



Custom Iron Highlights Advantages of Knocked-Down Spiral Stair Construction Over Typical Kits

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Custom Iron continues to build custom spiral stairs that prioritize quality, ease of installation, and long-term performance through its knocked-down construction method. Operating from its facility in Zumbrota, Minnesota, the company has provided American-made metalwork solutions since 1975, helping builders, stair industry professionals, architects, and homeowners avoid common pitfalls associated with standard kit-style options.

The knocked-down approach involves building each spiral stair completely at the factory to the project's exact specifications before disassembling it into manageable sections for shipping. This process ensures every component fits precisely upon reassembly. In contrast to typical kits, which often require extensive on-site work, Custom Iron's method delivers pre-assembled accuracy in a format that simplifies handling and installation.

Key differences appear across multiple aspects of the product. Custom Iron includes center column sleeves custom cut to eliminate measuring, adjusting, or set screws. Platforms and at least one side of platform railing come standard, along with mid balusters and enclosed tread ends on all models. Each stair receives full

pre-assembly at the factory, with handrails built from metal and pre-formed to match the specific curve. Mid balusters arrive pre-cut to the required lengths.

Installation benefits stand out clearly. Projects using Custom Iron stairs typically require fewer than 25 fasteners and follow only two pages of instructions. Most assemblies, completed by two people in about two hours, require no on-site fabrication, drilling, or cutting. This stands in contrast to many kit options that involve 10 to 20 pages of instructions and significant on-site adjustments that can lead to frustration and inconsistent results.

"Building stairs this way allows us to deliver a product that feels solid and looks refined right from the start," said Jim Yetzer, Design & Process Manager at Custom Iron. "Clients appreciate skipping the lengthy assembly hassles and gaining confidence that their stair will perform as expected for years."

Materials and design options further support durability and customization. Steel and aluminum choices, combined with powder-coated finishes, suit both interior and exterior applications. Standard models include the D100 Old Faithful for traditional appeal, the D500 Expression with interchangeable laser-cut panels for evolving aesthetics, and others featuring wood accents or cable elements. All designs meet code requirements while offering flexibility for residential or light commercial projects.

The company's process begins with detailed consultations to capture site measurements, style preferences, and functional needs. Designers then create CAD drawings and shop plans before production starts in the Minnesota facility. This client-centered method ensures the final knocked-down stair aligns perfectly with project goals.

"Many who have tried kit stairs in the past tell us they value the difference once they experience a properly built and easy-to-install alternative," added Tonya Pukal, Operations Manager at Custom Iron. "It saves time on the job and results in a better-looking, more stable finished product."

Custom Iron's knocked-down spirals support a range of configurations, from straight runs to platforms and railings that integrate seamlessly. The modular sections ship efficiently and reassemble without compromising the structural integrity established during factory assembly. This approach has contributed to long-term client relationships, with some stair companies and builders partnering for over two decades due to consistent quality and reliable outcomes.

As summer projects accelerate and homeowners focus on home improvements, the advantages of choosing a knocked-down custom spiral become particularly relevant for those seeking efficient installation without sacrificing design or performance. Custom Iron's commitment to building each stair individually sets it apart in an industry where shortcuts can affect both appearance and usability.

Custom Iron operates from an 80,000-square-foot facility in Zumbrota, Minnesota, where all design, building, and preparation for shipment take place. The company builds custom spiral stairs, straight stair systems including mono-beam and two-beam options, deck railings, handrails, balusters, and additional architectural metalwork. Serving clients nationwide under the leadership of President & CEO Robert Driscoll, Custom Iron maintains a focus on practical, high-quality solutions built around client needs.

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Custom Iron

Custom Iron doesn't believe you should settle for a one-size-fits-all spiral stair! That's why we don't sell kits. Instead, we build beautiful spiral stairs one at a time for a reasonable price.

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