



## Crafting 101: How to make a Greek Column

By: Koraki of The Freeblades of Corinth

Here is a Step-by-step guide to building a Greek prop column.  
Hopefully this build will help inspire you to create your own camp structures/ decorations  
that suite your unit's theme.



# Tools & Materials:

- Sakrete 8" x 48" Concrete Form Tube (about **\$8.20** at Home Depot)
- Around 15 Pool Noodles cut in half the long way (I got a big 35 bulk pack on Amazon for **\$60** but the dollar store will probably have them for cheaper)
- Ozark Camp Pad (about **\$10** at Walmart)
- DAP Weldwood 32 fl. oz. Contact Cement (**\$14** at Home Depot)
- (Optional) Painters Caulk (around **\$3** per tube. Use for smoothing out the foam texture before plastidipping)
- Plastidip (**\$7.27** per 14.5 oz can of spreadable plastidip. You will need a few)
- Rust-Olium Textured Stone Spray Paint. (**\$6** per can. Get a couple. Mine was painted in "Caribbean Sand")
- Rust-Olium Painter's Touch 2X to match Rustolium Textured. (**\$4** per can. Get a couple)
- Sashco Through the Roof Sealant (**\$21.88** per Quart container on Amazon. One will be enough for this project. Definitely recommended for all plastidip projects you do. One quart will last 6-10 shields)
- 1/2" plywood or similar for top and base

- Brushes/Palette knife
- Utility knife
- Straight Edge
- Marker/pen



## Step 1:

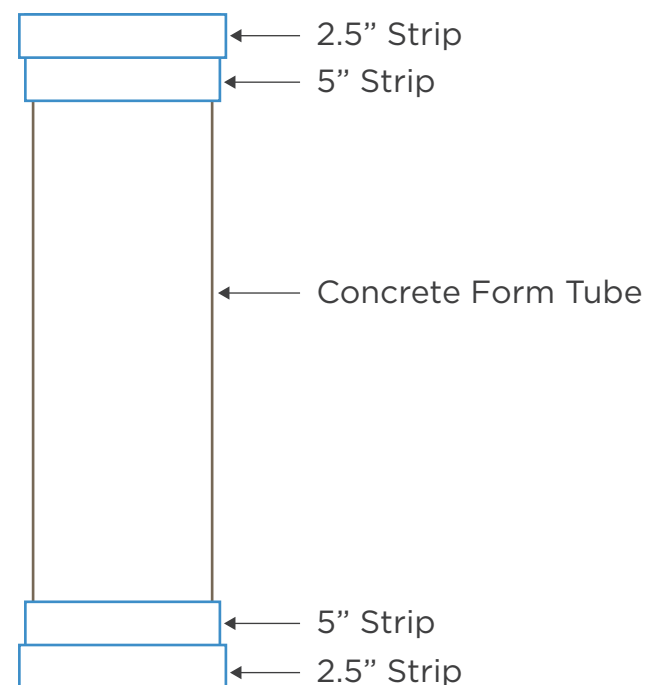
Cut your tube to desired height.

With a marker, Mark about 5" from both ends of the tube.

This will be where we will put layers of blue foam to make the horizontal pool noodles stand proud of the spiraling vertical pool noodles.

Cut two 5" strips of blue foam to wrap around the top and bottom of the concrete tube.

Cut two more blue foam strips at 2.5" to wrap around the 5" strips.



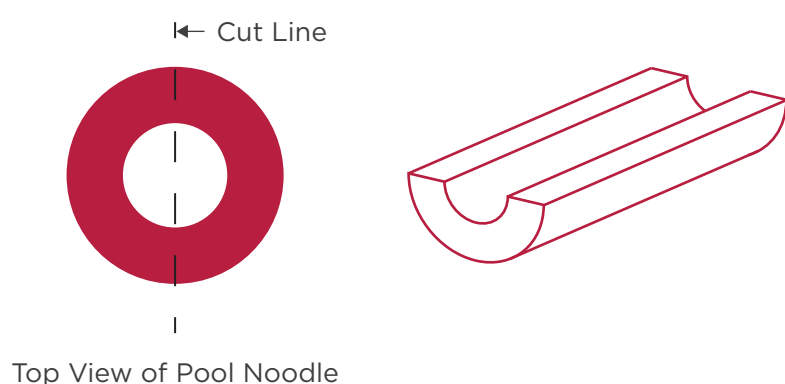
Dap pieces together so they look like the diagram.

