

# INSTALLATION GUIDE

### **BEFORE YOU START**

This Installation Guide shall be used in conjunction with the Stratco Outback<sup>®</sup> Span Table Book dated September 2020 along with relevant Outback<sup>®</sup> Patio Installation Guide/s. Ensure you have the correct components and tools before installing your patio.

#### **GENERAL NOTES**

- Timber columns are suitable to be used in lieu of 68mm Outback<sup>®</sup> columns and 68mm Outback<sup>®</sup> reinforced columns when these columns are allocated as suitable for fixing onto a concrete base.
- Maximum allowable spans are to be maintained as per the Outback® Span Table Book.
- Patio height shall be limited to 2400mm to underside of beam at column locations.
- Concrete base shall have a minimum compressive strength of 20MPa.
- Masonry anchors are to be installed in accordance with manufacturer's requirements.
- The owner/installer is responsible for ensuring the concrete base is capable of sustaining imposed loading from the Outback® unit.

#### **TOOLS AND HARDWARE REQUIRED**

Circular-saw

• Tape Measure

• ø16mm Hole saw

- Plumb Line
- Spirit Level

• Drill and Hex-head Adaptor

• ø13mm Hole saw

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  - ø13mm Timber drill bit
  - ø17mm Timber drill bit

**COLUMN POSITIONING** Stratco timber columns can be positioned anywhere along an Outback Beam but must be inset from corners.

When placing a column in the corner of an Outback unit the column must be inset approx. 80mm from the outside of unit (Figure 1.0). This will allow for the screw heads on the internal faces of the Outback Beams.



#### **COLUMN & BEAM PREPARATION**

Stratco timber columns are only to be used with 150mm Outback Beams. Preparation of timber columns is required prior to installation.

The top of the timber columns must be notched to fit Outback Beams. Make a 150mm vertical cut down the centre of the column (70mm in from each side). Make a horizontal cut 150mm down from the top of the column to meet the centre cut (Figure 2.0).



## **OUTBACK® TIMBER COLUMN**

STRATCO OUTBACK TIMBER COLUMN INSTALLATION GUIDE

Mark four holes on the front side of the post (Figure 2.0). Drill a Ø13mm hole through the column at each centre mark. Be sure to drill perpendicular to the face of the column.

Outback Beams must be prepared prior to erection. To prepare Outback Beams, locate the centre of the column on the beam and mark four hole locations on either side (Figure 2.1). Beam holes will align with the holes in the column. Note: Ensure the seam of the Outback beam is on the external facing side.



Drill four Ø16mm holes through the external face of the beam and four Ø13mm holes through internal face of the beam (Figure 2.2).



FIGURE 2.2

If an In-line Beam Connector is required to join Outback Beams together the join must be positioned in-line with the centre of a timber column. Prepare the Outback Beams by marking two holes on each side of each beam (Figure 2.3). Note: Ensure the seam of the Outback beam is on the external facing side.



Drill two Ø16mm holes through the external face, and two Ø13mm holes through the internal face of each beam (Figure 2.4). Prepare the In-line Beam Connector by drilling four Ø16mm holes through each side (Figure 2.4).

Ensure the holes in the In-line Beam Connector align with the holes in the Outback Beams.



Slide the In-line Beam Connector into the end of one beam. Ensure holes are aligned and fix the Outback Beam to the in-line connector using two 12x20 hex head self-drilling screws on both sides (Figure 2.5).



Insert the exposed half of the In-line Beam Connector into the second Outback Beam until both beams meet flush (Figure 2.6). Ensure bolt holes are aligned and fasten the second Outback Beam to the in-line connector using two 12x20 hex head self-drilling screws on both sides (Figure 2.6).



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#### **ONTO CONCRETE FOOTING PREPARATION**

Footing brackets are required when fixing timber columns to an existing concrete slab. Run a plumb-line from the centremark of the column on the internal face of the Outback Beam to the ground to locate the centre of the column (centre of footing bracket position) (Figure 3.0 & 3.1).

Note: Thoroughly check the location of the footing to ensure columns are installed vertically. All Outback Beams should be in the correct position prior to marking footings.



#### L FIGURE 3.1

Ensure columns are positioned at least 75mm from the edge of the concrete slab (Figure 3.2). Fix footing bracket to concrete using two M16 masonry anchors installed in accordance with manufacturers requirements.

**External Face** 

**Outback Beam** 

Establish the column length by measuring the distance from the top of the Outback Beam to the concrete slab, less anchor bolt head and footing bracket thickness (Figure 3.2). Cut the column to this length.

If a 'T-blade' style footing bracket is being used a slot must be cut for the upright blade in-line with the centre of the column (Figure 3.3). Measure the height and width of the upright blade and mark on the column. Cut a slot through the timber column (Figure 3.3).



#### TIMBER POST INSTALLATION

When installing columns to an existing concrete slab, ensure footing brackets are secured to the slab before installing columns (Figure 3.2).

Once footing brackets are installed, stand-up the timber column onto the footing bracket. Ensure the holes at the top of the column are aligned with the holes in the Outback Beam and that the notch is supporting the Outback Beam.



Fix the top of the timber column to the Outback Beam using four M12 bolts with four aluminium beam spacers through the Outback Beam with washers on both sides (Figure 4.0 & 4.1).



FIGURE 4.0



The column can now be secured to the footing bracket. Use the holes in the footing bracket as a guide to drill through the column (Figure 3.3 & 4.2). Drill perpendicular to the column to ensure a straight hole is created.



FIGURE 4.2

Secure the footing brackets to the column using the nuts, washers, & bolts provided (Figure 4.3 & 4.4).



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