

# Versa Lift™

Attic Storage Lifting System

There are various measurements that people ask for when looking at our lifts. All of these measurements and more are found in our installation documents. Please print the correct Installation Manual to your unit and read in detail BEFORE installing a Versalift Attic Lift. Our clients RARELY have issues when they follow the Step by Step instructions in the manuals provided.

NOTE: BOTH INSTALL DOCUMENTS ARE BELOW, BE FOREWARNED ENTIRE DOCUMENT IS OVER 50 PAGES TO PRINT.

Here are the most common asked questions. If you have any questions, just call us direct at (405) 516 2412 or email: [support@cynergymail.com](mailto:support@cynergymail.com)

The Versalift comes in two sizes, the Model 24 and Model 32.

The Versalift can go up to 20' Floor to Floor.

Measure from the Attic Floor Decking upstairs down to the Garage Floor below. When ordering specify as follows: Standard Height = 8' – 11' Floor to Floor. "H" as in Model 24H or 32H means 11' – 14' Floor to floor. Model 24WHX = Wireless Xtra High or 14' – 17'. Model 24WHXX = 17' – 20' Wireless Xtra Xtra High. The "M" Series means Mounted Wall Switch, and comes with two wall switches, one upstairs and one down.

**Winner of**  
**Popular Mechanics**  
TODAY'S ANSWERS FOR CURIOUS MINDS  
**PM** EDITOR'S CHOICE AWARDS 08

## Versa Lift™

The Award-Winning Attic Storage System

### Model 24

Lifting Cap: 15.3 Cu. Ft., 200 lbs./Load  
Platform ID: 20.75W x 44L x 39H Max  
Power Head OD: 26W x 57L x 46.5H  
Opening Req: 22.5 x 46.5"

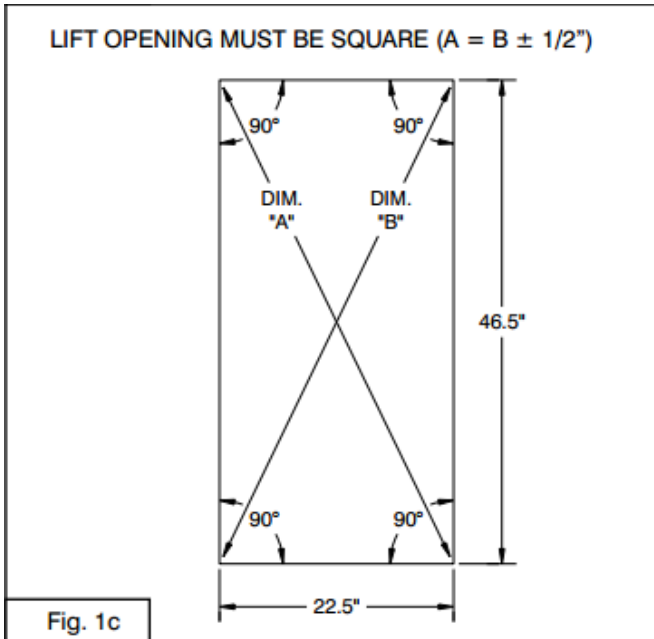
### Model 32

Lifting Cap: 35 Cu. Ft., 250 lbs./Load  
Platform ID: 28.75W x 56L x 52.5H Max  
Power Head OD: 34W x 69L x 60H  
Opening Req: 30.5 x 58.5"

(405) 516 2412

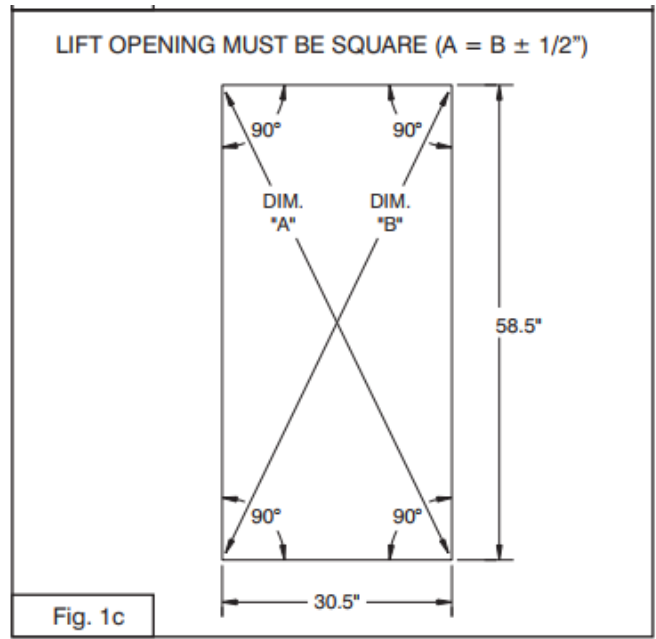
What size OPENINGS DO I NEED?

**Model 24 ROUGH IN 22 ½" x 46 ½"**

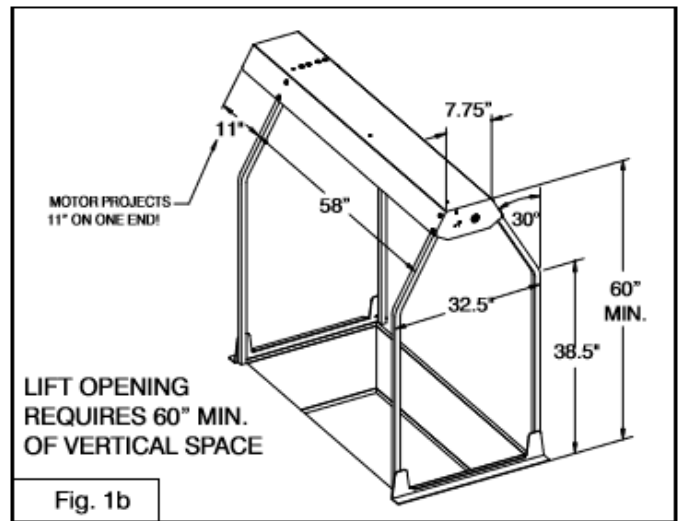
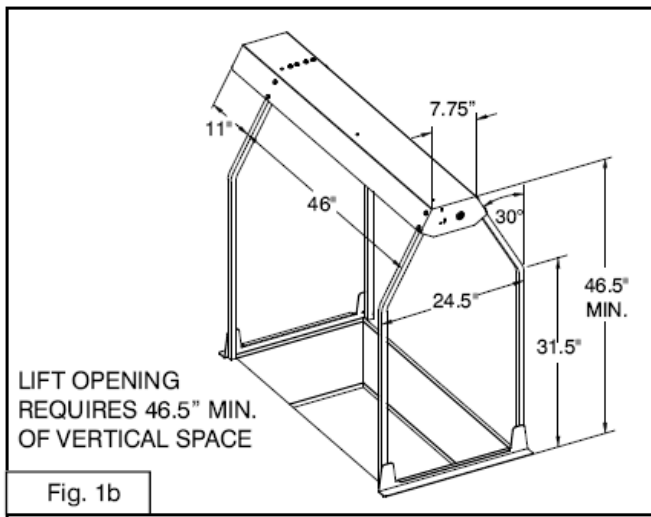


