# SOFT TOUCH® BASES

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# A Series - Premium Bases Installation Instructions

## Thank you for choosing Soft Touch® Bases!

These instructions should be read thoroughly before installation. If there are questions concerning the installation or use of these bases, consult Soft Touch® Bases before using them.

The patented Soft Touch® base is designed for easy installation and maintenance. It is designed to flex and absorb energy as a player slides into the base. A forceful slide applied to the base will disengage it from the mount, to be replaced easily after disengagement.

### Ground Mount Cement Installation: (NOTE: This is the recommended installation method.)

- Step 1: Make sure site is level.
- Step 2: Place the base upside down in the proper location (square to the base line for 1st base). Mark the outline of the base on the ground. (See Fig. 1)
- Step 3: Excavate a 10"x 10" square in the center of the base outline for the ground receptacle and cement.
- Step 4: Place cement around the sides and bottom of the hole so that the flange fits one inch below the playing surface. Cement should be lapped slightly over the corner braces only in the bottom. The center of the receptacle should have no cement installed and should be left open for drainage. Taper the cement 3" from the top of the flange at a 45° angle. (See Fig. 2)
- Step 5: After the cement has dried, level and tamp the ground around the top of the receptacle to insure that the base will lay flat and level and that the flange is at the correct depth of one inch from the playing surface.

(To speed the installation process the mounts can be encased in cement off site and allowed to dry before installation)

# FOR MAXIMUM STABILITY, THE UNDERSIDE OF THE BASE SHOULD MAKE FULL CONTACT WITH THE GROUND AT ALL TIMES WITH NO VOIDS OR HOLLOWS.

#### Ground Mount Dirt Installation: (NOTE: It is recommended that the ground receptacle be cemented in place.)

- Step 1: Follow steps 1 and 2 above for cement installation.
- Step 2: Excavate an 8" x 8" square in the center of the base outline for the ground receptacle.
- Step 3: Place the ground receptacle in the hole with the flange of the mount one inch below the playing surface. Pack and tamp the dirt around the sides and bottom of receptacle. The final installation depth should be one inch below ground level.

FOR MAXIMUM STABILITY, THE UNDERSIDE OF THE BASE SHOULD MAKE FULL CONTACT WITH THE GROUND AT ALL TIMES WITH NO VOIDS OR HOLLOWS.

#### **CAUTION**

The flange of the ground receptacle should not be less than one inch below the playing surface at any time to insure that players will not make contact with it.

#### **Tapered Yellow Plug**

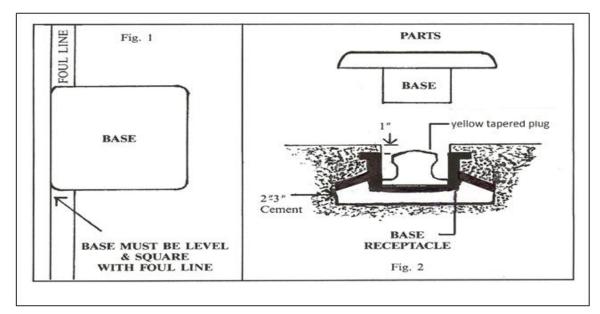
The yellow plug is to be used inside each ground receptacle <u>during</u> play. Placing widest part in first, firmly push yellow plug into ground receptacle until properly seated. Bases will then fit over the top of the yellow plugs. When a base releases from the ground receptacle, this plug will prevent a player from stepping into an open hole.

When the base has been dislodged it can be replaced quickly and easily. Before replacement, the ground should be leveled out to eliminate any buildup of dirt under the base and any dirt in the receptacle should be removed to insure that the base will sit fully supported by the ground and level.

**Optional:** Heavy duty drag plugs can be purchased for dragging the field and filling the receptacle when the bases <u>are</u> **not** in use.

#### **PLEASE NOTE**

If the base releases easily or releases too frequently, check the distance from the flange top to the playing surface. The distance should be one inch. The deeper the receptacle is buried, the easier the base will pop out of the ground mount. Remember, the base should always lay flat with full ground support on the underside. Dirt will sometimes build up during play, increasing the depth at which the ground mount is buried. It is important that a proper and regular maintenance program be followed to insure that the bases will lay flat and level on the field and perform as intended.



10/19/17

#### Warranty

Soft Touch® bases are warranted against defects in materials and workmanship when used in a usual and customary manner for one year (defined as a regular season of normal length for softball or baseball). Warranty is void if any changes are made to the original mounting system or not installed as per installation instructions. **Proof of purchase is required in the form of dealer PO number, Invoice number, or any other documentation that will verify when products were purchased.** Normal wear and tear is excluded from coverage. **Pictures of defective merchandise are required** and the Manufacturer may request that merchandise be returned before any warranty adjustment will be made. The liability of the Manufacturer for a warranty is limited to either a refund of the purchase or replacement of the defective product.

#### Disclaimer

Be advised that sliding into a baseball/softball base may cause serious and permanent injury. No base, however constructed or designed, can prevent all injuries and the Soft Touch® base is no exception. The Manufacturer advises that deviation from installation instructions, failure to properly install and maintain bases, and failure to properly groom playing surfaces around bases and home plate area, could increase the risk of injury to players. Under no circumstances should these bases or base anchors be modified, altered, tampered with, or used when they are damaged, as serious injury may occur. Buyer is responsible for furnishing proper installation instructions to the purchaser.