MANCHESTER FUN DECK



It provides additional information on the care and use of your Play set You must carefully read the entire instruction manual before proceed-

resistance. If non-Creative Playthings hardware is used, it MUST be galvanized or stainless steel.

Creative Playthings takes great care to design its products with your child's safety in mind. However, only with careful supervision and proper safety instructions, can you be assured of safe play time on any product designed for children.

PLAY SET SAFETY

FOR SAFETY SAKE, PLEASE TAKE TIME TO READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS COMPLETELY AND CAUTION YOUR CHILDREN APPROPRIATELY.

Observing the following statements & warnings reduces the likelihood of serious or fatal injury:

- Children should use equipment only in its intended manner.
- Children should not wear loose or stringed clothing while using playground equipment.
- Children should not play on equipment in wet weather conditions due to potentially slippery surfaces.
- Children should NOT walk too closely in front of, behind, or between moving swings and trapezes.
- · Children should NOT swing empty swing seats.
- Children should NOT jump off swings and/or trapeze while they are in motion.
- Children should NOT twist swing ropes because this will weaken and reduce the strength of the rope and rope clamps.
- Children should sit in the center of the swings with their full weight on the seats.
- · Hanging accessories MUST be removed prior to using overhead monkey bars.
- Do not allow children under age 7 to use monkey bars unless supported by an adult.
- Children should NOT be on the top surface of the top ladder.
- On-site adult supervision is required at all times for children of all ages.
- Until assembly is complete, DO NOT let your children use the Play set.
- Never fasten anything not approved by Creative Playthings to your Play set. Accessories or items not approved by Creative Playthings include; Dog runs, clothes lines, electrical devices, or bird feeders etc.
- Suspended ropes, chains, and cables must be secured at both ends.
- Suspended ropes, chains, and cables must not be capable of looping back on themselves.
- Do not allow more than 120 lbs. on Single occupancy swing accessories such as the Sling Swing and Trapeze.
- Do NOT allow more than 175 lbs. on multiple use swing accessories such as the Back-to-Back Plastic Horse, and Wooden Lawn Swing Glider.
- Do NOT allow more children on the Play set than can simultaneously use all the swing stations at one time.
- Children should NEVER wear bicycle helmets while playing on the play set.

Assembly Safety:

- Keep the work area clean and clear of obstructions.
- Children should stay out of the work area until the safe play area is cleared of obstacles, the Play set has been completely assembled, all hardware has been tightened and checked, and all tools have been picked up.
- Keep children off the Play set until it has been completely assembled.
- Some parts of the assembly process may require help from another competent adult.
- Do not stand on the platform until the Play set has been completely assembled, use a step ladder if you can
 not reach high enough.
- Follow the manufacturers' safety recommendations for the tools and equipment you use.
- · Avoid assembling your Play set in poor weather conditions.
- · Wear proper clothing and safety equipment (safety glasses, boots, and gloves) while assembling your play set.

SELECTING THE CORRECT LOCATION FOR YOUR PLAY PRODUCT IS IMPORTANT FOR YOUR CHILDREN'S SAFETY AND THE PRODUCT'S LONGEVITY.

Play set Dimensions:

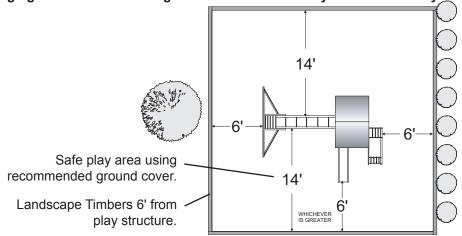
- The Manchester Fun Deck Assembly has ground dimensions of 7'-0" x 5'-0"
- The Manchester Fun Deck Play set Accessory adds 7'-0" to the Safe Play Area at the end of your gym.
- Additional accessories may increase the size of the Safe Play Area.
- The maximum fall height for your Manchester Fun Deck is 120" as measured from the top of the Wall Supports.

Safe Play Area:

- The Safe Play Area refers to a zone extending 6' beyond the Play set on all sides, including the slide and the space above the Play set. Because children may deliberately jump from a moving swing, the Safe Play Area must be extended to 14 in front of and behind a swinging Accessory.
- The ground surface must be level. Installing your Play set on sloping ground can cause it to lean or "rack". This
 leaning puts additional stress on all connections and joints and in time will cause those connections to loosen
 and fail.
- The Safe Play Area must be free of all structures, landscaping, trees and branches, rocks, wires, and other obstacles to safe play. Children can be seriously injured running, or swinging into these obstacles.
- Remove all tripping hazards from the Safe Play Area. Tripping hazards include; roots, stumps, rocks, landscaping, sprinkler heads, railroad ties, plumbing and electrical connections.
- Do not install your Play set over concrete, gravel, asphalt, packed earth, or any other hard surface. The following is a list of recommended ground covers from the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

