

NINJA COURSE

Congratulations on selecting Forpark Australia equipment for your Ninja Course.

This manual provides you with easy-to-follow instructions that will enable you to install the equipment correctly. Installing your own Ninja Course can be a simple and rewarding task and it is satisfying to be able to stand back when the job is finished and say "we did that!"

As a quality assured company our equipment complies with the following standards for play equipment as a minimum, to ensure the safety of your children.

- AS 4685:2021, Parts 1 – 6, Playground equipment (Safety requirements and test methods)
- AS 4422:2016 Playground surfacing – Specifications, requirements and test method
- AS 4685.0.2017 Playgrounds and playground equipment – Part 1: Development, slide installation, inspection, maintenance and operation

You may be interested to know that Forpark Australia is a family-owned Australian company and that we are the largest in-house manufacturer of playground equipment in Australia.

We have been manufacturing playground equipment since 1979 and provide you with the benefit of the knowledge and experience that we have developed over these years.

This installation manual should be kept for future reference and to help you with your maintenance program. A recommended maintenance schedule is provided at the rear of this manual.

Good luck with your installation.



NINJA COURSE

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Prepare the site

Before any installation you should be familiar with the requirements of AS 4685 (Parts 1-6) – 2021 “Playground equipment – safety requirements and test methods” (particularly relating to fall zone requirements), AS 4422:2016 “Playground surfacing – specifications, requirements and test method” (relating to the type and depth of your soft-fall surfacing), and AS 4685.0:2017 “Playgrounds and playground equipment – development, installation, maintenance and operation” (dealing with your site requirements and ongoing maintenance).

If you require advice, talk to one of our consultants. Some important things to remember are as follows:

1. Ninja Course equipment is normally designed for installation on a flat level surface so you should ensure that your play area is prepared correctly.
2. Check that the site is clear of underground power and services before you commence digging.
3. Measure the site to ensure that it is large enough to allow for the correct fall zones between the equipment and the outside of the soft-fall surface, and correct distances between various items of equipment. If you are unsure of these requirements you should check with your Forpark representative.
4. For ease of installation, do not put the soft-fall surfacing in until after the equipment has been installed. Ensure that you allow for the required soft-fall depth when excavating the site. Any excavation should take place before commencing installation of the equipment.

Equipment required for installation

1. Ratchet (or socket set) with 1/2" driver
2. Ratchet (or socket set) with 3/8" driver
3. 13mm drill bit for drilling platforms
4. Cordless drill
5. Shovel for digging holes (preferably long-handled)
6. If digging in hard ground, you may need a 300mm auger and a crowbar
7. Spirit level
8. 'G' clamps (for holding items in place before bolting)
9. String line
10. Wheelbarrow
11. 'Vice-grip' pliers (for closing 'S' hooks)
12. An axe (for cutting tree roots if they are in the way)
13. Concrete for footings
14. Bricks/pavers (to provide stability below ground where required)
15. Scaffolding/platform ladder/s where necessary
16. A basic first aid kit for emergencies
17. 'Occupational Health and Safety' plan and procedures if applicable

Check the contents of the crate

In addition to the equipment itself, you should have the following:

1. Plans of the Ninja Course
2. Materials or packing list
3. Tri-lobed driver (driver with a rounded triangular head which fits onto your 1/2" driver)
4. Hex head Allen keys (where required)
5. Torx Driver (driver with a star-shaped head that fits onto your 3/8" driver)
6. Tech Screw Driver
7. Nuts and bolts, etc.
8. Touch up paint
9. Loctite

Securing the site while work is in progress

You should ensure that the worksite is clearly defined by some sort of barrier or a temporary fence to ensure that children or onlookers are not in danger of injury while you work. The concrete footings will need at least 24 hours to set so a barrier or fence will keep people off the equipment until it is ready to be used and until adequate soft-fall surfacing has been installed.

Preparation for installation

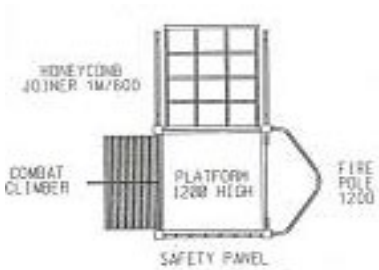
1. Before you commence installation, you should familiarise yourself with the general instructions found on pages 3 to 8 of this manual. The various individual items of your equipment will be covered later in the manual.
2. Once ready to commence installation you should lay out the equipment and ensure that you have all items detailed on the materials or packing list.
3. Group the numbered uprights, in order of their installation so that they are readily available as required (see "Reading Plans").
4. Lay the equipment out roughly on the ground to ensure that it fits within the prepared area and that all required fall zones are met.
5. Determine the proposed finished surface level and use a string line to set this level. This will help in ensuring that the platforms and other items are set at their correct height above ground level.

Reading the plans

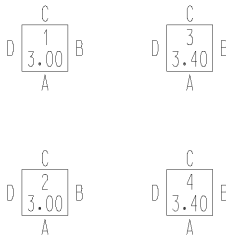
You have been supplied with two types of plans, one showing the actual layout of the equipment and the other showing the position of the uprights. (See below for examples of both plans.)

The upright plan contains several squares representing each upright and their locations corresponding with the uprights in the equipment layout plan. The figures inside each square represent the upright number and the height of that upright, e.g. upright 1 (below) is 3.0m in length. The letters on the outside of each square provide the orientation of each upright in relation to the items to be attached. The corresponding upright number is marked on the bottom of each upright supplied (along with some other details as shown below). The upright number is always marked on side 'B'. When standing at the base of the upright and holding it in a horizontal position with side 'B' facing up, you will rotate the upright counter-clockwise to bring side 'C' to the face-up position and so forth.

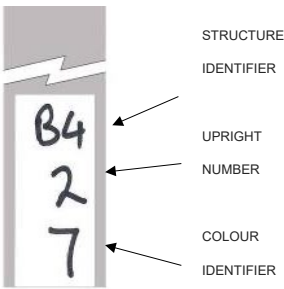
Equipment Layout Plan
(As though looking down from above)



Upright Plan (as though looking down on the uprights from above)



Upright Markings
(Base of each upright, always on side 'B')



Installation

Uprights, Components and Fasteners

Uprights are pre-drilled with holes corresponding to the components to be attached. Aluminium uprights have a threaded insert fitted to each hole.

Each upright has a black plastic 100mm x 100mm cap inserted in the top and in the base. If the base caps have not been inserted already, they will be supplied loose and should be inserted into the bottom of each upright before installing.

Uprights should normally be installed to a depth of 800mm below the finished surface level. (If rubber surfacing has been specified the uprights may have been cut to allow 600mm below finished surface level.) Make sure that you allow for the safety soft-fall surfacing when digging your holes, i.e., if the upright needs to be buried 800mm below finished surface level, and you have already excavated 300mm for soft-fall, the holes only needs to be 500mm deep. (Note: If the ground is soft or likely to be subject to settling it is best to dig the holes an additional 100mm deep and lay a 100mm thick footing using rapid set concrete prior to inserting the uprights.)

Choose one of the components as a starting point on the structure and mark the uprights position. This could be in the centre of the structure to enable teams to work outwards in both directions at the same time. Before commencing the installation ensure that you have allowed for the correct fall zone between the equipment and the edge of the soft-fall surface.

