



Instructions

Tuscany Column Molds

Included in Tuscany Column Complete Mold Set: Two Piece Crown/
Base Mold, **Hardware** and **2 Piece Tube Mold with Hardware** Including
Instructions (molds may also be purchased individually)

IMPORTANT Please Read

Artistic Home & Garden Co.
will not be held responsible
for any installation.

All installations are the
responsibility of the installer.

General preparations

Additional Items Needed:

- Pre mixed concrete—see *qty to right*)
- Mixing tool - small shovel or garden hoe
- Large mixing tub or wheelbarrow
- Lubricant or a mold release
- 120 lbs apx. concrete needed for 1 capital or base
- 95 lbs apx. concrete needed for each 12" column segment
- Always prepare the molds using a lubricant or a mold release (*any concrete release agent, cooking spray or WD40—use sparingly*)
- Mix the concrete adding water and mixing until you achieve a lumpy but not dry/crumbly or runny consistency
- **Optional items: concrete colorants to add to mix, concrete paints or stains to apply afterward**

Casting With the Capital / Base Molds

- Place the mold assembly upright and level
- Fill the molds 2 inches at a time and bounce and tap in between to spread the concrete inside the mold and to drive out all the air bubbles.
- You can create a cavity in the casting by inserting an item like a 2 gal. **bucket** which will make the casting lighter (be sure **to remove the insert after 2 hours** before concrete is fully cured and solid—twist & pull)
- Place the molds in a dry place out of direct sun for 24 to 48 hours.
- Once concrete is set, remove the bolts, tilt the mold on the joint (rib) and remove casting onto wood blocks (pull and lift on the end of the mold)
- Brush or gently scrape away any excess concrete developed at the seam.
- The concrete will continue to set up so be gentle with handling until for at least 5 days.
- Clean the mold immediately after use and store the molds out of the sun

Column crown /base



Casting the Round Column Segments



- Bolt tube halves together, do not over tighten
- Use the large disk to cap bottom of mold
- For a solid non hollow cast tape the small disk in the center of the large disk.
- You may create hollow segments by placing PVC tube or similar in center cut out of the disk Apply mold release to all parts including plastic or cardboard base/inserts
- Optional fluted inset will allow you to create fluted column segment
- This mold is design for stacking if you wish to cast in place.
- Fill with concrete 2 inches at a time, stopping in between to tap sides to spread concrete and to remove air bubbles
- Many people prefer the natural texture of the concrete columns, but you may create a smooth finish if you prefer by mixing a small batch of mortar (sand and cement, with water to mix) to apply with a damp sponge over the surface of the column filling holes



Using Optional Tuscany Fluted Insert

- Tuscany Fluted Insert is a flat piece that wraps to fit perfectly inside of the Tuscany Tube mold
- Lubricate **raised flute side** of mold and fit inside column tube
- Follow instructions for filling the mold



Tuscany Fluted Insert has rounded flutes at both ends. If you prefer continuous flutes on your columns you will need to make adjustments.

- Most people use fluted insert as it is with rounded flutes at each end
- If you prefer a continuous fluted concrete column it is necessary cut one fluted ends of the insert place the insert with the cut end in the bottom and fill the mold short of the rounded area.
- Or after casting one open end cut the opposite rounded end of your finished concrete casting using a diamond tip concrete blade, mark the area to be cut. Use safety goggles and dust mask.

Installing the Column

- **A completed concrete column is very heavy and requires a concrete foundation at least 6 inches below the frost line in your area to avoid dangerous settling and tilting of your column**
- Columns need to be mortared in place starting with the base and mortaring each segment together—**always keeping the structure level and plumb**
- For added security place a rebar in the center (if you have created a hollow center) and fill the cavity with concrete after stacking
- Remember to **be careful when lifting and handling any heavy item** - you will need help in stacking your column sections
- You can leave your column the natural concrete color or apply concrete paints or stains

Instructions For Creating Column Segments to Fit Around A Structural Post *Use the Process Below for the Crown/Base Mold Also*

- Column tube segments are formed by using the 2 half columns in the open face position
- This will allow you to create two half segments the 2 halves can be mortared around a existing 6x6 post
- Use wood or a foam filler block with tapered sides to create the hollow section you need to fit around your post
- Refer to drawing for detail
- Allow to set up in molds for at least 24 hours
- Use mortar to attach columns pieces around posts
- Clean seams of pieces with a damp sponge

This set up designed to create 2 half column segment to go around existing post

