

# CR Horizontal Handrail Kit Installation Guide

MODELS COVERED **FR4-36** **FR4-40** **FR6-36** **FR6-40**



**Read every instruction and every safety message in this guide before you install or service this product.** Keep this guide with the equipment.

Lisez toutes les instructions et tous les messages de sécurité avant d'installer ou d'entretenir ce produit. Conservez ce guide avec l'appareil.



**WARNING**

Improper installation can lead to failure of the rail system, which can cause serious injury or death. You and your installer make the final determination of the means and methods appropriate for your site. If you are unsure or uncomfortable with any step, hire a licensed and bonded contractor.

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## Safety precautions

Read every message in this section before you touch any component. They apply to every model this guide covers and to every installation surface.

**WARNINGThe hardware we ship may not be the hardware your site needs** — Please make sure the hardware and tools we provided will be right for your install (read the means & methods disclaimer). IT IS POSSIBLE YOU NEED DIFFERENT HARDWARE & METHODS.

Please take your time to do your installation. If you are unsure or uncomfortable with the installation, we highly recommend hiring a licensed and bonded contractor.

**WARNINGAnchor strength depends on the hole and the concrete** — The strength of the anchor is dependent on the hole size & concrete integrity. A hole that’s too big, or concrete that’s not up to standard grade, can make the anchor wiggle or possibly come out. This is what can cause a rail to fail & fall over.

**CAUTIONEdge distance and building code** — Please adhere to local & statewide building code. The recommended distance from the edge is based on standard-grade concrete (2500 psi). If your concrete is ‘high-strength’ concrete, the edge distance can be reduced. See ICC Chapter 19, Table 1908.2.

## Means and methods disclaimer

In no event shall CR Fence & Rail Inc have any responsibility, control over, charge of, responsibility, or liability for the means, methods, techniques, sequences, or procedures, or for safety precautions in connection with the installation of the railing, since these are solely CM/GC’s, Subcontractor’s, and Owner’s responsibilities.

Each installation site differs widely ranging from the construction & condition of attachment points, local building & safety code, local construction code, and local means & methods.

CR Fence & Rail Inc’s installation guide (whether it be in text, illustration, video or in support discussion) constitute for ideal installation condition. There is no ideal installation in real life. There is no substitution for consulting a local licensed contractor, architect, engineer, nor code inspector.

CR Fence & Rail Inc’s installation hardware and tools are provided as building material and does NOT constitute as the specific nor final installation hardware. Once again, you and your installer must make the final on-site determination to the specific means and methods of installation appropriate for your installation.

Following CR Fence & Rail Inc’s instruction does NOT constitute as proper installation as you and your installer must make the final means & method determination. Improper installation can lead to failure of rail system which can cause serious injury or death.

If your printed booklet names a different company in this clause, this page is the current one: CR Fence & Rail Inc is the registered entity. Earlier printings carry an out-of-date name.

## Time and tools required

### Time required

- Wood ground attachment — 20+ minutes
- Concrete ground attachment — 60+ minutes

### Tools required

- An electric drill or hammer drill. An impact drill is preferred (although not required) for installing bolts for concrete steps, lag screws for wooden steps, or other ground attachments.
- Hex bit, bit extension and nut socket — all included in the kit
- The depth-measuring pencil included in the kit

### Masonry tools and hardware (for concrete)

**5/16" (8mm) Anchor Bolt**

**5/16" (8mm) Masonry Drill Bit — \*SDS+ available upon request**

**— Diamond Core Drill Bit — for hard stone, \*available upon request**

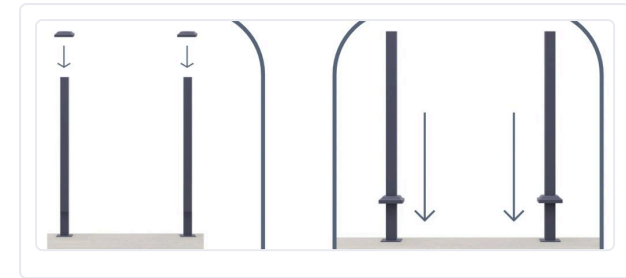
This will be a tight fit. In fact, the specification calls for the drill bit and anchors to be the same size. Some installers use a 3/8" drill bit to make the installation easier, and other installers wiggle the drill bit to bore the top of the hole slightly bigger. We are aware of the tight fit and we only recommend using our masonry drill bit without wiggling.

