



## APPALACHIAN MANTEL BRACKET INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Every successful mantel installation begins with good planning and action. Do not wait until the last minute to order your mantel supports, fasteners or adhesives for installation. Make sure that all aspects of the support substructure are considered and discussed to ensure that your mantel installation will be smooth and that your mantel support products will be sufficient.

*Note this installation document should not be considered a specific recommendation for your particular application. Federal Brace cannot provide installation guidelines to meet the particulars of every application. This document should be considered a help sheet that provides considerations about the general characteristics of a particular type of support and installation.*

### Characteristics

Our Mantel Brackets are designed to provide the strength that comes from 3/8" metal bracket. The carrying capacity of the Mantel Brackets is 750 lbs per pair. Each mantel bracket has 4 1/4" countersunk holes on the back flange.

### Considerations when Installing

If you are installing your mantel brackets into sheet rock, you will need to make sure you locate the wall studs. Support brackets must be installed in studs that are tied to the roof and floor structure. If new construction, lay out your placement and drill pilot holes in the studs, leave cutouts in the sheet rock for visibility.

If installing in cement or brick and mortar be sure to have the appropriate drill bit for masonry and lag shields for your fasteners. Remember, a weak substructure and/or mounting process makes for a weak installation.

Your Federal Brace Mantel brackets should not be spaced more than 40" apart for a standard application. Once placement is

determined, attach your first bracket. Make sure that when you fasten your bracket that you check for level in all directions. Your bracket should be level horizontally as well as vertically. Continue to install your brackets checking level in the same way each time and across consecutive brackets.

Once all the brackets are in place, you will want to wipe them down to get rid of any handprints or other debris. Just before installation of your mantel you will need to apply adhesive or silicone to the top of the bracket to adhere it to the mantel. Once the mantel is in place, you can caulk around the edge of the brackets if you choose. This will give greater adherence to the mantel and cover any gap between the brackets and mantel.

Final step is to enjoy your work and your new fireplace mantel. We are happy that you chose to support your beautiful mantel with Federal Brace brackets. We would be thankful if you would send us images of your new fireplace and our brackets under your mantel. We enjoy seeing Federal Brace supports at work. Also, know that the highest compliment Federal Brace can be given is a reference from our customers to friends and family. If you have enjoyed your buying experience with Federal Brace please let someone know.

For any questions or comments please to contact us by email at [customerservice@federalbrace.com](mailto:customerservice@federalbrace.com) or by phone at (877) 353-8899. If you are a visual learner, check out our installation videos on our YouTube channel Don't forget to share your projects with your new Federal Brace brackets on Twitter and Instagram, just tag us @FederalBrace. Like us on Facebook, and check out our boards on Pinterest for more home improvement/decor and DIY project ideas.