Ordering Railing by Section

Railing Orders can be inputted by entering the number of sections and the length of each section.

To begin, start a New Railing Wizard either from the Navigation Toolbar at the top of the Screen or by the link on the start screen.

You will be prompted to enter some information about your customer. The last word in the customer name field will be used for the Tag Name. No other information is required at this point.

On the next page, the Wizard gives you an option to use the Railing Design Wizard or Enter Sections and Posts Manually. For this chapter we will order by manually entering our sections – using the Railing Design Wizard will be covered in-depth in the next chapter.

The following page allows you to input the Total Sections that you would like to order. If you know the size of the sections you would like, then you will be providing the Measurements as Section Sizes. You can also order the sections by providing the Measurements as On Center or as Span Sizes. Choosing either of these options will make the appropriate allowance for railing posts.

If you would like to order Railing Posts without any sections, check the Railing Posts Only checkbox.

Now you get to input the Sizes of the Railing Sections. The number of input lines is the same as the Quantity entered on the prior page. Changing the Quantity of an input line will remove the appropriate number of input lines. If you need to change the total Quantity of Sections you can use the Back button or Add/Remove sections in the Project Editor. The Section Length must fall between 6" and 168".

For each input line you can choose from 3 styles of railing; Picket, Full view Glass and Topless Glass. You can signify a stair section and provide an angle between 25 and 45 degrees.

Checking the checkbox for Inner post will automatically add a 1-1/2" post to sections wider than the width specified in the Inner Post textbox. If the section width you entered is more than double the Inner Post value, then two inner posts will be added.

Inner posts, and everything else you enter here, can be revised per order or per section in the Project Editor.

You are then asked to enter the Height of the Railing; either 36", 42" or you can enter a custom height.

Select the color of the Railing. The Post Color will automatically change to match. If you want a different color you can change it. This screen also takes input of the handrail style for SunRail 300 Picket and Glass. If Glass Railing is selected Glass Tint will be an option. Note that for Topless Railing Only, Railing Color and Handrail Style do not appear.

If Picket railing is ordered Picket Options will be available. Selecting no options will provide standard ¾" x ¾" pickets.

Enter the number of Railing Posts with the Type and Size. Each time you use an Input line, a new line will appear below.

Now it's time to Build these Sections and load them into the Project Editor.

Using the Railing Wizard to Calculate Designs

After selecting the option to Use the Railing Design Wizard you will be asked to define the measurements you are providing. The Dealer Desktop was designed to allow you to enter the perimeter dimensions of the deck and allow the wizard to create the spans. If you are entering the perimeter dimensions you will need to define the Setback: how far on the deck before the base casting. The default is ½". Alternatively, you can enter the spans as Inside Posts, Center of Posts, Outside of Posts or Base to Base.

The next option you have in the wizard is Number of Levels. Each level will have its own layout. Stairs do not count as a level, but a landing would count as a level.

You can choose from the pre-defined layouts or create your own using the Custom Designer. For more information on the designing Custom Layouts see the Custom Layout section of this guide.

Once a layout is selected, you can set the length for each Span. The Section Widths will be automatically calculated based on the Spans, deducting for all then needed posts.

Stair Openings

Enter the number of Stair Openings that affect your layout. For each Stair Opening, you will need to declare which Span the stairs will be in, and on the following screen, the width and location of the stairs. You can also specify if the stairs will have railing.

If you choose to Rail the Stairs you need to enter either the Length and Angle or the Rise and Run. You have the option to allow 1-1/2" Inner Posts in your Stair Sections.

Existing Posts

Existing Posts are added to Spans much the same way as the Stair Openings. After you select the wall you can define the width and position of the Post. You will also have the option of attaching the railing section to the Existing Post or use Sunspace Railing Posts. The Existing Post option can be used to define any obstacle within the Railing Span.

Select the Styles of Railing that are in your Project. If you choose both Picket and Glass railing, Picket will be used on the sides and Glass in the front. At any time you can change the style of railing in the Project Editor.

Railing Height can be either 36", 42" or a Custom Height

If you have chosen Picket or Full View glass sections you will now be able to enter the Colors, Handrail Style and Glass Tint.

For each Railing Style used, you can define a Section Style that Options for each Style are available.

- Picket Options include all the various Picket styles.
- Full View glass has options for the Open Side Space, Number of Pickets.
- Topless only has option for Glass Tint

You will also have the option to adjust the Build Rules which are set in User Options. The Build Rules define the maximum section size and your preference to using Inner Posts.

Use the Build Project button to create your Railing Spans and Sections.

Editing your Railing Project

The Project Editor will contain a Tab for every Layout, Span within a Layout and each additional Section including Stair Sections.

Editing Railing Sections

You can edit a Section directly by double clicking it, or single click to Select the Section and then use the Edit Section Button on the Toolbar.

From the Edit Section window you can change the Width, Height, Handrail Style, Number of Inner Posts, Color and Options.

If you change the Width of the Section that is contained in a Span, you will be prompted to tell the Dealer Desktop how to balance the Span – Example: A Railing Span contains 3 Sections and you want to make the middle section 12" wider. One of the options you could select would be to make both the end Sections 6" narrower.

You can delete a Section within your Layout. The space that the section occupies is not recovered into the other Sections, but remains as an opening in the Span.

You can Un-Delete a section by double clicking where the Section was in the Span drawing.

Editing Railing Posts

Posts can be selected the same way as Sections. Posts can be made taller, or switch between 3"x3", 4"x4" and 1 ½" x 1 ½" if it is a Picket or Full View Section, or Initial, Inline and Corner if it is a Topless Section.

Posts can also be deleted and un-deleted.

Editing Railing Properties

The first Tab in this form is Railing Project. Changing any of these values (Color, Handrail, and Height) will apply the changed to all existing (and new) Railing Sections in the Project.

In the Measurement Tab you can revise the measurement method that you used to provide the Span Widths. Build Rules allows you to define the maximum Section Size and whether or not to use Inner Posts within a section.

Options allows you to edit the Picket Style Options as well as the Glass Tint.

Making any changes to Measurements or Build Rules will cause your project to be rebuilt using the values in the Railing Property Editor.

Railing Spans

The top of the Railing Spans form allows you to change the Name and Width of any Span in the layout.

The Split and Merge Sections allows you to select some or all of the Sections in a Span and Split the selection by adding an additional Section of Railing or Merge the Sections by removing a Railing Section. Railing Sections selected must be neighboring.

Note that the configuration changes you make will not be applied to your Project until you press the Apply button.

Add Sections

The Add Sections form will allow you to add additional Railing Sections.

When adding a new Section, the options are; Section Length, Style and Stair Section.

This form also allows you to delete any sections that you have added.

After adding your additional Sections, click 'Done' and a New Tab will appear in the Project Editor with a preview drawing of the Section.

To edit the additional Section, simply click on the corresponding Tab and then Double Click the Railing Section.

Add Posts

To add an additional Post to the Project, you can click on Add Posts from the Project Editor Toolbar.

The options for adding a new Post are Quantity, Type, Height and Color.