HERE ARE DIMENSIONS OF ACTUAL MODEL 24 UNIT

**Model 32 ROUGH IN 30 ½" x 58 ½"**



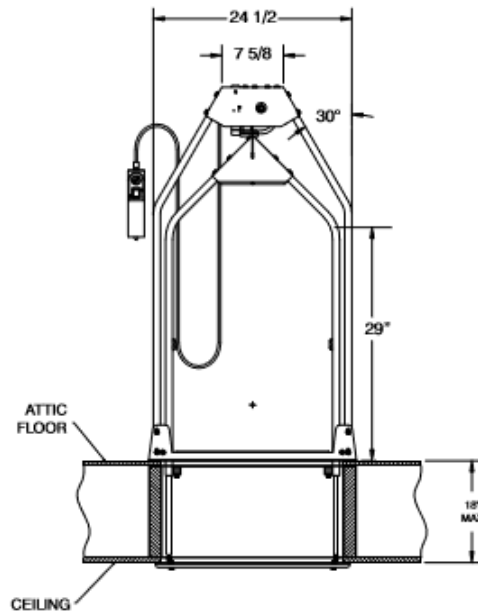
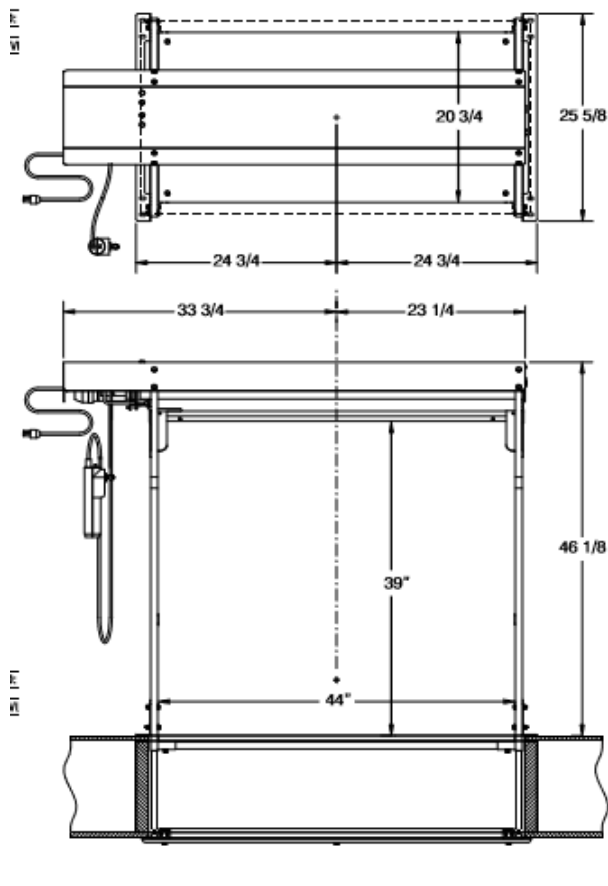
DIMENSIONS OF ACTUAL MODEL 32



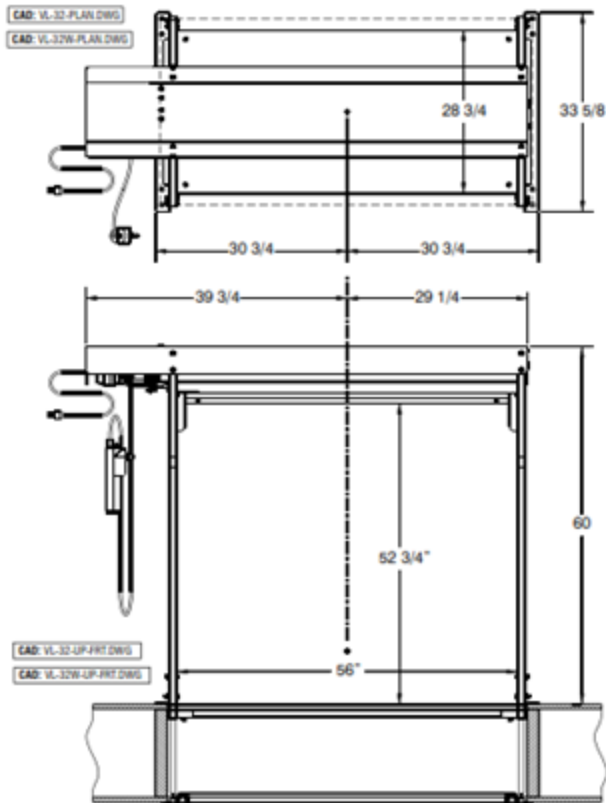
NOTE: THE MODEL 24 is also available in a 36" High Unit at no additional cost.

EITHER UNIT CAN BE CUSTOM CUT DOWN IN HEIGHT for additional cost.

## Versalift Model 24 Technical Specs

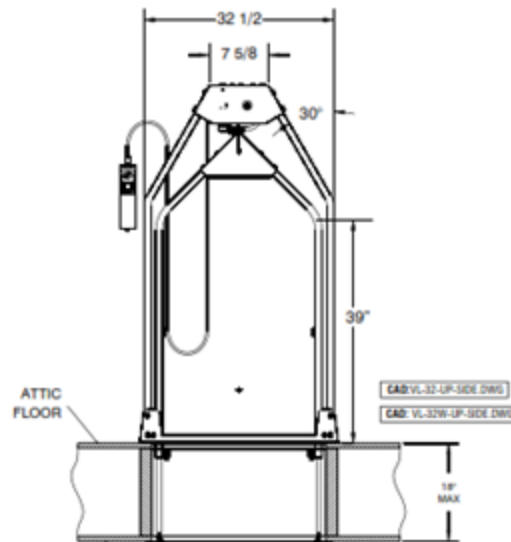


## Versalift Model 32 Technical Specs



**Voltage/Power:** 115 vac, 60 hz, 4.5 amps  
**Opening Required:** 30 1/2 x 58 1/2" (+ 1/2", -0")  
**Opening Finish:** Smooth perpendicular sidewalls  
**Shipping Weight:** 206 lbs.

**Versa Lift illustrated in the raised (UP) position.**



# Model 24

## Installation Requirements:

**Opening Required:** 22 ½ x 46 ½" (+1/4", -0")

**Opening Finish:** Smooth perpendicular sidewalls

**Electrical:** 115 vac grounded power outlet

## Installation Recommendations:

The Lift's electrical outlet and the attic lighting should preferably be on a single circuit controlled by a switch outside of the attic. For corded models, the opening should be close enough to the attic ladder so the 15' remote cord will reach through the ladder opening. For lift opening dimensions, see the **Rough-In Guide** (attached). For complete detailed information and specific framing suggestions, see the **Versa Lift Installation Guide**.

## Specifications:

**Corded Models:** Hand-held remote w/15' cord & keylock

**Wireless Models:** Wireless hand-held radio remote

**Floor-to-Floor:** Model 24=8-11', 24H=11-14', 24HX=14-20'  
Model 24W=8-11', 24WH=11-14', 24WHX=14-20'

**Joist Height Max:** 18" (incl. decking & sheet rock)

**Lifting Capacity:** 15.3 Cu. Ft., 200 lbs. per load

**Platform Dimensions:** 20¾"W" x 44L" x 39H" Max I.D.

**Lift Speed:** 8"/sec. (10-ft. in approx. 15 seconds)

**Cables (2):** .093 steel w/zinc plating 1,000 lb. break

**Construction:** Powder coated steel

**Motor:** .6 HP Gear motor with automatic brake

**Voltage/Power:** 115 vac, 60 hz, 4.5 amps

**Power-head Dim.:** 26W x 57L x 46.25H

**Opening Required:** 22½ x 46½" (+¼", -0")

**Opening Finish:** Smooth perpendicular sidewalls

**Shipping Weight:** 170 lbs.

# Model 32

## Installation Requirements:

**Opening Required:** 30 ½ x 58 ½" (+½", -0")

**Opening Finish:** Smooth perpendicular sidewalls

**Electrical:** 115 vac grounded power outlet

## Installation Recommendations:

The Lift's electrical outlet and the attic lighting should preferably be on a single circuit controlled by a switch outside of the attic. The opening should be close enough to the attic ladder so the remote control will reach through the ladder opening. For more detailed information and for specific framing suggestions, see the Rough-In Guide and the Versa Lift Installation Guide.

