

Bramblecrest Pergola Self-Installation Terms & Recommendations

This guide is designed to help customers who choose to self-install their Bramblecrest aluminium louvered pergola. It outlines the essential requirements, tools, materials, and best practices to ensure a safe, compliant, and smooth installation. Read this document carefully before you begin and keep it alongside your product information on our website.

1. Overview

- This recommendation covers self-installation only; it does not replace professional advice where required by local regulations.
- Ensure you have the necessary skills, tools, and time (typically a two-person team over 2–3 days) before starting.
- Failure to follow these guidelines may affect your warranty or result in additional costs.

2. Tools & Materials Required

- Standard tool kit: spirit level, tape measure, pencil, drill with masonry/tile bits, socket set, adjustable spanner, rubber mallet, screwdriver set
- Blue Circle High Strength Postcrete (40N) or equivalent high-strength concrete for footings
- Packers/spacers (5–50 mm) for leveling adjustments
- Anchor bolts and fixings (supplied with the pergola)
- Protective equipment: safety glasses, gloves, dust masks

3. Site Requirements & Pre-Installation Checks

- Surface flatness: Maximum 1 : 80 fall across the installation footprint; up to 50 mm of adjustment permitted with packers.
- Drainage gradient: Minimum 10 mm fall from one side to the other for smooth screen operation.
- Ground substrate: Solid concrete pad or robust structural base under decking; composite decking must have joists/alignment under each footplate.
- Access: Clear and obstacle-free access for handling large components.
- Verify no buried services (cables, pipes) under drilling locations.

4. Foundation Recommendations

- Concrete pad: Use Postcrete 40N; pour footpads to match pergola footprint and drainage slope.
- Depth & size: Minimum 300 mm depth below frost line; pad area at least 400 mm³ under each footplate if under tiles or decking.

- Composite decking: Install structural joists beneath footplates or use concrete pad blocks beneath tiles.

5. Measuring & Positioning

- Review detailed floorplans available on product pages for exact footplate positions.
- Mark the layout with chalk/pencil; recheck diagonals to confirm squareness.
- Ensure sufficient clearance around the perimeter for louvre rotation and screen movement.

6. Assembly & Installation Steps (High-Level)

1. Unpack and organize all components by type and location.
2. Fit base plates to pergola posts and loosely secure with anchor bolts.
3. Position posts on prepared foundations; adjust levels using packers until posts are plumb.
4. Tighten anchor bolts to manufacturer torque specifications; reconfirm level.
5. Attach roof beams and louver modules per assembly manual.
6. Install side channels and screens, ensuring the recommended 10 mm fall.
7. Operate louvers through full range to check for smooth action.

7. Drainage & Fall Requirements

- The pergola relies on the natural slope of the surface for water runoff.
- A fall of 10–12 mm over the front-to-back span is optimal.
- If fall exceeds 50 mm, additional packers or custom shims may be needed.

8. Screen & Louver Adjustments

- Screens: Set screen channels on the high side; use spacers to achieve a 10 mm gradient.
- Louvers: Check torque on pivot points; lubricate moving parts as per maintenance guide.

9. Porcelain Tile Caution

- Drilling porcelain carries risk of cracking; use a diamond-tipped drill and low pressure.
- We are not liable for tile damage during self-installation; proceed at your own risk.

10. Electrical & Heater Installations

- Any electrical or gas fitting must be performed by a qualified installer.
- Ensure power is switched off at the mains before drilling or routing cables.

11. Safety & Compliance

- Comply with Building Regulations: maximum fall, safe working heights, and local planning rules.
- Use appropriate PPE and secure ladders or scaffolding for elevated work.
- Do not work during extreme weather conditions.

12. Warranty & Liability

- Self-installation carried out per this guide retains the standard product warranty.
- Warranty void if installation deviates from recommendations or if unauthorized modifications occur.
- Bramblecrest disclaims liability for personal injury, property damage, or defects arising from incorrect installation.
- By purchasing the pergola, you acknowledge and agree that you have read, understood, and accepted Bramblecrest's Terms & Conditions, available at <https://www.bramblecrest.com/termsandconditions/>, which form part of your purchase agreement and this self-installation recommendation.

13. Support Resources

- Assembly Manual: Download from product page at www.bramblecrest.com.
- Floorplan Drawings: Available under 'Downloads' on each pergola model.
- Technical Support: Email support@bramblecrest.com or call 01234 567890 (Mon–Fri, 9 am–5 pm BST).

By following this Self-Installation Recommendation, you can confidently and safely install your Bramblecrest pergola. For any queries, contact our support team before you start work.