Place the uprights into the holes, ensuring that the identification numbers on the base of the uprights match the identification numbers on the upright plan. It may help to place a frame on the ground as a guide to enable you to work out the correct positioning of the upright holes. It is important that its height in relation to the finished ground surface is correct.

Once the uprights are in the holes at the correct height, lift the frames into place and fasten each frame to the upright by using 20mm tri-lobes. Refer to the 'upright plan' to determine the correct orientation of each upright. It is important to make sure that the components are level and at the correct height, and the uprights vertical.

Once satisfied that the components are level and the uprights vertical, concrete the uprights and fill the holes, packing the soil firmly.

Note: Occasionally, due to human error, some holes in the uprights may be missed. Should this happen you can drill the holes on site. (You may need to check with your Forpark office first if unsure of the exact hole location.) For aluminium uprights a 13.5mm hole should be drilled and a threaded insert fitted.

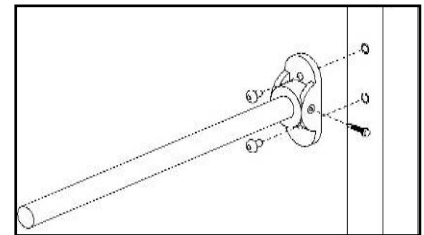
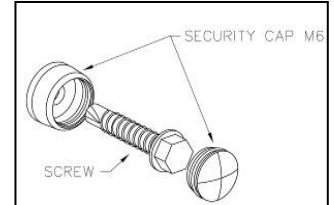
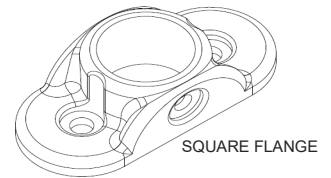
Flanges

Many items connect to the uprights using moulded plastic flanges. These flanges will be included in the bolt packs. Square flanges are used on uprights that are square to the face of the platform.

In many cases it may be easier to loosely fit the flanges in place on the component then fasten the flanges to the upright. Each flange attaches to the upright using two 20mm tri-lobes (in some instances 25mm tri-lobes will be supplied and can be used).

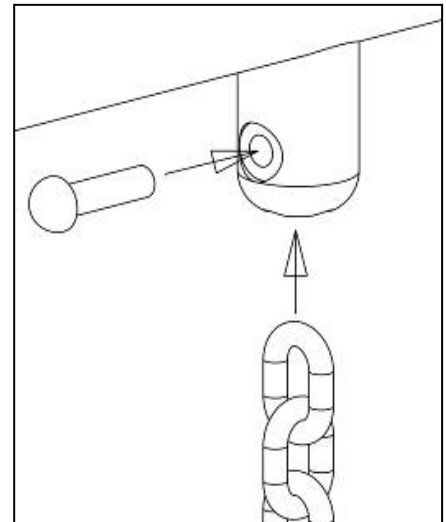
Once satisfied that the uprights are correctly positioned and square, each flange can be secured to the component using a tech screw. A security cap should be used with each tech screw as shown, fitting the base to the screw before fastening. The tech screw is inserted through the dimpled hole in the side of the flange and into the steel pipe using a power drill and the tech screw driver supplied. Once secure, the top of the security cap should be securely fastened.

Before securing each item ensure that the spacing between uprights and platforms is correct as detailed below.



Chain Housing Connections

Several items have chains that attach to a top bar or rail. In these cases, the top bar or rail has chain housings connected. The chain should be inserted into the housing as far as it will go. An 8mm Torx bolt is then inserted into the hole in the housing, through the end link of chain, securing the chain in place. Make sure a small amount of 'Loctite' is applied to the thread before tightening.



Determining Spacing between Uprights

Tape measure should also be used to check distances, allowing for movement in the flanges if they are not yet secured. Alternatively, a component (or components) laid on the ground could be used as spacers. The distances between most components (centre of uprights) are – width 1400mm and length 3100mm.

Concrete Footings

We recommend that concrete be used on all uprights and items in the ground as per the diagram. The footings on uprights should be approximately 300mm x 300mm x 400mm (deep). Attachment components will generally only go 600mm below finished surface level and a smaller footing will be sufficient (approx. 300mm x 300mm x 300mm). All footings should have a tapered top so that water won't pool around the upright. Where loose fill surfacing is used ensure that the concrete is at least 300mm below the finished surface level or that the footing is effectively covered by items of equipment in such a way that they do not present a hazard. (Note: If the ground is soft or likely to be subject to settling it is best to use an additional 100mm of concrete on the footing below the upright. This may need to set before placing the upright in place.)

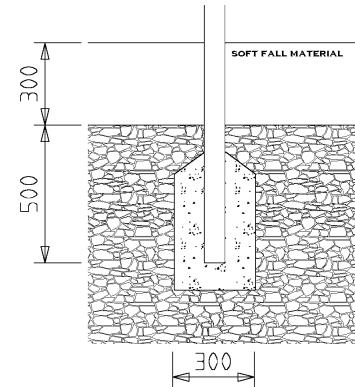
Forpark recommends General Purpose Concrete. This is a concrete with a compressive strength of 20MPa (at 28 days) or higher.

The concrete used in playground footings should only be mixed and/or worked by a suitably experienced person following supplier/manufacturer's instructions.

Freestanding items may require a larger footing as detailed individually.

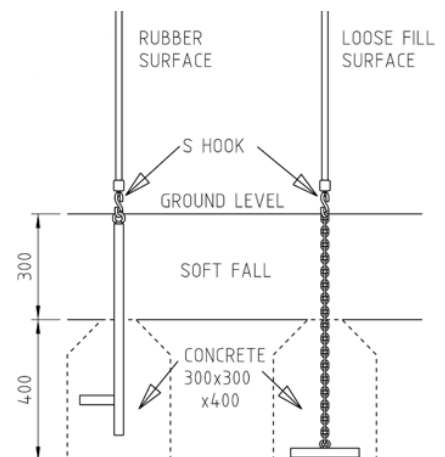
Forpark trims 200mm off the square 100 uprights, in structures only, when a job is to be installed in rubber, this is done to make the installation easier as the post and footing do not need to be 800mm below FGL (600mm is sufficient).

The footing sizes are to remain the same as standard but will now be a 200mm higher up the post. There will be no negative effects to the structural integrity of the structure when the posts are installed in this manner.



Ropes or Chains in ground

Hang the rope or chain, mark and dig hole in ground approx. 700mm below finished ground level and 300mm x 300mm wide. Attach anchor with S hook, lower in the hole and concrete (footing approx. 300mm x 300mm x 400mm).



Loctite

'Loctite' is provided in each bolt pack. This should be used on any bolt used on items subject to movement or vibration.

Where 'Loctite' is required only one to two drops need be applied to the thread of the bolt, immediately before inserting into the nut and tightening.

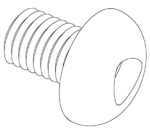
Fasteners

All holes in aluminium uprights require nutserts (threaded inserts fitted in the holes). Regular tri-lobes are used when connecting to 'T' Nuts, Cap Nuts and nutserts.

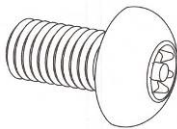
In some instances, tri-lobe bolts will be replaced with Torx bolts. Both will do the same job. This will be particularly common where stainless steel fasteners are used.

The commonly used fasteners are shown below.

