

As an alternative to timber spindles/balusters, you may prefer to use Richard Burbidge metal balusters as a decorative finish/infill between your handrail and baserail.

Suitable for domestic pitches of 42° and handrail heights of 900mm, staircase and landing.

Metal balusters are installed using ungrooved handrails and baserails. Bracket fix newels are installed in the same way as previously detailed. Where brackets are fixed to the underside of the handrail, it is preferable to recess the handrail to allow the brackets to sit flush.

The baserail should be fixed to the staircase string by drilling and screwing into position using at least 32mm (1¼") No. 8 screws. The screws can be set flush with the baserail by countersinking or alternatively for a more professional finish counterbore and flush pellet.

Using a hacksaw, cut the metal balusters to the required length and angle of cut by placing a baluster against the stair rails and marking accurately.

This baluster can now be used as a template for the marking and cutting of the remaining balusters (**fig. 1**).

Metal balusters are fixed to the handrail and baserail using the metal baluster fixing brackets. There are two types of metal brackets, one for use on horizontal landings and the other for stairs.

Place a fixing bracket onto the baserail and mark a pilot hole through the predrilled holes of the bracket using a bradawl or small drill bit. Using the screws supplied, fix bracket to baserail.

To fix the metal baluster, first slide a fixing bracket onto the baluster and then position the baluster into the previously fixed bracket on the baserail. Push the fixing bracket flush to the underside of the handrail and mark and secure into place using the screws supplied, making sure the baluster is vertical by using a spirit level. The baluster is secured to the fixing brackets by tightening the grub screw.

The remaining balusters and brackets are fixed in the same manner, spacing the balusters at a maximum 99mm apart to conform with the Building Regulations which state that the gap should not allow the passage of a 100mm sphere (**fig. 2**).

For assembly of the balustrade components, please refer to the appropriate Bracket Fix or Straight Handrail Instructions.

