



Masonry Guide Overview & Instructions

(shown on p. 90 in 2007 catalog)

OVERVIEW OF MASONRY GUIDES

What are Masonry Guides?

Masonry guides (also known as masonry poles or speed poles) are used by brick and block masons to help ensure that the courses (or rows) of brick that they lay remain in a straight line as they work their way up a wall. The masonry guides ensure that the mason's line, which is attached to each of the guides, is held at a consistent distance from the wall, and in alignment with the next adjacent guide pole. The mason slides the line up the poles to adjust the height as needed.

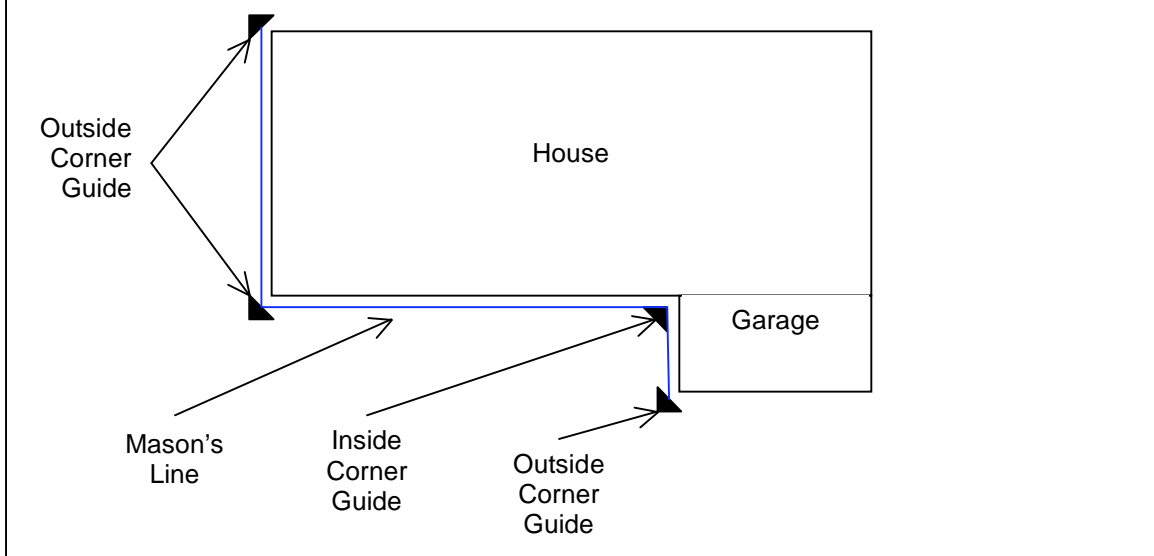
Masonry guides are tools that are designed to be used in place of pole systems that many masons build (usually out of 2X4s) and install at the jobsite to accomplish the same task. Masonry guides are quicker to set up, more consistent and reliable, and can be reused from one job to the next. The time saved by using masonry guides, when compared to building and installing a new pole system at each jobsite, can cover their cost relatively quickly.

How Masonry Guides are Used

To explain how masonry guides are used, let's use a new, one-story house as an example. The house is essentially rectangular, with a two-car garage extending about 8' beyond the front of the house. A brick mason will be adding a brick façade (known as a "brick veneer") to the wood framework on the front and sides of the house. The mason needs to ensure that the courses of bricks are straight and even along the front of the house, and continue straight, even, and level along the ends of the house and the garage extension. To ensure the accuracy of his work, the mason uses masonry guides.

The mason starts by setting up a guide pole system at the corners of the house where he decides to begin installing the brick. Let's say he decides to start with the left end house, and then work along the front of the house (as shown in the diagram below). The mason sets one Outside Corner pole each at the back-left and front-left corners, then an Inside Corner pole where the front wall of the house meets the garage extension, and an Outside Corner pole at the front corner of the garage (as shown below).