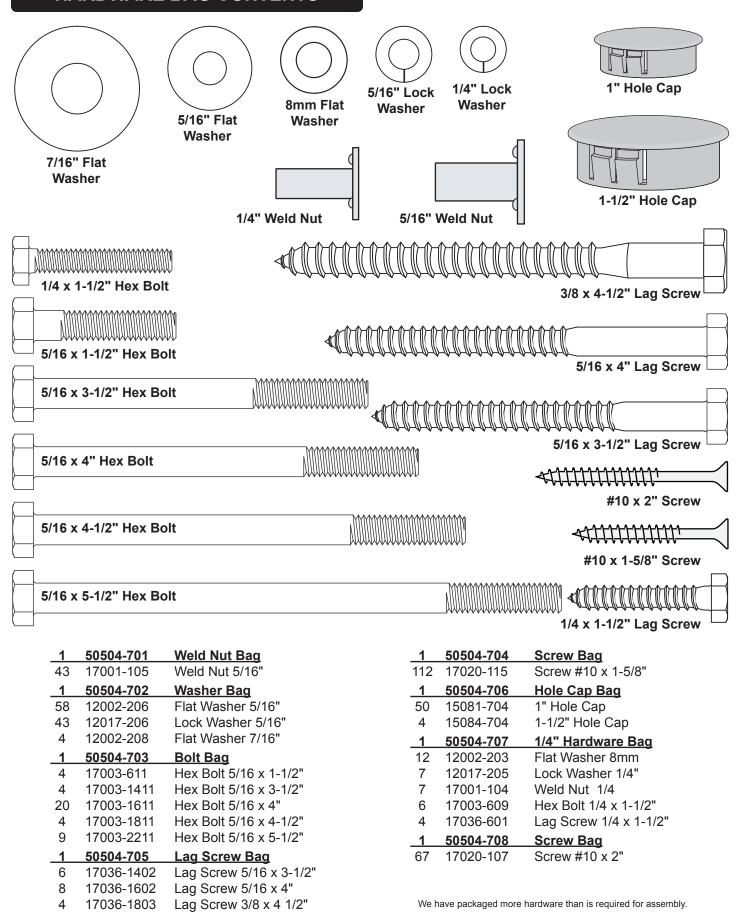
RECOMMENDED GROUND COVER	
Suggested Material	Uncompressed Depth
Double Shredded Bark Mulch	9"
Uniform Wood Chips	12"
Fine Gravel	12"
Fine Sand	12"

Any edging used to contain the ground cover must be beyond the Safe Play Area. (i.e., Landscape Timbers)



A FALL ONTO A HARD SURFACE COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY.

HARDWARE BAG CONTENTS



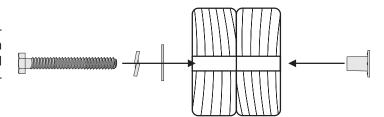
PRE ASSEMBLY INFORMATION

CREATIVE PLAYTHINGS PLAY SETS USE A FEW STANDARD CONNECTIONS. BECOMING FAMILIAR WITH THESE CONNECTIONS WILL SIMPLIFY ASSEMBLY AND INSURE A SAFER PLAY PRODUCT FOR YOUR CHILDREN.

Hex Bolt & Weld Nut Assembly Procedure:

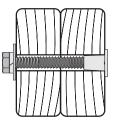
Assembly Layout:

Align the holes in the parts to be fastened. Start preliminary tightening of bolt into weld nut by hand. Tighten each bolt with a wrench until the lock washer is fully compressed between the head of the bolt and the flat washer. See Illustration



Correct Assembly:

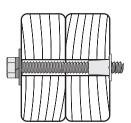
Bolt has been screwed securely into weld nut and the connection is tight. Check connections periodically for tightness during the life of the Play set . **Do not over tighten.**



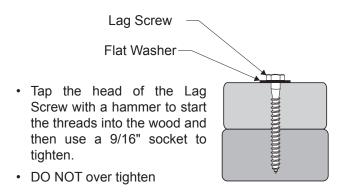
Incorrect Assembly:

During assembly or maintenance the bolt protrudes 1/8" past the weld nut. Call customer service or replace the bolt at a local hardware store. You may be overtightening or using the wrong size bolt.

Failure to replace this bolt with a shorter one could result in serious injury.

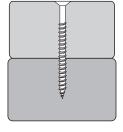


Typical Installation - Lag Screws:

