Tools and Supplies

You will need the following tools to install BellaStone products.

- Hammer
- Tape measure
- Chalk line
- Circular saw (Carbide tip blade)
- Framing square
- Level
- Pencil
- Safety glasses
- Caulking Gun
- 11/32” drill bit

Tools, such as saber saws, rotary tools, etc. may also be useful when cutting panels to fit around obstacles.

Weather Protective Barriers

When considering the use of house wrap behind siding products, BellaStone® recommends first and foremost, that installers review local building code requirements. Keep in mind that additional measures may provide better protection against water intrusion than the minimum requirements of the building code. Though BellaStone does not require the use of house wrap behind BellaStone, it is important to note that BellaStone is designed as an exterior cladding, not a weather resistant barrier. It is designed to allow the material underneath it to breathe, therefore, it is not a watertight covering. It is recommended by BellaStone that a weather-resistant barrier integrated with code-compliant flashing, be applied prior to the BellaStone installation.

Storage and Transportation

At the job site, take the following precautions when storing the product:

- Keep the cartons dry.
- Do not store the cartons in any location where temperatures may exceed 130°F (e.g., on blacktop pavement during unusually hot weather or under dark tarps or plastic wraps without air circulation).

Fasteners

When choosing a fastener for BellaStone, Crane recommends that first, you check with local building code officials for possible requirements. In lieu of special code requirements, Crane recommends the following:

- Screws should be corrosion-resistant, a minimum of size #8 and 1-5/8” in length.

BellaStone Wall System Components

Main Pack: (4) Z Panels
(1) Filler Panel

Filler Pack: (10) Filler Panels

Quoin Corner Pack

- Quoin 12” Corner (1/Carton) (BELCQPAC)
- Quoin 24” Corner (2/Carton) (BELCQPAC)

Bella Clips (Included in Cartons)

Aggregate (Included in Cartons)

Mortar Sealant (Sold Separately) (BSEALANT)
**Wall Preparation**

**New Construction**
BellaStone must be installed over a continuous surface (sheathing, or cement block, etc...). Consult local building codes for specific sheathing requirements. BellaStone should never be applied directly to studs without sheathing.

**Masonry Walls**
BellaStone can be applied directly to any smooth flat masonry surface. Fasteners should be corrosion resistant masonry screws.

**Flashing**
A code compliant flashing material should be applied around windows, doors, inside and outside corners and the intersection of walls and roofing before the installation of BellaStone. Refer to window and door manufacturer for specific requirements for their products.

**Re-siding**
BellaStone is not designed to be installed over existing siding except for T-111 type products. It is advisable to first remove the existing siding before installing BellaStone. Note that BellaStone must not be applied directly to studs without rigid sheathing. If, after removing the existing siding, there is no sheathing, sheathing must be applied. Consult local building codes for specific sheathing requirements.

It is important to nail down loose boards, and replace any rotten ones.

Scrape off loose caulk and re-caulk around doors, windows and other areas to resist moisture penetration.

**Installing Outside Corners**
There are multiple corner options when installing BellaStone. These may include: BellaStone Quoin Corners, cedar wood corner boards, engineered wood corners, cellular PVC corner boards, etc. In any event, it is important to be sure that the corner areas are flashed properly per local building codes.
Installing Outside Corners - BellaStone Quoin Corner System

The Quoin Corners can be installed prior to or after the installation of the BellaStone panels however we recommend installing them after. This will make the panel installation easier.

Accessory products used for this application: Quoin Corner

1. Begin by making certain that the corner of the wall surface is properly flashed. The flashing should extend a minimum of 10” from the corner.

2. Next, strike a plumb chalk line approximately 7-1/4” from the corner of the wall on both sides. This line will serve as the termination point for the BellaStone panels.

3. Install the BellaStone panels, aligning them with the plumb line.

4. Once the panels are installed, install the Quoin Corners placing one mounting clip on either side of the corner and securing them with screws. For the best appearance, start with a 12” tall corner. Each corner piece will lock on top of the other, much like the wall panels.

Installing Outside Corners - Fabricating a Field Corner

1. Determine the edge of the corner by measuring and placing a mark or by placing the BellaStone corner in place and tracing a line on the back side of the panel. If you trace a line it is important that the walls be fairly plumb.

2. Measure and mark reference lines at 1-3/4” and 3-1/2” beyond the first line.

3. Using a circular saw or table saw, cut a 1-5/8” deep groove along the center line. This cut will likely pierce the front of the BellaStone panel in a few places. This is acceptable.

4. Adjust your saw to cut at a 45° angle. Cut along the two other reference lines toward the center cut. These cuts should not be deeper than the initial one. You will have to adjust the depth of your cut accordingly. Remove the center material.

