Creating a Column with the Bevel Tool

By Mike Stelmar
I like to put my measurements in inches and feet so to do that, go to Edit > Display Options (d) > Units > English.
To create a column, you will need to use the disc tool. Select the disc tool and you can either drag the cursor to make the shape or push “n” to bring up the numeric properties. (Keep in mind that the measurements are half of the actual length of your disc since it asks for the radius).
Now click on the Polygon (Ctrl + H) tab at the bottom of the page and select every other polygon of the outside of the disc and the top and bottom by holding shift to select more than one polygon at a time (Must click the edge of a side).
Go to the Multiply tab and click bevel(b).
Hit "n" to bring up the numeric bevel properties. These are the numeric values I entered, but depending on the size of your disc, your numeric values might be bigger or smaller. Play around with them.
Your column should be similar to the shape of my column.
After you are happy with your results, you're going to need to add the top and bottom of the column.

Make sure you go to a new layer and use the layer of the column in the background.
So go to the Create tab and click on the box button.
You can drag the box out yourself (Ctrl keeps the box a square) or you can press “n” for the box numeric properties. The box should be longer and wider than the diameter of the top of your disc. I'd give at least 6'' on each side.
After you make the top box, go to another layer and click on the box button again, except this time, push “n” and the same properties should come up as the first box so all you have to do is move the box down to the bottom of the column.
You should end up with something similar to mine.