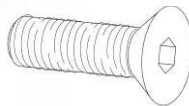
Tri-lobe



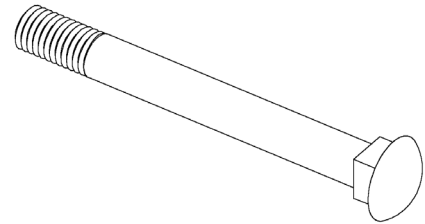
Torx Bolt
(Stainless Steel)



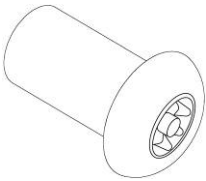
Counter Sunk
Bolt



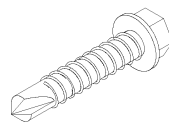
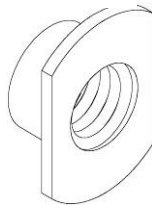
Cup Head Bolt



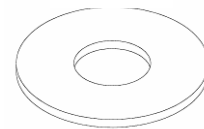
Cap Nut



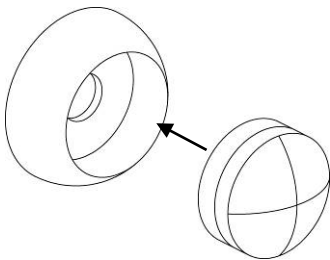
T Nut



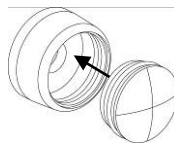
Washer



Security Cap M10



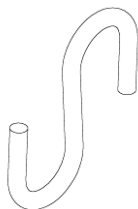
Security Cap M6
For Tech Screws



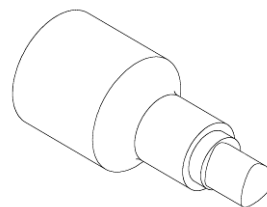
Plastic Cap 100x100
(For uprights)



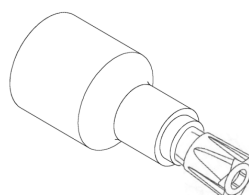
S Hook



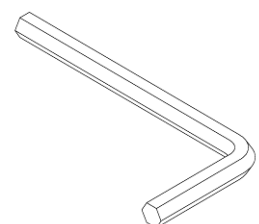
Tri-lobe Driver



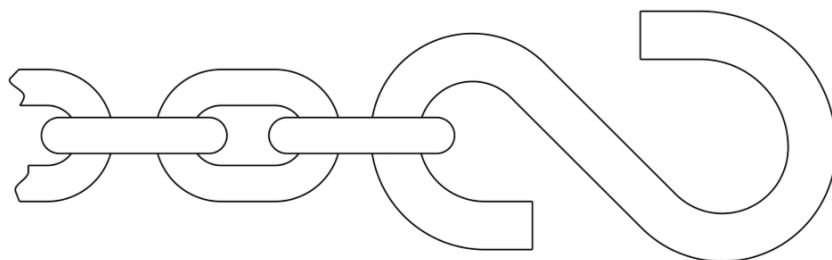
Torx Driver



Allen Key

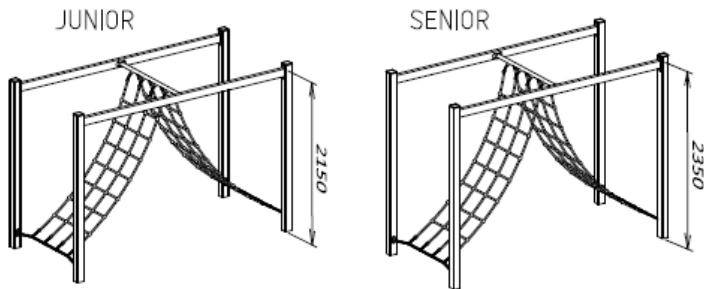


Please note that all S-Hooks should be fitted with the small loop attaching to the chain, and the large loop attaching to the connecting item.



Installation – Components

Arched Cargo Net

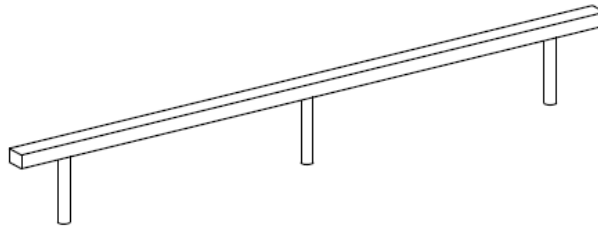


The top of the top bars to be 2150mm for junior and 2350mm for senior from finished ground level.

Attach top bars to uprights with Trilobes 20mm. Rail to top bars with standard flange connection. Top and bottom rope chains to rail and to steel flanges with standard chain housing connection.

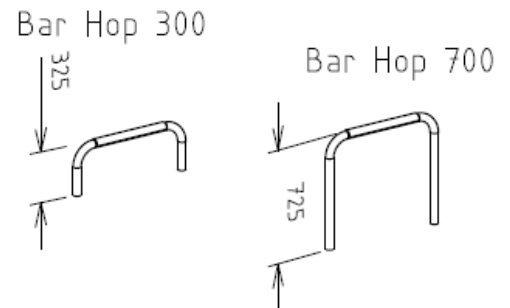
Balance Beam

Legs are 600mm in ground.



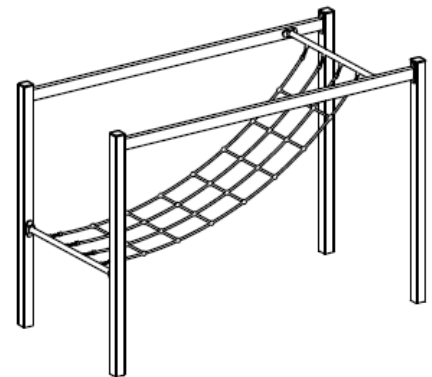
Bar Hop

The top of Bar Hop 300 to be 325mm and Bar Hop 700 725mm from finished ground level. Legs are 600mm in ground.



Cargo Net

Check plan for item height. Attach top bars to uprights with Trilobes 20mm. Rail to top bars and rail to uprights with standard flange connection. Top and bottom rope chains to rails with standard chain housing connection.



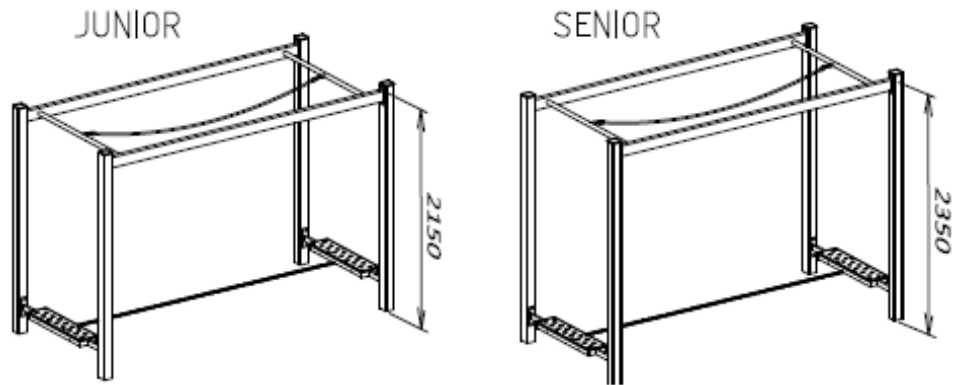
Chain Traverse

Requires platforms at each end.