5. Bend or fold the panel to a 90° and install, placing at least two clips per side.
Installing Inside Corner

1. Install BellaStone into an inside corner by mitering both panels where they meet in the corner. To achieve an aesthetically pleasing joint, use one panel cut in 2 pieces to form the corner. This will align the horizontal mortar joints on each side.

2. Finish the seam where the panels meet as described in the “Finishing Seams” section on page 11 of this guide.

Notes
BellaStone Panel Installation

Basic BellaStone Rules

- BellaStone panels are most easily installed from left to right. Situations may arise when it is necessary to “backfill” the panels right to left.
- Fasteners should be corrosion-resistant, a size #8 and 1-5/8” in length.
- Use the pre-drilled holes for clip and fastener placement. Additional 11/32” holes may need to be drilled in panels that have been cut.
- Don’t over drive the fasteners. Doing so will make it difficult to engage the next course, and not allow for panel movement.
- Make certain that the BellaStone panels are fully engaged into their locks before fastening them.
- Panels should be installed in a stair step fashion to minimize long horizontal mortar joints.
- BellaStone clips must be used for proper installation.

Accessory products used for this application: Starter Strip

Fastening Clip Placement

1. To ensure proper BellaStone installation, it is important to create a straight reference line for the positioning of the starter strip.

2. Determine the lowest point of the wall where BellaStone is to be installed. At the lowest point Measure 2-1/8” up to create a reference point.

3. Using a level, strike a chalk line from this point.

4. Using the chalk line as a guide, align the starter strip along the chalk line as shown and fasten every 8”-10”.

Starter Strip

Bottom Edge of Installed Stone

Chalk Line

2-1/8”
First Course

Laying out the panel configuration may vary depending upon the size of the wall to be covered, the existence and location of windows or doors, among many things. It is however, important to remember the basic rules of BellaStone installation. Laying out the first course of BellaStone as outlined in the diagram below will help ensure that these rules are met.

Installing Panels

1. Begin by trimming off or straightening the left end of a Z panel. Place this panel on the lower left hand side of the wall being sure it is fully engaged onto the starter strip (leave approximately ¼" of gap in the corner pocket if using vinyl corners). Position the clips over the pre-drilled holes and fasten accordingly. **Note:** Keep the cut off pieces as you go. You will likely use them on the other end.

2. Run a 3/8” bead of BellaStone Mortar Sealant along the top horizontal and right vertical “mortar joints” of the panel.

3. Position a filler panel. Push the two panels to approximately 1/8” from each other. Some caulking will likely push out of the seam. This is acceptable. **Smoothing out and finishing the seam does not need to be done immediately. However, finishing should be done before the mortar sealant has set. This time will vary depending upon temperature.** See “Finishing Seams” on page 11 for detailed finishing instructions.

4. Begin the second course by placing a mark at 6-1/4” from the upper right vertical corner of the first course panel. Take a measurement from that mark back to the corner or left edge of the first course panel. Transfer this measurement to the bottom of the panel to be cut making certain that you measure from the right and trim off the left end.
5 Put the cut panel in place making certain that the bottom right edge of the panel is at your mark. This will continue the necessary stair step pattern.

6 Continue installation of the panels keeping this stair step pattern.

7 After fastening the panels through the mounting clips, secure the seam by placing a screw in a mortar joint area at each vertical seam and one in the bottom mortar joint of the panel toward the center, including the first course. **These screws should only penetrate both panels and not the wall.** The heads of these screws will be covered during the finishing of the seams phase of the installation.

**NOTE:** There are multiple ways to trim around openings, see “Trimming Around Windows and Doors” for details.

**NOTE:** Keep in mind that smoothing out and finishing the seam does not need to be done immediately. However, finishing should be done before the mortar sealant has set. This time will vary depending upon temperature. See “Finishing Seams” on page 11 for detailed finishing instructions.

### Trimming Around Windows and Doors w/ Architectural Essentials Lineals

There are many products and methods that can be used to trim around openings when installing BellaStone. When deciding what method you’ll be using, it is important to incorporate a "pocket" of 2 1/4" wide and 3/4" deep to except the stone panel and cover any cut edges.

One method is to use the BellaStone Stone Receiver. Measure the width and height of the window or door and add 2 1/2". The diagram at the right shows the cuts that are made. Begin with the bottom piece, then the sides and finally the top. Install the receivers fastening every 10” to 12”. Be careful not to fasten too tightly so as to allow the vinyl parts to move or expand and contract. Hang the side receivers by locating a fastener at the top of the upper nail slot and center the remaining fasteners.
Wainscot Installation - Architectural Essentials Water Table

Accessory products used for this application: Water Table

1 Using a chalk line, strike a reference line 2-1/2” above the point you’ll be terminating the BellaStone.

2 Complete the installation of the BellaStone panels. Note: The final course of BellaStone can be “toe nailed” through the back wall of the cut top edge leaving no visible fasteners.