## Part 1: Assemble your handrail

Read the safety section before you begin.

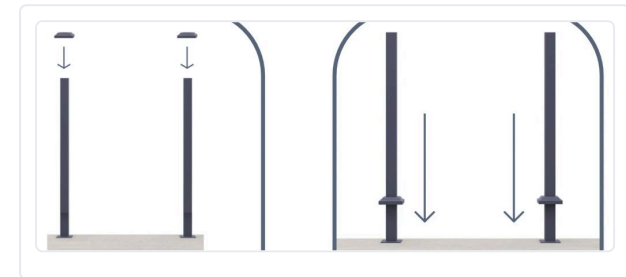
### 1.1 Face the holes inward

Position both posts so the bracket holes face inward, towards the other post. On a flat run the two posts are interchangeable — the orientation of the holes is what matters.



### 1.2 Put the post cap on

Insert the post cap into the top of each post.



Part 3: Secure your handrail

3.1 Secure all joints

Using the included self-drilling screws, with some force applied — be careful of your fingers as you hold the screws in place — drill the screws through the pre-made holes on the brackets into the metal railing. This locks the metal in place.

Pre-drilling a hole is NOT necessary. The self-drilling screw makes its own hole when force is applied. If you must, use a small drill bit to make a pilot hole.



3.2 Extending the run

Your modular handrail is extendable. If you have a gap from the stairs to the side of the house, the rail can be extended easily — we will even cut it to the right size, so all you have to do is attach both ends of the railing. See [www.fencerail.com/extension](http://www.fencerail.com/extension).

Connecting rails: top rail connectors

Top rail connectors join one CR rail kit to the next, turn a corner, or close a run against a wall. They are fittings used inside the installation above, not a separate job.

- **TRC-SFm / TRC-CFm** — straight fixed metal connector, for an in-line join.
- **TRC-SAp** — straight adjustable connector, where the two rails are not quite in line.
- **TRC-CAp / TRC-BAp** — corner and 180° adjustable connectors.
- **TRC-Wallv1** — L bracket, for terminating a rail into a wall.
- **TRC-EndM** — metal top rail end cap, to close an open rail end.

Fit the connector before you secure the joint: seat both rails fully into the connector, then drive the self-drilling screws through the pre-made holes. Use 2 screws on each end of a top rail connector, on the bottom side.

Watch the top rail connector video

5-year warranty

Register your product within 30 days to activate the warranty. To view our full warranty policy, visit [www.fencerail.com/warranty](http://www.fencerail.com/warranty).

Need help?

We are here to help you get it right. Text us a photo of the problem — it is the fastest way for us to see what you are looking at.

**Call or text with photos:** (800) 420-0432  
**WhatsApp:** (775) 324-8877  
**Missing parts?** We will replace them free — [www.fencerail.com/parts](http://www.fencerail.com/parts)

We can help with

- Connecting multiple railings
- Technical drawings
- Complicated installations
- Installation error
- Missing parts

Source of this guide: Transposed from the shipped FR Handrail Kit Installation Guide, version stamp v122222, 40 pages, read from its own text layer.

1.3 Attach the smaller bracket to the post

(a) Use the hex bit and bit holder. (b) Screw on 4x flat-end screws — two screws per bracket.



1.4 Attach the top rail (larger) brackets and the end caps

(a) Attach the larger brackets. (b) Insert the end caps.

Both top rail brackets face the SAME direction.



1.5 Assemble the handrail loosely

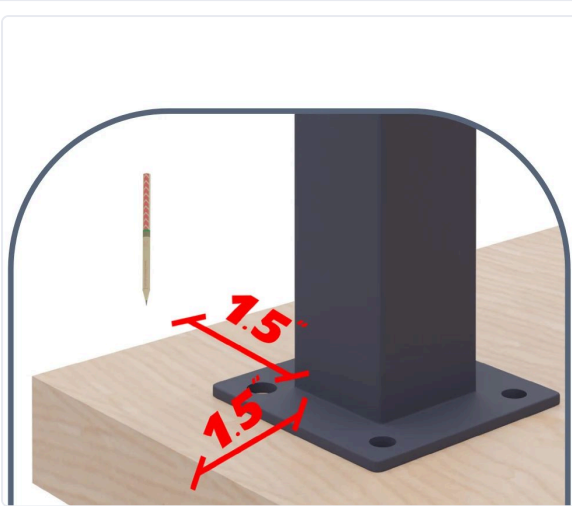
The handrail stays unsecured until the end. Position it loosely first, so you can mark the holes for the post installation.



