ColonyCabin
Premium Bat House Mounting Instructions

Three hardware kits for most any mounting application:

**Wood Post Kit:**
- (4) 3/8” x 3” galvanized lag bolts<br>  (attach with 9/16” or 14mm socket)<br>  (4) - 1-1/4” exterior screws

**Siding Kit:**
- (8) - 3” exterior screws<br>  (4) - 1-1/4” exterior screws

**Brick/Stone/Block Kit:**
- (6) - 3/16” x 3 1/4” concrete anchor w/<br>  5/32” masonry bit<br>  (4) - 1-1/4” exterior screws

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**Made to last** - It may take years for new colonies to form. Our exterior UV resistant resin needs no painting and outlasts any wood based design.<br> 25” x 19” x 3.75”

**Warm top, cooler bottom.** BCM’s trademark bat front vent (also features 3 rear vents)

**3.75”x19” protective covered landing area, heavily roughened**

**Upper Mount** secured with lag bolts, deck, or masonry screws, depending on mounting surface.

**Perch Panel** 1/2” panel heavily roughened Bats exit out the bottom but may also exit thru 3 vents on rear onto the Perch Panel, which forms a 4th roosting crevice on super hot days.

**Roost Crevices** 3/4” and 1” wooden roost crevice spacing suitable for all bat house dwelling bats in North America. Bats prefer roosting on wood, so resin is only used to protect the roost.

**Lower Mount** provides an extra large target for returning bats to land on.

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Assemble the Mount Kit - All Versions

To take advantage of the rear vent feature of all of our bat houses, BCM offers a mount kit for a wood post, buildings with wood/vinyl/aluminum siding, and for stone/brick. The only difference between these kits is the type of hardware used to attach the mount to your desired support structure.

Assemble the Mount - Any Version (Wood Post, Siding, Brick)
The BCM ColonyCabin Mount Kit consists of an Upper Mount, Lower Mount, 4- exterior screws, and a 15.5” wide Perch Panel. Connect the Perch Panel to the Mounts with the 4 screws, being sure the “scratchy side” is orientated correctly so it will ultimately be facing the back of the ColonyCabin. Assemble the mount from the back.

- Place the Upper and Lower Mount face-down (the countersunk holes of a Wood Post Mount Kit on the bottom, and the scratched side of the Lower Mount down) on a workspace. Center the Perch Panel over the mount backs, scratchy side down.
- Align the Upper and Lower Mounts flush with the top and bottom of the Perch Panel, and secure with 4 screws (Figure 1).

![Figure 1. Assembling the Mount](image)

You Will Need . . .
Upper and Lower Mounting Brackets
Perch Panel, heavily scratched one side
screw driver or cordless drill, philips bit
flat black spray paint
Wood Post Mount

Suggested Mounting Surfaces
4"x6"x16' PT wood post typical, 14' is minimum; use 18'-20' long post for Mexican free-tail bats
Can also attach to metal, wood, vinyl siding, brick, stone, block

Use a 4"x6" Wood Post: A 4"x6"x16' Post of pressure-treated lumber can be used for a single BCM Bat House or with two bat houses mounted back-to-back. Note that the holes in the brackets are off-set, allowing two sets of brackets to be installed on opposite sides of a post. 16' posts probably are not available from some home improvement stores, but can be found nationwide at local lumber yards, marine/dock suppliers, and farm supply stores. Consider 18' or even 20' posts if your target species are Mexican free-tail, or Florida bonneted bats. Black locust posts will outlast a treated post, and in some cases, even metal posts, but are harder to find. If you choose to use a metal post, you will have to fashion an adapter.

Install Post Mount Kit
The ColonyCabin Post Mount Kit consists of an Upper Mount, Lower Mount, four galvanized lag bolts and washers, and a 15.5" wide Perch Panel.

- Center the Upper Mount to the narrow side of the post, making the Upper Mount flush with the top of the post. Check center alignment with the Lower Mount on the post (Figure 2).
- Pre-drill a 1/8" hole 1" or so into the post thru ONE of the countersunk holes in the Upper Mount. Install one lag screw and washer using a 9/16" socket.
- Check the alignment and make sure the bracket is perpendicular to the post before pre-drilling and installing a lag screw in the Lower Mount.
- Install the remaining lag bolts in both mounts.
- Use flat black spray paint to darken the outside edges of the Perch Panel, outside edge of the Mounts, and the bottom of the Lower Mount, if desired. While bats may appreciate the perch panel edges being darkened and the reduction of some light being reflected into the Perch Panel, this is mostly for aesthetics.

