



Steel Pole Set Mounting Instructions

INSTALLING THE AMADOR BARN OWL BOX

NOTES:

1. One or two barn owl nesting boxes for every ten acres of rodent infested land is recommended.
2. Although the box should be located away from dense woods, nearby trees give the fledgling owls a place to perch outside of the box while they learn to hunt.
3. Final position of the box should be facing the opening away from the prevailing wind (you can rotate the long pole)
4. Optional: straw or other materials can be added, but are not required inside the box. The owl will create a footing of its own by stomping the pellets it naturally produces.
5. Recommended: having 2 people to stand up the long pole and owl box

Materials Needed

1. Steel Pole set:
 1. 3' (or longer) of 1" inner diameter schedule 40 thickness (galvanized recommended)
 2. 12-14' of 1.25" inner diameter schedule 40 thickness, galvanized or paint any color you like.
2. Set screw for preventing top pole rotation (secure both poles together near base)
3. Barn Owl Box – recommended with pole mounting blocks
4. Mounting hardware (provided for 4x4)
5. 1 50lb bags of (Fast Setting recommended) concrete mix + water

Tools Needed

1. Post-hole digger or auger (6" or 8")
2. A level, but having 2 will enable simultaneously measuring both planes of movement
3. Drill & bits to drill through steel pole for all 3 set screws (2 on box pole mount blocks, 1 near bottom securing 2 poles together to prevent rotation)
4. Bucket, wheel barrow etc. to mix the post hole concrete in and perhaps a shovel, trowel or hand held hoe to mix then help pour the wet concrete.
5. Ladder high enough to enable attaching barn owl box to post (or any other method to enable working at 13' elevation)
6. Socket wrench and box wrench for the mounting bolts

Installation

1A. If desired, lightly sand long pole, wipe, then paint any color you like. We often use Rustoleum flat brown spray paint.

1B. Lay the long pole horizontal on the ground and lay the the barn owl box on its front. Remove set screws from barn owl box pole mount blocks.

2. Slide long pole through pole mount blocks on the barn owl box until the pole is against the top block. Adjust pole angle (or loosen and wiggle blocks if required) so that pole is perpendicularly aligned with bottom of owl box (slight variation is fine). Then drill a hole for top set screw, and insert screw; repeat for bottom block set screw.

4. Dig a hole (at least 18" deep) of half of small pole length, ensure the walls of the hole are straight down, (because "v shape" holes will heave the post out during seasonal changes each year). Using post hole digger or an auger works best as they create a well-formed hole.

5. Prepare concrete mix – do half a bag at a time to make things more easily manageable.

6. Put 1" of mixed concrete to bottom of the hole

7. Insert the small pole in the hole and center it, then while holding the small pole straight pour the concrete mix into the hole. Use a level to be sure pole is correctly vertical in all directions (apply level to various sides to measure) and hold pole until concrete is sufficiently hard to stand alone - it will only take minutes.

8. Let the concrete set up, ideally for an hour, take a lunch break.

9. After setting, mount the barn owl box:

1. Ideally this is done with 2 people. You'll be sliding the large pole over the small pole.
2. Person 1 holds the bottom of the long pole up against the top of the short pole. Person 2 "walks" the pole and box up and person 1 can help by pulling / lifting also. When vertical slide large pole over small pole.
3. Rotate large pole so that owl box front opening is Not in the prevailing wind / weather. Usually the front of the owl house faces East or South.
4. To keep large pole from rotating, pre drill then screw in the pole to pole set screw.