## Specifications:

**Control:** Hand-held remote with 15' cord & keylock

**Floor-to-Floor:** 32=8-11', 32H=11-14', 32HX=14-20'

**Joist Height Max:** 18" (incl. decking & sheet rock)

**Lifting Capacity:** 35 Cu. Ft., 250 lbs. per load

**Platform Dimensions:** 28-3/4" x 56"

**Lift Speed:** 8"/sec. (10-ft. in approx. 15 seconds)

**Cables (2):** .093 steel w/zinc plating 1,000 lb. break

**Construction:** Powder coated steel

**Motor:** .6 HP Gear motor with automatic brake

**Voltage/Power:** 115 vac, 60 hz, 4.5 amps

**Power-head Dim.:** 34W x 69L x 60H

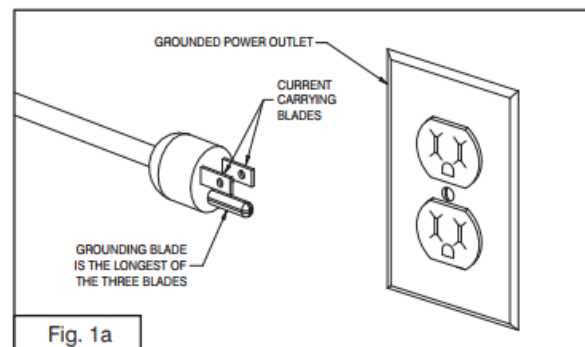
**Opening Required:** 30 ½ x 58 ½" (+½", -0")

**Opening Finish:** Smooth perpendicular sidewalls

**Shipping Weight:** 206 lbs.

The power cord provided with this product has three blades. The longest blade is the grounding blade (Fig. 1a). The shorter flat blades are the current carrying blades. You will need a grounded power outlet (receptacle) as shown below (Fig. 1a). If your outlet does not have a grounded receptacle for a three blade plug or if you are unsure if your outlet is correctly grounded, have a qualified electrician check the outlet (receptacle) to make sure it meets local codes. Incorrect grounding puts you at risk of electrical shock. **Never modify the equipment plug to fit a two blade outlet (receptacle)!**

If you use an extension cord, it must be a heavy duty three-wire type with a three blade grounding plug and matching grounded outlet (receptacle) like those shown in Fig. 1a and rated for at least twice the load (10 amps minimum).



**WE RECOMMEND YOU PUT THE LIFT ON THE SAME ELECTRICAL CIRCUIT AS THE ATTIC LIGHTS, IT ONLY DRAWS 5 AMPS, AND THAT WAY WHEN YOU TURN OFF ATTIC LIGHTS, YOU TURN OFF POWER TO THE LIFT....**

## There are THREE ways to operate or switch the Versalift

1. 15' CORDED UNIT

2. WIRELESS UNIT

3. IN WALL SWITCH



*The cord is 15' long and connects to the top of the lift, thus if you want to use the lift downstairs it should be installed near the ladder opening, or you could drill a 3" hole in the ceiling and drop it down or just wind it upstairs and use it there.*

## WIRELESS REMOTE CONTROLLER



*The Wireless unit is our most popular unit, easy to install, easy to use, and can be used upstairs or down. You can also have two units, one to use upstairs and one to use down.*

### WIRELESS REMOTE SETTINGS & OPERATION

The wireless receiver and remote transmitter are pre-set at the factory to the codes and configurations shown below. A 9-volt battery will also be installed in the transmitter at the factory. If your transmitter fails to operate the lift, first make sure the lift power cord is plugged in and the power switch on the rear of the motor housing is turned ON and lighted. If the transmitter still fails to operate the lift, replace the battery with a fresh 9-volt battery. The indicator light at the top of the transmitter when either the up or down button is pushed and a signal is being transmitted. See the Owners Manual for details about operation of the remote transmitter.

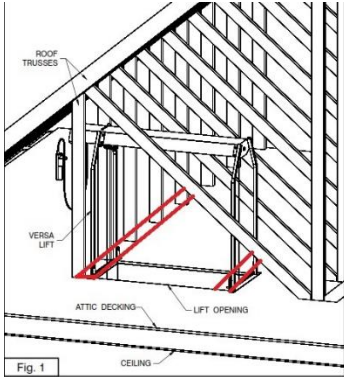
## IN WALL SWITCHES



Includes two in-wall switches and a 50' continuous loop of wire connected to a circuit board. When in new construction, just run 3/4" conduit from lift area to the switch downstairs. Downstairs switch is double gain and has key lock, upstairs switch uses single gain box. If done after construction, just run the low voltage wire across the attic and down the wall then connect to switch. See installation manual for details.

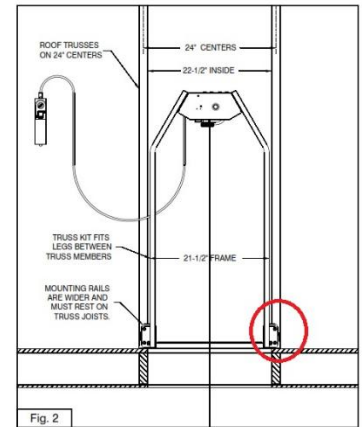
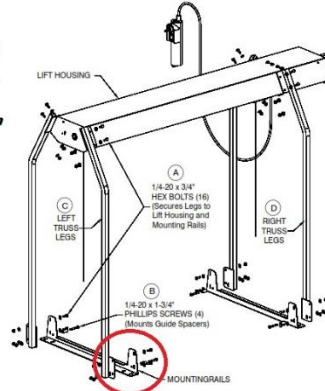
## TRUSS LEG KIT

The Model 24 uses an opening that is 22 ½" x 46 ½" thus if your pre-manufactured Trusses are on 24" centers, the Model 24 will go right in between the two joists. And the truss leg kit available from us swings the legs around so the lift will sit "on" the joists vs. outside the joists. If your Versalift legs are in the way of the trusses, you will need the truss leg kit. The following should be helpful in your requirement to use the kit or not. If you are in question, order the kit, and if you do not need it, you can return it for full credit.



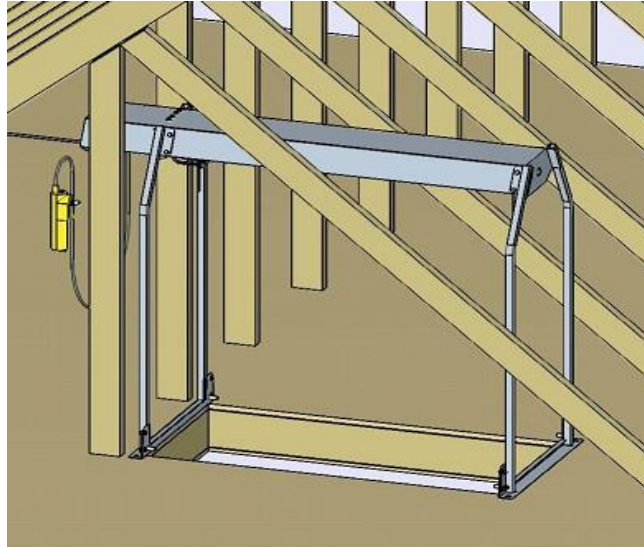
*If your trusses interfere with the mounting plate, you will need the Truss Leg Kit. The picture on the left shows boards that could interfere with the mounting of the plate because it extends out past the truss.*

*The picture on the right shows the horizontal mounting plate and how it extends out beyond to the point you would not have room for the mounting plate.*

