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Quilters' Guild of South Australia Inc Set up and care of exhibition frames

The quilt frames are made of aluminium so they are very light and east to erect. However, they need to be unpacked and **handled with care**.

It is important to follow the guidelines below.

There are **10** blue bags available, each containing a **set** of quilt frames and accessories. One red bag may also be taken as a spare. We hope that you will not need to use the red bag.

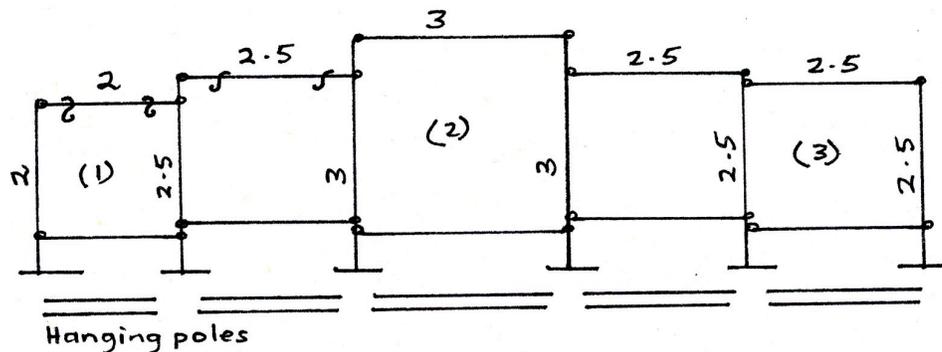
Blue vinyl bag Weight - 28kg Size - 3m x 60cm circumference

- 3m poles - 6
- 2.5m poles - 15
- 2m poles - 5
- frame feet – 6
- includes calico bag containing:**
- feet connectors - 6 (100mm)
- clamps - 20
- Allen keys - 2
- S hooks - 20 (plus)
- Instructions & checklist
- Level and/or wooden measure stick

Contents of
each Frame
Bag

Unpacking the bags

The bags will be supplied with a plastic tie at the zip. This will indicate that the contents have been checked. Once removed please do not replace with another tie. Take out the 2m and 2.5m poles, feet and accessory bag, then **EASE OUT** the 3m poles. The **CONTENTS** of each bag will make up a structure like this and will provide hanging space for 10 quilts, back to back.



The horizontal and vertical poles are identical to the quilt hanging poles.

For example if hanging two quilts over 2.5m but less than 3m, the **FOUR** x 3m poles will be used to make the frame, and 2 x 3m poles will be used to hang the 2 large quilts back to back.

Assembling the frames

With two or three people the best way is to make up each of the sections (1), (2) and (3) separately. To do this lay the components flat on the floor and join them using the clamps and Allen key. The clamps are best loosened a little and then **carefully** slid along the upright poles.

Notes

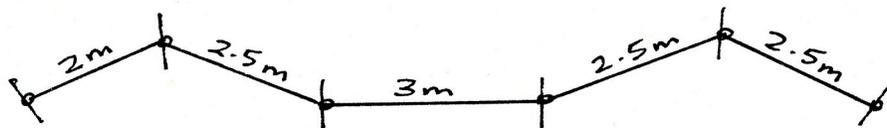
Apart from the two end poles of a set all upright poles need **three** clamps. Place them onto the poles with the Allen key slot upright in the direction the clamp will face. When the horizontal pole goes into the clamp make sure it is pushed all the way in. It is **very important** that all the joints are at 90 degrees [right angles], so use the wooden measuring stick and/or the spirit level. Make sure the lower horizontal poles are the same distance from the feet. 25 or 30cm is a good height. If the lower horizontal pole is not level it will become obvious when a straight quilt is hung.

Once the frame (1) has been joined together securely, join 'feet' to each vertical pole using the 'feet connectors'. Raise the section evenly, **each pole needs to have a person raising in unison**. Turn the feet at 90 degrees [right angles] so that the section stands by itself. Repeat with section (2) and (3).

Then add the connecting poles between (1) and (2) then (1) and (3). Again make sure the connecting poles are at right angles to the vertical poles. Ladders will be required.

All five sections may be assembled on the ground, **but** you will need **six** people to raise the frame, one at each vertical pole.

The most stable arrangement for each SET of frames is like this:



Once the arrangement is set, the clamps can be secured, make sure not to over tighten them as this will distort the bars. Don't forget that the appropriate clamps will need to be loosened if you want to 'pivot' any of the connections at a later time. Different combinations can be made but there is a limitation with the number of feet and hanging poles.

Hanging the quilts

Once the structure is erected and stable, slip the hanging poles of appropriate length through the quilt sleeves. Suspend the hanging poles from the top horizontal poles using the 'S' hooks, one at each end. If hanging **very** heavy quilt, use more hooks. You will need two people and two ladders minimum for this job.

Display

It is advisable to have a plant or chair or prop at the end of each **set** to prevent the feet from being moved accidentally.

Taking the frames down

The frames should be dismantled by reversing the procedure for putting them up. Take the connecting poles down first, being careful not to let them 'dangle' from one end as this may distort them. Then swivel the feet of each section and lower it evenly to the ground. The clamps are loosened and poles separated and then carefully slip off the clamps. Again if you have six people one at each vertical pole, the feet can be slipped off and the whole set lowered to the floor, supporting the top with the length of the arm.

Packing up each blue vinyl bag

Pack the poles and the other accessories according to the checklist. **Ease** the 3 metre poles in **first**. The calico bag is positioned at one end. The feet need to be positioned in the bag so that the upright of the foot lays flat and does not distort the blue bag when zipped. Zip with care. **Use** the **Checklist** and **tick off** the contents of each bag. Although the bags look waterproof, they are not. Please take care to keep them dry.