

## HANDY HINTS FOR INSTALLATION OF 6 & 8 FT PILLARS

To ensure a high quality finish is attained the following steps are recommended:

### Pillar Installation

Benzini pillars are supplied as a non structural decorative pillar with a hollow centre core. For structural use (including gate pillars) the hollow core can be used to accommodate a reinforced concrete core. The pillar is supplied in a component form: base, shaft, capital and crown.

A pillar should be erected on a suitable foundation designed to suit loading and ground conditions. **We strongly recommend that professional advice is taken** to ensure that any proposal is designed to be structurally sound.

### Bedding and Jointing

All components should be bedded and jointed using sikaflex ensuring it does not spill out past the joint line. Joints should be approximately 6 mm wide to allow for any irregularities in the mating surfaces and provide a full bedding and pointing joint. The joint mortar should be left slightly recessed from the surface of the stonework or subsequently raked out, leaving a rebated joint. Pointing should be carried out using bedding mix, colour matched to suit, in which case white cement may be necessary.

### Infilling Techniques

It is important that the hollow core of each gate pillar/pillar section is lined with polystyrene, coreflute (or similar) to act as an isolating medium when gate pillar cores are in-filled with concrete. This will accommodate any possible differential movement between the stonework and the concrete core. The isolating material, when inserted, should make continuous contact with the inner core surface. Care should be taken to ensure sufficient overlap of material at both vertical and horizontal joints.

Concrete used to infill the cores should ideally have rounded gravel aggregate of 10 mm maximum size. The concrete should be of medium to high workability to assist core filling whilst minimising the effort required during hand compaction. The use of proprietary concrete plasticising admixtures can assist this operation.

With free standing decorative pillars it is suggested using a starter bar from ground level to 600 mm into the pillar shaft. Fill core of pillar to 150 mm above the starter bar.

