



Patio Construction Tips

Our tips for building a Fielders Centenary® Structure

CONGRATULATIONS ON PURCHASING YOUR FIELDERS CENTENARY® STRUCTURE. WHETHER A VERANDAH, PATIO OR CARPORT, WE'LL SHARE SOME GENERAL CONSTRUCTION TIPS THAT WILL HAVE YOU OR YOUR CLIENT ENJOYING THEIR NEW STRUCTURE SOONER.

It won't matter if you're a tradesperson or DIY homeowner, with a Fielders Centenary® structure, construction is more efficient and easier. Featuring high quality and dimensionally accurate components, custom connectors and pre-painted, corrosion resistant materials, a Fielders Centenary® patio / carport is both straightforward to install and will continue to look great year after year.

As with any construction though, there are some processes to keep in mind to ensure you achieve the full benefits of your investment.

DESIGN CHECKS

Anchor to existing structure - If the structure will be anchored to an existing building, ensure that the connections / fixings and the existing building's substrate are able to resist the wind loads. A trade qualified builder or engineer should be engaged to do this check. Also note that some local government areas may also require additional permitting in these applications.

Check water discharge - Ensure no water runs from copper, or other dissimilar metals onto a roof shaped from COLORBOND® steel. Water runoff from these materials may cause corrosion to COLORBOND® steel.

Also, avoid discharging house collected rainwater onto your new roof - it can be slightly acidic and detrimental to the long-term performance of COLORBOND® steel.

Finally, the roof of the new structure is designed to accommodate only the quantity of rainwater that falls directly on it and shouldn't be used to disperse water collected by the house.

ON SITE TIPS

BEFORE YOU START

Read the plans - It's a good idea to thoroughly read and become familiar with all the supplied documentation before picking up the tools; this includes detailed drawings, plan of the structure and construction guides supplied with the materials (also available on our website).

Know the detail - Construction drawing details are the main source of information covering the fixing process of the various components. These drawings take precedence over the generic Fielders Centenary® construction guides.

Check the fall - Ensure the correct sheet fall (slope) is based on the detailed drawings of the roof sheeting.

Set your tools - Check that the torque setting on your cordless drill is set at the appropriate level to prevent splitting of the neoprene washers or over tightening of the Teks® screws. Use a centre punch to push the magnet into the socket to clear the head of the Teks®, which helps prevent damage to the paint on the head of the Teks® screw.

Prepare for cutting - Be aware that the beams and some components may need to be cut to size.

 **MEASURE TWICE, CUT ONCE**

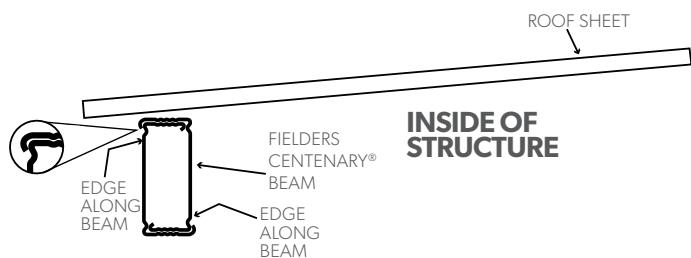
DURING CONSTRUCTION

Strip the plastic - Make sure to remove the protective plastic coverings from the beams and any other components before installation. Do this by carefully running a blade along the seam at the joint of the beam to help peel back the plastic from both sides. Take care not to scratch the pre-painted steel surface.

Measure on site - Use the general plan as a guide only for cutting, always site measure twice before cutting just to be sure.

Allow for sheet expansion - All translucent sheets should be fixed with 10mm oversized holes - this allows them to expand and contract as the temperature changes.

Taper all footings - Taper top of concrete footings away from the post, ensuring footings are above finished ground level to avoid ponding of water.



Prepare the roof sheets - Ensure where necessary that roof sheet pans are turned up or down, as shown on the construction drawings.

Attachments and components - These must be cut according to the lengths outlined in the design.

FINISHING UP

Don't touch up - If there's a small scratch, don't touch up with paint, it's better left as is. The paint from the hardware store is different to the oven-baked finish of COLORBOND® steel, so it will be more noticeable.

Keep people off - Install the two signs provided to the inside face of the beams in diagonally opposite corners to remind people of the correct way to access the structure.

Prevent corrosion - After installation, remove any debris and swarf (metal filings) from the roof sheeting and gutters. If left, the raw swarf can react with the COLORBOND® steel and cause unsightly marks and corrosion.

For more information on selection, construction and maintenance of Fielders Centenary® structures visit www.fielders.com.au or call 1800 182 255

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