

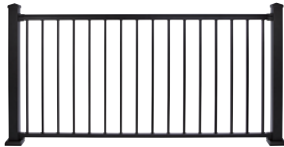
# Aluminum Picket Installation Instructions

## PFX 1000 Level Rail



### PARTS INCLUDED:

**A** Picket Panel



**B** Saddle Bracket (2)



**C** Bracket Cover (2)



**D** Bottom Bracket (2)



**E** 10" Support Block (1)



**F** 3 1/2" Driver Bit (1)



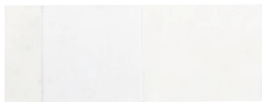
**G** Support Block Connector (2)



**H** 10x1" Self Drilling Screw (12)



**I** Adhesive Tab (1)



**J** Level Hinge Bracket Set (1) *Optional\**



*\*See supplemental installation instructions included with horizontal pivot.*

#### NOTES:

- Posts and picket panels packaged separately.
- An Optional RailFX-Tool is available to simplify locating, pre-drilling and installation of brackets.

#### MATERIALS REQUIRED:

- Post installation attachment hardware

#### TOOLS REQUIRED:

- Drill bit 5/32" (.156")
- Drill (with adjustable clutch, recommended)
- Miter Saw (with carbide, 80-tooth or more blade)
- Level
- Rubber mallet
- Tape measure
- Touch-up paint (optional)

#### FOR A SUCCESSFUL INSTALLATION:

- Read the instructions completely before beginning the installation.
- Plan your railing project. Sketch your project with the actual measurements of your deck or balcony complete with post locations.
- Check local building codes to ensure compliance.
- Check packages(s) to determine part count is complete.
- After cutting rails or posts, paint exposed metal for maximum protection against the elements.
- Installation is best completed with two people.
- Wear personal protection equipment; safety glasses, etc.
- Use care not to over-torque the screws. Pre-drilling is recommended.
- Saddle bracket and bottom bracket are intended for RailFX posts. If installing to other post types, the necessary hardware will need to be purchased.

## POSTS INSTALLATION:

1. Measure and locate the position of the post(s) based on the project layout.
2. Install the post by attaching the aluminum mounting flange to the surface of the deck or balcony. Position the post so the fastener will go into the floor joist, and make sure the decking is firmly attached to the joist at the location of the post. If necessary, use wood blocking as reinforcement underneath the decking where the posts are located. Post mounting fasteners should be able to secure into the joist or reinforcement braces, not just the decking itself. When installing RailFX-Rail Post on top of a wood surface, screws must be lagged into at least 3" of solid wood. Deck boards sized 5/4" or 1 1/2" do not provide sufficient material for a safe installation.

*Note: When installing RailFX-Rail Post onto treated wood surface, install the provided ACQ pad (included in the post kit) between the post base and the treated surface.*

3. Position the post to the deck surface. Four 3/8" diameter mounting holes are provided on the mounting flange. Mark the mounting flange hole locations and remove the post. Drill the marked locations into the decking and reinforcement. Remount the post. Insert the appropriate fasteners to secure the mounting flange to the deck structure.



4. Finish by sliding the base trim to the bottom of the post to cover the mounting flange.



5. To install the post cap, set post capital in place on top of the post and tap lightly with a rubber mallet to drive the post cap onto the post. Silicone or water based caulking may be used to secure the post cap and base trim.

## LEVEL RAIL INSTALLATION:

1. Carefully measure the opening between posts or walls and calculate the length of rail that needs to be cut. Divide the trim length amount in half, and starting with the Bottom Rail, transfer and mark the measurement to each end of the rail. For the sake of baluster spacing or personal preference, all of the trim length could be cut from one end of both rails. Make this determination before cutting the rails. Always refer to local building code requirements to determine the baluster spacing requirements in your area (4" maximum is typical). Carefully cut the rail. Mark Top Rail and cut. For clearance purposes the top rail is precut 3/4" shorter than the bottom rail.

### **IF YOU HAVE A PRE-ASSEMBLED PICKET PANEL, SKIP TO STEP 4**

2. To assemble rail, begin with Top Rail and insert balusters into each baluster hole. Use a rubber mallet to tap the balusters into place until fully seated into the Top Rail. *Note: It is recommended to use the box as a pad to prevent scuffing of the painted finish.*



**3.** Insert balusters in the Bottom Rail the same as in step 1, beginning at one end and working to the opposite end. Stand the assembly upside down on the surface of the box and tap the Bottom Rail with a rubber mallet to secure the balusters in place. Stand assembly upright. *Note: Notches are provided on the front of the box to help align balusters and aid in the assembly of the rail in this step.*



**4.** Install Support Block Connectors (G) using #10x1" Self Drilling Screw (H) to the underside of Bottom Rail. The Support Block will be installed in step 9. *Note: One Support Block, cut from Support Block Material (E), is recommended for rails measuring 72" in length or less; two Support Blocks for longer lengths. If one Support Block is required, install the Support Block Connector (G) at center point of Bottom Rail. If two Support Blocks are required, install Support Block Connectors (G) equal distance from each end of the Bottom Rail.*



**5.** Slide Bottom Brackets (D) with screw holes down and counter bore holes facing toward the balusters, over each end of the Bottom Rail.



