

# Greenstage construction notes

**DO NOT TRY AND CONSTRUCT A GREENSTAGE IF YOU HAVE NOT BEEN TRAINED OR DO NOT HAVE A TRAINED ERECTOR ON SITE**

1. Read the construction notes and safety guidelines carefully
2. Lay out the poles to form the back square frame  
BR – bottom rail  
TR – top rail  
FLL – frame leg left  
FLR – frame leg right
3. Place blocks under the two legs approx 400mm from the bolt holes
4. Place the bottom rail on top of the legs and bolt through with the coach bolt heads on top.
5. Repeat for the top rail
6. Check that the frame is square and fix two stakes at the end of the frame to stop it moving backwards
7. Tie two ropes diagonally across the frame – ‘wagonners hitches’ are best for this to get the right tension. These ties are essential to keep the back frame square.
8. Raise the front of the frame to rest on a step ladder (or adjustable speaker stands or similar if they are available!)
9. Bolt the two front legs (FR.L and FR.R) to the outside of each frame leg
9. Unfold the tarp and find match the centre mark to the centre mark on the bottom rail
10. Wrap the 75mm x30mm batten four times around the canvas and screw into position on the bottom rail

11. Pull the canvas carefully over the frame, keeping the centre mark in the middle
12. Two people lift the top rail up and an additional one person per leg push up the front legs a metre at a time until you have the top rail at the desired height. Try and keep the frame square at all times and do not lift the lower end of the poles and more than you have to clear the grass. Please note that the safest way to push the frame up if you have less than 4 people available is to use ground stakes every 500mm to ensure the frame does not collapse under its own weight, particularly likely on wet grass.
13. Anchor the back frame to the ground back and front in its final position with 2 pairs of 500mm x 12m steel pegs and 12mm nylon rope
14. Make up the front section of the stage inside the existing A frame, bolting the front top rail to each leg and placing the angled cross beams across each corner. You may have to move the front legs of the original A frame slightly to the left and right to make room for the front of the front frame as you lift it off the ground. If you do have to do this remember to replace the pegs!
15. With the front section back under the stage as far as it will go, raise the front top rail up to rest on a step ladder (or stands) placed in the middle of the rail for balance
15. Find the middle of the tarp, fold round the second batten four times and screw into position.
16. Remove the ladder (or stands) – the tarp will now carry the weight of the front section
17. Push and lift the front section up and out until you have reached the height you want (suggest lower for better rain protection if used as a workshop space and higher for use in fine weather as a stage) and the tarp is tight and under tension
18. Screw and lash the 100mm half round horizontal beams to the front section and the two front legs as braces to prevent the structure collapsing in on itself – use guy ropes to secure

the front section out front in windy conditions before you fix the beams as a precaution. These beams can also be used to hang stage lights.

19. Lash the front section legs and the frame legs together and stake firmly to the ground with 4 500mm x 12mm steel pegs
20. Stake the tarp wings in position using the shock cords and rope with 500mm x 12mm steel pegs at least every 1000mm
21. Fold the back of the tarp neatly and fix in position with the speed cramps. On exposed sites, run two 12mm nylon ropes from the top two corners of the back frame and anchor them to the ground diagonally to the ground using 2 500mm x 12mm steel pegs and shock cords on either side of the outside back frame
22. It is recommended that you create a safety barrier around the sides and back of the stage using hazard tape and stakes.
23. Dismantling: follow these instructions in reverse BUT please note that the frame will tend to want to collapse when you get half way through the dismantling process when gravity begins to take over! Take extra care to ease the front legs down no more than a metre at a time and have the step ladder or stands ready in position to take the weight of the frame as it gets to eye level. Do not untie the ropes until the back frame is safely on the ground

### **IMPORTANT NOTES:**

**DO NOT ERECT IN HIGH WINDS – IF IT GETS WINDY WHEN THE STAGE IS UP THE FIXED FRAME IS VERY STRONG AND STANDS INDEPENDENTLY OF THE TARP COVER, SO UNDO THE TARP WINGS AND FOLD BACK ONTO THE FRAME TO DECREASE THE RISKS AND AVOID DAMAGE TO THE TARP AND ANY POSSIBLE INJURY TO PEOPLE. THESE STRUCTURES HAVE BEEN USED SAFELY IN WINDS OVER 50MPH WHEN SECURELY ANCHORED BUT ANY OPEN FRONTED STRUCTURE IS VERY VULNERABLE TO WIND PRESSURE AND HEALTH AND SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS SHOULD BE PARAMOUNT AT ALL TIMES.**

**GREENSTAGES ARE DESIGNED TO AVOID THE USE OF FRONT AND SIDE GUY ROPES AS THEY ARE A CLASSIC TRIP HAZARD. HOWEVER, ON EXPOSED SITES WE RECOMMEND FIXING FRONT AND SIDE GUY ROPES TO THE TOP OF THE FRAMES AND USING SAFETY TAPE AND STAKES TO MAKE THE AREA SAFE.**

**NEVER ERECT THE GREENSTAGE WITHOUT FIXING THE FRAME BRACES – THERE IS A RISK THAT THE FRONT FRAME MAY FOLD BACKWARDS ONTO THE BACK FRAME IN THE CASE OF A FREAK GUST OF WIND IF THE BRACES HAVE NOT BEEN FIXED IN PLACE.**

**IF YOU HAVE PURCHASED OR HIRED A GREENSTAGE AND ARE ERECTING IT ON SITE WITHOUT SUPERVISION FROM A MEMBER OF THE GREENSTAGE TEAM PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU ARE DOING SO AT YOUR OWN RISK AND THAT REALIFE TRUST CAN NOT ACCEPT ANY LIABILITY FOR YOUR TEAMS HUMAN ERRORS, POORLY MAINTAINED EQUIPMENT OR FREAK WEATHER CONDITIONS**

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