**Note:** The Concrete Form Tube should get two layers of dap



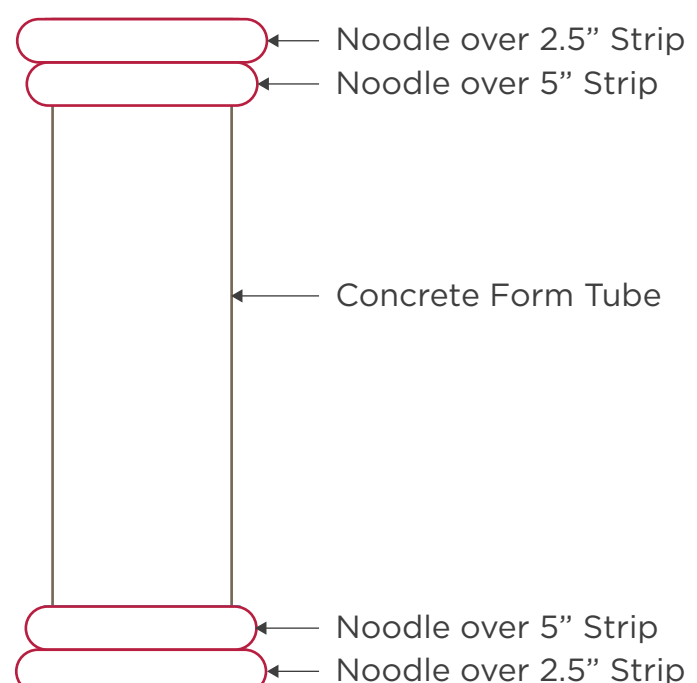
## Step 2:

Cut all of your pool noodles in half the long way. Use a straight edge to keep the cut as straight as possible.



Take a noodle half and wrap around the blue foam strips.  
Trim to size.  
Dap noodles onto the strips.

**Note:** Pool Noodle foam hates dap. Apply two or three layers at least.



### Step 3:

Decide how you want the flutes will look.

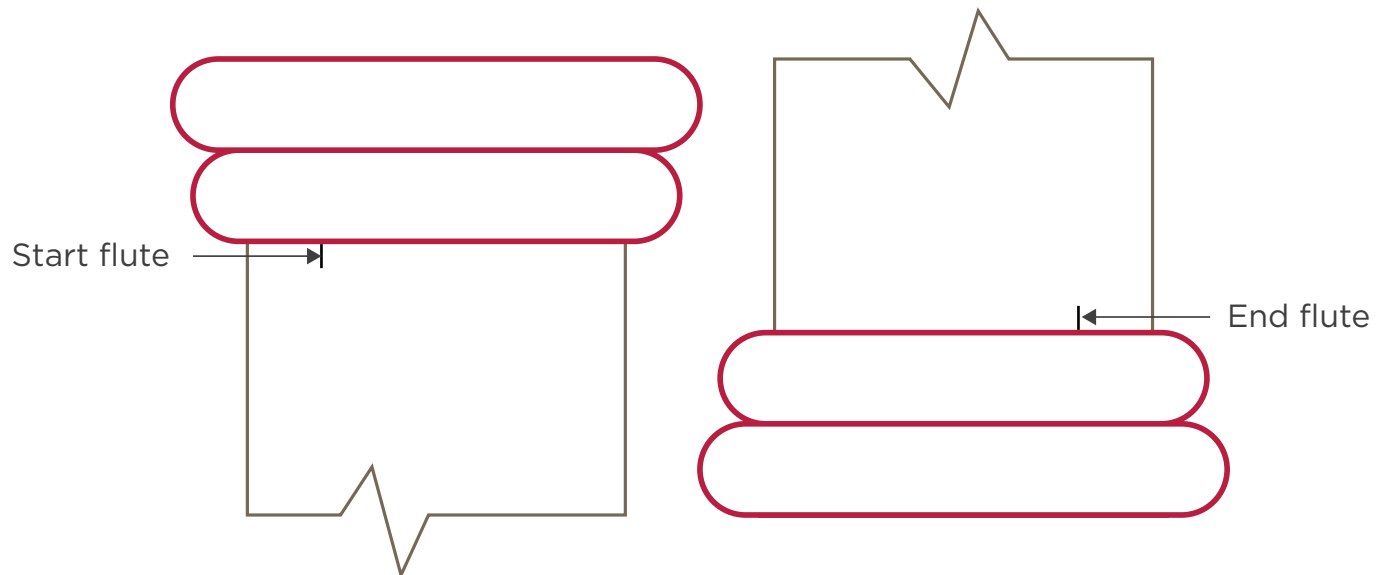
I decided to have my flutes slightly curve around the column.