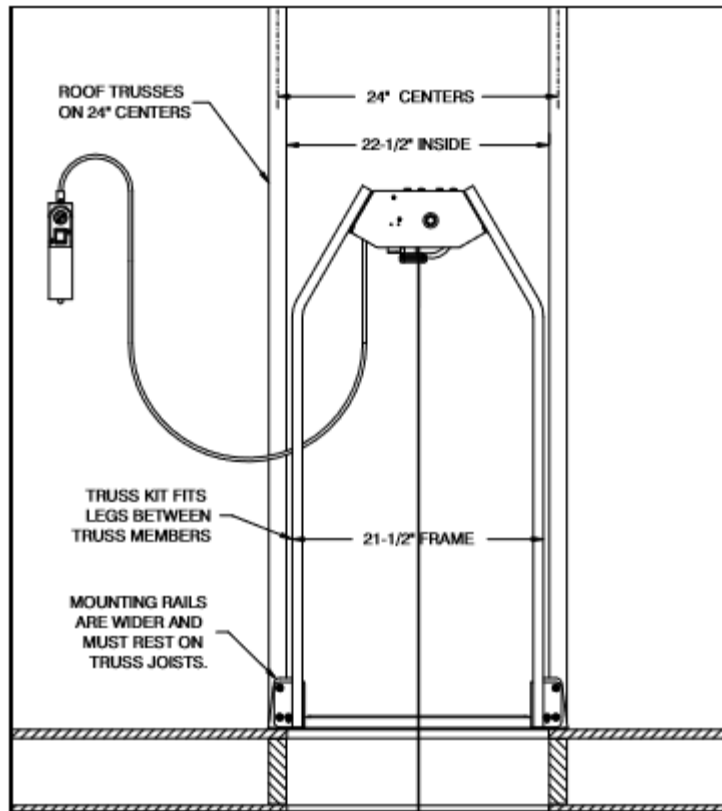


*As you can see, if the horizontal mounting bracket that sits on the floor is not obstructed by a truss, you would not need the Truss Leg Kit. If you are in question, order the Truss Leg Kit (\$96.50) If you end up not needing it, send it back for refund.*

*Note how the Truss Leg kit does not extend out beyond the opening but allows you to mount the unit on the vertical truss instead*



Shown here is a job that is built of Pre Manufactured Trusses, however the Truss Leg Kit is not required since the Versalift feet do not butt up against the truss. Call us if you have questions. (405) 516 2412.



Shows Lift mounted on top of trusses using the Truss Leg Kit

**Q. WHAT IS ACTUAL SIZE OF CEILING COVER PLATE AND WHAT IS IT MADE OF?**

A. The ceiling cover is made of 18 Gauge White Powder Coated Steel. 18 Ga. Steel generally has a 30 minute fire rating.

NOTE: A few areas of the U.S. are requiring a FIREPROOF door between your garage and attic. We now offer a laboratory tested / approved 30 minute fire rated door for those required counties. Also, you can apply a piece of sheetrock to the bottom of the lift ceiling cover, or the same material that covers your attic ladder door or ceiling which will pass most inspectors requirements.

The size of the ceiling Cover for the MODEL 24 is 24" x 48" and yes, you can paint it to match or apply texture. The size of the ceiling cover for the MODEL 32 is 32" x 60"

**Q. WHAT SIZE IS THE LIFT TUBING CONSTRUCTION?**

A. 7/8" square powder coated tubing



This Messinine install shows the ceiling Cover Underneath. (above)

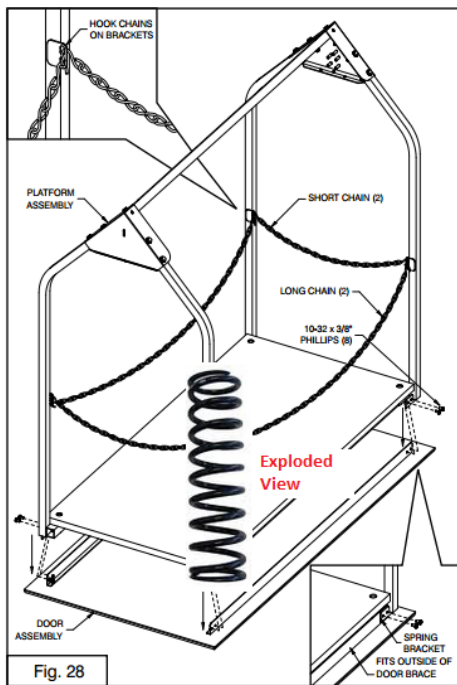


PHOTO SHOWING INSTALLER PULLING DOWN ON SPRING LOADED CEILING COVER. As the lift goes up through the opening, the cover catches on the ceiling allowing the springs to hold it tight. Lift shuts off automatically up and down.

**Q. HOW DOES THE LIFT GET LEVEL WITH MY ATTIC FLOOR???**

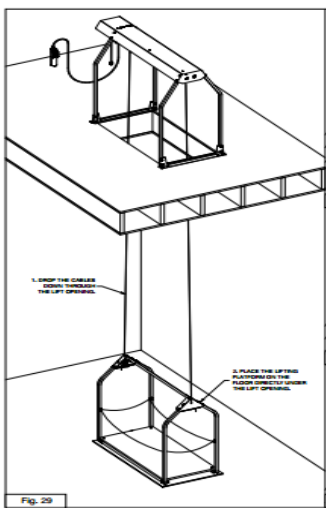
A. There are Four Springs in each of the legs of the Basket that travels Into your attic. The Ceiling Panel closes on the garage ceiling sheetrock, and the lift continues to travel up through the opening until it is Level with the Attic Floor, at which time it automatically shuts off. These springs will allow for 20" depth. Thus we don't care if you have 2 x 8's, 2 x 12's, or 18" "I" joists, the spring will stretch and hold the cover tight against the ceiling. You can also apply some foam insulation tape to the lift door to seal it off from really cold climates. You could also drape a blanket or cover over the lift when in up position to protect the attic or garage from cold air.





**Q. Can you give me any details on the Lifting Cables for the Versalift?**

A. The two cables have a lifting strength of 1,000 lbs. per cable. They are .093 Aircraft steel Cable 7 x 19 (which means 7 bundles of 19 woven filaments for 132 strands. Safe working rating is 350 lbs. We rate the Model 24 lift at 200 lbs. and the Model 32 at 250 lbs. for safety purposes.



The LIFT DECK is 20 3/4" x 44" Outside Dimensions and made of 3/4" Plywood press board that is covered in Melamine construction material.

Melamine resin is the main constituent of high-pressure laminates, such as Formica and laminate flooring. Melamine is typically used as the binder / resin in hard-surface countertop materials, such as those used in lab desks.

**Q. What happens if I mis-measured, and when the unit gets here the cables are not long enough?**

A. You will need to ship back the entire control head unit in the original box that it came in. Call us first and get a RGA Number. The cables are installed at the factory, and it is specially designed stainless steel aircraft cable that has to be installed properly.

Just remember to measure from the FLOOR of the ATTIC to the FLOOR of the GARAGE when ordering proper length.

**Q. What happens if I order a unit and when it gets here I discover it will not fit in my attic?**

**A.** We will take the first unit back as long as it has not been taken out of the box. You will be charged the shipping cost out for that unit, and be responsible for shipping that unit back to us. There could also be restocking fees and reboxing fees etc; involved. We have to run the first unit back through quality control to insure the unit has not been damaged during shipping etc; You will not be charged for freight out on the new unit, and your credit card will be credited for the difference between the two units less fees described above.

**Q. I just installed the unit and it went down, but won't go up... (for units purchased prior to April 2019) If you are in question about any trouble shooting, just call us at 405 516 2412 we will walk you through it.**

**A.** There is a plastic tie strap that holds the upper limit switch BALE in place during installation. Cut the plastic tie and remove it, and the lift should go up fine now. (this is on units purchased prior to 2019). If you bought a Wireless unit after January 2019, there is an ON/OFF switch on the back of the remote, make sure it is in the ON position. And if you have an older Wireless Model MOST IMPORTANT: The Versalift is designed to hold the button down or up the entire time allowing the lift to shut itself off whether in the down position or up position. Trying to manipulate the lift by allowing it to land on a table, or inside a pickup truck bed can have negative consequences, such as the cable running up backwards on the cable spool. When this happens, there is a reset switch on the unit designed to trip, thus if this occurrence has taken place, pull out on the reset switch and push it in. If you have been manually trying to stop the lift in the up or down position, it is important you allow it to go all the way up and shut itself off, then go all the way down and shut itself off....