Diagram 1: Layout of Outside and Inside Corner Guides – Left Side



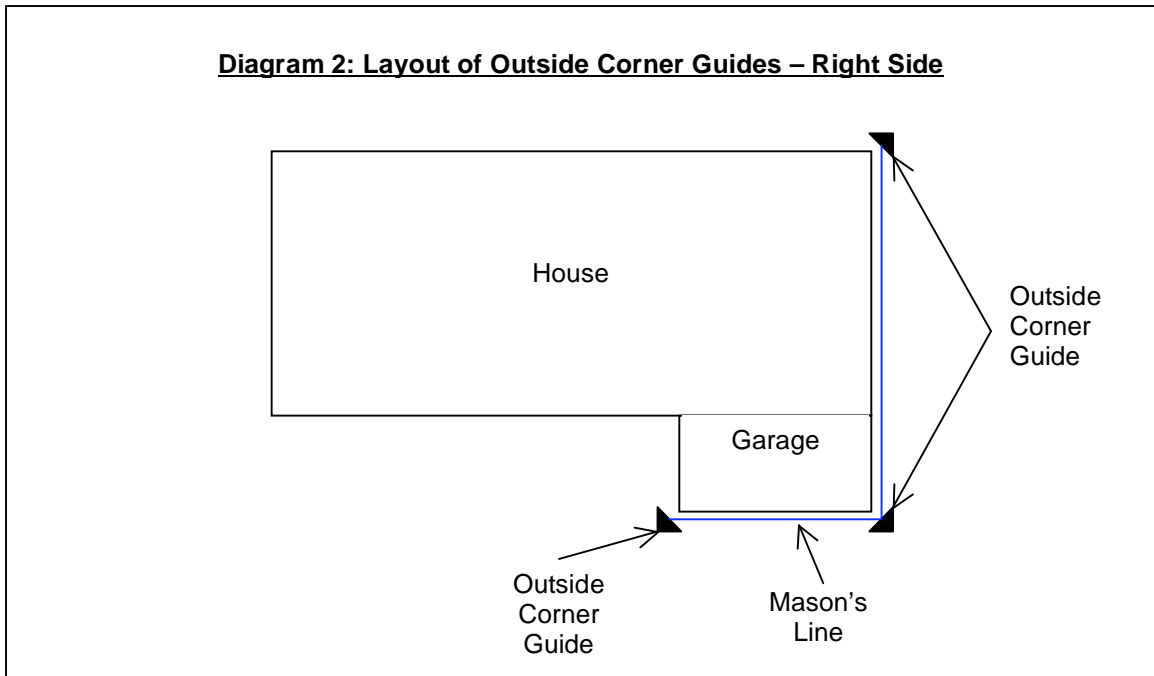
The mason then runs a mason's line between the poles by tying one end of the line to the back-left Outside Corner pole, running the line over to the front-left Outside Corner pole (wrapping the line once around the pole), then to the Inside Corner pole (setting the line in the notch on the Inside Line Holder attached to the pole), then finally to the Outside Corner pole at the front-left corner of the garage. The mason then adjusts the fittings at each of the corner poles to ensure that the line is the correct distance from the bare, unfinished wall (normally sheathing).

With the mason's line in place, and positioned at the bottom of the wall, the mason can then begin laying the first course of brick, knowing that it is correctly aligned. The mason will align the brick so that the face is about 1/32" from the line.

Once the mason is finished laying the brick façade along the left end wall, front wall, and garage wall extension, he will then move the Outside Corner poles from the left end of the house to the right end, setting one Outside Corner pole up at the back-right corner, and another Outside Corner pole at the front-right corner. He will then run a mason's line from the front-left corner of the garage, across the front of the garage to the pole at the front-right corner of the garage (wrapping the line around the pole), and then to the back-right corner of the house (as shown below).



Diagram 2: Layout of Outside Corner Guides – Right Side



Telescoping Pole Braces (BC610) are also available to assist the mason with those situations where the top bracket cannot be attached to the structure using the normal method. The telescoping braces are attached to the top of the guide pole to provide support for two-story, solid wall (where the top bracket cannot be attached to the wall), or free-standing (where there is no wall or structure to which the top bracket can be attached) applications.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING MASONRY GUIDES

Inside Corner System

Outside Corner System

(To set up an outside corner system, he completes each of the following steps:

The mason inserts one end of a 9' guide pole through the square opening in an Outside Corner Base (BC617), with the flat plate of the base facing upward, and then tightens the thumb screws to temporarily hold the base in place until he



determines the appropriate height. This forms the framework for the bottom of the masonry guide.

The mason then inserts the other end of the guide pole through the square opening in a Top Sliding Attachment (BC614), and tightens the thumb screws to temporarily hold the attachment in place until he determines the appropriate height.

BC608 – 9' Pole Complete with Inside Corner Fittings

BC608 is a kit that includes one of each of the following items:

- BC609 – 9' Pole
- BC614 – Top Sliding Attachment
- BC616 – Inside/Intermediate Top Fitting (attaches to BC614)
- BC618 – Inside/Intermediate Base

Not included in the above kit is the following item:

- BC619 – Inside/Intermediate Line Holder



The best and easiest method of using the Inside Masonry Guide is with BC619, Inside Line Holder (shown above). The Line Holder ensures that the mason's line is held at a consistent distance from the wall, and in alignment with the next adjacent guide pole. The Line Holder snaps onto the pole – held in place by two spring clamps – and can easily be slid up or down the pole to adjust the height of the mason's line as needed.

An Inside Line Holder – which must be ordered separately – should be strongly recommended to anyone purchasing the BC608 Inside Corner kit.

BC618 – Inside/Intermediate Base

The picture of BC618, Inside/Intermediate Base (shown below), incorrectly shows a thumb screw located on the outside of the base beneath the support plate (right side of picture). The correct position for this thumb screw is on the inside, top-right corner of the base (shown at bottom-right in the picture below).





An additional thumb screw should be shown in the upper hole on the top-left inside corner of the base (shown at top-left in the picture above). These thumb screws are used to adjust the distance of the base from the ledge (e.g., course of brick) on which the base is setting.