



## Sawn Baluster Sizing and Installation Guide

Durabrac® Sawn Balusters are a beautiful finishing touch to your porch or deck. This guide has been prepared to answer questions you may have about our Sawn Balusters, helpful hints in selecting the right style and size, and suggested ways to install them.

### What you will find in this document

- Guidance on selecting the style and size that best fits your needs
- Ordering information
- Painting guidelines
- Installation suggestions and time saving tips
- Proper care of you Durabrac® Balusters

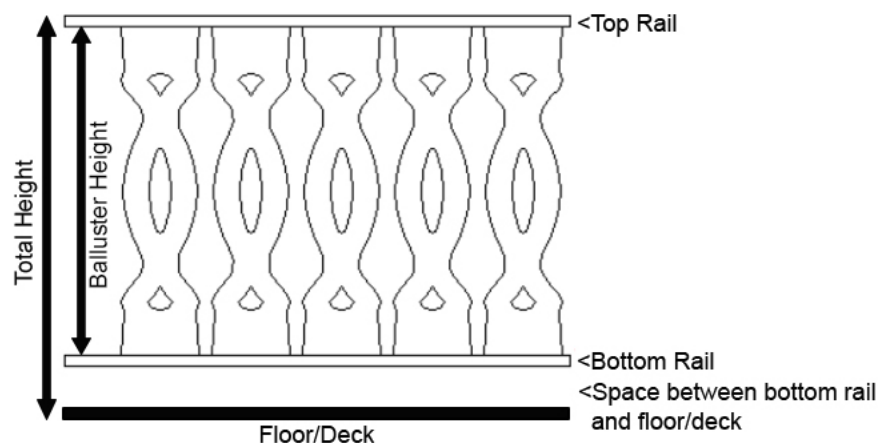
**If Balusters will be running along stairs, please call Durabrac to place order to ensure correct sizing. 850-433-4981**

### Style and Size

Style is a personal choice. It's whatever makes you happy. We have close to two dozen styles that range from simple and practical to flowing and whimsical—several options to suit your particular style.

Durabrac® Sawn Balusters come in three standard heights: 23½", 27" and 31½" To determine which height best suites your need, see the illustration below for calculation instructions. If your floor is above 36 inches from the ground, local building codes may dictate minimum height.

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE:** *Top and Bottom rails are not sold at Durabrac.*



STEP 1: Determine the total height you desire.

STEP 2: Deduct the height of the top and bottom rails from the total height.

STEP 3: Deduct how much space under the bottom rail you would like. Most codes say maximum of 4" is allowed. 2½" is fairly common.

STEP 4: Amount left should be Sawn Balluster height needed.

For example: (for illustration purposes only)  
 Total Height = 38"  
 Top/Bottom Rail heights = 4" each (8" total)  
 Space between floor and bottom rail = 3"  
 Sawn Balluster height needed = 27"  
 (38"-8"-3"=27")

## Ordering Information

Ordering from Durabrac.com is as simple as selecting your size and quantity.

The price of our balusters vary due to the amount of material used for each particular design. Wider balusters are priced higher, but require less units per length spanned, while narrow balusters cost less per baluster, but require more units per length spanned. The overall cost per linear foot, however, is similar for all our balusters. The variable is the spacing between balusters. Some designs can be spaced wider and need less units.

You must always consider local codes for baluster railing installed above ground level. In above ground installations, spacing for most codes say that you must not be able to pass a 4" ball through any opening. Second story installations usually require taller railing to meet code. Please check with your local building codes to determine your correct sizing.

***It's important to note that balusters used for stairs need to have extra length at the top and at the bottom. We offer extended balusters for stair usage by phone order only.***

## Our Raw Material

All Durabrac® components are manufactured from the highest grade of Cellular PVC manufactured in the USA.

We select our material to meet the following requirements.

- Color stability (solid white)
- UV protection (to avoid yellowing)
- Structural stability and uniform thickness
- No painting necessary. You can safely leave them in their natural white state.

## Painting Guidelines

All Durabrac® products can be painted with any light to medium colored latex paint. Darker colors have been used by some customers, but consider the location of your product. When exposed to constant direct sunlight, darker paints will fade over time.

No special priming is needed to paint our product. Make sure surface is clean and dry prior to painting.

Painting is NOT necessary with Durabrac® products. It is simply an aesthetic, personal option.

For unpainted Balusters, we recommend wiping the edges with a clean rag soaked with acetone. The acetone works to seal the open cells created with the cutting process. Sealing the edge is most recommended if the installed Balusters are under trees or in an environment that allows the growth of mold and mildew. This allows for an easier and quicker cleaning process should your Balusters get dirty.

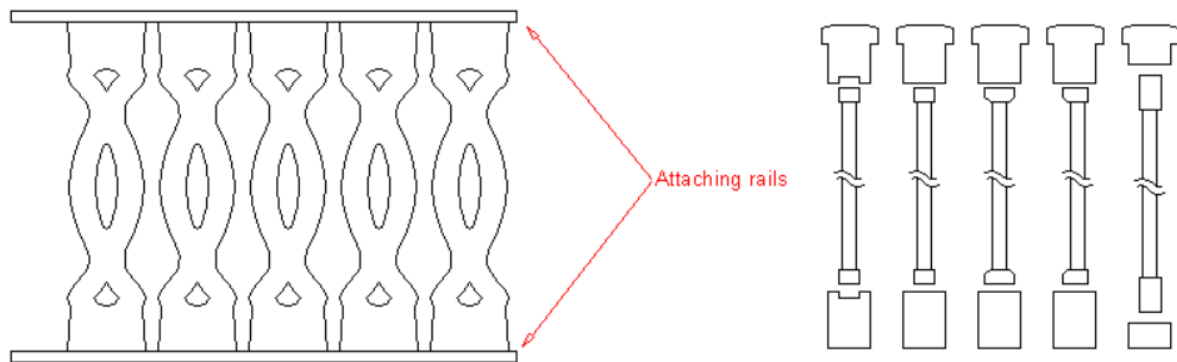
## Installation Guidelines

Durabrac® Sawn Balusters can be adapted to your railing of choice using similar traditional techniques used to install wood balusters.

Creating a baluster sub-assembly for each section using a top and bottom attaching rail speeds up the installation process. It allows you to work out the spacing between balusters for each section.

The size of attaching rail can be adjusted to the best fit for your railing of choice. The attaching rails do not have to be cut from PVC lumber. Wood and strong composite material is acceptable.

*\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: Top and bottom rails are not sold at Durabrac.*



*Examples of Queen Anne Balusters installed with wood railings (left) and PVC railings (right).*

## Proper Care of your Durabrac® Baluster

Durabrac® Sawn Balusters can be easily cleaned with pressure washing without damaging the surface. Keep a distance of 12 inches when pressure washing painted components. They are also safe to clean with any non-solvent based cleaner.