The top of the frame to be 2150mm for junior and 2350mm for senior from finished ground level.

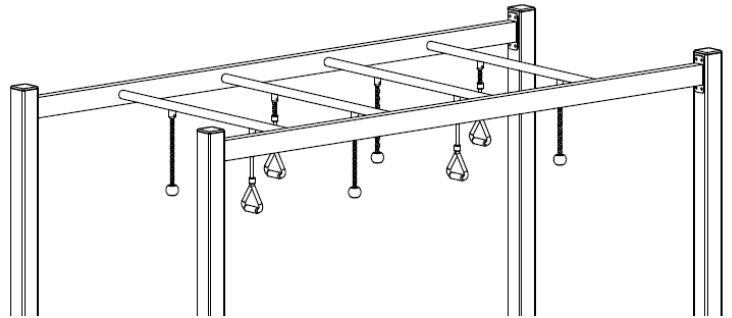
Attach frame to uprights with Trilobes 20mm. Top and bottom chains to frame and to brackets with standard chain housing connection.

Brackets to platforms with Trilobes 20mm.



Combo Grips Traverse

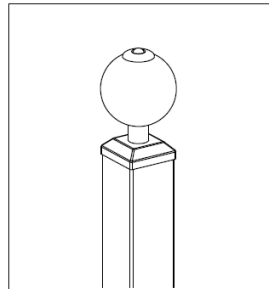
Check plan for item height. Attach frame to uprights with Trilobes 20mm. Chains to frame with standard chain housing connection.



Finish Bell

The Finish Bell if in use, is attached on top of one of the uprights, instead of plastic cap.

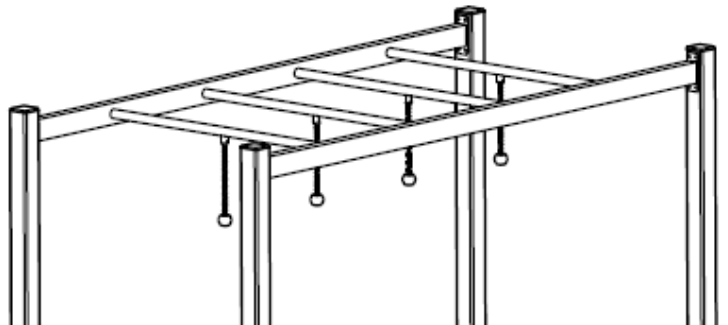
Check the plan.



Grip Traverse

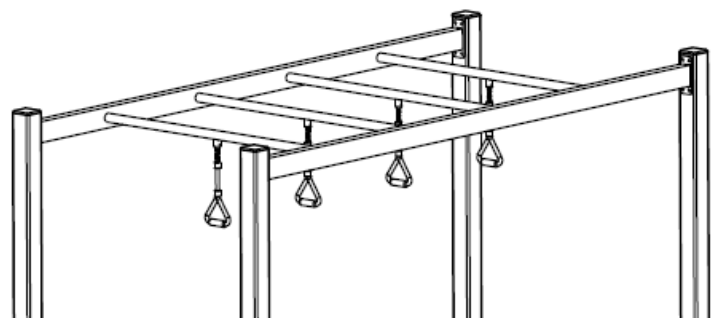
Check plan for item height. Join chains to frame with standard chain housing connection.

Attach frame to uprights with Trilobes 20mm.



Handle Traverse

Check plan for item height. Attach frame to uprights with Trilobes 20mm. Chains of ropes to frame with standard chain housing connection.

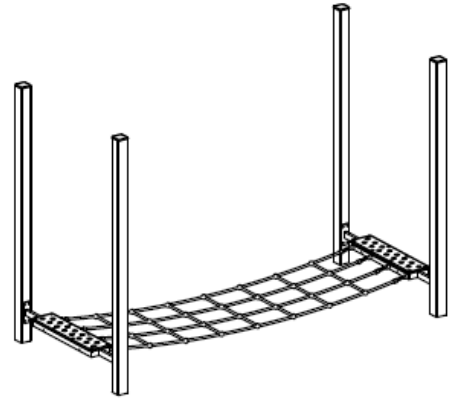


Horizontal Cargo Net

Requires platforms at each end.

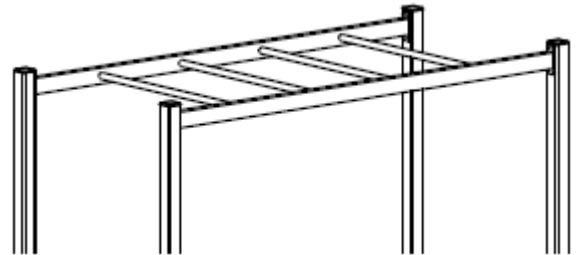
Chains of ropes to brackets with standard chain housing connection.

Brackets to platforms with Trilobes 20mm.



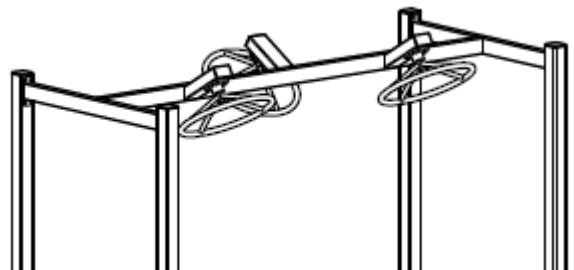
Monkey Bars

Check plan for item height. Attach frame to uprights with Trilobes 20mm.



Monkey Spin Traverse

Check plan for item height. Attach frame to uprights with Trilobes 20mm.



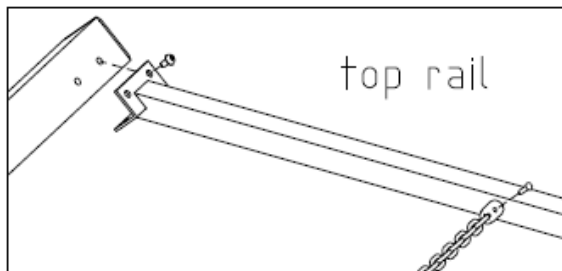
Mountain Ascent

Place the uprights on 1135mm square, with 2 of shorter uprights placed in diagonal.

Check plan for positioning.

Assemble the platform by joining the 4 sections with Trilobe 25mm, nut and security caps.

Attach 4 of plastic and steel braces as shown on the circle opening with Trilobe 30mm, nut and security caps.