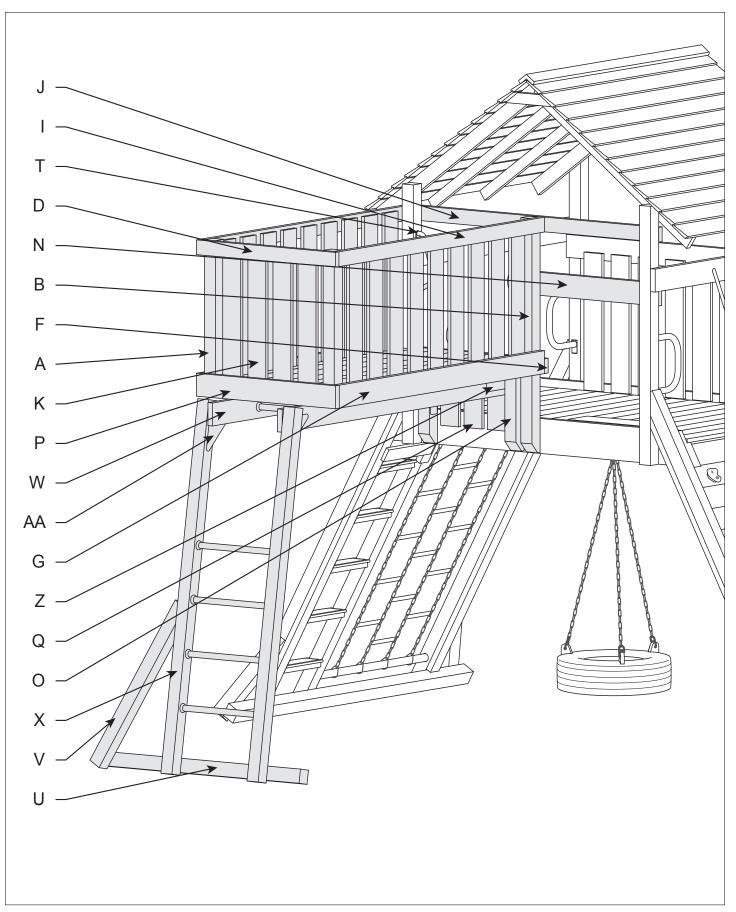


Typical Installation - Wood Screws:

- · Use an electric drill or screw gun to drive screws.
- Drill 1/8" pilot holes where required.
- We recommend that you lubricate the threads of the screws with beeswax or soap to ease installation and minimize breaking screws.
- It is very important to make certain that the tops of all screws are flush with the surface of the wood and there are no protruding sharp edges.



PLAY SET VIEW

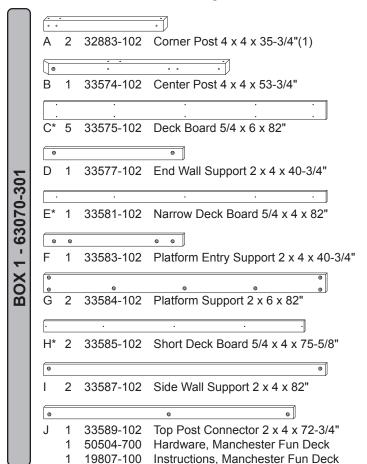


Component Part Identification:

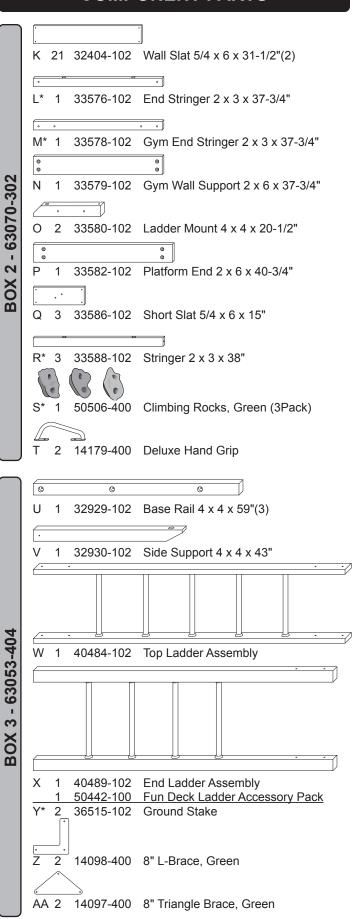
Take inventory of all parts, making sure nothing is missing or defective.

If you find that parts are missing or defective call the Creative Playthings Customer Service Department at 1-800-598-4997

Not visible in illustration on Page 6.



COMPONENT PARTS



MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

YOUR CREATIVE PLAYTHINGS Play set IS STAINED AT OUR FACTORY. STAINING IS NOT NEEDED AT THE TIME OF INITIAL ASSEMBLY.

Staining Information:

- Pigmented, exterior, water repellent stains are recommended and will provide an excellent barrier against moisture without hiding the natural wood grain or leaving a film that may later crack or peel.
- We recommend that you apply stain according to the instructions and precautions recommended by the stain manufacturer.
- · It should take three or more quarts to cover your set.
- Contact your local dealer or call Creative Playthings for our staining products.
- All rungs are pre-finished at the factory and do not require any finishing at the time of initial assembly.
- · Do not paint, or varnish rungs or steps.
- · Avoid using finishes that create slippery surfaces.

Maintenance:

- Wooden playground equipment will last for years with proper maintenance. Maintenance of the Play set finish will vary depending on weather climate.
- As a safety precaution, check all hardware for tightness twice a month during use and at the beginning of each play season. Tighten as required and specified in these instructions. Do not over tighten.
- Check structure twice monthly during usage for any evidence of deterioration. If upon inspection, hardware has sharp edges, rusted or structural pieces have signs of premature failure; replace them through Creative Playthings Customer Service.
- · Oil all metallic moving parts monthly during the usage season.
- The swings, trapeze, tent, rope ladders, and any other removable plastic accessories should be removed and taken indoors when outside temperatures drop below 32° F (0° C).
- Wood will expand and contract as it adjusts to temperature changes and varying moisture conditions. Checks or cracks are a natural characteristic of all wood and will not affect the strength or durability of the wooden components.
- To maintain the finish of your set, a light sanding and an application of an exterior stain will repair scratches and prevent wood from aging prematurely.
- Finishes applied to ladder rungs must not create a slippery surface. Never varnish or paint! When refinishing rungs, sand lightly and use an exterior stain or boiled linseed oil.
- · The wood parts of your Play set should never be disposed of by burning.
- Dispose of all parts so as not to create a hazard.

