

American Rail System

The American Rail Softwood System is tested by FIRA to UK strength requirements of 0.36KN/m and is suitable for use with decks at ground and up to 600mm above ground level.

American Balusters (1),
Patrice Newel Post (2),
American Handrail (3)
& Balustrade Bolt (4).

Before commencing your installation please read all instructions carefully. Fact sheets for planning and building your deck can be found in the library section of DECKPLANNER™ via our website www.richardburbidge.com

Establish where you would like the top of the American Handrail to be in relation to the Patrice Newel Post. This can be done using a small offcut of rail. Draw around the rail profile using a pencil onto the face of the Patrice Newel.

The American Rail is drilled in the centre using an 8mm diameter wood bit to a depth of approximately 45mm and a 35mm access hole is drilled on the side face of the rail to a depth of 18mm (Fig 2).

Drill the other end of the rail in exactly the same way.

On the face of the Patrice Newel post, measure up 60mm from the bottom of the previously drawn rail.

Drill the Patrice Newel post at this point using a 9.5mm diameter drill bit to a depth of 25mm.

Screw the threaded insert part of the Balustrade Bolt into the post using a 6mm Allen key (Fig 3).

Mark and drill all remaining Patrice posts in exactly the same way and fix inserts into position.

American Rails are also used as bottom rails.

Measure down the face of the post from the previously drawn handrail a distance of 900mm and draw a pencil line on all 4 faces of the post. This line represents the finished deckboard level (Fig 4).

From the pencil line measure up 75mm and using an offcut of American rail draw around the profile of this rail onto the face of the post allowing for the bottom edge of the rail to be level with the line marked at 75mm above deckboard level.

Mark and drill all Patrice Posts and American Rails as previously described.

Screw the threaded bars of the Balustrade Bolt into the inserts in the posts and position rails onto the threaded bars. Using the spanner supplied secure all rails to the posts using the pressure plates and nuts of the Balustrade Bolts (Fig 5).

American Balusters

Cut the American Balusters to length, chamfering the cut end if desired and side fix to the American rails using Richard Burbidge 40mm Ceramic Galvanised screws.

Balusters should be spaced at approximately 125mm centres giving a maximum gap between spindles of 98mm.

Maintenance

The Richard Burbidge American Rail System components are treated with Osiose Naturewood. Any treated timber exposed to the elements should be protected from the weather. To enhance the American Rail Softwood balustrades apply either a proprietary clear water repellent or transparent stain. For further information please refer to the maintenance and finishing fact sheet in our DECKPLANNER™ library section via our website www.richardburbidge.com