Part 2: Post to ground attachment

2.1 Position and mark the holes

The post should be at least 1.5" (4 cm) away from the edges, and the post baseplate should be parallel with the edges.



2.2 Drill the holes

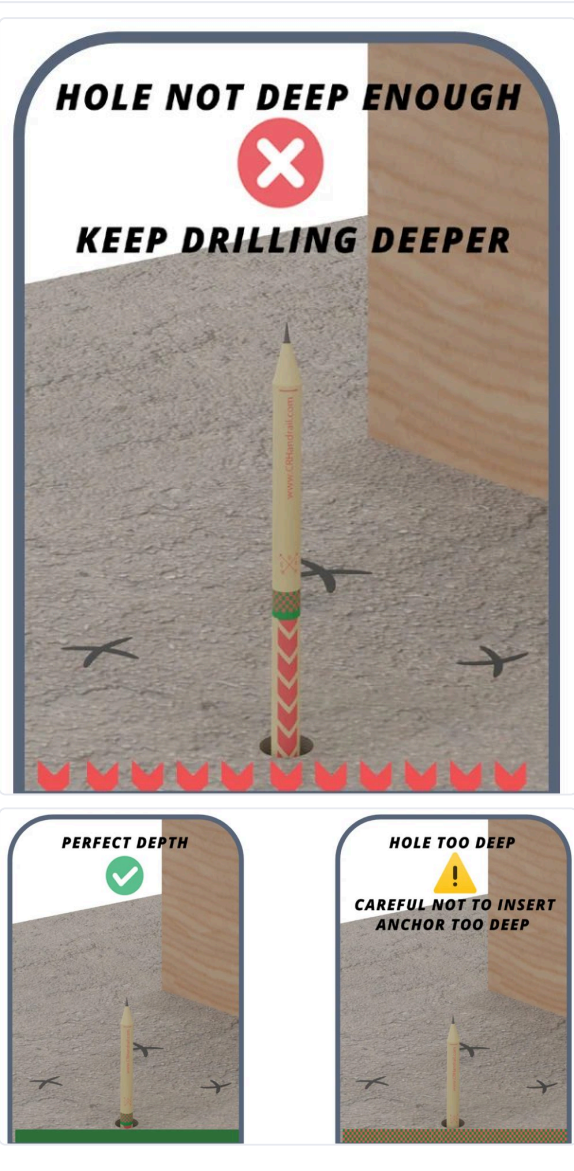
FOR CONCRETE — use the larger drill bit and continue to step 2.3.  
FOR WOOD — use the smaller drill bit and go straight to step 2.5.



2.3 Ensure the correct depth (concrete only)

Use the CR pencil to measure the depth of the hole with the flat end of the pencil. This is only a rough measurement — it is there to confirm the hole is deep enough.

**NOTICE!** Holes must be deep enough or you will have a serious issue later.



2.4 Install the anchors (concrete only)

Once the holes are made and the depth is verified, hammer the anchors into the holes.  
Periodically double-check: put the post onto the anchor and physically verify the washer and nut have only enough thread for the full height of the nut to screw on.

Hammer the anchor with 2 washers and 2 nuts fitted, with a nut at the very tip, to prevent over-insertion.



2.5 Secure the post to the ground

Use the provided nut socket and bit extension.  
FOR WOOD — (1) position the posts, along with the complete railing, over the pre-drilled holes. (2) Install a washer and lag screw, one by one. (3) When all are installed, double-check each again to ensure all are tightened. If your drill has a hammer or impact function, enable it.  
FOR CONCRETE — (1) with all the nuts and washers removed, put the posts onto the anchor bolts, along with the rest of the rail. (2) Hand-tighten a washer and nut over each anchor bolt. (3) Use the electric drill to tighten the nut — turn the hammer or impact function OFF.

What if the post is not level? If the ground is not level, use the included extra washers to shim the baseplate.