Tools & Materials Required for Finishing & Assembly:

- Claw Type Hammer
- Carpenter's Level
- · Box Wrench or Sockets (1/2")
- · Electric Drill
- 1/8", 1/4" and 3/8" Drill Bits (High Speed)
- Screwdriver or Screw Tip for Drill (Medium Phillips)
- Locking Pliers

- 10 ft. Tape Measure
- Framing Square
- · 6 ft. Step Ladder
- Beeswax or Soap (Used to lubricate screw threads)
- Saw

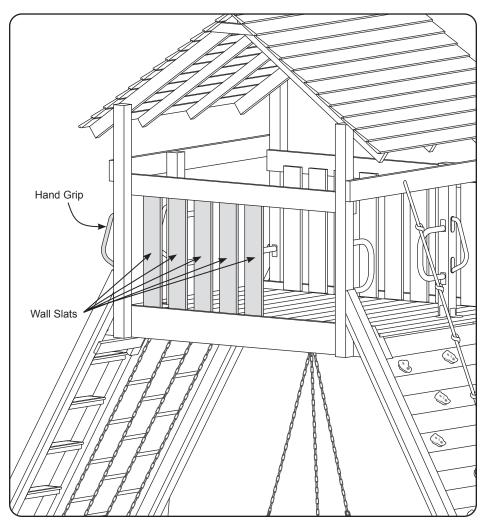
Attention, during the initial steps of installation the Manchester gym can sag. To help prevent sagging, do not remove the Front Wall Support until step 9. Be sure to read this entire document before beginning assembly. If the Gym Front Support does not fit properly in step 9, it may be necessary to raise the front of the gym and push the angled legs together. Failure to make adjustments early in the assembly can lead to difficulties later in the process.

STEP 1 – Component Removal:

It is required for a number of parts on the Gym to be removed for assembly. Some of these items will be re-installed later. All extra parts remaining after assembly should be saved for possible future repairs. Retain all hardware, it may be required for assembly.

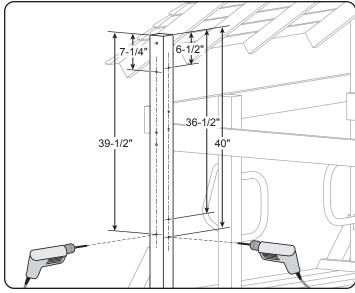
Remove the Wall Slats across the front of the Gym. If there is no slide in the front of the gym, use the Wall Slats to fill the opening after the Fun Deck has been installed.

Remove the Hand Grip attached to the Post where the Fun Deck is to be mounted.



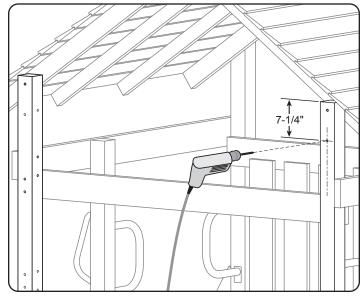
STEP 2 - Drill Corner Post:

Use a 3/8" diameter drill to make holes through the Corner Post of the gym where the Fun Deck is to be mounted. Hole placement is shown in the illustration on the right. All holes should be on the center line of the face of the Corner Post. Measurements register from the Top of the Corner Post.



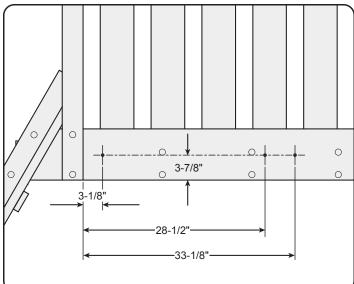
STEP 3 – Drill Opposite Post:

Move to the opposite Post on the front of the gym. Use a 3/8" diameter drill to make one hole through the Post, 7-1/4" from the top. The hole should be on the center line of the front face of the Post.



STEP 4 - Drill Beam:

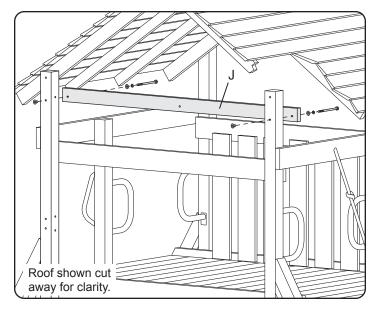
Measure 3-1/8", 28-1/2" and 33-1/8" along the front Beam of the gym, from the edge of the original Post. Make marks at those measurements 3-7/8" above the bottom edge of the Beam. Drill 3/8" diameter holes through the Beam at the marks.



STEP 5 – Top Post Connector:

From the inside of the gym, fasten the Top Post Connector (J) to the front Posts using two 5/16" x 4" Hex Bolt Assemblies*. Note the position of the holes are offset from the center line of the part. The holes should be offset nearer the bottom of the part.

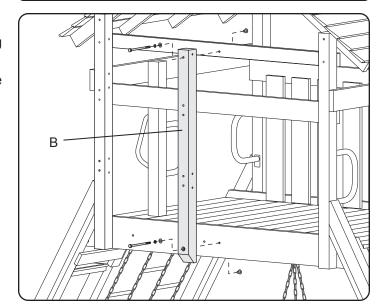
* A Hex Bolt Assembly consists of one Hex Bolt, one Lock Washer, one Flat Washer, and one Weld Nut.



