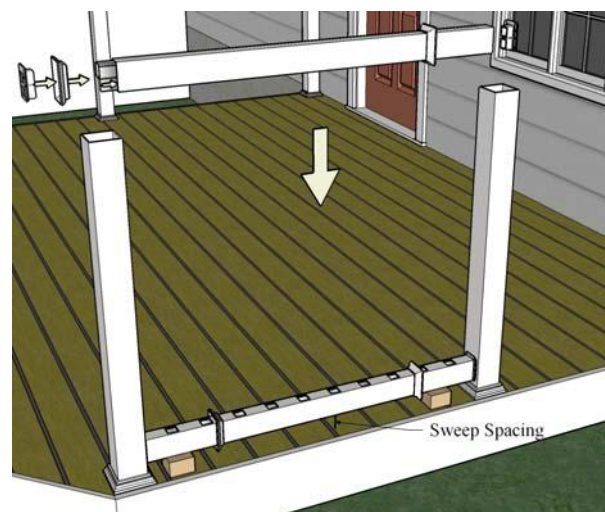
3. Install Bottom Rail.



Foot blocks: Foot blocks are necessary only with the 6' and 8' York and Charleston railing systems. To install: find the center of the bottom rail, then, attach the foot block to the bottom of the bottom rail by driving a 3/4" screw through the top of the foot block into the rail. The screw head should be concealed inside the foot block. The foot block is adjustable; for now, leave it at the lowest position

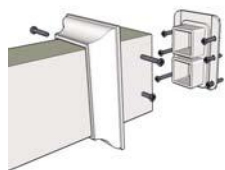
Sweep Space: The table below depicts the space between your bottom rail and the surface depending on the rail style and height. Following these measurements will result in overall height of either 36" or 42".

Sweep Spacing		
RAIL STYLE	36" HEIGHT	42" HEIGHT
Classic Manor	1 1/2"	2"
Contour	2 1/2"	3"
T-Rail	2"	2 1/2"
Charleston	2 1/2"	2 1/2"
York	3 1/4"	2 3/4"



Slide the railing bracket trim pieces onto the bottom rail facing the finished side of the trim towards the center of the rail. Insert the base of the bracket into the end of the rail. Slide the rail into position.

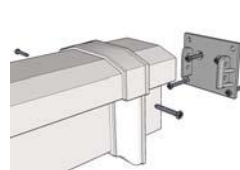
It is helpful to use two wooden blocks or to have someone help hold the bottom rail in place. Ensure the rail is level and the bracket is centered from side to side on the post. Attach bracket to the post using the screws provided, follow the screw placement shown below. Wait to snap rail bracket trim



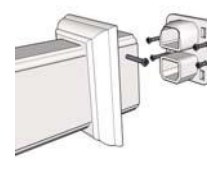
CLASSIC MANOR



CONTOUR./YORK

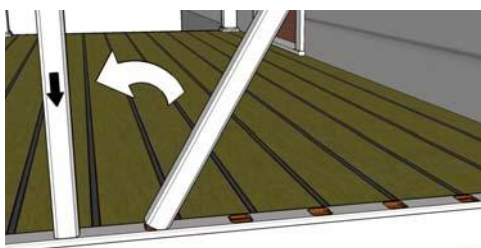


T-RAIL



CHARLESTON

If applicable, pull the foot block down until the trim end is resting on the surface. Drive the provided screw with cap through the side of the foot block



4. Install Pickets. Install all of the pickets into the bottom rail. For composite rail: angle the picket at 45°, pushing the corner of the picket firmly into the cutout. Straighten out the picket while applying pressure to slide the picket firmly into place. Due to the design of the composite picket, it must fit firmly and can sometimes seem too tight. Using the method described can simplify the process.

5. Install Top Rail. For all top rails except contour and york the mounting brackets are made up of two pieces; a trim and a base, slide the trim pieces onto the top rail facing the finished side of the trim towards the center of the rail. Insert the base of the bracket into the end of the rail.

For Contour and York railing, the mounting brackets are a single piece; slide the bracket onto the top rail facing the finished side towards the center of the rail. Lower the rail into position. Start at one end and begin feeding the pickets into the top rail. Once the top rail has been seated onto all of the pickets, the rail is level. Ensure the bracket is centered on the post. Attach bracket to the post using the screws provided. The rails should also be screwed directly to the bracket; for brackets with a removable trim piece, install a screw on both sides of every bracket before snapping the bracket trim into place (see diagram on previous page for screw placement). **For Contour, Classic Manor, and T-Rail systems: aluminum should be connected to the bracket by the side screws as well as the vinyl.** Wait to snap trim or screw caps into place.



6. Install Post Cap. Place a small amount of PVC Glue on all four sides of the cap and slide the cap into place. Be careful not to drip glue on the outside of a post or cap or it will cause a “scar” in the vinyl.

If the overall appearance and fit of the railing is satisfactory, snap all screw caps and bracket trim into place.



It is the responsibility of the installer to meet or exceed all code and safety requirements, and to obtain all required building permits. These instructions are only a guide, and may not address every circumstance. The installer should determine and implement appropriate installation techniques for each situation. Backyard America shall not be held liable for improper or unsafe installations. All screws must be installed for safety and to meet code.