

BRACKETS AND BITS

For Foundations Requiring Site-Specific or Project-Specific Review

Models DP-75/DP-75E, DP-100E & DP-200E

Post/Beam Brackets

The bracket needed to make the connection from the Diamond Pier foundation to a project superstructure can be purchased separately from a local lumberyard. The DP-75/DP-75E and DP-100E piers have a 5/8" galvanized bolt embedded in the top of the pier (nut provided), and this bolt will connect to a Simpson Strong-Tie® bracket, model ABW or ABU. Each of these brackets comes with a standoff fitting that separates the wood from contact with the base of the bracket, and eliminates the need to drill into the bottom of the lumber to compensate for the raised anchor bolt.

The ABW bracket is light gauge steel, and it has fairly short sides that attach to posts or beams with galvanized nails or screws. The ABU bracket is heavier gauge, taller, takes a heavier load, and can be attached with either nails, screws, or through bolts.

Both brackets come in galvanized or stainless steel finish. Most lumber yards carry the galvanized models, but stainless steel is a special-order item. The proper coating or finish should be chosen based on the lumber and treating specifications of the project superstructure.

The brackets have a wide hole in the base that allows some horizontal adjustment of the final bracket location; they are tightened to the embedded anchor bolt with a large washer provided with the bracket. If a stainless bracket is chosen, the embedded galvanized anchor bolt in the pier must be protected from contact with the bracket and washer with the addition of a small bushing, plumbing washer, or similar rubber or plastic separator. As an alternative, special orders for Diamond Pier foundations with stainless steel anchor bolts may be processed, but the casting and delivery schedule will depend on timing relative to the standard pier casting schedule and order volume.

There are three sizes of bracket—4x4, 4x6, and 6x6. All may be used with the single-bolt DP-75/DP-75E and DP-100E Diamond Pier foundations. The DP-200E, however, typically requires a custom-fabricated bracket. If a 4-bolt pier is used, a custom bracket made to fit the 4-bolt pattern must also be custom fabricated and coated locally.

Driving Bits

Automatic breaker hammers used for installing the Diamond Pier bearing pins are listed under "Downloads" on the Boardwalks and Buildings pages on the website. The bits for hammers using 1-1/8" hex shafts can be purchased from Pin Foundations, Inc. There are two sizes—one for the DP-75/DP-75E and DP-100E, and a larger special-order bit for the DP-200E. These bits can be delivered by UPS or shipped with a direct order for a pallet of piers. See the website for pricing.

If rented through a local rental yard, most of the common bits are produced by Brunner & Lay of Chicago (847-678-3232) and distributed through various rental companies throughout the U.S. The recommended bits are model # B 31-861 for the DP-75/DP-75E and DP-100E, and model # B 31-863 for the DP-200E.