STEP 6 - Center Post:

Fasten the Center Post (B) to the Top Post Support using one 5/16 x 4" Hex Bolt Assembly.

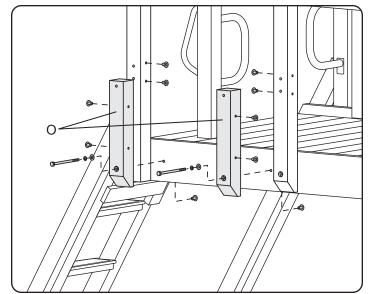
Fasten the bottom of the Center Post to the center of the platform Beam using one 5/16 x 5-1/2" Hex Bolt Assembly.



STEP 7 – Ladder Mounts:

Before installing the Ladder Mounts (O), insert eight 5/16 Weld Nuts into the holes on the Ladder Mounts, Center Post and gym Post in the positions shown at right. Make sure the Weld Nuts have clear threads and function properly; it will be difficult to access them if there are problems in later steps.

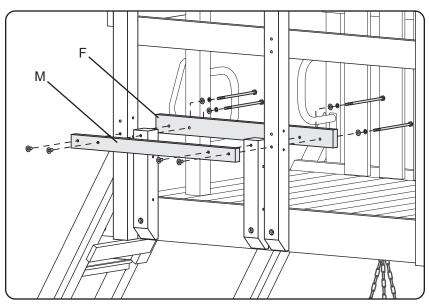
Fasten the bottom of each Ladder Mount to the platform Beam using one 5/16 x 5-1/2" Hex Bolt Assembly.



STEP 8 – Platform Entry:

Fasten the Platform Entry Support (F) and Gym End Stringer (M) to the Ladder Mounts, Center Post and gym Post using four 5/16 x 5-1/2" Hex Bolt Assemblies as shown. Make sure the holes in the Platform Entry Support are offset to the bottom and the holes in the Gym End Support offset to the top.

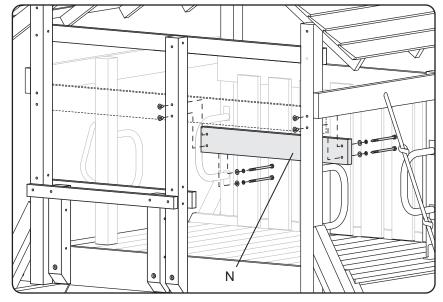
When installed correctly, the Platform Entry Support and the Gym End Stringer align at the bottom edge.



STEP 9 - Gym Wall Support:

To prevent sagging, do not put weight on the gym while performing this operation.

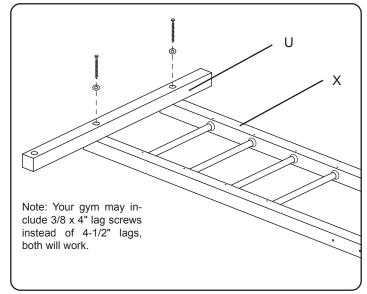
Replace the existing front Wall Support with the Gym Wall Support (N). Remove the original Wall Support. Connect the Gym Wall Support to the gym Post and Center Post using four of the 5/16 x 4" Hex Bolt Assemblies used for the original part.



STEP 10 - End Ladder Base Rail:

Place the End Ladder Assembly (X) with the side with the screws that secure the rungs face up. Fasten the End Ladder Base Rail (U) to the End Ladder Assembly using two $3/8 \times 4-1/2$ " Lag Screws and two 7/16" Flat Washers. Use the pre-piloted holes on the End Ladder rails for alignment.

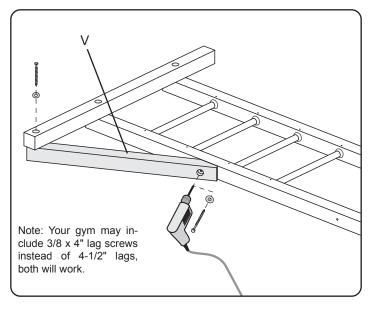
Note that the Base Rail projects further on one side than the other. Be sure to orient the Rail as shown.



STEP 11 - Side Support:

Loosely fasten the Side Support (V) to the Base Rail using one $3/8 \times 4$ -1/2" Lag Screw and one 7/16" Flat Washer. Use the pre-piloted hole in the Side Support for alignment.

Square the Base Rail to the End Ladder Assembly, then swing the Side Support to rest against the adjacent End Ladder Rail. Use a 1/4" diameter drill to create a 2-1/2" deep pilot hole before fastening the Side Support to the Ladder Assembly using one 3/8 x 4-1/2" Lag Screw and one 7/16" Flat Washer. Tighten all fasteners.



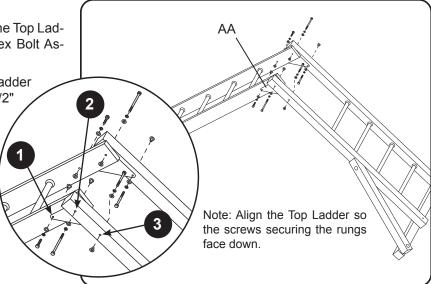
STEP 12 - End Ladder to Top Ladder:

Attach one Triangle Brace (AA) to the outside of the Top Ladder Rail at point #1 using one 5/16" x 1-1/2" Hex Bolt Assembly.

