

FIELD INSTALLATION GUIDE

Plastic Lumber Timbers

Cutting and Drilling Recommendations

CUTTING:

Recommend the use of a chain saw with a carbide tipped chain

Chain Saw:

Any model saw with a rated horsepower of at least 7 HP and with a 20 inch bar length.

Stihl Power Tools has saws that meet this recommendation.

Stihl USA
Stihlusa.com

Chain:

Carbide tipped chain to fit a 20 inch bar length
Rapco has chains that meet this recommendation.

Rapco Industries
PH: 800-959-6130
rapcoindustries.com

- Carbide tips are brittle, any contact with the ground or other objects may shatter or dull the tips.
- Saws and chain should be kept clean between cuts. Blowing out residue from the cut and the saw cavities helps prolong chain life

Expected life of carbide tipped chain used on Plastic Lumber

Plastic Lumber	10 inch thick section	14+ cuts
Structural Plastic Lumber	10 inch thick section	14 cuts
Special order BarForce Lumber with 1" FbrglsBar	10 inch thick section	12 cuts

DRILLING / COUNTER BORING:

Recommend a power drill with a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch chuck, a rated horsepower of at least 1.5 HP and capable of sustained 300 +/-50 RPM. Power drills of this size can produce a substantial torque so use caution when manually operating such a drill.

Milwaukee Tools has power drills that meet this recommendation

Recommend drilling a through hole of sufficient diameter for easy passage of the mounting hardware (threaded rod or screw). If it is desired to recess the head or nut and/or washer of the hardware below the surface of the timber, a counter bore bit of sufficient diameter to make the recessed hole should be used. Most counter bore bits will require first drilling a pilot hole and the use of a counter bore bit with a pilot attached that fits the diameter of the pilot hole to guide the boring. The pilot hole can be of sufficient diameter for use with the mounting hardware.

Standard high speed steel twist drills are suitable for drilling most through holes or pilot holes for the mounting hardware. Use of Cobalt drills will provide longer life than high speed steel. Holes larger than 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch diameter are best bored to size using a counter bore bit and pilot hole.

Placement of holes in timbers should be designed to avoid any rebar in the timber if at all possible. Nicking into rebar reduces the load capacity of the timber.

RECOMMENDED REPAIR PROCEDURE:

FOR SMALL HOLES/PATCHES:

1. Pre heat the area until the surrounding plastic becomes soft and sticky.
2. Press shavings or plastic residue material into the area and heat until material sticks to the surrounding plastic.
3. Repeat application in layers, letting material cool between applications, until area has been built up to flush or slightly beyond surrounding surface.
4. Sand smooth to blend repair into surrounding surface.

FOR LARGE HOLES/PATCHES:

1. Cut a section of plastic from left over timber material and shape it to be slightly smaller than the hole to fill.
2. Pre heat the repair area until the surrounding plastic becomes soft and sticky.
3. Pre heat the plug until its outer surface becomes soft and press the plug into the hole.
4. Press shavings or plastic residue material into any spaces between the plug and the hole and heat the area until material becomes sticky.
5. If needed, repeat application in layers, letting material cool between applications, until area is built up to flush or slightly beyond surrounding surface.
6. Sand smooth to blend repair into surrounding surface.

FOR COSMETIC REPAIRS:

1. Fill any small gouges or scratches with colored silicone sealants and smooth the area for an even finish.