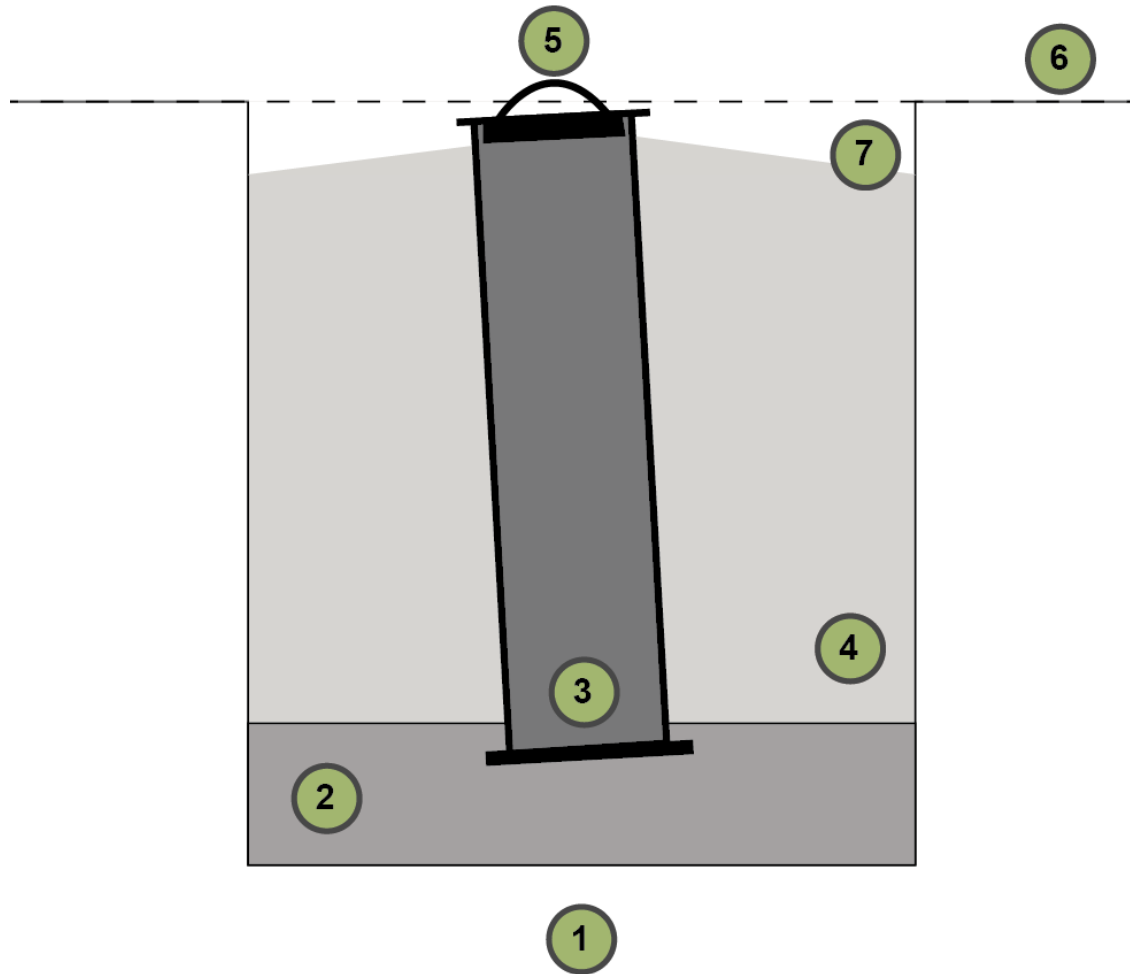


GROUNDWORK GUIDANCE FOR POST INSTALLATION



- The fixing points are the structural foundation of your shade sail and therefore equally, if not more important than the installation of the actual sail. Ideally, your fixing points are supporting posts, however, it is possible to use existing walls or other features to affix to.
- Before you commence any excavation process, be sure to check there are no underground pipes or cables in the way.
- The ground needs to be firm, virgin ground to provide a strong enough environment to hold the supporting posts and subsequent attachment of the sail in place. If this is not possible you will need to dig deeper and wider footings.
- The supporting post need to be inserted into the ground around 300mm away from the edge of the sail shade, this ensures appropriate tension is gained without losing desired coverage.
- To enable the posts to be removed when the sail shade is not required over winter, we recommend setting a galvanised steel sleeve into the concrete. The sleeves available through us are 600mm long.
- It is vital that your posts or sleeves are set into the ground using **concrete**, you can source concrete from most DIY stores. Although the setting time of postcrete seems desirable, we do not recommend using it due to a lack in strength.
- We recommend purchasing either 125mm diameter round **wooden** posts or 100mm diameter **powder coated aluminium** posts, for your sail shade to attach to which can be bought from us direct. We supply two sizes of galvanised sleeve to suit the post diameters.
- We recommend putting a layer of shingle into the bottom of the hole before adding the concrete. This ensures any water which gets into the sleeve can drain away.
- The hole should be at least 750mm deep. The diameter of the hole will depend on the size of the sail shade and the wind exposure the sail shade will be exposed to, but as a bare minimum should have a 500mm diameter.
- Ideally your posts are angled outwards by 5-10 degrees, as once your sail shade is appropriately tensioned the posts can look like they are tilting inwards if set completely vertical.

GROUNDWORK GUIDANCE FOR POST INSTALLATION



- 1 The hole must be at least 700mm deep and into firm, virgin ground.
- 2 Line the hole with shingle to encourage water to drain out of the sleeve.
- 3 Angle the sleeve back in the direction of the tension by 5 degrees.
- 4 We only recommend concrete to secure the sleeve in the ground.
- 5 You can purchase a sleeve cap for filling the hole when the post is removed.
- 6 Set your post slightly below ground level, to recover the surface with grass etc.
- 7 Angle the concrete to slope away from the sleeve, for water drainage.