Align the Triangle Brace, Top Ladder and End Ladder Rails at point #2 and attach using one 5/16" x 4-1/2" Hex Bolt Assembly.

Attach the Triangle Brace to the End Ladder at point #3 using one 5/16" x 3-1/2" Hex Bolt Assembly.

Repeat with the opposite Top and End Ladder Rails.



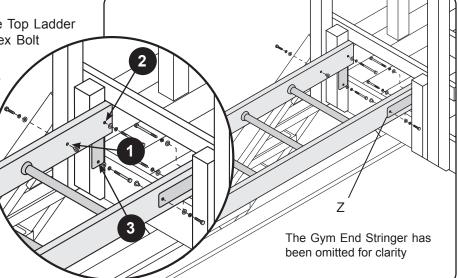
STEP 13 – Top Ladder to Gym:

Attach one L-Brace (Z) to the outside of the Top Ladder Rail at point #1 using one 5/16" x 1-1/2" Hex Bolt Assembly.

Align the L Brace, Top Ladder Rail, and Ladder Mount at point #2 and attach using one 5/16" x 4-1/2" Hex Bolt Assembly. The Weld Nut was inserted earlier.

Attach the L Brace to the Ladder Mount at point #3 using one 5/16" x 3-1/2" Hex Bolt Assembly. The Weld Nut was inserted earlier.

Repeat this procedure with the other Top Ladder Rail and the Ladder Mount. Level the Top Ladder and tighten all hardware.

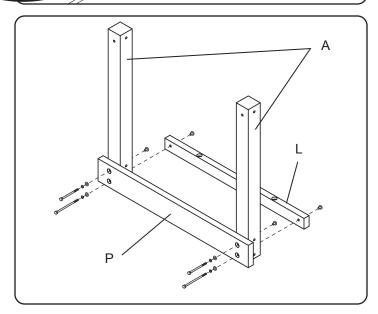


STEP 14 - Platform End Assembly:

Place the Platform End (P), the End Stringer (L), and the two Corner Posts (A) on the ground next to the End Ladder.

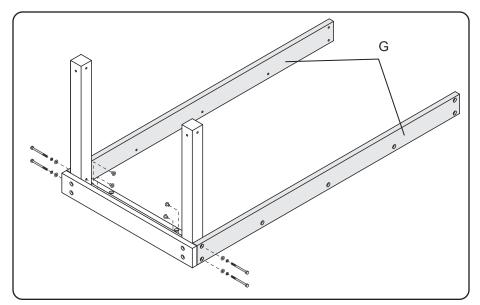
Fasten the Platform End to the Corner Posts using one 5/16 x 4" Hex Bolt Assembly each through the top hole on the Platform End and second to bottom hole on the Corner Post.

With the counter-bored holes facing up, fasten the End Stringer using two 5/16 x 5-1/2" Hex Bolt Assemblies through the Platform End and Corner Posts.



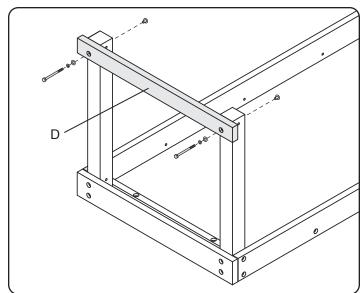
STEP 15 – Platform Supports:

Fasten the Platform Supports (G) to the End Assembly using two 5/16 x 4" Hex Bolt Assemblies each. Orient the Platform Supports as shown.



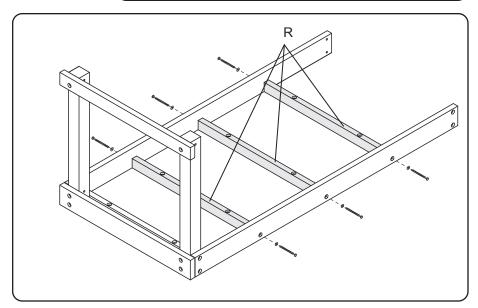
STEP 16 - End Wall Support:

Fasten the End Wall Support (D) to the Corner Posts using two $5/16 \times 4$ " Hex Bolt Assemblies. Note the holes in the End Wall Support are offset. Align the End Wall Support so that the top is flush with the top of the Corner Posts.



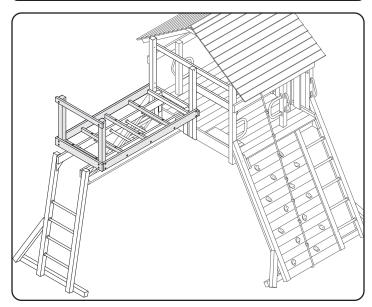
STEP 17 – Stringers:

Orient the three Stringers (R) with the counter-bored holes facing up. Fasten each Stringer to the left and right Platform Supports using two 5/16 x 3-1/2" Lags Screws and two 5/16" Flat Washers.



STEP 18 - Place Frame on Top Ladder:

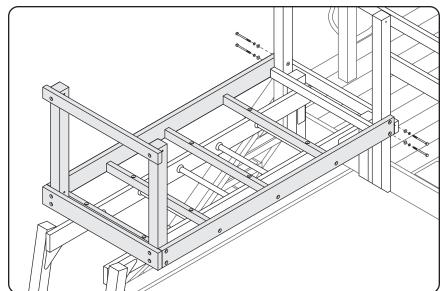
Lift the platform frame assembly onto the Top Ladder as shown.



