



# **CLASSIC CEDAR PERGOLA KIT**

## **FREESTANDING ASSEMBLY MANUAL**



Shown - 10'x14' Classic Cedar Pergola Kit,  
Cedar Color Stain, top runners 8" o.c.

Thank you for purchasing the Classic Wood Freestanding Pergola. Depending on the size of the pergola, installation can usually be completed in a day. These instructions apply to both cedar and treated pine models.

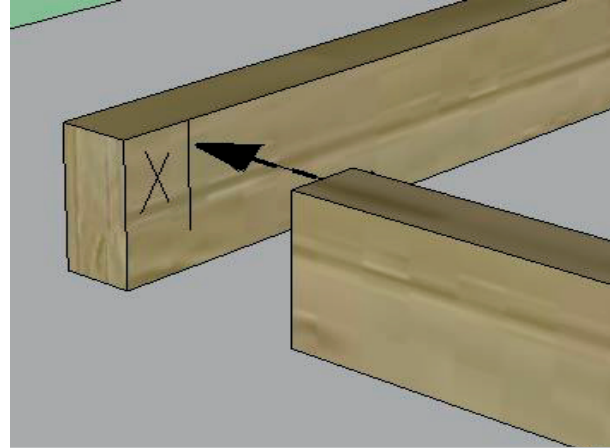
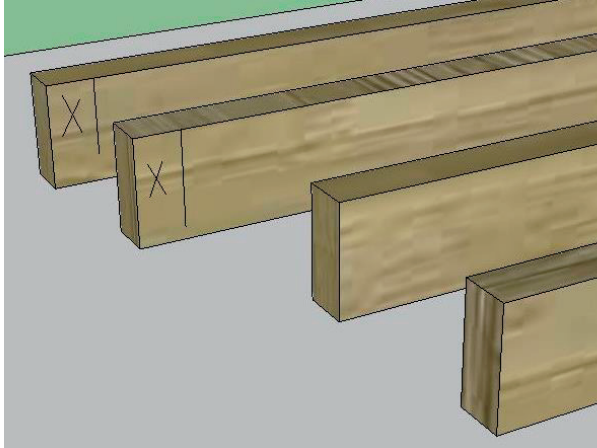
**There are a few things you should consider before installation:**

- 1.) Do not store the Pergola components in direct contact with ground concrete, or other moisture wicking surface as this may warp the components.
- 2.) The base for the pergola must be solid and level. If installing on a concrete slab or on concrete footers, it should be level where the posts will rest. If not, it may be necessary to cut the bottom of the posts so that the tops are all level. Other than this, no cutting is necessary. If any additional cuts are needed, please contact us before doing so. ***Making cuts without calling first may make installation difficult and may void our warranties.***
- 3.) These instructions show connection to asphalt using a wedge bolt. The same method can be used with concrete. If connecting to an existing deck, a lag bolt and deck screws (not included) will replace the wedge bolt.
- 4.) The Classic pergola does not give the ability to alter the location of the posts. It is important they are laid out correctly and double checked for accuracy before permanently attaching it to the base.

\* If you purchased a Pergola with the Heavy Duty Post Brackets, refer to the additional instruction sheet that will be included in your kit.

## SECTION ONE - POSTS

### Setting up the template:



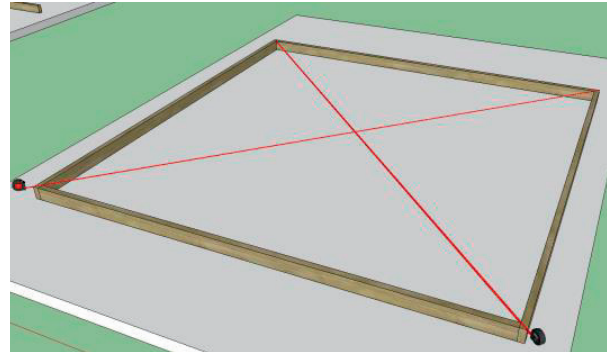
1.) Your pergola kit includes a wooden template that is used to mark your post locations. Notice that two of the 2'x4' boards have a marking near the ends. Build a box that will reveal the outside corners of the posts when properly placed.

**NOTE: If you purchased a larger pergola your template will be spliced in the center, just match up the letters and fasten together with (2) screws.**



3.) Connect the corners of the template pieces by driving two 2 1/2" screws through the side of the template boards.

2.) Arrange the template pieces so that they are positioned in the exact location of where the pergola will be placed. The boards with the marking on the end will be across from each other. The marks will show where the other boards will be attached to create this box.



4.) When the template is in position, square the template. Do this by measuring diagonally from one corner to its opposite corner, then measure diagonally between the other two corners. These two dimensions MUST be the same. Adjust the template until the diagonal measurements are identical.





5.) Once the template is “square”, mark the post locations using the INSIDE corners of the framed box on a concrete slab with a pencil. After all the post locations are marked on the concrete slab, remove and set the wooden template aside.

