

Spandrel

Information and Installation Guide

Durabrac® vinyl spandrels are manufactured using a unique copyrighted© design and production system. We manufacture your spandrel to custom lengths using standardized components. You will receive your spandrel manufactured in lengths to fit your openings. All span lengths and multiple span lengths are proportional and harmonious. Brackets and rail fit together seamlessly. Production time is 7 to 10 working days.

In the pages below you will find:

- How to determine what spandrel lengths you need.
- A visual guide to help you decide which size to order.
- An explanation of different spandrel configurations according to length.
- What tools and supplies you will need to install spandrel.
- How to install a typical spandrel rail section.
- How to install multiple rail sections.
- Specific installation guidelines for Chesapeake Brackets.
- Specific installation guidelines for LaSalle Brackets.
- General tips, plus guidelines to installing bracket to Vinyl Siding.

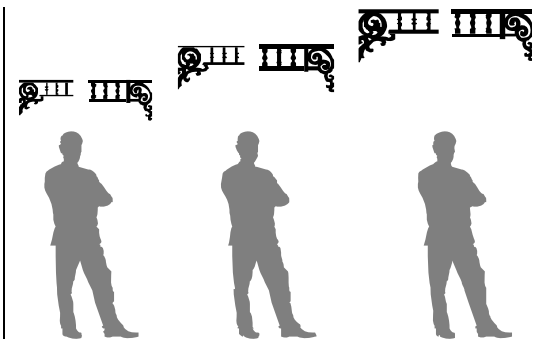
Determining your spandrel lengths

To determine your span lengths measure each section across from vertical post or wall. Be sure to measure at or near the top. The bottom may be wider or narrower than the top. You might also have tapered columns that at first may not be noticeable. When measuring, always ignore any trim that may wrap the top of the posts. Remember, we size for the span, if you measure only to the trim you will be short. The top rail can be shortened to allow for existing trim. If you plan to install trim around the posts, it is better to install the spandrel first.

A Visual Guide to selecting a Spandrel size

The drawing to the right was created to help you visualize the three sizes that you may select. You should consider the following when selecting what size spandrel will look best:

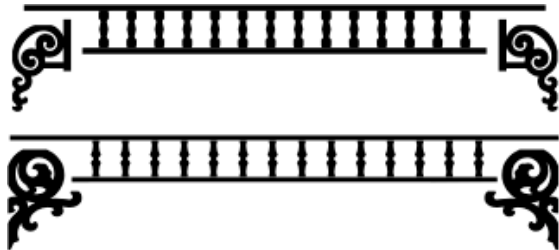
- Do you consider your home small, medium or large?
- How high are the ceilings?
- What is the column size and post spacing?
- How far back is the home from the street?
- Do you just want to accent or do you want to make a statement?



This illustration depicts the three sizes available at the approximate height of 8 ft, 9 ft and 10 ft.

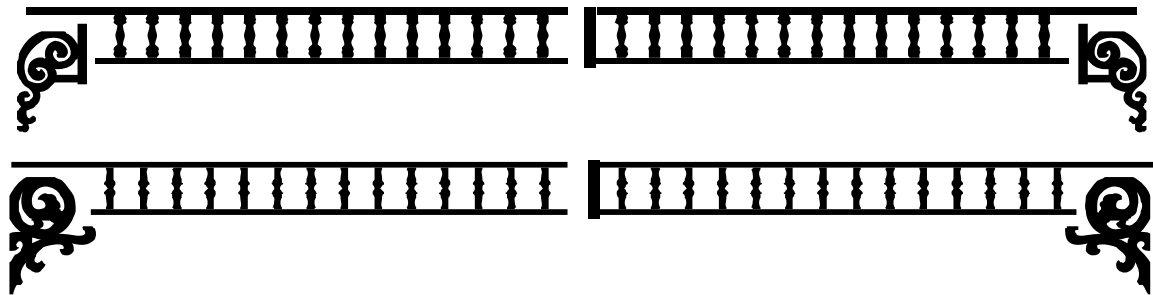
Explaining the spandrel configurations

There are three configurations that you may see. Your order may be all one arrangement or a combination. The number of bracket has no effect on arrangement. Spandrel rail ordered without brackets will come with flat end plates for installation.