1. Check that lift has power to the motor. (plug a light or drill into the outlet to confirm) Make sure the red light on the outside of the housing is on.
2. Unplug the lift, count to 5, then plug it back in and try your remote. If that doesn't work.....
3. Replace the Battery in the remote with a brand new battery from the store. (Batteries that have been in a drawer can lose their memory over time).....
4. Check the leads going into the radio circuit board to insure none have vibrated loose....you should also remove the plug in to the circuit board and inspect it for any charred residue....also check that the antennae is pointed correctly, (push in, twist it to lock it in) and not loose.
5. If the above check out, re-pair the remote to the lift using the instructions attached.
6. If all of the above do not work, call us back....

Here is a manual to help your Remote to "Relearn the Memory". (prior to 2019)

[https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0022/3238/5602/files/relearn\\_memory.pdf?301](https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0022/3238/5602/files/relearn_memory.pdf?301)

**Q. My lift was lowered onto a box or I lowered it down to a pickup truck bed for unloading etc; and now it won't go back up, or the cables are wrapped around the drum improperly, what do I do?**

First, you should call us at 405 516 2412 so we can confirm the issue. The Versalift is designed to automatically shut off when it goes up into the attic and gets level with the floor of the attic. At that point it pushes up on a lever that shuts it off. Conversely when it is going down to the garage floor, the Versalift senses the slack in the cables the second it hits the floor which automatically shuts it off. That way the cable stays taut around the cable drum and you will never have an issue. IF you have lowered the unit down onto a box, it thinks it is on the floor, it may try to run up backwards causing the cable to wind up backwards. Not a serious issue, but has to be addressed. So call us first, and this is what we are most likely to advise you to do...

[https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0022/3238/5602/files/Resetting\\_the\\_Cable\\_Drum.pdf?301](https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0022/3238/5602/files/Resetting_the_Cable_Drum.pdf?301)

**Q. I am considering going with the "M" Series (Mounted Wall Switch) and my electrician wants to Pre Wire for it.**

If you want the M series, have your electrician run ¾" PVC conduit from the lift location to the wall switch. The M series comes with two switches, one goes upstairs, one goes downstairs. It also comes with a 50' continuous LOOP of wire connected to a circuit board. You pull off approximately 5' of wire and cut then attach to your upstairs switch next to the lift. Mount on a nearby support or on the lift. It takes a Single Gain Box. Now you have 45' of wire to run across the attic and down the wall to the downstairs switch. This is low voltage wire thus can run down the inside of the wall. If you are foam filling the wall, or your electrician wants to pre-install, just have him run the ¾" conduit to a Double Gain box in the wall. The downstairs switch has a Keylock which disables both the downstairs and upstairs switches when enabled. Often times electricians will try to "shortcut" the process by running wire and tying it into our wiring instead of running conduit. The main reason for the conduit is to avoid a contractor from driving a nail through the wiring, or "pinching" the wire with a board etc; we cannot trouble shoot an issue with the lift if additional wiring has been used, and it could void the warranty. PVC conduit costs less than \$20 and is a worthwhile investment. Hope this helps!

The wireless units work very well and are a very viable option. Leave on a hook so you don't lose it! You can also add a 2<sup>nd</sup> wireless controller. (\$167)

### Option 3. Corded unit

This unit comes with a 15' cord attached to the top of the lift. No, you cannot splice into this cord ☺ If mounting next to the attic ladder opening, you can drop this down the opening, or I have seen people drill a 3" hole in the ceiling to be able to drop the cable down through the hole. Of course, you can always coil this up and mount the switch upstairs. Note: It is not possible to upgrade or modify the Corded unit to a Wireless or "M" Series Switched unit.

Here is an installation manual and wiring detail for the "M" Series unit. Feel free to call or email if you have questions.  
<https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/0022/3238/5602/files/Wall-Switch-Installation-New.pdf?301>

### **Q. I just built a new home. The inspector is requiring a Fire Rated Ceiling Cover for the lift. He has already talked to me about a Fire Rated Door for the pull down Attic Ladder...**

A. There are a couple of options you might have. 1. We offer a 30 minute Fire Rated Door as an add-on for the lift. It is better to order it when you order the lift because it comes with stronger springs in the legs etc; 2. The standard lift comes with a Powder Coated Steel ceiling cover that is held tight against the ceiling with the four springs in the legs of the carrier thus sealing it off from the garage. Powder coated steel melts at around 2500 degrees farenheit, thus if the fire in your garage is burning at 2500 degrees.... However some inspectors are sticklers, and in the old days the homeowner would simply inform the inspector that they would adhere a piece of sheetrock (same as on the ceiling) to the bottom of the lift..... check with your local building inspector if in question, or just buy the FR ceiling panel.

The ceiling cover panel is White Powder coated steel, 18 gauge.

Motor is 4.5 amps

Cables are: .093 steel 7 bundles of 19 filaments 132 strands Aircraft Cable

1000 lbs per cable breaking safe working rate = 350 lbs. +-

IF YOU ARE REALLY INTERESTED IN MORE DETAILED READING, WE HAVE ATTACHED BOTH MANUALS AND TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS BELOW. BE FORWARDED, THE ENTIRE DOCUMENT IS MORE THAN 50 PAGES TO PRINT....

**NOTE: The following manuals apply to Versalift units manufactured prior to April 2019. Some of the electronics / switching was changed and improved after this date. The new manuals will be uploaded as they are available.**

# Versa Lift <sup>TM</sup>

Attic Storage Lifting System

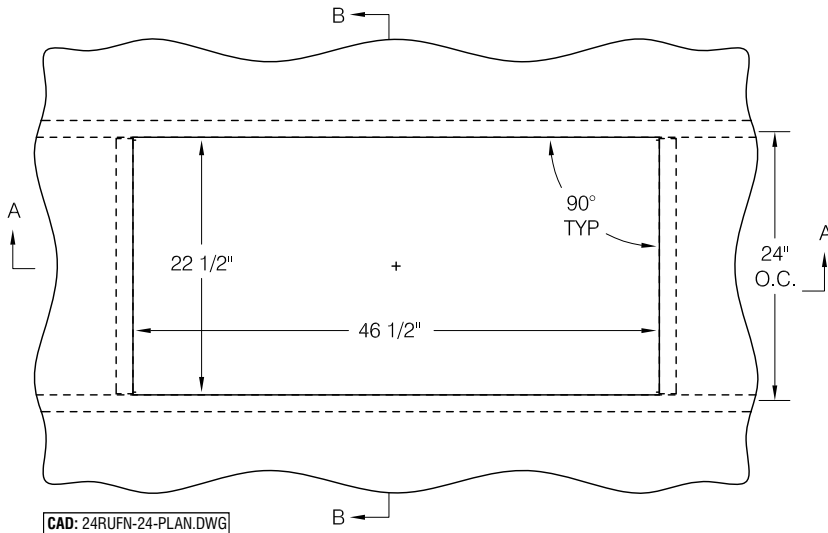
**Applicable Product Models:**  
24, 24H, 24HX, 24W, 24WH, 24WHX

## Rough-In Guide for Solid Lumber Joists

**Roughing-In Notes:**

Tolerance for opening dimensions is +1/4" (6mm), -0" (-0mm). The opening must be square and the side walls perpendicular. Maximum joist height is 18" tall. See specification sheet for maximum floor-to-floor height of specific models. For detailed framing suggestions, see the [Versa Lift Installation Guide](#).