You Will Need...
Assembled Post Mount with Perch Panel
(4) 3/8" galvanized lag screws with washers
4"x6"x16' treated post
cordless drill with 1/8" drill bit
9/16" or 14mm socket wrench for lag screws
impact or cordless drill with socket adapter
(optional for driving the lag bolts)
Siding & Brick/Stone/Block Mount

Locate a suitable mounting location where the bottom of the bat house will be 10’ or more above ground and relatively clear of vegetation to within about 5’ of the bat house. Locate a wall support stud if possible and plan to drive at least one of the mounting screws into it. If you are mounting to uneven stone, find a location where the mount will best lay against the stone.

For Siding Mounts:
• Pre-drill 4- 1/8” holes centered and evenly spaced thru the Upper Mount in approximate locations desired to ultimately best go into the wall. Test for best fit. Repeat for the Lower Mount.
• Start all 8 exterior deck screws partway into the the mounts, then place in the desired location on the structure. It may be helpful to have an assistant on a second ladder hold the mount in place.
• Set one of the screws that is near the middle of the Upper Mount. The Mount should hang by itself at this time. Use the level to straighten the Mount, and set all the remaining exterior screws.

For Brick/Stone/Block Mounts:
• Because stone may be uneven and have soft areas, you may have to select each hole location individually and carefully. Predrill a hole near the middle of the Upper Mount, then place in the desired location on the structure. It may be helpful to have an assistant on a second ladder hold the mount in place. Avoid edges of bricks, stone, and all mortar.
• Use the hammer drill and 5/32” masonry bit to drill thru the mount to mark the first hole. The mount could be set aside while this hole is finished. The hole must be drilled deeper than the screw will set, and clean out as much dust as possible.
• Set one of the Tapcon screws that is near the middle of the Upper Mount. The Mount should hang by itself at this time. Use the level to straighten the Mount.
• You can now pre-drill a second hole somewhere in the mounts for the next Tapcon screw. This should secure the mount level and all remaining screws can be installed.
• You may find different areas of the wall to have different hardness. If the screw does not set, you may have to go deeper by countersinking the hole partway thru the Upper or Lower Mounts by using a 3/8” drill bit, or obtain longer screws, or select a better location Additionally you could secure a solid Tapcon screw thru just the Perch Panel, but get at least a few thru the Upper Mount. The Mount should be secured with at least 4 solid Tapcon or similar concrete anchors.

YOU WILL NEED . . .

Siding Mount: (8) - 3” exterior screws

Brick/Stone/Block Mount:
(6) - 3/16” x 3 1/4” Tapcon concrete anchor
5/32” masonry bit
impact or hammer drill

Figure 3: Mount on stone wall with black spray paint finishing
(ColonyLodge mount shown, which is narrower than the ColonyCabin)
**Attach a ColonyCabin to any Mount Kit**

ColonyCabins are provided with two 3/8” x 4” galvanized lag bolts for the Upper Mount, and four color-matched 1” long roofing screws with neoprene washers for the Lower Mount.

- All BCM bat houses feature a rear vent which allows bats to roost and cool off behind on a Perch Panel. To take advantage of this feature, before attaching your ColonyLodge to the mount use a utility knife to introduce scratches around the rear that will be between the mounts (Figure 4).

- Position ColonyCabin flush and centered with the top mount, and secure the two 4” long lag bolts roofing screws thru the top into the pre-drilled holes with a 9/16” wrench or socket. **Do not over tighten.**

- Install four 1” long roofing screws across the landing plate (Figure 5). A 1/4” socket is needed to drive these roofing screws. Keep these screws close to the bottom; a slight angle, a long bit, a right angled drill, or pulling up on the plastic front will help.

Congratulations - you have completed mounting a BCM ColonyCabin. When your project is completely installed outside in a sunny location, **be sure to say “just add bats” for good luck.**