3 Install the water table over the final course of BellaStone placing the nailing hem of the water table on the reference line. Fasten loosely every 10”-12”.

IMPORTANT: You are now ready to install cladding above the water table. Make certain that when installing starter strips, channels, etc., the fasteners don’t inhibit the movement of the water table.

Wainscot Installation - BellaStone Accents Water Table

1 Using a chalk line strike two reference lines; one at the point you wish to terminate the BellaStone, and the other 1-7/8” above the first line. The second line will serve as the reference line for the Water Table.

2 After you finish installing the BellaStone panels up to the first reference line, place the Stone Accents Water Table so that the top of the piece aligns with the second line. Secure the water table using 3” screws angled from approximately 3/4” in from the back of the water table into the wall. Place screws at approximately 12” intervals or about four screws per piece of water table. Multiple pieces can be installed by butting them end to end. After installation is complete, a code compliant flashing should be installed on top of the water table. This will assist in management of moisture as well as cover the heads of the fasteners. Whenever possible, use factory ends where they will be visible. If touch up is needed, the water table can be painted. Paint matching formulas are listed on page 11. For the best look, we recommend using a foam paint brush.

3 If wrapping around a corner, the water table can be mitered at 45° angles. You may want to glue the corners together using a heavy duty construction adhesive such as Titebond Heavy Duty Construction Adhesive.

NOTE: If you are installing the Stone Accents Water Table with Quoin Corners, you will want to use the Water Table corners. Installation of these corners is covered in the next section.
Gable and Top Course Installation - Finishing into Stone Receiver

Accessory products used for this application: Stone Receiver

**Gables**

1. Place Stone Receiver under the overhang fastening loosely every 8” to 10”.
2. Measure and cut panel angles as needed. Fasten directly through the panel in the mortar joint areas if no clip area exists.

**Top Course**

1. Place Stone Receiver under the overhang or at the point you wish to terminate BellaStone. Measure from the soffit to the top of the stone face on the previous course of BellaStone. Subtract 1/2”.
2. Mark and cut the top course panel(s). Install the panels, pushing upward into the receiver to allow the lock of the panel to engage over the clip below it, and then pulling downward to fully engage the lock.
3. Fasten the panel(s) by placing screws directly through the panel in the mortar joint areas.
4. Finish the seams appropriately. See “Finishing Seams” on page 11 for detailed finishing instructions.

Transitions From BellaStone to Other Cladding

There may be situations that call for a transition from BellaStone to CraneBoard or other cladding that requires narrower receiving pockets (for example, installing BellaStone as a wainscoting that extends part way up a window).

**Receiver Transition Trim**

The Receiver Transition Trim is for use with the Stone receiver. Whether being used as part of a corner system or alone as a receiver, the Receiver Transition Trim is easily placed inside the pocket to reduce the pocket width.
Finishing BellaStone Seams

An integral step in giving a BellaStone installation the authentic look is the finishing process of the panel seams. Though this finishing process is not essential to the performance of BellaStone, it is aesthetically necessary. This process need not be done as each panel is installed but should be completed before the caulking placed between the seams as the panels are installed has set or “skinned over”.

1. Using the BellaStone Mortar Sealant, run a heavy bead at all panel joints. Be sure to fill the joints beyond the other mortar joints in the panel. Also cover any exposed screw heads.

2. Using a tool such as a soda straw, smooth the sealant to create the look of a mortar joint. For the best appearance, knock down any high points. It helps to flatten the straw a bit prior to using it.

3. Fill the bristles of a paint brush with the BellaStone aggregate. With the aggregate in the brush, jab the ends of the brush into the sealant in the seams. Use enough force to transfer the aggregate to the sealant and slightly texture the sealant. All vertical and horizontal seams should be finished in this way for the best look.

Paint Color Match Formulas

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<th>BEHR - Cobblestone</th>
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**Installation Instructions**

**BellaStone Architectural Columns**

BellaStone Architectural Columns by Crane have the look of genuine hand-chiseled natural stone columns. They look and feel like real stone because they are made with real stone. BellaStone Architectural Columns are remarkably versatile with a wide variety of size and style options sure to suite your project needs.