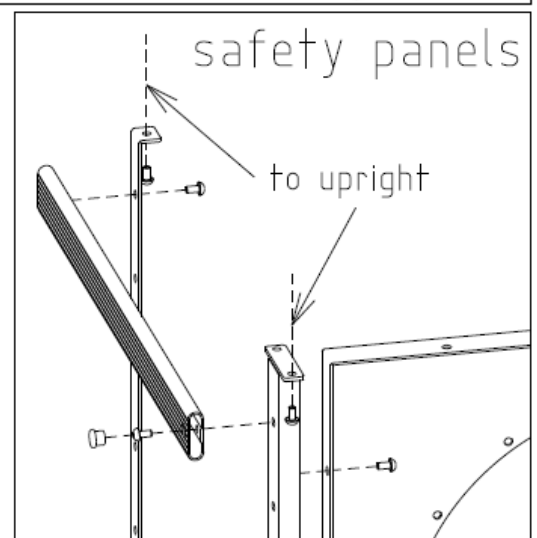
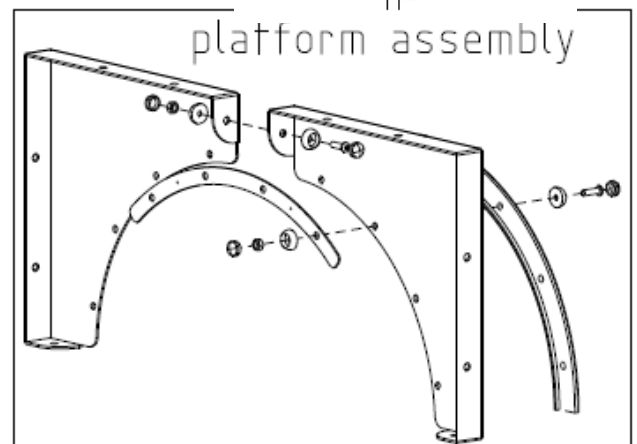
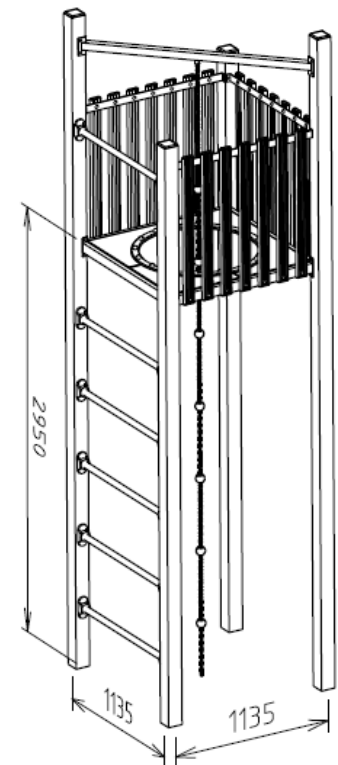
Attach top rail to the long uprights with Trilobes 20mm and chain to rail with standard chain housing connection. Mark the place of the hole in ground for the chain anchor, in the equal distance from uprights and secure as per "Ropes and Chains in Ground" on page 6.

There are 3 sides above platform with safety panels. Each aly board is attached to upper bracket with Trilobes 20mm, then to lower spacer rail with Trilobes 20mm (cover the access hole with cap plastic 20Nb).

Safety panels are attached to platform with Trilobes 20mm, from platform side.

There is one lower spacer rail with no holes for aly boards. This one is to be attached to the platform on the rungs side.

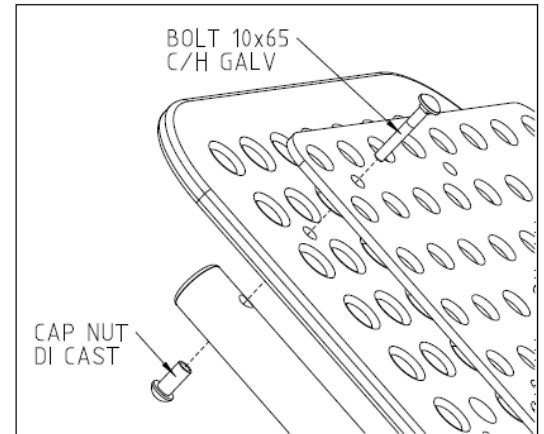
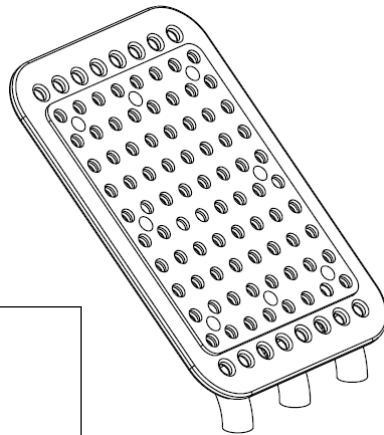
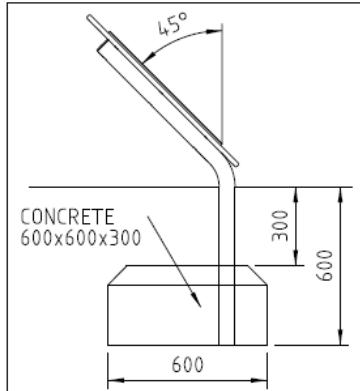
Use standard flange connection to attach 6 rungs.



Pad

Assemble parts of the pad as shown. Check the plan for the place and orientation of the holes in ground.

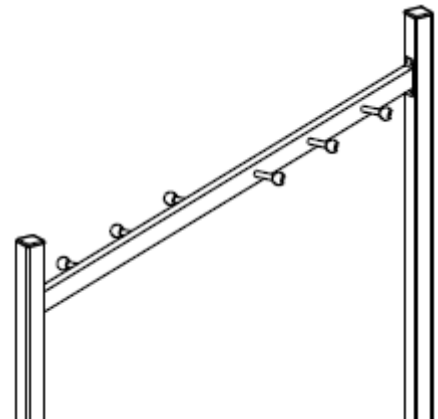
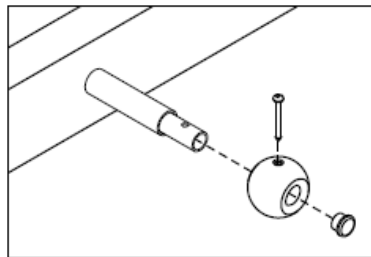
Dig 600x600x600 holes, position the pads and concrete.



Peg Diagonal Traverse

Screw the plastic balls to the bar using Screw Post Torx But 14GX2 and lug the hole with cap plastic 15Nb.

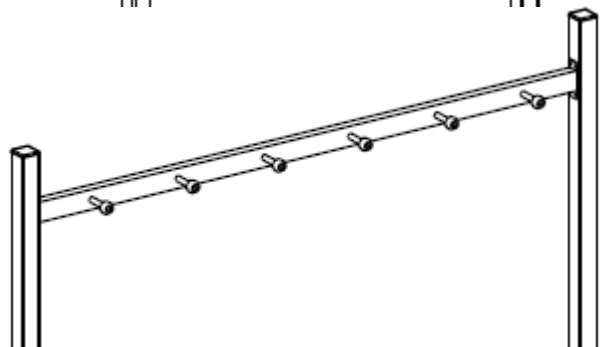
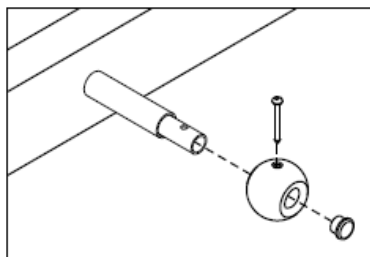
Check plan for item height. Bolt to uprights with Trilobes 20mm.



Peg Straight Traverse

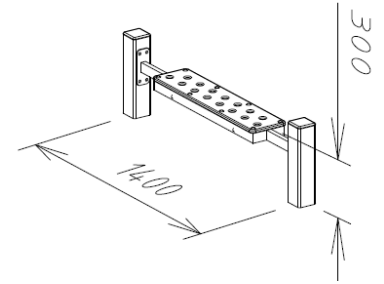
Screw the plastic balls to the bar using Screw Post Torx But 14GX2 and lug the hole with cap plastic 15Nb.

Check plan for item height. Bolt to uprights with Trilobes 20mm.