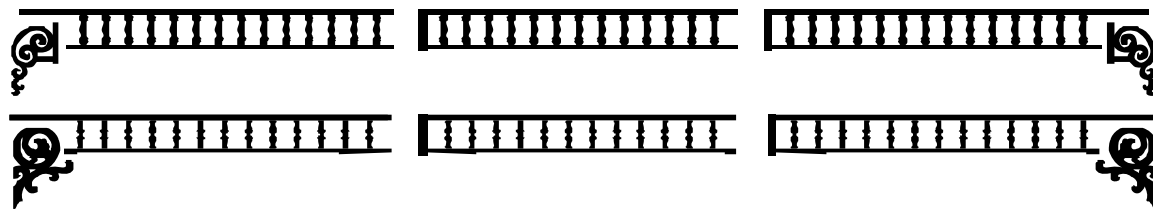


The first configuration is a single span with one rail section. (Left illustration) This configuration is used for spans up to 95” wide.

The second configuration, shown below, is a two rail section with a center post. This configuration is used for spans from 95” to 190” wide.



Last configuration, shown below, is three or more sections used in spans over 190” wide.



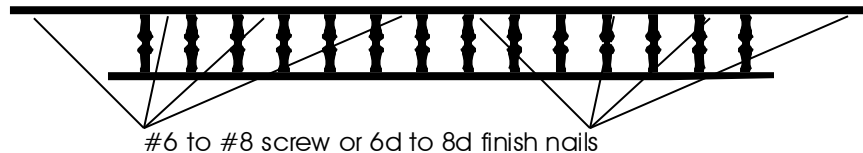
Spandrel installation instructions

In the following you will find instructions for:

- General installation guide for a typical rail section.
- General installation guide for the Chesapeake and the LaSalle brackets.
- General installation guide for single, double and multiple section configurations

Typical Spandrel Rail Installation

Durabrac® spandrel is easy to install. It is a copyrighted® design that has built in flexibility. A flexibility of plus or minus ¼ inch will allow you to overcome slight variations, or minor errors in the measured length. All rail sections are installed in a similar fashion illustrated below.



Each rail section you receive will be numbered (*each section with a colored sticker*). If there are two sections required for a span, the left & right will be identified. For multiple sections, the left, right and center sections will be identified. Refer to the packing list included with the order or your original order receipt to match numbers with ordered lengths.

It may be that part of your order has spans slightly over the 95" limit for a single span and adjoining spans are less than 95". If this is the case, we will split the shorter sections into two. In that way you will have uniformity with spans of similar length. We follow this same principle with double and multiple sections configurations.

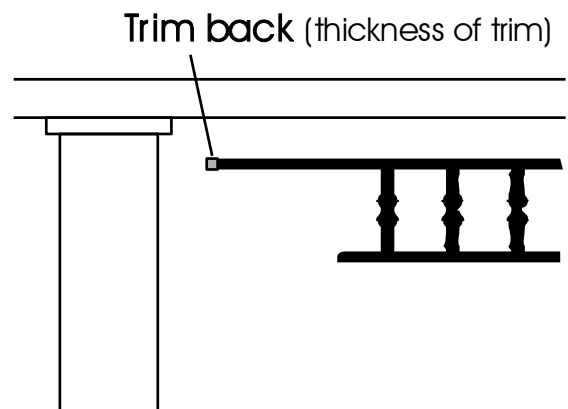
Durabrac spandrel rail has the density of pine but not the rigidity. It will flex and can be installed on curved sections of your home. It will easily form to an 8 ft radius. Customers have reported curves as tight as 6 ft.