### Components

- **38” Column**
  - Available in Tuscan, Torino or Bordeaux colors
  - (Dim: 20” x 20” x 38” or 14” x 14” x 38”)

- **16” Column**
  - Available in Tuscan, Torino or Bordeaux colors
  - (Dim: 20” x 20” x 16” or 14” x 14” x 16”)

- **Cap-Traditional**
  - Available in Keystone and Cobblestone colors

### Tools and Supplies

You will need the following tools to install BellaStone Columns.

- Rotary cutting tool or jigsaw
- Drill
- Circular saw
- 3/16” drill bit

You will also need the following supplies.

- #8 by 1-1/2” exterior screws
- #8 by 2-1/2” exterior screws
- BellaStone Mortar Sealant *
- BellaStone Aggregate *(included with column)*
- Disposable paint brush *
- Heavy duty construction adhesive (PL400-Tightbond Heavy duty construction adhesive)

* required only if stacking or seaming columns

### Preparing Column

The BellaStone Architectural Column comes with pre-molded cutouts to accommodate the following posts:

- 6” x 6” Wood Post
- 4” x 4” Wood Post
- 2” Galvanized Pole
- 1-5/8” Galvanized Pole

Remove the appropriate cutout on the top and bottom of the column using a rotary tool or jigsaw.
Installing Columns

1. Make sure post is securely installed, and is plumb. Post should be at least a few inches taller than the column that you are installing.

2. After removing the appropriate cutouts, position column over post. Make a mark on the post flush to 1/4” taller than the top of the column. Remove the column.

3. Trim the post to the height marked in the previous step. Re-position the column over the post.

4. Secure the column with #8 x 2-1/2” screws through the provided recesses and into the post. If you are using a metal post, you will need to pre-drill the post before driving the appropriate screws.

Consult all applicable building codes before installing posts or columns.

Fencing Application

BellaStone Architectural Columns can be used with most fencing products. Use the general instructions below for using the BellaStone Column as a fence post. Be sure to consult the instructions for the fencing system you are using for more information. There are several ways to incorporate BellaStone Columns into your fencing installation, two options are shown below.

Installing wood fencing products

- Install your posts and columns as outlined in the previous section. Columns can be stacked to achieve a variety of heights.

  NOTE: When installed, the caps cover the top 2” of the column. Take this into account when determining column heights.

- Install a second post next to the BellaStone Column.

- Using the second post as an attachment point, install fencing as outlined in the manufacturer's instructions.

Installing vinyl fencing products

- Install your posts and columns as outlined in the previous section. Columns can be stacked to achieve a variety of heights.

  NOTE: When installed, the caps cover the top 2” of the column. Take this into account when determining column heights.

- Mark the location of the fence rails on the column.

- Cut an opening in the column just large enough for the rail to fit into. (a rotary tool will make the best cut)

- Install fencing as outlined in the manufacturer’s instructions.
Reinforcing Attachment Points

In some installations you may want to add extra support along the edge of the column for the attachment of rail brackets. **The technique outlined below is for attaching lightweight or non-load bearing components. It is not appropriate for attaching heavy fencing or items such as gates. If a gate is to be attached to the column, measures have to be taken so as to transfer the stress from the gate to the support post. In other words, the gate must be attached to the support post, not just the BellaStone column. This can be achieved many ways such as positioning the BellaStone column off-center so the support post is against the 2”x4” or 2”x6” shown in the diagram below, or additional wood or metal blocking can be added to the side of the support post outward to the inside wall of the BellaStone column.**

- Cut out the opening in the top and bottom of the column that corresponds to the size post you are using.
- Trim a pressure treated 2”x4” or 2”x6” to the interior height of the column. (Aprox. 37 5/8” for a 38” tall column, and 15 5/8” for a 16” tall column.)
- Insert the board into the column and place it against the inside wall along the column centerline.
- Secure with two screws through the top and bottom of the column.
- Attach fence hardware by screwing through column and into reinforcing board.

Filling Column

In some installations you may want to add weight to the bottom of the column in order to anchor it more securely. You may do this by filling the lower portion of the column with sand or gravel. Follow the steps below.

- Install the columns as outlined in earlier sections. (If you are stacking columns, install only the bottom one before completing the fill process.)
- Locate the dimples positioned near the top corners of the columns.
- Using a hole saw, cut a 3” hole in the top of the column using the dimple as a center.
- Pour sand or gravel into the column. Do not exceed a depth of 18” on a 36” column.
- Install upper columns if desired.

Attaching Caps

The last step in your BellaStone Column installation is the placement of the column caps.

