

Rail Measurement vs. Actual Dome Measurement

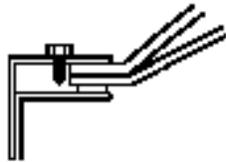
We prefer the rail measurement because it often tells us a lot about the skylight—especially if there is a chance of the domes being quick rise instead of gradual rise, but often I hear people ask what the difference is between the rail and the actual dome measurement.

The rail measurement is used under the following circumstances:



- * The rail is a 90° angle
- * The screws are in the side of the rail
- * The rail is about 1 ½" - 1 ¾" wide.

When should you get the actual dome measurement?



Screws in Top of Rail: Sometimes you can measure in-between just inside the screws to get a good actual dome measurement, but when in doubt—take the rail off and measure the actual domes.



Beveled Rail: From the picture you can see the domes have to be small enough to miss the bevel of the rail. If the rail isn't very wide, usually you can measure from the bevel to the bevel, but again—when in doubt—take the rail off and measure the actual domes.



Rounded Rail: Again, the domes have to be small enough to fit inside the rail. Sometimes, these rails are really wide and the dome may not be able to fit under the rail as pictured here, but have to fit inside another groove on the frame. Best to get actual dome measurement.



Notched Rail: The domes have to set inside the “second step” of the rail when the rail is notched. If you measure that upper notch as a rail measurement it will be a good measurement in most cases as long as the rail isn't wider than 1 ¾”.

Notice the dome flange begins at different points on the samples above compared to the standard configuration at the top of the page.

With any of these other rail configurations, you may be able to “eyeball” it and give the measurement to us and let us know it is where you think the domes begin under that rail—but when in doubt—get an actual dome measurement to ensure a good fit.