STEP 19 - Platform Sides to Gym:

Place the end of the right Platform Side against the right side of the Center Post. Fasten the right Platform Side to the Center Post using two 5/16 x 4" Hex Bolt Assemblies. The Weld Nuts were inserted in a previous step.

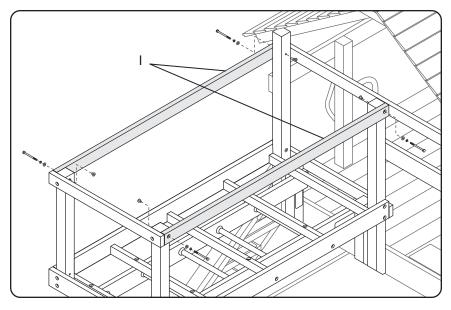
Place the end of the left Platform Side against the left side of the gym Post. Fasten the left Platform Side to the Post using two 5/16 x 4" Hex Bolt Assemblies. The Weld Nuts were inserted in a previous step.



STEP 20 – Wall Supports:

Fasten one Side Wall Support (I) to the right Corner Post and the Center Post using two 5/16 x 4" Hex Bolt Assemblies as shown.

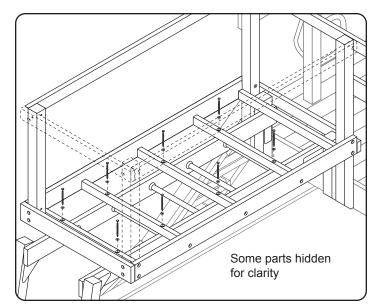
Fasten the other Side Wall Support to the left Corner Post and the gym Post using two 5/16 x 4" Hex Bolt Assemblies.



STEP 21 - Secure Platform Frame:

Make sure that the Ladder Assembly and Platform Frame Assembly project straight out from the gym. Adjust the position of each assembly so that the counter-bored holes on the top of each Stringer align directly above the center line of the Top Ladder rails.

Use a 1/4" diameter drill to create 2" deep pilot holes in the Top Ladder rails before fastening the Platform Frame using eight 5/16 x 4" Lag Screws and eight 5/16 Flat Washers.

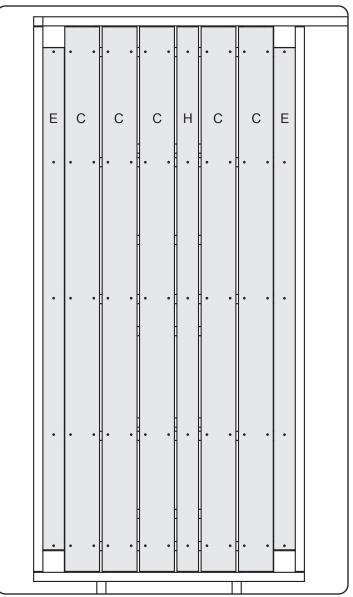


STEP 22 - Deck Boards:

Lay out all of the Deck Boards across the Stringers of the Platform Assembly as shown. Make sure that each hole in the Deck Boards is aligned above a support.

Fit both Narrow Deck Boards (E) snug against the left and right Platform Supports. Fasten each using five #10 x 1-5/8" Screws. Evenly space the rest of the Deck Boards between them. The gap will be approximately 1/4". The gap may change with humidity and manufacturing variance.

Fasten the Deck Boards (C) using ten #10 x 2" Screws each. Fasten the Narrow Deck Board (H) using five #10 x 2" Screws.

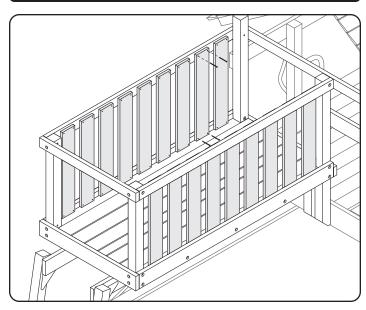


STEP 23 - Side Wall Slats:

Fasten nine Wall Slats (K) to the left Side Wall Support and the Platform Support using four #10 x 1-5/8" Screws each. Evenly space the Wall Slats between the posts. Each gap will be approximately 2-7/8".

Repeat with nine more Wall Slats on the right Side Wall Support and Platform Support.

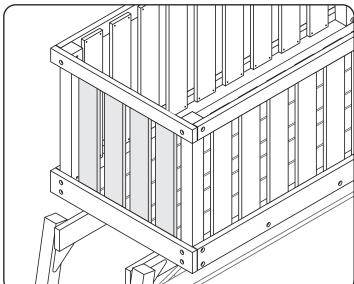
Caution: To prevent potentially serious injury from head entrapment, gaps must be narrower than 3-1/2" or wider than 9".



STEP 24 - End Wall Slats:

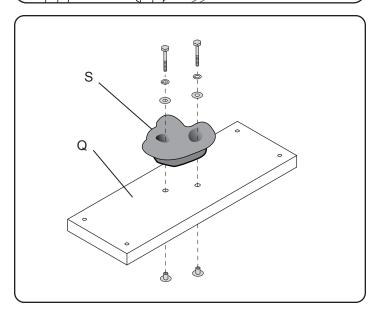
Fasten four Wall Slats (K) to the End Wall Support and Platform End, spaced evenly between the Corner Posts, using four #10 x 1-5/8" Screws each. The gaps will be approximately 2-1/8"

Caution: To prevent potentially serious injury from head entrapment, gaps must be narrower than 3-1/2" or wider than 9".



