

# D.I.Y. Shade Sail Installation Tips / Information

## [www.sanchezmicallef.com](http://www.sanchezmicallef.com)

With minimal effort you can design and install your own shade sail project for a fraction of the cost of professional installation.

First things to consider:

1. Draw a rough sketch of the area you would like to cover and measure carefully.
2. The information in step 1 will help you choose between our large range of sizes of Sun-Sails. At this stage you may also consider not only the functional purpose of our Sun-Sails but also the aesthetics. Choose between: Square; Rectangle; Triangle; or a combination of any of the above.
3. Plan the installation of mounting points to accommodate our pre-made standard size Sun-Sails.

### MOUNTING POINTS ON BUILDINGS & STRUCTURES

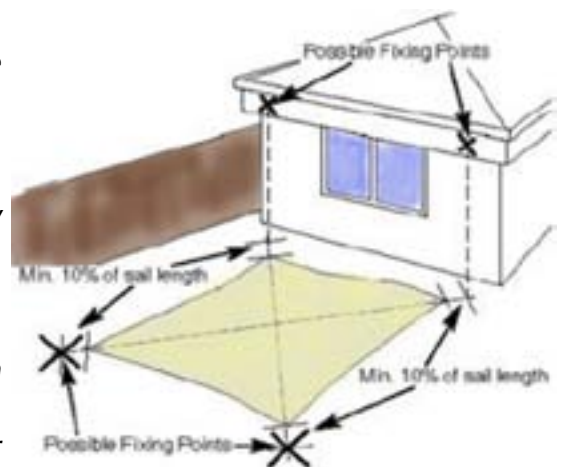
When attaching to a building, it is very important to ensure that the attachment point is structurally strong.

### ATTACHMENT ON WOOD

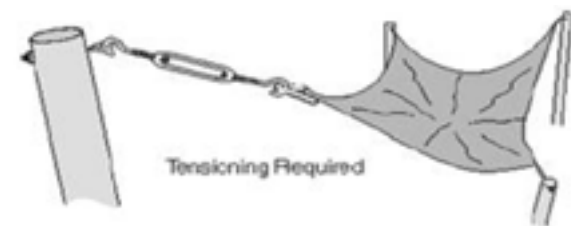
If attaching to a wooden part of a building, we generally recommend a diamond pad eye, pad eye, or screw eye.

### ATTACHMENT TO CONCRETE OR STONE

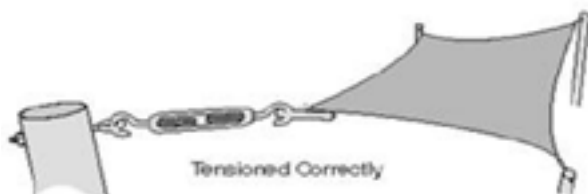
When attaching to a solid concrete wall, we normally epoxy a 3/8 inch eye bolt into the wall. For less common applications, such as going through a wall and using a backing plate or attaching to a roof, alternative hardware may be required.



### POSTS / POLES



We often recommend a 3 1/2 to 4 inch thick walled steel pole. While steel is preferred, a large wooden post is a common alternative. The size of the pole depends largely on how many shade sails will be attached to it, the size of the sail and how far from the ground the shade sail will be attached.



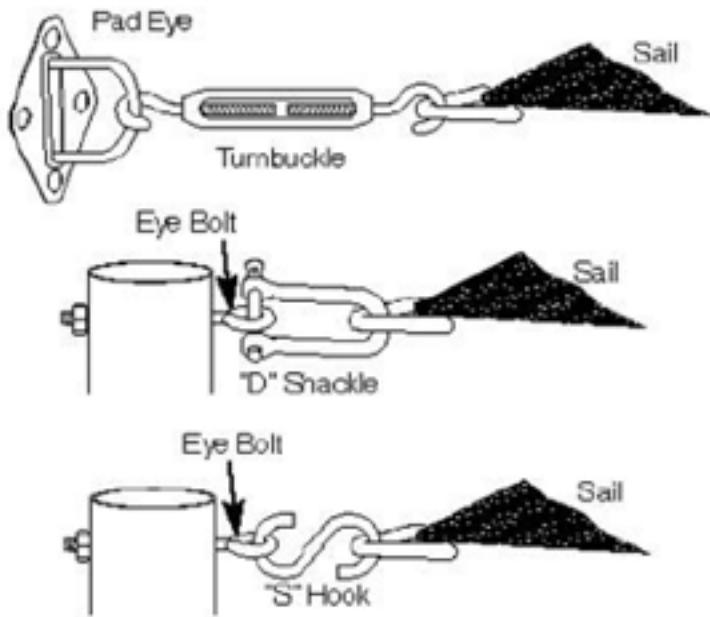
When it comes to how deep to bury the post that will be affixed into soil, a conservative rule would be one third in the ground and two thirds above ground. Therefore, a post with eight feet exposed would have four feet buried. This will vary depending on how many sails are attached to the post, soil conditions, size of

the sails, etc.

A 3/8 inch eye bolt is the most common way to attach to a post or pole. For safety, we highly recommend installing the eye bolt before burying the post. Don't forget to let the concrete base fully dry before installing the shade sails!

## ATTACHING WITH TURNBUCKLES / "D" SHACKLES / CABLE OR CHAIN

*Some possible combinations of fixing accessories:*



*In most cases we suggest using a turnbuckle on each corner of the shade sail. "D" shackles are an acceptable alternative, but they do not allow for tensioning of the shade sail.*

*When using turnbuckles it is recommended that you work your way around the shade sail tensioning each turnbuckle as you go to ensure an even amount of tension across the shade sail.*

*Steel cables or chain can be used to span distances from shade sail corners to attachment points. Removing links of chain allow for future tensioning of the shade sail.*

*n.b. If you have specific questions about attaching your shade sail to your home or building, or are uncertain about the strength of potential attachment points, we suggest you contact a carpenter or handy-man that can evaluate your building or structure.*

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