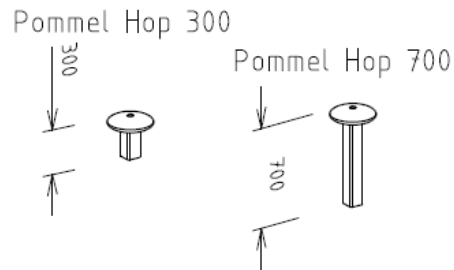
Platform

The top of the platform to be 300mm from finished ground level. Attach to uprights with Trilobes 20mm.

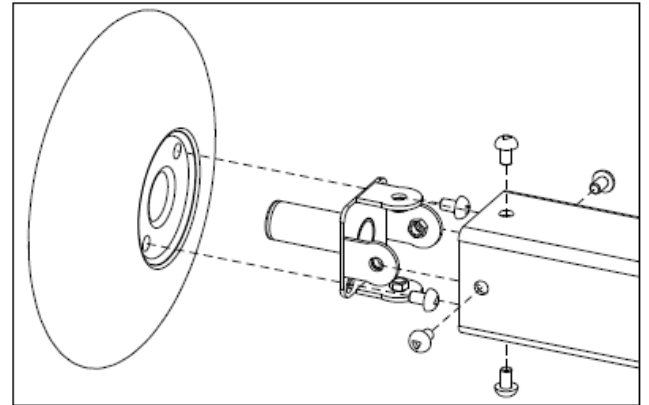


Pommel Hop

The top of Pommel Hop 300 to be 300mm and Pommel Hop 700 to be 700mm from finished ground level. Legs are 800mm in ground.



Use Trilobes 17mm for joining first the bracket to Pommel and then the bracket to upright.

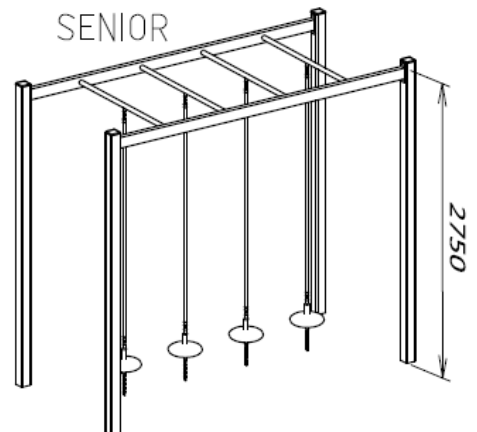
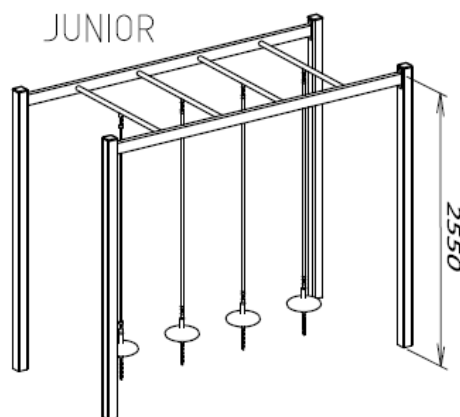


Pommel Traverse

The top of the frame to be 2550mm for junior and 2750mm for senior from finished ground level.

Attach frame to uprights with Trilobes 20mm.

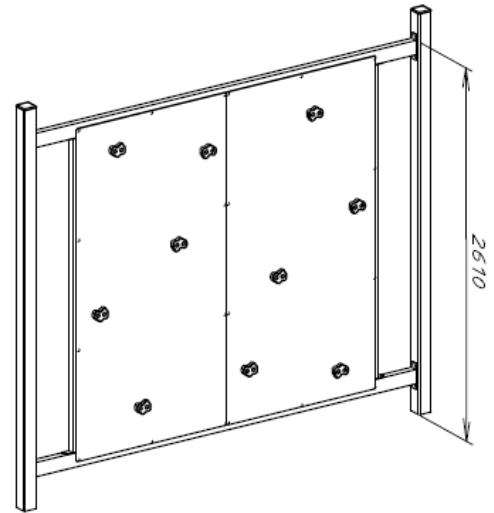
Mark the place of the holes in ground for the anchors, by hanging pommels vertical and secure as per "Ropes and Chains in Ground" on page 6.



Rock Wall

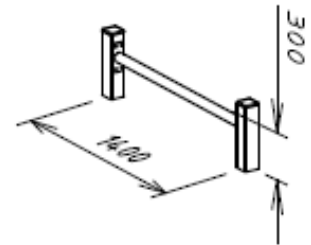
Attach the supporting vertical bars to the horizontal top and bottom ones and then the panels to the frame with Trilobes 20mm.

Rise and attach to uprights with Trilobes 20mm.



Rung 300

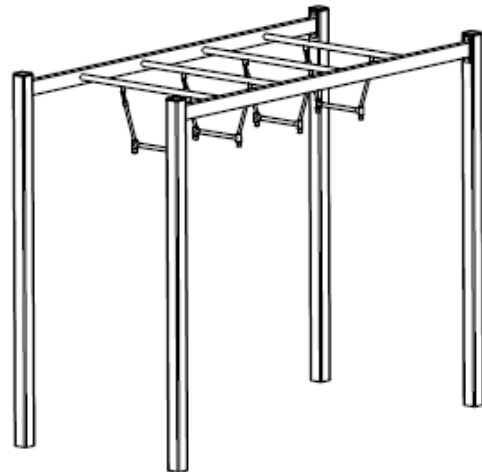
The top of the rung to be 300mm from finished ground level. Attach to uprights with Trilobes 20mm.



Swing Traverse

Join chain ends of ropes to frame with standard chain housing connection.

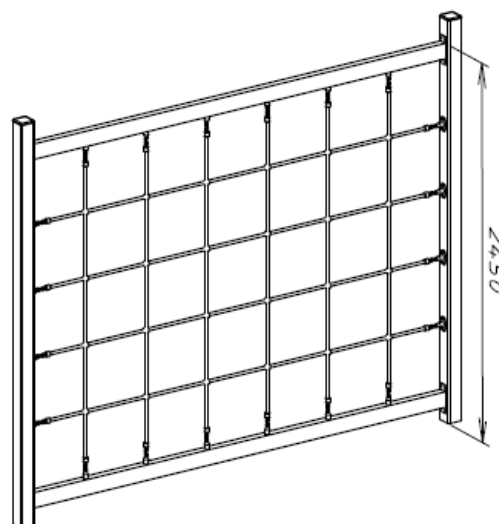
Check plan for item height. Attach frame to uprights with Trilobes 20mm.



Vertical Climbing Wall Double

Attach horizontal bars to uprights with Trilobes 20mm.

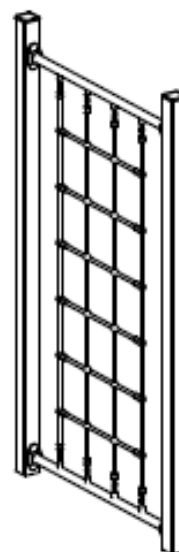
Join chain ends of ropes to top bars and flanges with standard chain housing connection. Bolt flanges to uprights with Trilobes 20mm.



Vertical Climbing Wall Single

Join chain ends of ropes to rungs with standard chain housing connection.

Use standard flange connection to attach rungs to uprights.



Vertical Spider Wall

Place the uprights on 800mm square and 470x800mm as shown.

