



FINISHING YOUR PERGOLA

PolyStone® Columns for Pergolas:

Finishing & Painting

1. Make sure all surfaces are clean prior to painting. Use mineral spirits if oil or alkyd products are used. Warm soapy water should be used if latex products are utilized.
2. It is necessary to sand the column and caps and bases prior to priming and painting. Some surface filling may be required. *Note: the surface on polyurethane caps and base/plinths must be thoroughly scuff sanded with 120 grit sandpaper and wiped clean prior to priming and painting.*
3. Alkyd or oil based primer and paint are recommended. Latex products can be used, but additional sanding is required. Only alkyd or oil based primer and paint must be used on PolyStone® columns, caps, astragals, and bases/plinths.
4. Use a good, high-quality exterior paint, at least one coat of primer and two coats of a final paint should be used.
5. Do not use paint or solvents containing acetone.

PVC Component Pergola Parts (Beams, Rafters, Lintels, & Purlins):

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1. Caulk any joints using Siroflex Brand DUO-SIL Urethane Acrylic Emulsion Sealant and Adhesive proved by manufacturer. Wipe off any excess caulk with a damp rag. Do not let caulk dry before trying to wipe it off.
2. Fill in any nail or screw holes with painter's putty, lightweight spackle, or automotive body filler such as "Bondo". Painter's putty is easier in use; however "Bondo" provides the best results.
3. When you are ready to paint, clean the surface of the parts to remove any dirt or soil residue with denatured alcohol followed by a wipe down with Windex. Do not use paint thinner to clean the surface of the PVC parts. It leaves a residue.
4. Apply coat of high quality, 100% acrylic latex exterior primer and one or more finish coats of high quality, 100% acrylic latex exterior paint.

Delivery, Storage, Handling and Repairs

- Transport, lift, and handle PVC parts with care, avoiding excessive stress and preventing damage. If a part is dented, fill dent with plastic automotive body filler such as "Bondo". Sand filler flush with face of pergola component, prime, and repaint.

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- If PVC part is struck by a hammer or other hard object and cracked, glue crack with 5-minute epoxy glue. Then, fill area over crack surrounding crack with “Bondo”.

Installation Precautions and Methods

- Temperature –PVC component parts may become brittle in colder temperatures and are more susceptible to damage. It is recommended that the parts be warmed to 50 to 55 degrees before installing.
- Cutting and Fastening – Pneumatic finish nailers and staplers can be used to fasten cellular PVC parts together. Large pneumatic framing staplers and nailers are not suitable for fastening this material.
- Painting – It is recommended that PVC component parts are painted in light colors in climates that typically have high temperatures.

Polyurethane Component Pergola Parts (Beams, Rafters, Lintels, & Purlins):

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1. All polyurethane component parts are supplied with a white double primed finish ready for customer to apply finish topcoat.
2. Quality latex or oil based paint should be used.
3. As with any construction, these materials will settle in to place after installation. As such, you may wish to wait before caulking and painting your product, otherwise please be aware that caulking, finishing, and reapplying paint will be necessary when your product completely settles.

Recommended Compounds for Finishing

1. **Bondo/Crème Hardener** – Used to fill large, deep holes, uneven surfaces, or broken corners and edges. Must be manipulated to desired form quickly due to 5-minute drying time.
2. **Lepage Poly-Filla** – Used for filling of seams and porous holes caused by air bubbles formed during production process of many cast/molded products. Product is applied with a putty knife, let stand to dry for 25-30 minutes, sanded to a smooth flared finish and re-primed.
3. **Dap Vinyl Spackle** – All purpose putty for repair of scratches, dents, and screw/nail holes. Dries in about 25-30 minutes, 1 hour for larger areas. Sand to a smooth finish and re-prime.
4. **Chalk (Fill Sticks)** – Use as a touch-up on a small areas or tiny noticeable openings. Does not need to be sanded. Apply to product and shape to desired form, scrape away excess material and prime.
5. **K-5 Densite** – Used for large areas and to form broken or chipped profiled areas like crosshead corners. May be used as an alternative to Bondo. Dries in about 5 minutes to an extremely hard finish. Product must be molded to shape quickly and then sanded with different grade of sandpaper to achieve desired form. Edges of repair should be patched with Dap spackle to mask repair.