- Using a heavy duty construction adhesive (such as Titebond Heavy Duty Construction Adhesive), run a 3/8” bead around the perimeter of the column. Place the bead on the lower “step” as shown.
- Place the cap onto the column, pushing the cap into the adhesive.
Wrapping an Existing Post

Additional items needed for this application: Jig-saw, 1” x 6” board

1. To begin, cut the necessary openings on the top and bottom of the column to fit the existing post you are wrapping with the BellaStone Column. (See Preparing Column on page 15)

2. Take a look at all four sides of the column, and select the side with the straightest mortar joint from top to bottom.

3. Using a jig-saw, make a cut from one end to the other, following the center of the mortar joint as shown. Continue this cut across the top and bottom of the column to your center cut outs and to the opposite side.

4. Open the column and wrap it around the existing post.

5. Place a 1x6 inside the column positioning it so that it is centered along one side of the cut. Secure the 1x6 to one side with weather resistant deck screws.

6. Bring the two sides of the column together and secure the other side to the 1x6.

7. Secure the column with #8 x 2-1/2” screws through the provided recesses and into the post. If you are using a metal post, you will need to pre-drill the post before driving the appropriate screws.

8. Finish the seams as outlined the Finishing Seams section.

Installing Cap Around Existing Post

1. Cut the cap in half from corner to corner diagonally. Make the necessary cutout for the existing post.

2. Apply heavy duty construction adhesive to the cut edge of one of the two halves of the cap as well as on the lower “step” on the top of the BellaColumn.

3. Fit the two halves around the post, gluing in place.
Installing Column with Mail Box

Important: When preparing to install a mail box into a BellaStone post, it’s important to be sure that the finished height of the mail box meets the U.S. Postal Service’s requirements. Be sure that the bottom of the mailbox is at a vertical height of between 3-1/2 to 4 feet from the road surface. However, because of varying conditions, the postal Service recommends that you contact the postmaster or carrier before replacing mailboxes. These instructions assume that the road surface and bottom of the column are fairly level to each other.

You will need the following tools to install the columns:
- Sabre or Rotary saw
- Drill
- Circular saw
- 3/16” drill bit
- Paint brush

You will also need the following supplies:
- #8 by 1-1/2” exterior screws
- Mortar sealant (included)
- Aggregate (included)
- Wood block - Dim 3”H x 3-1/2”W x 12”W (ex. 2 2x4’s screwed together)

1. Install 38” column following the instructions on pages 15-16. **NOTE: Make sure top of post is trimmed flush with the top of the installed column.**

2. Next, prepare the mail box. You’ll want the box to fit snugly into the column therefore, you may have to bend any flanges that exist along the rear end and will want to remove any flag, etc. If the box does have a flange and you bend it backward, you’ll likely need to re-secure the rear wall of the box. Pop rivets or small screws work well for this.

3. Next, Measure upward from the bottom of the 16” column 4¼” and make a reference mark.

4. Place the rear bottom of the mail box on the reference mark and trace the outline of the box. Using a sabre saw, remove this area.

5. Measure the depth of the mail box. Keeping this number in mind, place a wood block in the column. Locate the block so the rear of the box will lay on the block. From the bottom, secure the block with two screws.

6. Drill an 1/8” hole in the center bottom of the mail box at a point that you will be able to fasten into the wood block. Insert all but about 1½” of the mail box into the column. Using a short screw driver, fasten the box to the wood block with a screw. Lastly, run a bead of sealant where the box meets the stone, and finish with the supplied aggregate.

7. Place a bead of adhesive along the top of the 38” column. Position 16” column with installed mailbox on top of base column. Drive a screw through a mortar joint on each side of the top column into the bottom column. Finish seams as outlined in the *Finishing Seams* section.
Finishing BellaStone Seams

An integral step in giving a BellaStone installation the authentic look is the finishing process of the panel seams. Though this finishing process is not essential to the performance of BellaStone, it is aesthetically necessary. This process need not be done as each panel is installed but should be completed before the caulking placed between the seams as the panels are installed has set or “skinned over”.

1. Using the BellaStone Mortar Sealant, run a heavy bead at all panel joints. Be sure to fill the joints beyond the other mortar joints in the panel. Also cover any exposed screw heads.

2. Using a tool such as a soda straw, smooth the sealant to create the look of a mortar joint. For the best appearance, knock down any high points. It helps to flatten the straw a bit prior to using it.

3. Fill the bristles of a paint brush with the BellaStone aggregate. With the aggregate in the brush, jab the ends of the brush into the sealant in the seams. Use enough force to transfer the aggregate to the sealant and slightly texture the sealant. All vertical and horizontal seams should be finished in this way for the best look.

Exterior Portfolio™ by Crane
1441 Universal Road
PO Box 1058
Columbus, OH 43216
800.366.8472

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