

Spiderbeam 18m Telescoping Fiberglass Pole

2.1 Pole Preparation

If you have not already done so, please assemble the clamp set (included with the pole), according to the instructions which you will find inside the shipping carton of the pole. These instructions are also available from Spiderbeam as a PDF.

2.1.1 Tips for Clamp Set Assembly

The Spiderbeam 18m Pole consists of 12 telescoping segments. The segments are counted from 1 to 12, with segment #1 being the bottom, thickest segment.

There are 11 clamps included with the clamp set. Each clamp will be installed on the bottom of its pole segment, resting on the segment below it. There is no clamp for pole segment #1. Counting begins with clamp #2.

We highly recommend labeling each clamp with the number of the pole segment on which it is to be installed. To label the clamps, use an “*Eding*” marker with white, permanent ink. In the U.S. and Canada, use a “*Sharpie*” marker with white, permanent ink. If you do not have one of these markers available, find an alternate way of labeling these clamps. This will make installation much easier and reduce the possibility of error. Worst case, just tape a piece of masking tape to each clamp and label it. This will last long enough for the assembly process.

2.2 Wooden Base Stake Preparation and Installation

The wooden base stake is not included in the 160-18-4WTH kit and must be sourced locally.

The purpose of the base stake is to hold the pole in place and keep it from slipping or sliding under the pressure of the wind. The guy ropes are the pole’s main horizontal support, not the base stake.

- Stake Dimensions: Approximately 5cm x 5cm x 150cm. (2” x 2” x 5’)

Preparation: it is advisable to slightly carve a point on the bottom of the stake using a sharp pocket knife. CAUTION: WORK CAREFULLY AND DO NOT CUT YOURSELF.

Identify the location for the 18m pole, and using a sledge hammer, pre-drill a hole in the ground for the installation of the wooden stake by pounding a 30mm to 40mm steel pipe about 75cm into the ground. * * * PLEASE TAKE CARE TO KEEP THIS STAKE PERFECTLY VERTICAL * * *

Remove this pipe, insert the base stake into the hole and pound it into the hole with a sledge hammer. * * * PLEASE TAKE CARE TO KEEP THIS STAKE PERFECTLY VERTICAL * * *

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2.3 Attaching the Pole to the Base Stake

DO NOT USE COMPRESSION CLAMPS FOR THIS PURPOSE !

Compression clamps, unless used in conjunction with protective rubber strips like the pole's clamp set, will cause damage to the pole.

Instead, use 2 or 3 straps to secure the pole to the wooden base stake. See the example on the right. → These straps are readily available in any camping supplies shop. They are used for securing things like sleeping bags to back packs.



- When you tighten the straps, take care that their metal adjustment head is resting on the wooden stake, not directly on the fiberglass pole.
- If you cannot find these straps, you may substitute 6mm Dacron rope:
 - ❑ Cut two or three pieces of 6mm Dacron rope about 80cm long and prepare their ends by heating them with a cigarette lighter.

<<< CAREFUL – THE BURNING ROPE IS VERY HOT >>>

2.4 Raising the Pole for the First Time

UNLESS YOU ARE VERY TALL, YOU SHOULD USE A SHORT STEP LADDER FOR THIS WORK.

Note: it is helpful to wear very thin leather gloves when erecting of the pole. This not only protects your hands, it also gives you a firmer grip on the pole and reduces hand slippage.



PLEASE ERECT THE POLE ONE TIME WITHOUT ANY WIRES ATTACHED.

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During the raising of the pole, you will install and adjust the 11 clamps. All clamps will be slipped over the top of the pole before beginning to erect it.

If you are using the optional guy belt set, you must insert the belts in the proper sequence, in between the clamps. Read 2.4.2 *before* installing the clamp set in 2.4.1.

TIP: Although you can tighten the clamps using a standard screw driver, it is much easier and faster to use a 7mm nut driver.

2.4.1 Raising and Clamping the Pole Segments

- Carefully raise the inner-most pole segment (segment #12) about 30 or 40 cm and temporarily tape it to the segment below it, using electrical insulation tape. To accomplish this, pull the top segment fully out until it pulls the next segment (segment #11) with it. While holding segment #11 with one hand lower segment #12 back into #11 until only about 30 or 40 cm are sticking out. Tape with electrical tape.
- You will now slide the entire clamp set, beginning with the largest clamp first (clamp #2), over the top of the pole. DON'T FORGET to insert the optional guy belts if you plan to use them. Do this as described below.
- First slide clamp #2 over the top of the pole.
- Next slide the 2nd largest clamp (clamp #3), over the pole.
- Continue sliding the remaining clamps in ascending order over the pole until all 11 clamps are in place. DON'T FORGET to insert the optional guy belts if you plan to use them. Do this as described below.

CONTINUE:

- Holding the top of segment #12 with one hand, remove the electrical tape with the other hand.
- Next, pull segment #12 (the top segment) out from segment #11 (directly below it), extending it as far as it will go.
- Secure these two segments together by holding segment 11 near the top with one hand, and segment 12 near the bottom with the other hand; pull apart with both hands as you twist your hands in opposite directions.
- Finally, slide clamp #12 into position, such that it sits fully on pole segment #12, but resting against the top of pole segment #11.

NEXT:

- Pull segment #11 out from segment #10; and as above, pull and twist to secure it.
- Secure clamp #11 at the bottom of pole segment #11, resting on the top of pole segment #10.
- Continue exactly like this until all of the pole segments are fully extended and secure.

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2.4.2 Using the Optional Guy Belts

Whenever possible, please use the optional guy belt set, available from the Spiderbeam Online Shop. These belts enable guying the pole in 3 or 4 directions (4 directions STRONGLY recommended), and reduce the point pressure exerted on the pole by the guy ropes.

Each guy belt will mount to a specific pole segment, resting on top of that segment's clamp (at the bottom).

- The belt with the larger hole mounts on pole segment # 5, so insert the belt between clamps #5 and #6.
- The belt with the smaller hole mounts on pole segment # 9, so insert the belt between clamps #9 and #10.

**DO NOT FORGET TO INSERT THESE BELTS BETWEEN THE
CLAMPS
WHEN PLACING THE CLAMPS OVER THE POLE.**



This completes the installation of the pole.