You can keep yours straight if you want to or curve them more. Entirely up to you.

Mark where the top of the noodle will land on the concrete form tube. Hold in place and wrap around column at desired curvature.

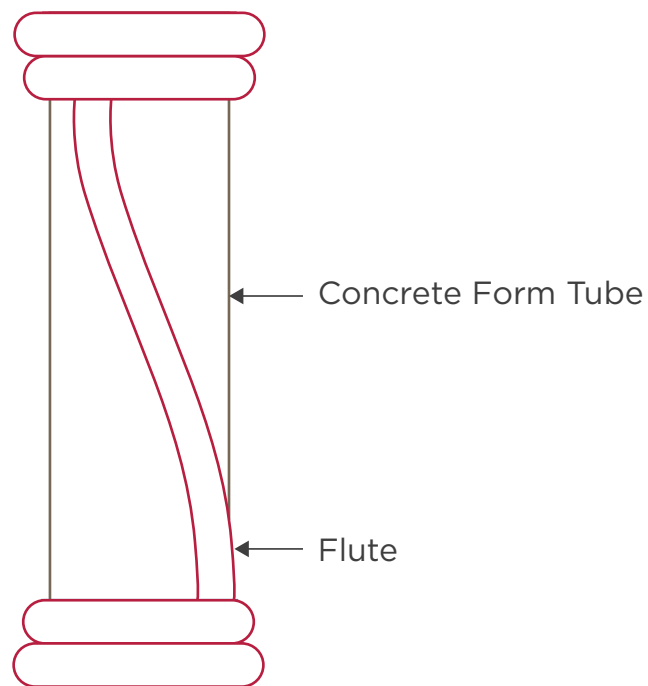
Mark where the bottom of the noodle lands on the concrete column.

Tracing the edge of the noodle will make this even easier when dapping the noodle.



Dap the whole area and wrap the first noodle starting at the first mark you made.

Once the noodle reached the bottom of the tube at your end mark, trim the noodle.



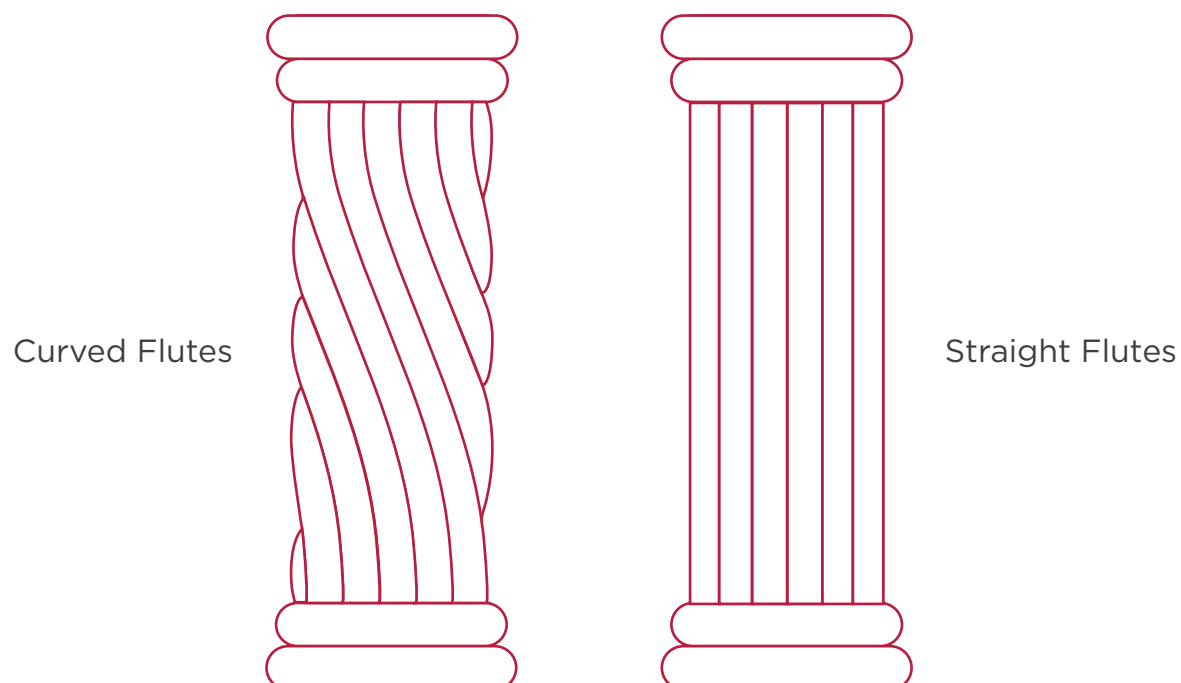
### Step 4:

Wrap the rest of the noodles creating all of the flutes of the column.

No more marking necessary, Just follow the contour of the first flute.

**Note:** The noodles should wrap around near perfectly, leaving no gaps at the end.

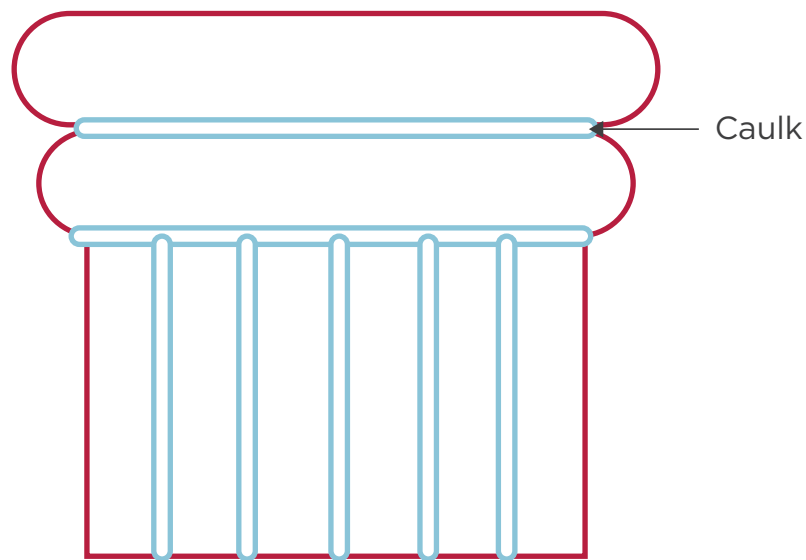
Try not to compress the noodles as you wrap them.



## Step 5: (Optional)

If you ended up with some ugly gaps or just want to smooth out the sharp gaps between the flutes, you can do so with painters caulk.

Take a brush or pallet knife and smooth the caulk into the gaps.



You can also apply a thin layer over the entire surface of the column. This will smooth out the entire surface, getting rid of a lot of the pool noodle texture. Again this whole step is entirely optional.



## Step 6:

Now that the column is built, plastidip the entire surface. Let the first coat dry and plastidip again. I recommend two or three layers but you're welcome to do more. If you chose to buy the spray plastidip (not recommended,) apply a lot more layers.

Once the plastidip is dry, give the column a base coat with the Rust-Olium Painter's Touch 2X. Add more coats until the color from the pool noodles no longer show.

Once that is dry, apply a layer of the Rust-Olium Textured paint. Continue adding layers once dry until desired texture is achieved.



## Step 7:

After the paint is completely done drying, apply the Through the Roof. This stuff is very thick and goes a long way. Apply a layer to the entire column. You may apply another layer if you want but one layer should be enough.

(If you decided not to buy Through the Roof, you can also just dump a few cans of clear coat paint, but it won't protect it quite as well as TtR)

Let TtR cure for a couple weeks.



## Step 8:

You can buy round pieces of plywood or cut them yourself. You are also welcome to use whatever surface you want for the top of the column. The bottom piece is optional. The bottom platform is used to protect the column from mud but this isn't necessary. You can also buy a stake to stick in the ground to drop the column over to keep in place.