

# Builder Kit - Assembly Instructions



## Classic, Hillcrest & Kimball Surrounds



Congratulations on your new surround purchase! Now that the blood is pumping from unpacking the surround, you are ready to put it together. Good luck!

### Parts included in Kit

Included in the builder kit is the following:

- One shelf
- Two columns
- One strip of column trim
- Two strips of crown molding

No hardware pack is included in this kit! Mounting boards are *not* included. (Mounting boards can be made out of any material you would like (i.e. 2x4, 2x6, 2x2, scrap wood, etc.)

### Tools and Supplies Needed

To assemble the surround, you will need the following (quantities are approximate):

- 25- 3" screws
- 30- 1¼" finish nails
- 30- 1" finish nails
- Wood glue
- Construction adhesive (optional)
- Mounting boards
- A drill with a phillips bit
- A hammer
- A level
- A saw to cut a miter
- A saw to cut the columns (if needed)

### Step 1

Determine the desired height of the columns.

**COMMENT:** The standard height of the columns may suit your needs perfectly, but you may desire to make them shorter. This would depend on several factors: amount of exposed tile wanted around the firebox, amount of room available, personal tastes, etc.

**NOTE:** If the columns are cut shorter, be sure to cut equal amounts off of both ends. This will maintain equal distance from the end of the flutes to the end of the column. For the Classic surround, a maximum amount of 4½" can be cut from both ends of the column, for a total of 9".

**ANOTHER NOTE:** If there is tile already installed around the firebox and it is wider than the space between the firebox and the column, the *inside leg* of the column can be cut the thickness of the tile to allow the tile to go "behind" the column. Be sure to *only* cut the *inside leg* of the column. (The "thickness of the tile" throughout

**the assembly instructions is defined as the overall thickness of the tile, mortar, backer board, etc., combined (the overall depth from the wall to the front of the installed tile). Please keep this in mind throughout the installation!**

## Step 2

Using the assistance of another person, place the shelf on top of the columns, against the wall, centered over the firebox.

**NOTE:** The distance from the end of the flutes to the top of the column is less than the distance from the end of the flutes to the bottom of the column. Make sure that the columns are oriented correctly. The columns will fit into the recess underneath the shelf.

## Step 3

Draw a pencil line on the wall along the top edge of the shelf. Also, draw a pencil line on the wall along both vertical edges of each column.

## Step 4

Remove the shelf and columns. Attach mounting boards  $\frac{3}{4}$ " to the inside of all pencil lines with construction adhesive (or glue) and 3" screws. **Pre-drill the mounting boards for screws.**

**TIP:** If possible use 3" screws to attach the mounting boards to a stud in the wall. If no stud is available, be sure to use construction adhesive and follow the product instructions.

**NOTE:** Make sure that the mounting board for the shelf is not longer than the notch in the shelf. In addition, make sure that it is positioned on the wall so that it will fit within the notch in the shelf.

## Step 5

Replace the columns against the wall, over the mounting boards. Secure the columns to the mounting boards with  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " finish nails. If desired, glue on the mounting boards may also be used in addition to the nails.

**TIP:** Before fastening the columns to the mounting boards, place the shelf on top of the columns to ensure that the columns will fit into the recess of the shelf.

## Step 6

Spread glue on top of the columns. Place the shelf on top of the columns. Secure the shelf to the wall by using  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " finish nails and nailing down through the top shelf into the mounting board.

## Step 7

**COMMENT:** Time to cut the mouldings. Locate the strip of wood that is  $5\frac{1}{4}$ " wide by 48" long with one routed edge. This is the column trim strip and will go at the bottom of the columns. The routed edge will face up, towards the shelf.

Miter and cut to size the column trim strip to trim all three sides of the bottom of the columns. Attach all pieces appropriately with glue and  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " finish nails.



**TIP:** If there will be tile around the firebox and it is not yet installed, cut the column trim for the bottom, inside leg of the column a little “short” (see picture). Cut it the depth of the column, less the thickness of the tile. This will allow the tile to fit behind the column trim piece, and avoid the need to notch the tile during its installation. If desired, the bottom column trim pieces can be mitered, cut to size and attached after the tile is installed to ensure proper fit.

### **Step 8**

**COMMENT:** The crown molding runs under the overhang on the shelf. Be sure to install it correctly and not upside down (see picture).

Miter and cut to size the crown moulding to wrap both sides and across the faceplate of the shelf. Attach all pieces appropriately with glue and 1” finish nails.



### **Step 9**

The last thing to do is prep the surround for paint or finish. Putty any visible nail or screw holes. Caulk as needed between the wall and surround. Also, check all the joints in the surround itself and caulk as needed. Sand as needed (which is usually not much). **YOU ARE DONE!**

**Note:** If painting the surround, it is generally best to prime it prior to painting.