**6.** Slide Bracket Covers (C) at least 3-4 inches inward over each end of the Top Rail. A small piece of tape may be needed to hold the bracket covers in place.



**7.** Place a piece of masking tape on posts measure from the top of the post down 3" and mark a level horizontal line. If using the post drilling / rail installation tool, hold rail installation tool flush with top of post and using the holes on the template labeled "level" mark post. This will give you a 36 1/4" net rail height.

**8.** Align screw holes in Saddle Bracket (B) on the horizontal line making certain the Saddle Bracket (B) is centered on the post. Mark screw locations. Repeat process at opposite end.



**9.** Attach both Saddle brackets (B) with #10x1" Self Drilling Screws (H) at the marked screw locations completed in Step 6. Pre-drilling is recommended.



**10.** Set the rail assembly into the Saddle Brackets (B) letting the Bottom Rail hang freely between the posts. *Note: Check for level.*



- 11.** At the point(s) where you installed Support Block Connector(s) (step 2), carefully measure the distance from the underside of the Bottom Rail to the floor. Cut Support Block Material (E) to fit. Remove rail assembly from the Saddle Brackets (B). Slip Support Block(s) over Support Block Connectors (G). Slide the rail back into place and make certain the rail is level.



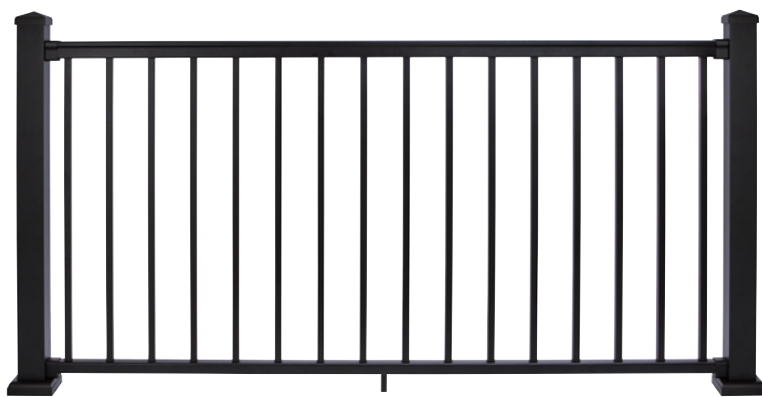
- 12.** Slide and hold the Bottom Bracket (D) firmly against the post or wall. Secure the bracket with #10x1" Self Drilling Screws (H). Repeat the process at the other side. *Note: Screw holes in Bottom Bracket (D) are angled to make mounting the brackets easier*



- 13.** Apply Adhesive Tab (I) to flat, top surface of Top Rail, near the post. Slide Bracket Cover (C) to interlock with flange on the Saddle Bracket (B).



- 14.** #10x1" Self Drilling Screws (H) into the Top Rail from the underside of each Saddle Bracket (B) through the provided locating hole to securely fasten the rail.



**INSTALLED VIEW**

# Horizontal Hinge Bracket Installation Recommendations

- Read the installation instructions included with the picket panel kit thoroughly before starting the installation.
- For your safety, RailFX recommends wearing personal protection equipment before, and during the installation process.
- The hardware included in the picket panel kit is intended to use with the RailFX posts. If installing to another surface, you must acquire the appropriate hardware needed for a proper installation.



1. Install posts per the instructions provided with the Level Rail Kit.
2. Place a piece of masking tape on posts and measure from the top of the post down 2 5/8" and mark a level horizontal line. If using the post drilling / rail installation tool, hold rail installation tool flush with top of post and using the holes on the template labeled "Horizontal pivot" mark post. This will give you a 36 1/4" net rail height.
3. At each of the marks in Step 2, from the centerline of the post measure both left and right of the centerline 1". Place a mark on the horizontal line at both locations. **NOTE: The RailFX Tool is available to aid and guide the placement of the hole location for the top bracket assembly only.**
4. At the locations marked in Step 3, on both sides of the centerline, pre-drill the two holes at both locations for both the top and bottom brackets. If using the RailFX Tool position the tool so the holes marked "HORZ PIVOT" are centered on the horizontal reference marks in step 1. Use the tool as a guide to mark or to pre-drill the holes.
5. Using the painted head screws provided, install both the top and bottom bracket assemblies to the post. Once the brackets are installed refer to the Level Rail Installation to complete the installation of the rail kit.