VERY IMPORTANT!

The top spandrel rail may need to be shortened if you have trim around the top of the post or along a wall.

Remove a section of the top rail equal to the width of the trim. Do the same at the other end if trim is present.

Ignore trim when measuring your finished opening width.



Note!

Try to have the trim around the top of the posts small and proportional to the top rail of the spandrel. Install it after the spandrel installation if possible.

You will need the following:

- Ladder of appropriate height (maybe two).
- Tape measure
- Sharp pencil
- Screw driver and or Hammer
- Screws or Nails appropriate for outdoor use in your climate.
- White adhesive latex caulk
- Masking tape
- An assistant to hold other end
- Clean hands

Single rail section installation

(See Typical Spandrel Rail Installation above).

Double rail section installation

- Install the right rail assembly first. The right rail assembly has the center post attached. It will also be designated with its appropriate number followed by the letter “R”.
- Slide the left rail into the post then pull the back until it contacts the post or wall. Visually verify that it is aligned correctly before installing fasteners.

Multiple rail section installation Find an open area where you can carefully layout the section on the ground. Be sure that each section has the same number (*Identified on a round colored sticker*). On each section that will be inserted into a post, make a small pencil line 1” back on each top rail as shown in the drawing at the right.



While still on the ground, insert each section to the pencil mark and measure the total length. Make note of any difference from the width of the measured opening. Adjust the sections in or out and remark. Placing a piece of masking tape where the rail enters the post will work to mark how deep to insert the rail.

Attach each section one at a time starting from the right side. Use only enough fasteners to keep the rail sections from falling until all sections are up and you are satisfied with the spacing. At that time go back and install the remaining fasteners.

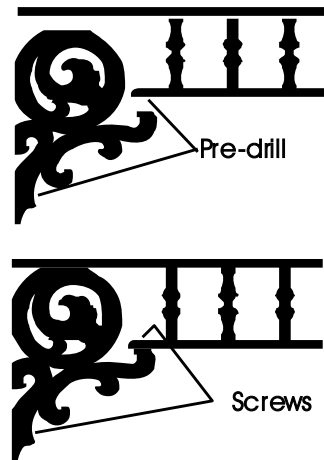
Just a reminder

- Do you plan to install trim around the top of the posts or along a wall where your Spandrel brackets will be attached? If you do, it should be small and proportional in size to the top rail.
- It is best if you install trim around posts after your spandrel is installed if possible.
- Ignore any trim that may already be installed when measuring for the width of spandrel.

Chesapeake Bracket installation

Begin by test fitting the bracket to the rail.

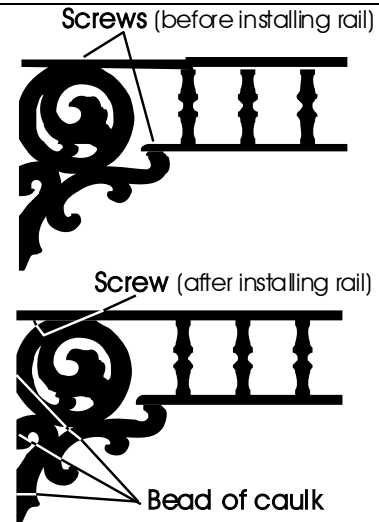
- Place the bracket against the wall or post and slide it up onto the top rail.
- Push upward until the bracket slips over the lower part of the rail and is flush against the wide upper part of the rail.
- Mark the bottom rail lightly to identify where to pre-drill the hole for the attaching screw.
- Place the bracket aside and drill the hole in the bottom rail. Drill up from the bottom to insure a vertical hole.
- Attach as shown in lower drawing at right.



Installing Chesapeake Brackets to Vinyl Siding

Use this guideline if you are attaching a bracket to vinyl siding (*We do not recommend placing screws or fasteners through vinyl siding*) or if you are unable to get a secure attachment to the wall or post.

