



Balance Scale

Installation Instructions

NOTES: Please check for any damage caused by the shipping company and take appropriate steps to file a claim, if needed.

*Please call **Digsafe** and check for any underground utilities before digging anywhere.

Materials needed

Post hole shovel, level, tape measure, screw gun, hand tamp, and 50lb bags of fast-setting premixed concrete (not included). Concrete amount required may vary depending on how deep you can get the holes. Concrete amounts can be easily calculated at <http://www.quikrete.com/Calculator/Main.asp>.

Instructions

1. Remove items from packaging. You should find two (2) L-notched post halves, and one package of hardware.
2. Attach both pairs of L-notched post halves together with the 3" lag screws provided, screwing four (4) screws per post through the predrilled holes to assemble the two posts.
3. Attach the scale (the item that looks like a set of antlers) to the post using the carriage bolt through a washer and then through the front of the scale and into the post. On the backside of the scale, add two more washers, then push the carriage bolt through the post. On the backside of the post, slide the last washer over the carriage bolt, then screw the nut onto the bolt. Tighten, but not so hard that the balance arm can't still rotate easily.
4. Move balance scale assembly to desired location and lay assembly on its side.
5. Mark the location of the post bottom and dig post hole, using post hole shovel or post hole digger. Depending on soil conditions you may require a concrete construction tube to retain soil and resist the hole caving in on itself.
6. Set post hole depth to approximately 4' (depending on soil and frost conditions, bottom may be cut off post if digging holes full depth is too difficult). A general rule of thumb is that you want minimum one third of the total post height in the ground).
7. Using the hand tamp, compact any loose material at the bottom of the hole, then fill the bottom 6" of hole with drainage stone.
8. Lift balance scale assembly and set bottom of post into hole so grade mark is at grade, then twist post to face desired orientation. Again, trim the bottom of the post if necessary.
9. Using a bubble level, check the level of the balance scale assembly and plumb the posts in both directions by placing the level on two adjacent sides of the post. It is optional to hold this positioning by using strapping and stakes, but it is not required.
10. Holding the balance scale assembly upright by hand or with strapping, fill 1/4 of the hole with fast setting concrete mix and add water per instructions on bag. Recheck to make sure balance scale assembly is level and plum, and make any adjustments.

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11. Fill the rest of the hole with concrete per instructions on bag, stopping four inches below the grade line marked on the balance scale post. Recheck to make sure balance scale is level and plumb periodically while concrete cures. Let cure for 24 hours.
12. After concrete cures, backfill holes and hand tamp good draining soil firmly to 3" below finished grade, install top soil to finish grade and plant grass to fill in around holes.
13. All wood is treated with kid-friendly preservative, but as is the case with all wood facing the elements, it needs to be cared for, so check it periodically for rough spots, splinters, etc, and sand them out, and treat it with kid-friendly wood preservative (we have it available if you can't find it) once or twice a year to keep the wood from deteriorating.
14. Enjoy your Balance Scale!

