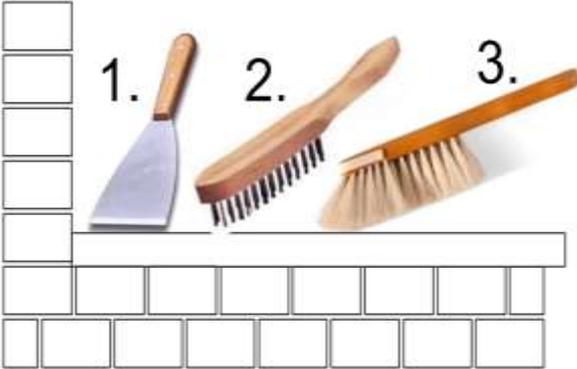
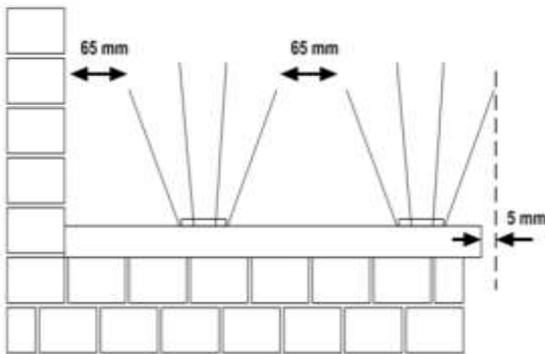
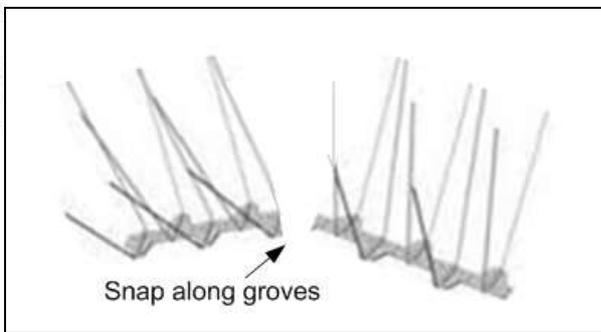
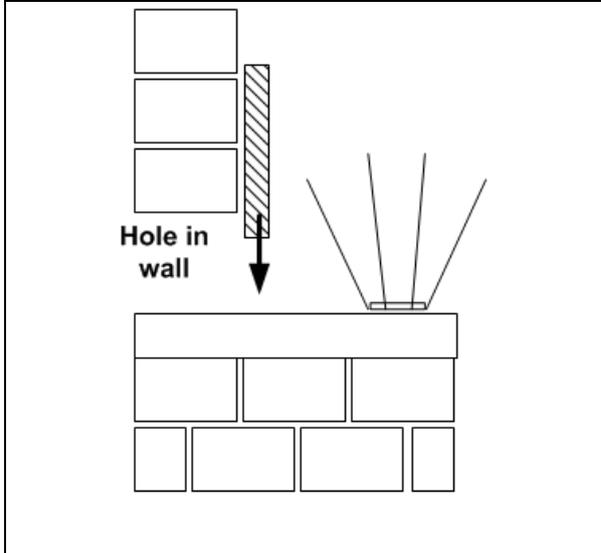


