Attic Base Replacement Hardwood

Attic Bases are use in Classical columns with both Fluted and Smooth Shafts
They are used with columns that have the following Stylized Capitals
Doric, Roman Ionic, Scamozzi, Composite, Roman Corinthian,
Temple or Tower of the Winds.

Upper Torus ==========>
Concave Scotia =====>
Lower Torus =====>
Plinth =====>

Material Selection

HARDWOOD is the material of choice for customization. Attic Bases are custom made in 2 parts - the circular Torus and the square Plinth. For exterior applications select from Pine, Cedar, White Oak, or Fir. Wood allows for customization of every part. Like all hardwood architectural products, the bases are made from solid wood staves joined with exterior grade glue. The wood staves are kiln dried as per the NHLA standards to 6 to 8% moisture content. Wood stave construction, used for 200 years, is far stronger than solid wood which ends up cracking.

Replacement Issues:

You may need to replace a base and/or part of the column's shaft due to water or insect damage or just age. It is important that the plinth reside on a level surface be it concrete or a wood deck. The hardwood bases are subject to both fixed load from the column shaft and additional static loads from snow and ice. It is important that the base sit on a level surface. If the substrate is angled due to ground shifting, it will put excessive pressure on one side of the wood plinth's staves which could result in cracking over time. If the plinth sits on concrete as per the national building code, there should be a sheet of poly between the wood (an acid) and the concrete (an alkaline). Wood always wants to be a tree again and absorbs the lime moisture from the concrete resulting in rotting over time. If the rot of the base has infected the column's shaft, we can make a portion of the shaft only without replacing the entire shaft. We suggest locating the rot extent line and replacing 1 foot more above that line.
All wood bases should be treated with preservatives visit Imperialcolumns.com

NON WOOD Attic Bases are made from molds and are hollow to wrap a load bearing plug that holds the weight of the shaft or the remaining part of the column shaft that gets cut away. There is customization available for larger orders of non-wood bases. ArchPolymer™ is a high density polyurethane and FRP-PolyComp™ is made from calcium carbonate and fiberglass resins. They are both rot, water and insect resistant.

All information is without prejudice and is intended to the benefit of the reader. For direct application of your situation, always consult a qualified structural engineer, architect or licienced contractor that adheres to local building codes and guidelines regarding loads. The following forms are the intellectual property of Imperial Productions and Distribution Inc copyright 2022 and intended for Imperial's clients use only.

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Attic Base Replacement

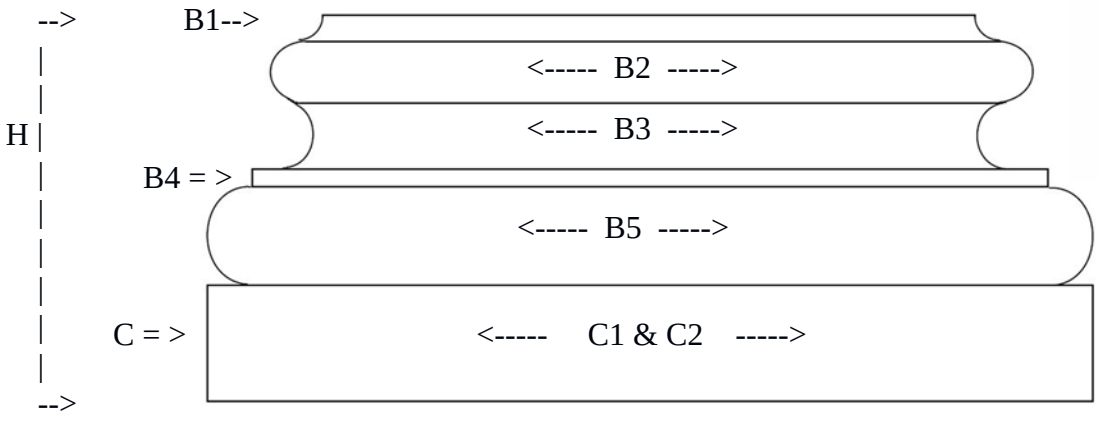
TAG _____

1) COLUMN SHAFT Bottom Circumference that touches the top of the base. The easiest way to measure any round portion is to take a string - tape it to one end and go around the circle. The length of the string is the circumference

Bottom of the Column Shaft Circumference _____ (SC)
(SC) / Pi (3.14) = Bottom Shaft Diameter _____ (SD)

Make Column Shaft Portion Y/N ____ Height of Column Portion_____

2) ATTIC BASE <---------- (A1 = Top Flat) ---------->



A1) Top Flat where Shaft sits on Circumference _____ or Diameter _____

ROUND TORUS B) Total Height: _____

B1) Cove Step Height _____ Bottom Diameter _____ = Top of the Upper Torus

(B2) Upper Torus Height _____ Diameter _____

(B3) Scotia (Concave) Height _____ Diameter _____

(B4) Step Height _____ Diameter _____

(B5) Lower Torus Height _____ Diameter _____

SQUARE PLINTH C) Height _____ C1) width _____ C2) Depth_____

H= Total Height of all parts _____

How Many:
2 Parts Torus & Plinth: Whole # _____ Split Middle _____ Split Diagonal _____
1 Part Torus only: Whole # _____ Split Middle _____ Split Diagonal _____
1 Part Plinth only: Whole # _____ Split Middle _____ Split Diagonal _____
Column Shaft Portion with Base #_____ Split Specify _____

Exterior Hardwoods:
Input # _____
1) White Pine
2) Douglas Fir
3) Western Red Cedar
4) White Oak (Best)

Interior Hardwood
Input #_____
1) Red Oak
2) Maple
3) Cherry
4) Alder
5) Other _____

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Notes: _____

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