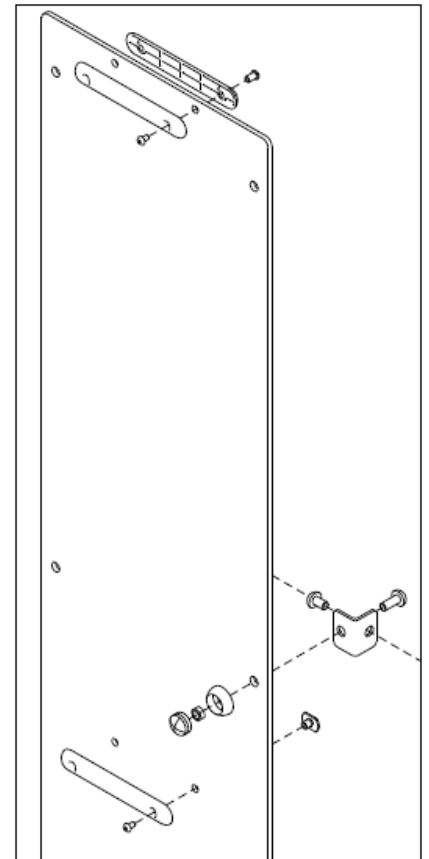
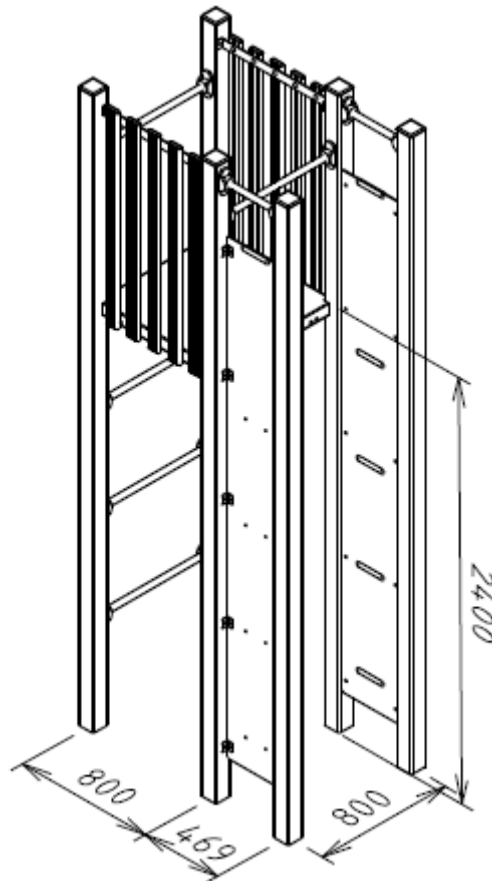
Attach the platform (Elevate) to uprights.

Attach pair of handgrip stripes to top of the panels, using 6mm Post Torx bolts and Cap Nuts. Then, single handgrip stripes using 6mm Post Torx bolts and T Nuts.

Attach the panels to uprights with B2 brackets, using Trilobes 17 and 25, Security Caps and M10 nuts.

Use standard flange connection to attach rungs to uprights.

Bolt The brackets for the safety panela to uprights with Trilobes 20mm, then the Aly boards to the brackets with Trilobes 20mm and Aly boards to platform with Trilobes 20mm from the platform side.

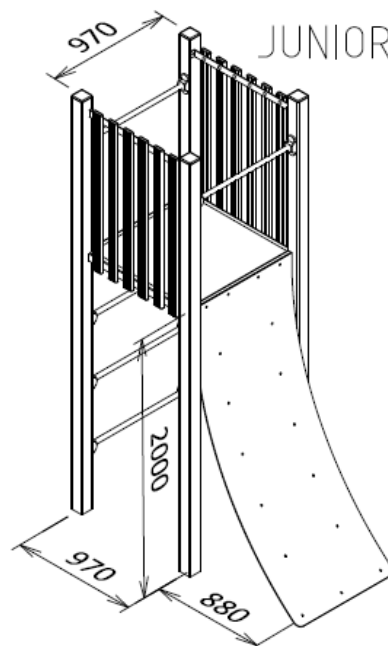


Warped Wall

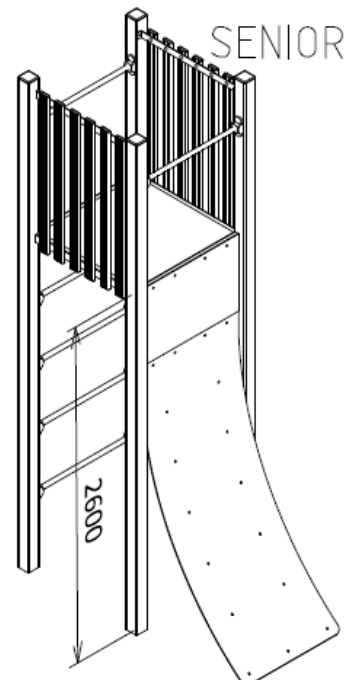
Place the uprights on 970mm square as shown.

Attach the platform (Essential) to uprights. Junior to be 2000mm and Senior 2600mm from finished ground level.

Use standard flange connection to attach rungs to uprights.



JUNIOR



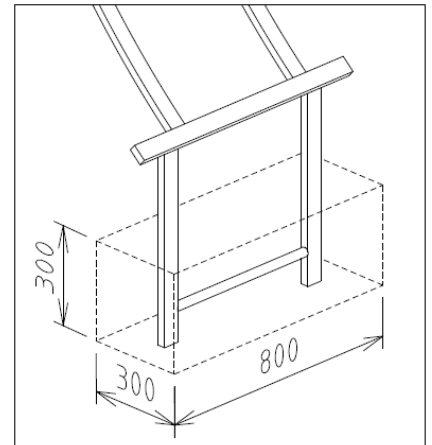
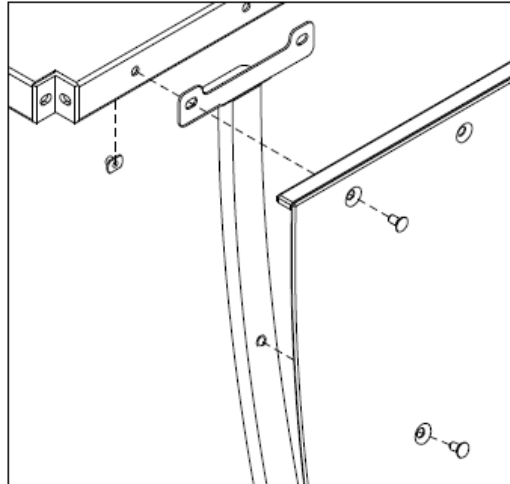
SENIOR

Bolt The brackets for the safety panel to uprights with Trilobes 20mm, then the Aly boards to the brackets with Trilobes 20mm and Aly boards to platform with Trilobes 20mm from the platform side.

Mark and dig 800x300 hole for the supporting leg, about 880mm away from the uprights, 600mm deep.

Bolt the rolled aly sheet to supporting leg with 10x20 countersink bolts and with the same bolts with T nuts to the platform.

Standard uprights concrete in ground and W800xL300xD300 concrete for the leg.