Installation guide for bird spikes

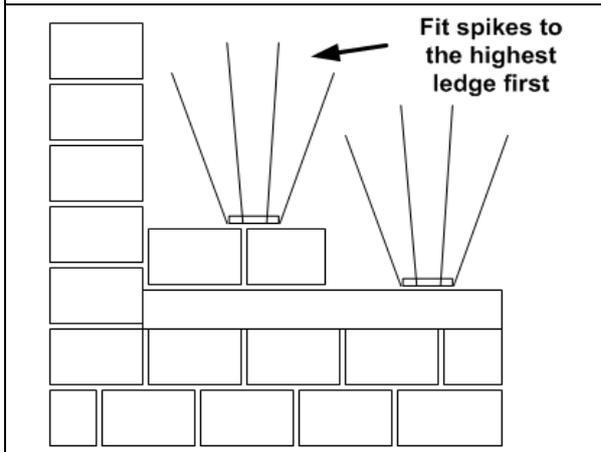
	<p>1) Prior to commencing work, assess the job to ensure that All safety measures are taken into consideration for yourself and others. Remember that in Ireland it is illegal to remove birds, eggs and active nests Adequate protective clothing should be worn e.g. dust mask, overalls, gloves, appropriate safety shoes.</p>
	<p>2) Check all surroundings of the area you are planning to cover with spikes, i.e. is the source of bird guano from ledges/pipes/balconies higher up on the building? If so these areas will also need to have bird spikes installed</p>
	<p>3) Prepare the area you are working on: Remove guano, moss, dirt, loose paint etc. using scraper, then wire brush, then dusting brush. If surface is very porous you should use a <i>Stone Primer</i> prior to adhesive. ! If using silicone adhesive, the surface must be completely dry (otherwise the silicone will not adhere)</p>
	<p>4) Squeeze AVISIL neutral silicone or AVIFIX High-tack abundantly onto the base of the spike (approx. 10mm \odot). If the ledge is rough or uneven it will require more adhesive. ! Do not use standard silicones (e.g. used in bathrooms) with bird spikes. They contain solvents that leach out of the silicone bead, causing shrinkage which degrades the joint after a few years.</p>
	<p>5) Start placing the front row (towards the leading edge). Press carefully on spikes to ensure that the adhesive goes through the little holes in the base, forming little rivets. ! Do not to leave wide gaps between 2 rows of spikes: 65mm (2.5inch) maximum as birds may still get in between gaps. You may need to install a 2nd and even 3rd row of spikes behind to prevent gaps.</p>



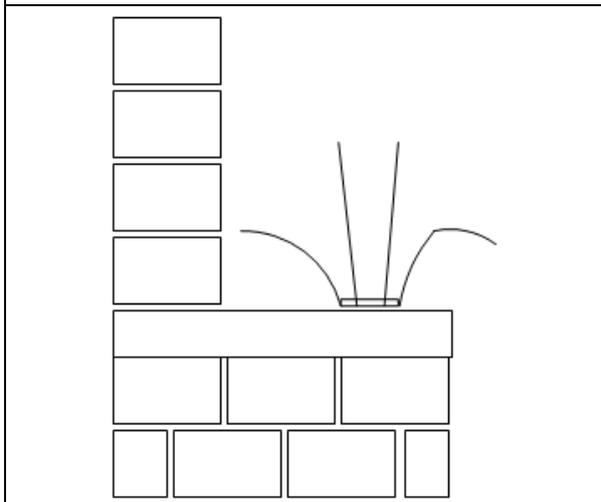
6) Small areas can be spiked by breaking the larger spikes into smaller pieces until they fit the relevant area.
All possible roosting areas should be spiked as birds will keep moving onto the next available landing area. We recommend that all areas that are 65mm (2.5 inches) or more should have bird spikes installed.



7) Bird spikes will stop pigeons from sitting on a ledge; however if there is a hole in the eaves or a cavity in the exterior wall behind the spikes, pigeons will force their way past the spikes in an effort to get into that hole.
! Simply putting **spikes in front of a hole will not stop pigeons from going through.** Every effort should be made to **block the access to this hole or space.** You might be able to seal the hole with wire mesh or expanding foam, after ensuring that you are not trapping birds inside. Please contact your local Wildlife Officer to seek advice/assistance.



8) Strategic Spiking is all important to be totally effective. Always **start the spiking at the higher part** of the ledge and the lower areas afterwards.



9) In order to maintain the bird spikes in the long-term, any persons carrying out painting, window cleaning or **anyone using a ladder should be advised to exercise caution and avoid damaging the bird spikes.** All damaged or missing spikes should be replaced immediately to avoid further bird activity.

SEAGULL WARNING: Despite installing gull spikes, seagulls will sometimes try to build their nests on top of them, especially if a couple uses this particular spot for several years to lay their eggs. Seagulls are resourceful birds and may try to build up branches and debris above the spikes' level in order to keep nesting. It is therefore important to **inspect newly fitted gull spikes every day for a few weeks and remove any twigs or debris that are noticed, i.e. "reclaiming the territory"**. Remember that in Ireland it is illegal to remove birds, eggs and active nests.