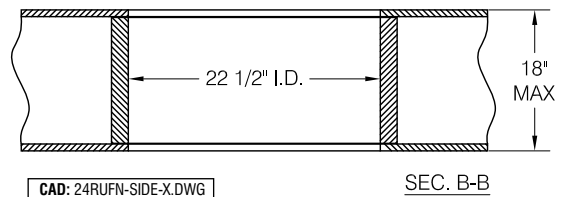
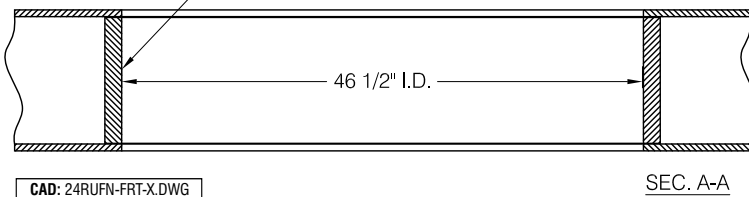
**TYPICAL FRAMING FOR 24" O.C. SOLID JOISTS**



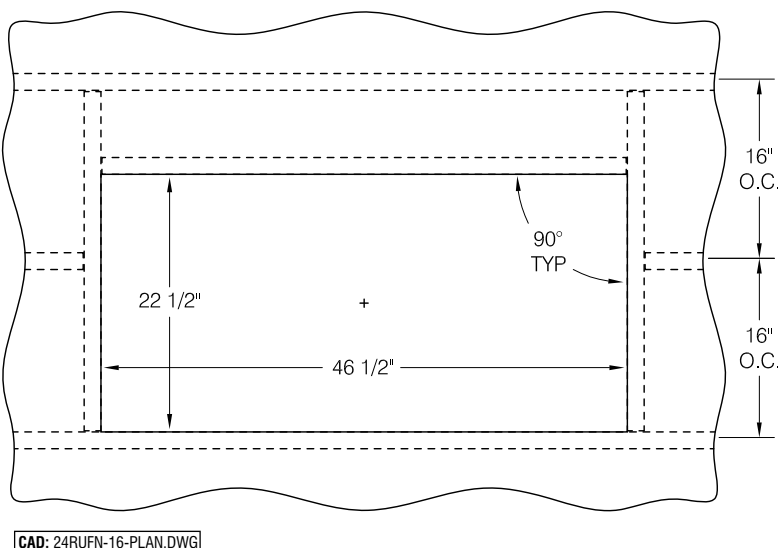
**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

The required finished opening is 22.5 x 46.5" with smooth sidewalls. Whenever joist hanger brackets are used to frame the opening, they must be covered to prevent interference with the lifting platform operation. 2 x 2" "L" shaped flashing strips (4) are provided by BPG to cover hanger brackets and nail head in the corners of the lift opening.

SIDE WALLS OF OPENING MUST BE SMOOTH & PERPENDICULAR



**TYPICAL FRAMING FOR 16" O.C. SOLID JOISTS**



**IMPORTANT NOTE:**

The required finished opening is 22.5 x 46.5" with smooth sidewalls. Whenever joist hanger brackets are used to frame the opening, they must be covered to prevent interference with the lifting platform operation. 2 x 2" "L" shaped flashing strips (4) are provided by BPG to cover hanger brackets and nail head in the corners of the lift opening.

# Versa Lift ™

Patent Pending

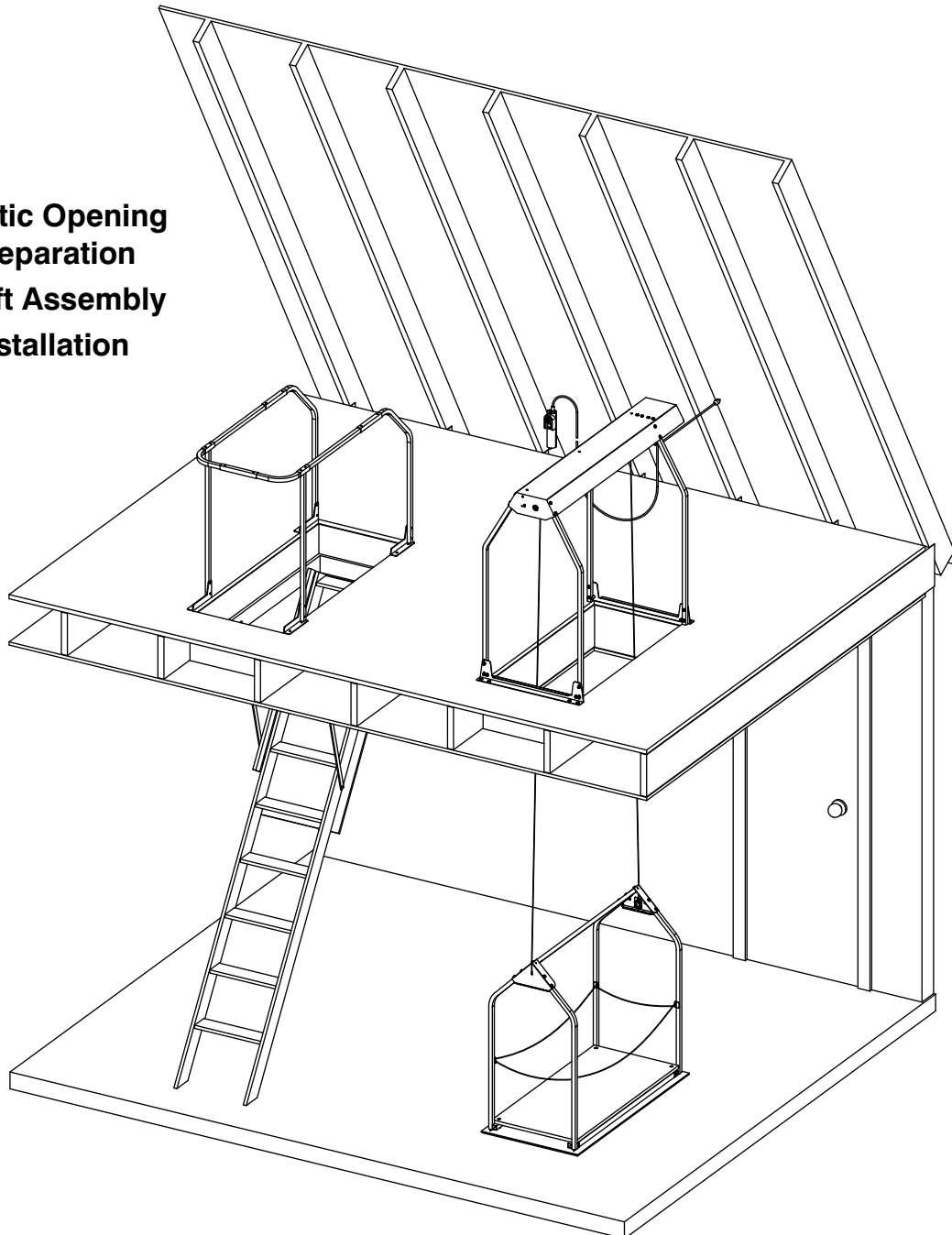
## Attic Storage Lifting System

### INSTALLATION GUIDE

Standard Models 24, 24H, & 24HX

Wireless Models 24W, 24WH, & 24WHX

- Attic Opening Preparation
- Lift Assembly
- Installation



# READ THIS BEFORE YOU GET STARTED

## SAFETY GUIDELINES - DEFINITIONS:

It is important to read and understand this manual. The information it contains relates to protecting *your safety* and *preventing problems*. The symbols below are used to help you recognize safety information.

