

# Fixing Instruction : GRP

## GENERAL

GRP is not load bearing. Consequently columns, half columns and pilasters must not be used to support canopies without some other form of support such as steel props or timber fixings.

To suit site conditions all plinths can be cut to any height using a sharp hacksaw.

Aristocast Originals Ltd GRP may be painted with exterior grade primer and finishing paint provided that the surface of the GRP has been sanded down to produce a key.

Columns are made in two halves and joined together in the factory. We finish all joints by spraying them with a paint that matches the GRP colour.

## PILASTERS AND HALF COLUMNS

Screw two battens to the wall such that the pilaster or half column just fits over them in the correct position.

The pilaster or half column is then fixed by screwing through the sides into the battens.

Cover the screw heads with a plastic domed cap.

## DOOR HEADS, PORCHES & BRISTOL CANOPIES

Screw a batten to the wall such that when the unit is in its correct position, on top of pilasters, columns or half columns, you can screw through the under side of the head into the batten.

Support unit in position and screw through the batten covering the heads with plastic domed caps.

Screw through the top flange into the wall.

Dress flashing over the upstand flange.

In the case of Porches such as the York and Derby where Exterior Corbels are used a metal "L" bracket (supplied by others) can be fixed to the wall to provide additional support & be hidden by the decorative bracket.

## FULL COLUMNS

Full columns can be filled with semi- dry concrete. The fully filled column can then provide support, but only for a GRP portico. (Any other structure must have separate support, eg. steel posts, concrete beams, etc.)

Prepare a flat concrete foundation with a vertically projecting steel bar.

Place the column over the bar; use external supports to hold columns in correct final position. Seal around base of column to prevent seepage.

Pour one bucket of concrete down the column and leave to set.

The column can then be filled in three or four separate fills allowing setting time between fills to prevent any distortion in the shape of the column. Remember – do not use fully wet concrete, which will expand and distort the column.

If columns are being fitted hollow you must provide alternative support, eg. "Acrow" prop etc. for anything above the column, eg. a portico.

Columns can be fitted as pilasters and half columns using plastidome screws into previously fixed timber beams.

## PORTICOS AND CANOPIES

Follow fixing instructions for columns, half columns and pilasters. If concrete filling the columns leave the last 8 inches / 200mm until the portico is ready to fit. Then when the canopy is fitted allow the fixing bolt to sink into the wet mix.

To fix the canopy to the wall screw through the upstand flange on the canopy and lead flash over to seal.

Also, as shown on the diagram, fix a batten to the wall in the appropriate position and screw from below into the batten to give extra support to the underside of the canopy.

Finish off with plastidome screw caps.