### **Set the Brackets**

6.) The brackets are the 8 L-Brackets in the hardware box. Place them at the outside of the pencil mark, one per corner. Next, drill a hole into your concrete footer or slab. Using a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " masonry bit, drill a hole through the bracket about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " deeper than the length of your anchor bolt. Make sure all of the concrete dust is cleared from the hole, use a vacuum if needed. Add the washer and put the nut on the bolt so the threads are just above the nut. You may need to hit it down with a hammer, you can use a 2x board to hit the top of the bolt so you do not damage the threads on the bolt. Hammer the bolt down until  $\frac{3}{4}$ " of anchor is exposed. Tighten the nut, and the base of the bolt will expand. Once completed, install the rest of the brackets, one per corner. If you purchased a pergola with more than 4 posts, install a bracket for each additional post.







### Setting the Posts

7.) As you can see there are notches on top of the post, make sure all notches are turned in the same direction as the main headers run. Attach all the posts to the bracket using (5) 2 ½" screws per bracket.



### Post Bases

8.) Now you are ready to install the Post Bases. Get a ladder and slide the base over the top of the post (see picture above). There are (4) screws per base, it does not really matter which way they are turned, although we recommend keeping the screws turned in the same direction. Repeat this step for each post.



As shown above, you can fasten your template on the top side of the post to keep everything straight and sturdy while you are fastening the headers.



## SECTION 2 - SETTING BEAMS



9.) If using the original post locations, a line is drawn on each of the four 2'x8' beams. This is a mark that will align with the outside edge of each post as shown.

10.) A helper (or two) will be needed when setting the beams. The marks will face the posts. Lift into place, setting in the notch at the top of the post, and make sure that the ends over hang the same on both ends. Attach using (4) 2 ½" screws on each post per side.

**NOTE:** If the pergola is longer than 16 feet, set a total of 8 beam pieces. The flat ends will butt together in the center of the middle beams. Attach to the post with (3) screws on each side of the seam. When testing the notch alignment, add runners at the notches on either side of the middle seam.





11.) Continue with the rest of the beams. Repeat with the other side of the post, and make sure that the ends are aligned. Measure the distance from the ends, and do not align visually. Even the slightest difference will not allow the runners to sit in the notches on the top of the beams. When all 4 beams are in place, test to make sure all the runner notches are aligned.



12.) Now you would be ready to install the return beams. These go in between the header. Keep it flush on bottom of 2'x8' header center of post. Attach it with (4) 3½" screws.



## Fasten Corner Braces

**NOTE:** There are a total of (8) corner braces. Four braces will be larger and will go up in between the 2'x8' headers, while the smaller braces will go underneath the return beams.

13.) First attach the smaller braces that go underneath the return beam. Attach with (4) 6" black screws. Turn the screws in your brace to the inside of pergola. Continue with the rest of the braces.

14.) The next step is to install the larger braces. Slide them up between the headers, push the up until the bottom of the brace is aligned with the smaller brace. You may use a square as shown to the right to make sure everything is even. Attach brace to post with (2) 6" black screws.

Next attach the beam from the inside and outside with (3) 2 ½" screws per side as shown. Continue until all braces are complete.







### **Anchor remaining Posts to Concrete**

15.) Sliding the base up towards the top you can fasten it to the post with a screw to keep it from falling down. Make sure the posts are level and still at the L-shaped pencil mark. Screw the second bracket to the post using (5) 2 ½" screws. It does not matter which side of the post, however we recommend going caddy-corner. Keep in mind you should stay approximately 4" away from the edge of the concrete. Refer back to step 6 for setting the brackets. Once completed remove the screw and place the base in its correct position.



### **Installing Rafters**

16.) A helper may be needed to hold the posts in place when positioning the first rafter. Make sure that the overhang is the same on both ends of the rafter. Measure from the beam to the end of the rafter, or to the beginning of the scroll cut on both sides (as shown above). Slide the rafter until the overhang is the same on both ends.





17.) Attach one side using a screw on an angle as shown. Attach each rafter with (4) 3½" screws, (2) per side. Continue with the rest of the rafters.



### **Setting Top Runners**

18.) Notice that there are marks on top of the main runners where the top runners are to be attached. These markings are about 16" on center, or another dimension if the pergola was ordered with additional top runners. There are also markings on each of the 2'x2' runners.





19.) Place the top runners at the pencil mark by the rafters, then put the pencil mark that is on top of the top runner at the side of the runners. Make sure the "X" is on top of the runner. Next, check that the overhangs are the same on both sides of the top runners. Attach with 2½" screws, using (1) screw per rafter.

**NOTE:** *On longer pergolas, the top runners will be in two pieces. They are cut so that when properly positioned the overhangs will be the same. You will want to position all the runners first and check that they are correctly positioned before attaching them.*

**The Classic Freestanding Pergola is now complete. If you purchased a canopy with your pergola, follow the directions that are included with the canopy.**

If additional options (Lattice top, privacy panels or corner lattice) were ordered, a separate sheet of instructions is included. Be sure to call your project advisor with any questions.

**ENJOY YOUR NEW WOOD CLASSIC  
FREESTANDING PERGOLA**