**⚠ DANGER** Indicates an imminently hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.

**⚠ WARNING** Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.

**⚠ CAUTION** Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in minor or moderate injury.

## READ THIS INSTALLATION GUIDE AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS EXACTLY WHILE INSTALLING THIS PRODUCT.

**⚠ DANGER** NEVER ALLOW PERSONS ON OR IN THE LIFT! ABSOLUTELY NO RIDERS! No person under 18 year of age should be allowed to operate this product. Children should be kept away from the lift when it is in operation. This product can cause serious injury or death to a child who attempts to ride the lift or to lift others! When not in use, ALWAYS raise the lifting platform to the highest position, then unplug the power cord, lock the remote (standard models) and store the keys or wireless remote safely away where children cannot get to them!

**⚠ WARNING** When working with power tools, follow all of the manufacturers safety guidelines and wear approved safety glasses and hearing protection.

**⚠ WARNING** When you work in the attic, stay on decked areas. If you must be in non-decked areas, step only on the joists. The materials between the joists will not support your weight and will collapse if you stand or sit on them. Be alert to any overhead hazards, such as exposed nails. Beware of and avoid openings, such as the ladder or lift openings when working or moving around in the attic.

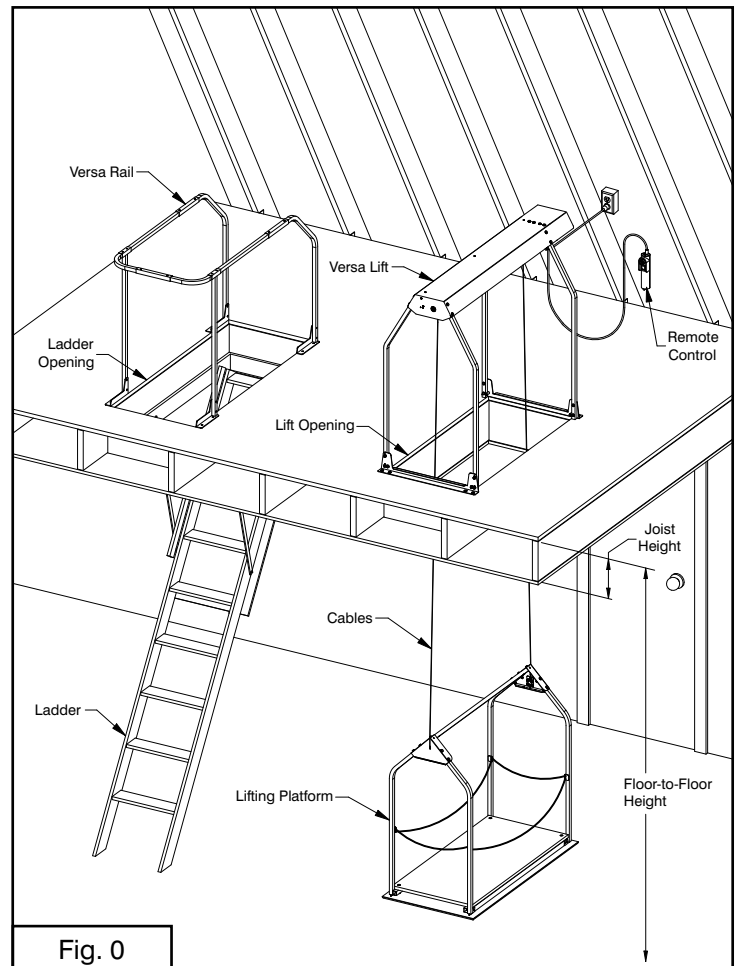
**⚠ WARNING** Do not work alone in the attic, always work with another person to help you. Do not work in the attic in the heat of the day. You can quickly be overcome by heat exhaustion in a hot attic. Morning hours are the coolest time to work in the attic after it has had all night to cool off.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE:

**DO NOT OPERATE THE MOTOR UNTIL YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO IN STEP 9 OF THIS GUIDE!** The Versa Lift Housing and Motor are pre-assembled at the factory and the winch shaft is pre-positioned for correct installation. If you run the motor before you are instructed to, you will cause the lift to malfunction and require recalibration by factory or authorized dealer. This repair is not covered by the warranty.

**⚠ WARNING** The ladder opening and lift opening present falling hazards to any person who enters the attic. When you are in the attic space, be alert at all times to these openings. *We highly recommend you install a safety railing around your ladder opening, such as the Versa Rail* (see Fig. 0).

**⚠ WARNING** If you install this lift product inside the living space of a home, or in a closet, or a walk-in attic accessible to children, then you must also install the Auto-Shutter\* from BPG that automatically closes the lift opening as the platform goes down to help prevent children, pets, etc. from falling through the opening (the Auto-Shutter is not illustrated in this manual).



## BEFORE INSTALLING THIS LIFT:

Verify that this product and its installation does not violate local building codes. You can find out this information from a local building inspector, architect, structural engineer, or your building contractor.

Find out if there are any code restrictions on what types of things you can store in your attic.

Get professional advice and estimates on framing, decking and assembly if you are not qualified or physically able to do these tasks. You can find building contractors, remodeling contractors, architects, engineers and inspectors in the Yellow Pages.

You are responsible for determining the suitability of this product for your individual purposes, as well as installing it in a way that meets local building and safety codes.

**⚠ WARNING** Two persons are required to perform certain tasks in this guide for safer and easier installation. Performing these tasks alone is not recommended.

### VERSA LIFT SPECIFICATIONS:

General Specifications		(All Models 24)
Dimensions	26x57x47H	
Vertical Attic Space Req'd.	48" Min.	
Max. Joist Height	16"	
Lift Opening Size	22.5x46.5"	
Motor	0.6 hp	
Voltage	110 VAC	
Power	4.5 amps	
Lift Capacity Max.	200 lbs.	
Lifting Speed	8 in/sec	
Duty Cycle (minutes)	2 on / 4 off	
Lifting Cables (2)	.093 7x19	
Shipping Wt. (approx)	165 lbs.	
Remote Control		Model
15' Corded Remote		24, 24H, 24HX
Wireless Remote		24W, 24HW, 24WHX
Model	Ceiling Height	Floor-to-Floor
24, 24W	10 ft. Max	8-11 ft.
24H, 24WH	13 ft. Max	11-14 ft.
24HX, 24WHX	19 ft. Max	14-20 ft.

## Versa Lift INSTALLATION OVERVIEW:

### 1. FRAME THE OPENING:

The first step to installing your new Versa Lift is preparing an opening in the ceiling where the lift will be located.

**Tools/Materials Required:** Saws, Drill, Hammer, Nails or Screws, Framing Square, Tape Measure, Header & Joist Lumber to match Existing Joists.

**Skill Level: Professional** - Do not attempt this part of the installation yourself unless you have professional skill in construction framing. Hire a building contractor or a remodeling contractor to do this job correctly. It will be well worth the cost to have this part done right. Before cutting any ceiling joist, consult a structural engineer to determine the best location for your lift and construction appropriate for your ceiling type. Also, get some advice on the best areas to deck your attic for storage, if your attic is not decked. For example, areas over walls will hold more weight than areas over large rooms.

### 2. DECK AN ATTIC SPACE:

If your attic is not already decked in the area where your Versa Lift will be installed, then decking material such as plywood must be added on top of the ceiling joists to make a floor that you can walk on and store items on.

**Tools/Materials Required:** Skill Saw, Hammer and Nails or Screws and Power Driver, Square, Tape Measure, Decking.

**Skill Level: Handyman** - If you have skill with general carpentry tools (sawing, measuring, nailing or screwing) and the physical strength to move large pieces of wood, then you can do this part yourself with a helper. (You can get 2 x 4-ft pre-cut plywood at most lumber stores. It is much easier to handle than 4 x 8-ft sheets.)