- Verify the exact width of the space the bracket and rail assemble will fill.
- Before the rail is installed, attach the bracket to the rail with screws. Refer to the upper drawing to the right.
- Install the rail and bracket assemble together. (*See typical rail installation above*)
- Add one fastener, as shown in the lower drawing to the right. This fastener is installed from behind at an angle upward. A nail is less noticeable.

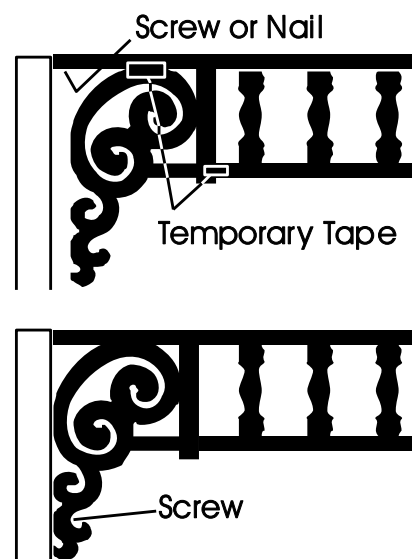


To complete a bracket installation to vinyl siding, apply a bead of caulk on both sides of the bracket where the bracket meets the siding. If you are not experienced applying caulk use masking tape to help create a neat appearance. Place the tape back from the edges approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ in. Remove the tape before the caulk dries.

LaSalle Bracket Installation

The LaSalle bracket must be placed on the rail before the rail is installed.

- Secure the bracket to the rail assembly with masking tape to prevent it from accidentally falling off while attaching the rail section.
- Place an additional fastener, as shown in the top drawing on the right, along with the other fasteners used to install the rail and bracket assembly (*See typical rail installation above*)
- Remove the temporary tape.
- Draw the bracket back against the post or wall and visually verify the alignment.
- Install a fastener as shown in the lower drawing at the right.

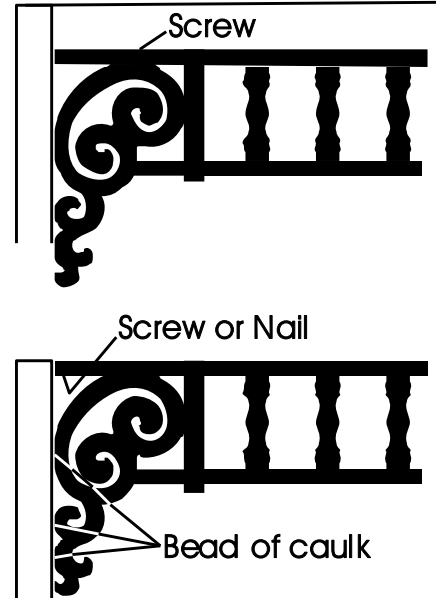


If you are not experienced applying caulk use masking tape to help create a neat appearance. Place the tape back from the no more than $\frac{1}{4}$ in. Remove the tape before the caulk dries.

Installing LaSalle Brackets to Vinyl Siding

Use this guideline if you are attaching a bracket to vinyl siding (*We do not recommend placing screws or fasteners through vinyl siding*) or if you are unable to get a secure attachment to the wall or post.

- Verify the exact width of the space the bracket and rail assembly will fill.
- Before installing the rail section, attach the bracket to the rail assembly with a screw as shown in the top drawing at the right.
- Install the rail and bracket assembly together using screws or nails (*See typical rail installation above*)
- Add the extra fastener to secure the rail as shown in the bottom drawing at the right.
- Apply latex caulk as shown.



We do not provide any installation hardware. It would be impossible for us to provide hardware for all applications. What is acceptable in a dry northern climate may not be a good choice for a southern coastal climate. If you need advice about what hardware is best for your environment, it probably can be found as close as your local hardware store.

If you have question or comments please let us know how you feel. We work hard every day to provide you with the best possible product.