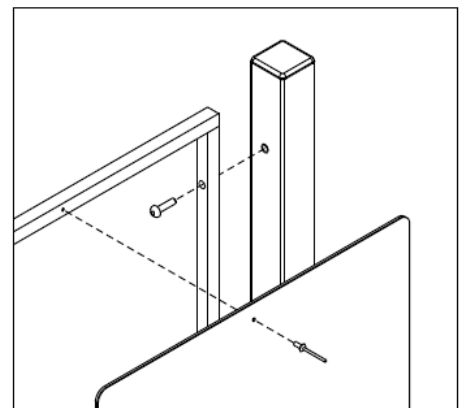
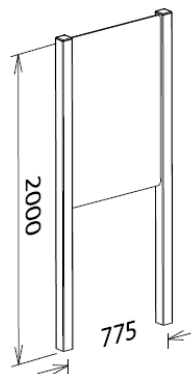
Sign Custom

This item has 75x75 uprights.

Attach frame to uprights with 4 Trilobes 40.

Place sign sheet simetricaly over the frame and rivet the sign to frame with 4 rivets on each side.

"Sign Custom Single" has one sign, "Sign Custom Double" has two signs.

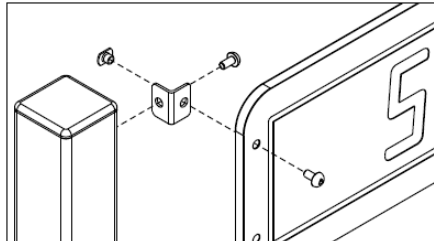


Start, Finish Signs

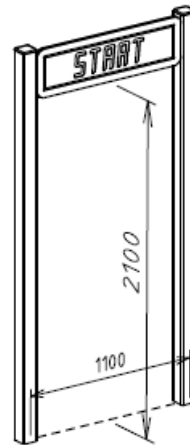
Place the sign as per the plan with uprights on 1100mm distance.

The distance from under the sign to finish ground level should be 2100mm.

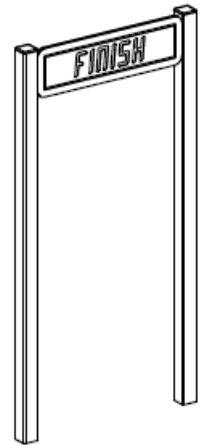
Use B2 brackets, T Nuts and Trilobes 20mm to attach to uprights.



Start Sign



Finish Sign



Before Leaving the Site

- ☐ Check that all bolts are tightened.
- ☐ Check that all concrete footings are 300mm below the finished surface level where loose-fill material is used.
- ☐ Check that the structure is solid with all uprights secure in the ground.
- ☐ Check your softfall, ensuring that your fall zones and the depth of the softfall are correct.
- ☐ Touch up any scratches on the paintwork.
- ☐ Remove all rubbish and packaging from the site.

Safety and Maintenance Inspections

To ensure that your equipment remains in a safe condition, we recommend that you establish a schedule of safety and maintenance inspections and record the details of your inspections in a logbook. In this manner, any minor repairs are done as soon as they are required, and your equipment will remain in safe condition. In the event of an accident occurring on your play equipment, your records of these inspections are proof that your 'duty of care' has been maintained.

We recommend that your Ninja Course be inspected with varying degrees of detail on a frequency basis as outlined on the following page.

Any spare parts that may be required for your Ninja Course will be available through your local Forpark Australia branch, and our sales staff will be able to help you with any queries you may have regarding your equipment.

Please remember! Ninja Course equipment that is well maintained remains safe, and will last for many years.

Routine Visual Inspection

Frequency – At least weekly. Daily inspections may be required where loose fill surfacing is used or in cases where the equipment is subject to heavy use or vandalism.

Surfacing

- ☐ Check that the soft-fall surfacing area is free of debris and contamination.
- ☐ Check that displacement of your loose fill surfacing material has not resulted in areas becoming shallower than the recommended depth, particularly below items of equipment where falls are likely. Such areas should be levelled or filled to ensure that the recommended depth is maintained.

Equipment

- ☐ Check for vandalism, and for any damaged or missing parts. In the event of any damage or missing parts, isolate the play equipment until repairs have been carried out.

OPERATIONAL INSPECTION

Frequency – Every one (1) to three (3) months, depending on the level of use. Equipment subject to heavy use or vandalism may need to be inspected more frequently. Any problems identified should be addressed on a priority basis taking into account any safety implications.

Surfacing & Surrounds

- ☐ Check that the soft-fall surfacing area is free of debris and contamination.

- ☐ Check that a loose fill soft-fall surfacing is at the recommended depth, and top up if necessary.
- ☐ Check that a synthetic surface is in good condition and securely in place to provide impact absorption.
- ☐ Check that any soft-fall surfacing borders are secure in the ground, do not constitute trip points, and have no rough or sharp edges.
- ☐ Check the area for overgrown bushes or hazards that may have intruded into the play area over time.

Equipment

- ☐ Check all fasteners and tighten and replace any that are missing.
- ☐ Check that all uprights and components are secure in the ground, and that no footings are showing through the soft-fall.
- ☐ Check steel play equipment for rust or corrosion. (All metal play equipment will show some signs of breakdown over time, and this may be exacerbated by a marine environment.) Replace any badly corroded parts.
- ☐ Check timber equipment for splintering and warping; and coat with Sikken's Cetol Mahogany if required. Replace any damaged items.
- ☐ Check all moving parts for excessive wear, and replace any worn items.
- ☐ Check all chain links for wear and replace any damaged items.
- ☐ Check for any bending or cracking of steel components and replace where necessary.
- ☐ Check all paint-work, and touch up any areas that are worn or chipped.
- ☐ Large rope net structures with tensioning aids (e.g. turn buckles) need to be checked for sufficient tension and re-tensioned if necessary.
- ☐ In highly corrosive environments it is strongly recommended that all equipment is regularly washed with clean water to prevent any build-up of rust causing minerals. This is particularly important where the equipment is positioned under a permanent shade structure and cannot be naturally washed by rain.
- ☐ Check for any grease points and apply Molycoat Long Term grease to all grease nipples.

COMPREHENSIVE INSPECTION

Frequency – Annually. On a yearly basis it is advisable to have your equipment checked by someone who is qualified in playground equipment maintenance, or by an engineer.

Surfacing & Equipment

- ☐ In addition to a detailed inspection of all areas covered in an "Operational Inspection", the following checks should be made.
- ☐ Check the structural integrity of equipment subject to corrosion or rotting.
- ☐ Check for any changes in the safety of the equipment resulting from repairs made, or added or replaced components

**WA**

PO Box 484
Cloverdale 6985
Ph: (08) 9472 1788

NSW/ACT

PO Box 102
Kings Langley 2147
Ph: (02) 8851 7630

SA

PO Box 715
Modbury 5092
Ph: (08) 8283 3611

QLD

PO Box 876
Capalaba 4157
Ph: (07) 3390 2188

VIC

Unit 24/21 Eugene Tce
Ringwood 3134
Ph: (03) 9870 0233

NTH QLD

PO Box 211
Edmonton 4869
Ph: (07) 4033 5433

TAS

3/4 Beacon Court
Cambridge 7170
Ph: (03) 6248 5070

NT

PO Box 876
Capalaba QLD 4157
Ph: (07) 3390 2188

www.forparkaust.com.au

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Every effort is made to ensure information contained in this catalogue is accurate E&OE.

The information provided in this catalogue is intended for informational purposes only. It is the responsibility of the customer to ensure playground equipment is installed correctly with the appropriate softfall and sufficient fall zones in accordance with local standards. For guidance or the most up-to-date information please speak to a Design Consultant.