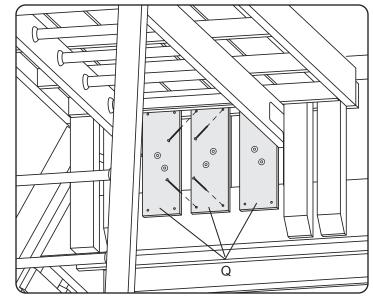
STEP 25 – Climbing Rocks:

Fasten one Climbing Rock (S) to each of the three Short Slats (Q) using two $1/4 \times 1-1/2$ " Hex Bolts, two 1/4" Lock Washers, two 8MM Flat Washers and two 1/4" Weld Nuts for each Rock.



STEP 26 - Short Slats:

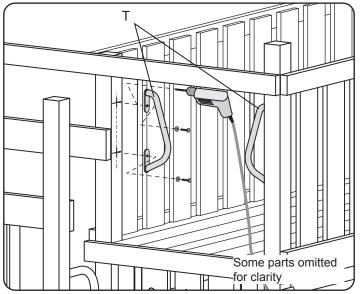
Fasten the three Short Slats to the Platform Entry Support and the front Beam of the gym using four #10 x 1-5/8" Screws each. From below the Top Ladder, space them evenly between the Ladder Mounts. Screw up at an angle to secure the top of the Slats to the Platform Entry Support.



STEP 27 - Hand Grips:

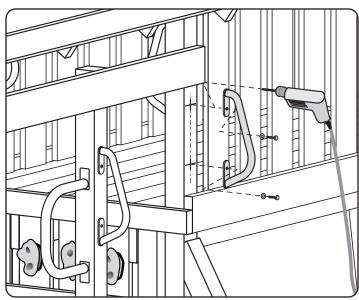
Hold one Hand Grip (T) against the Center Post a few inches below the Top Post Connector. Mark the position of the holes in the Hand Grip on the Post. Check to make sure that there are no fasteners that will interfere with mounting the Hand Grip in the chosen position. Drill 1/8" diameter pilot holes at the marks. Fasten the Hand Grip to the Post using two $1/4 \times 1-1/2$ " Lag Screws with 8mm Flat Washers.

Repeat with the other Hand Grip at the other side of the opening.



STEP 28 - Restore Gym Hand Grip:

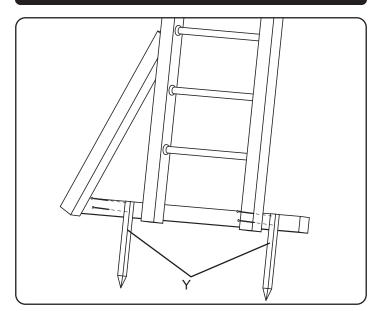
Find a good place on the gym Corner Post to re-mount the Hand Grip removed in step one. Drill 1/8" diameter pilot holes before fastening with the original hardware



STEP 29 - Ground Stakes:

Hammer two Ground Stakes (Y) into the ground tight against the Base Rail. Place the Ground Stakes 1/8" below the top of the Base Components. Secure each stake with two #10 x 2-1/2" Screws through the pre-drilled holes.

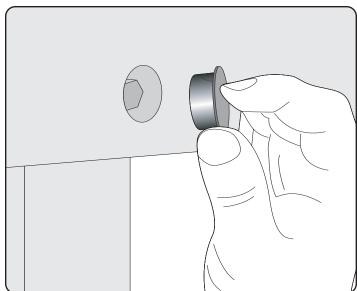
Note: Do NOT use concrete to set Ground Stakes. Pound a metal spike or rod into the ground to start a hole in hard or rocky ground.



STEP 30 - Hole Caps:

Make a final check and make sure that all the bolts and screws have been tightened.

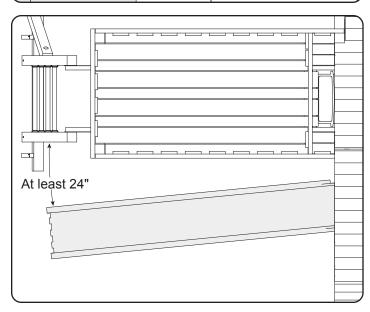
Locate the Hole Caps in the hardware bag. Install Hole Caps into all the counter-bored holes to cover and protect the hardware.



STEP 31 - Slide Placement:

If a slide is to be placed in the opening adjacent to the Fun Deck, it must be mounted at an angle to prevent any chance of encountering the End Ladder when using the slide. It is recommended that the slide pass more than 24" from the closest End Ladder Rail.

If there will be no slide in this position, close the opening using the gym Wall Slats removed in Step One. Make sure that there are no gaps wider than 3-1/2".



Save all instruction sheets and receipts in case it becomes necessary to contact Creative Playthings for warranty service and/or part replacement. The warranty can be found in your Owner's Manual.	
Please fill out the warranty card on the back of your owners manual. Your completed warranty card will allow us to quickly process warranty claims. Thank you.	
MANCHESTER FUN DECK 19807-100 Rev G (07-21)	
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