

Measuring Guide: Pre-Assembled Post systems

Glossary:

Centre line:	The middle of your railings when viewed from above
Overall length:	The full length from one end to the other, including any ends or wall brackets
Post to post centres:	The measurement from the centre of where your first post will be to the centre of the last post (or centre of a corner post if you have any corners).
Corner to corner:	The measurement from the centre of the first corner post position to the centre of the next corner post.

Before you start to measure...

Always have a good look around the site where you will fit your new balustrade. Check for any obstructions or potential problems – drain-pipes, drains, window-sills, cables and so on, which may cause problems when installing if not considered beforehand.

The next thing to consider is that you must have something solid to fix the posts down to. Fixing to a thin board is unlikely to give enough solidity to achieve a safe balustrade. We test our products wherever necessary, but to achieve the same results the posts must be securely fixed as they were in our tests.

Check that the site is level in all directions. Shims can be used with posts if the difference is small, but if the slopes are bigger then the railing system you install needs to be carefully considered. It may be that a different system is more appropriate for your needs. Don't hesitate to call us if you are unsure about anything.

Tools you will need:

- A long tape measure
- Spirit level or laser level
- Paper and pen or pencil
- Chalk
- If angles are involved, you will also need an angle finder.



Tips:

- If you only have a short spirit level then you can use a straight edge below it, however if using a piece of wood as a straight edge, always make sure it is

actually straight first. *(If you put one end to your eye and look along it you can often see if it is straight or not.)*

- Always double check your measurements to avoid any mistakes. It is your responsibility to provide the correct measurements. *(Liveconfigurator™ cannot be held responsible for incorrect information provided.)*
- It may help to chalk the centre line of your rails on the floor.

How to measure

It is very important to measure for your new balustrade or railings accurately. We supply systems to fit your measurements and our drawings rely on accurate measurements being supplied by yourself. There is a small amount of flexibility because you will need to cut your handrail to fit, but it is very important to be as accurate as possible.

We have different ways of measuring for Liveconfigurator™:

1. The overall measurement including ends or wall fixings
2. Centre to centre of the start and finish end posts
3. In some cases where changes of direction are involved you may need to measure from a wall to the centre of your corner post

They all require you to measure along the **centre line** of the handrail. Please note that the overall length will always be longer than the post to post centres.

1 The first is the **overall length**. You need the centre line measurement from end to end of the total length of the handrail. This is especially useful if you are measuring between walls or for a single straight length. We will make the allowances for whichever type of ends you use on the handrails including wall brackets, saving you from working it out. The end posts will be set inside this length slightly depending on your choice of ends.

2 The second way is for you to decide the best place for the posts and measure from the **centre to centre** of the two end posts (or corner posts where applicable). We will add onto these sizes the allowance for whichever type of ends you select, so the actual length will be greater than the post centre to post centre length.

N.B. We recommend that the centre of the posts should be a **minimum** of **80mm*** away from any edges. This is to allow for the base plates and cover caps and to ensure that bolts will fix into something solid. Please check that this is appropriate for your particular installation, as you may need to increase this. Your fixing bolts must fasten to something solid.

3 If you are designing a 'U' or 'L' shaped balustrade which starts at a wall, then often the best way is to measure from the wall to the centre of the corner post.

For Straight Layouts

For these you can measure as follows:

1. Overall start of handrail to overall end of handrail
2. Centre of start post to centre of end post*

For L shaped Layouts

1. Overall end of handrail to centre of corner post
2. Centre of corner post to overall end of handrail

OR

1. Centre of end post to centre of corner post*
2. Centre of corner post to centre of end post*

For Π and \llcorner shaped layouts

For these you can measure as follows:

1. Overall start of handrail to centre of 1st corner post
2. Centre of 1st corner post centre of 2nd corner post
3. Centre of 2nd corner post to overall end of handrail

OR

1. Centre of start post to centre of 1st corner post*
2. Centre of 1st corner post to centre of 2nd corner post
3. Centre of 2nd corner post to centre of end post*

*If you are using **scroll ends** on your handrail they measure as follows:

- 42.4mm dia. systems = 142.5 mm from the end of the scroll to the centre of the post.
- 48.3mm dia. systems = 145.5 mm from the end of the scroll to the centre of the post.
- Wall brackets and other end caps require 80mm from the end of the fitting to the centre of the post.

Quotes & Drawings

After you have added your measurements and followed the simple choices we offer, you will receive a quote by email. Your quote will contain a list of all the parts required for your railings*. We will also send a full set of CAD drawings will be emailed to you. These will include layout drawings for installation and the dimensions of all the glass panels you require.

** Please note that handrails will need to be cut to size during installation and for some systems you may also need to drill the handrails.*

To place your order please call your local branch or email info@liveconfigurator.co.uk

Special Requirements

If your requirements do not conform to one or more of our templates, then please contact one of our sales team. Our branches are listed below in our **Contact Us** section. If you need something special, it will always be useful to sketch out a layout and add some sizes. Drawings or plans of sites can often be useful when you need advice. We do have an **Enquiry Form for Bespoke Pro-Railing** available which you may find helpful. If you have questions specific to your site sending us photos can also be very useful.

Any Questions?

If you have any questions which are not covered here or in our Frequently Asked Questions, please contact one of our branches or email: info@liveconfigurator.co.uk

Contact Us

We have branches around the UK. Please contact your nearest branch and speak to one of our team, who will be happy to help in any way.

Tel: 01708 398 020

Email: info@liveconfigurator.co.uk

Visit: <http://www.prorailing.co.uk/> or <http://www.fhbrundle.co.uk/>