### 3. ASSEMBLE AND INSTALL THE LIFT:

The Versa Lift comes partially assembled. The cartons contain all of the parts and fastening hardware, along with detailed instructions in this guide for assembly.

**Tools/Materials Required:** Drill, 5/32" Drill Bit, Square, Tape Measure, Level, Phillips Screwdriver, Wrenches and/or Sockets and Ratchet.

**Skill Level: Handyman** - If you have the skill for general repair and maintenance using hand tools and can read and follow instructions, then you can do this part yourself with a helper.

## ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS:

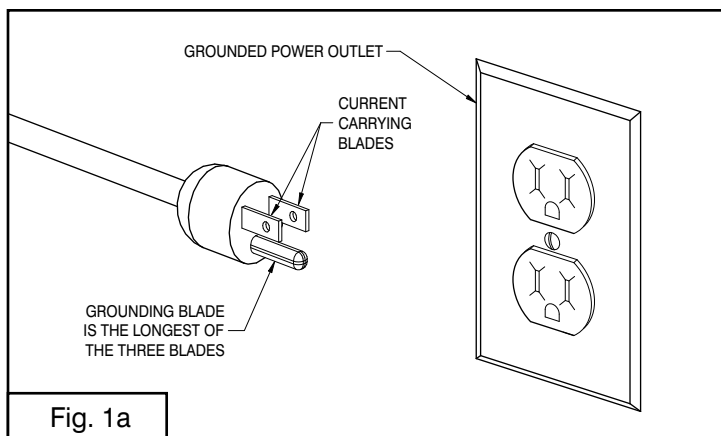
### ELECTRICAL OUTLET:

You will need a single 110 volt AC grounded electrical outlet to plug in the Versa Lift power cord. It is highly recommended that the outlet be on the same switched circuit as the lighting in your attic so that when the attic lights are turned off, the power to the Versa Lift is also turned off. This arrangement will be more convenient for you and will prevent unintended operation of the lift.

The power cord provided with this product has three blades. The longest blade is the grounding blade (Fig. 1a). The shorter flat blades are the current carrying blades. You will need a grounded power outlet (receptacle) as shown below (Fig. 1a). If your outlet does not have a grounded receptacle for a three blade plug or if you are unsure if your outlet is correctly grounded, have a qualified electrician check the outlet (receptacle) to make sure it meets local codes. Incorrect grounding puts you at risk of electrical shock.

**Never modify the equipment plug to fit a two blade outlet (receptacle)!**

If you use an extension cord, it must be a heavy duty three-wire type with a three blade grounding plug and matching grounded outlet (receptacle) like those shown in Fig. 1a and rated for at least twice the load (10 amps minimum).



**⚠ WARNING** To prevent unintended lift operation, you must turn the power switch off, unplug the power cord, or disconnect the power when not in use! The wireless model radio is active if the lift has power and is turned on and can operate the lift whenever a coded signal is received, either from the Versa Lift remote control transmitter or from another transmitter in your area! Unintended operation could cause the lifting platform to move downwards unexpectedly, possibly causing injury to persons or damage to property located directly under the lift.

## LIFT OPENING REQUIREMENTS:

### VERTICAL ATTIC SPACE:

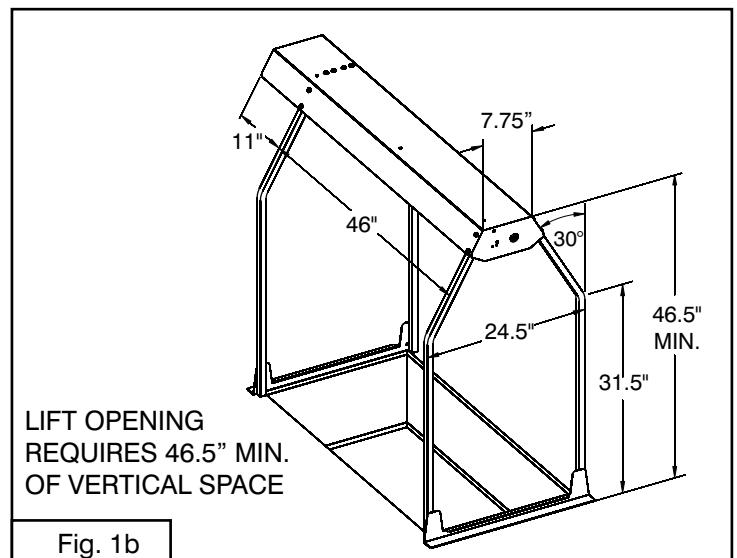
The Versa Lift requires a minimum of 48" of vertical space directly over the lift opening (Fig. 1b).

### OPENING DIMENSION & TOLERANCES:

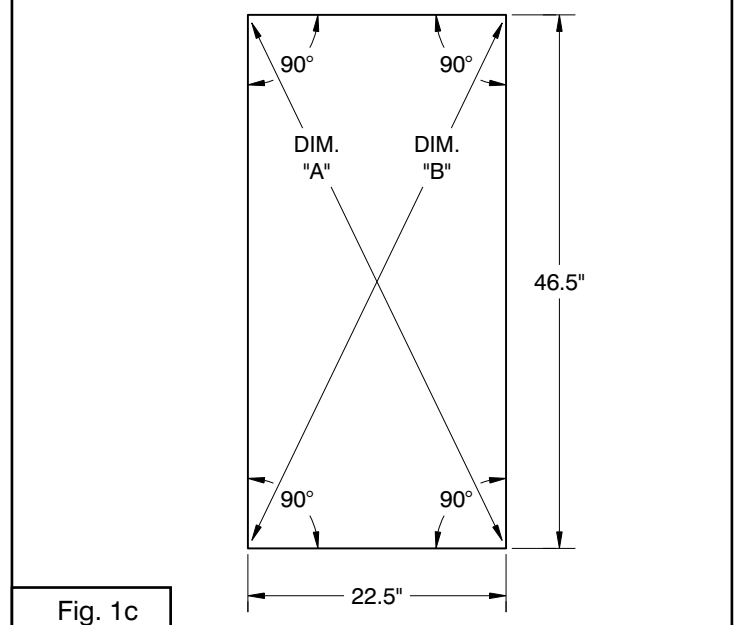
The final opening size is 22½" x 46½" with a tolerance of +1/4" and -0" (the opening can be up to 1/4" larger, but no smaller.) The lift opening must be square as shown below (Fig. 1c). Diagonal A should equal B within 1/2".

### LIFT OPENING FINISH:

The lift opening must have smooth, perpendicular side walls. No nail heads, brackets, sheet rock or decking can protrude or extend into the opening, as this will cause the lifting platform to become caught on those edges and the lift will malfunction. (See Figs. 2 & 3).



LIFT OPENING MUST BE SQUARE ( $A = B \pm 1/2"$ )



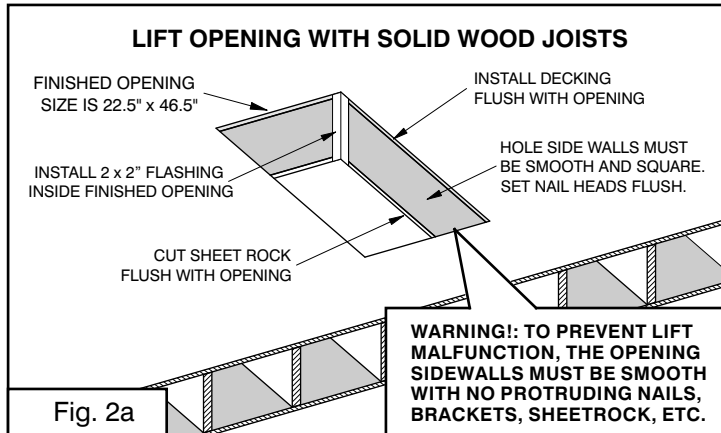


## LIFT OPENING REQUIREMENTS (Cont):

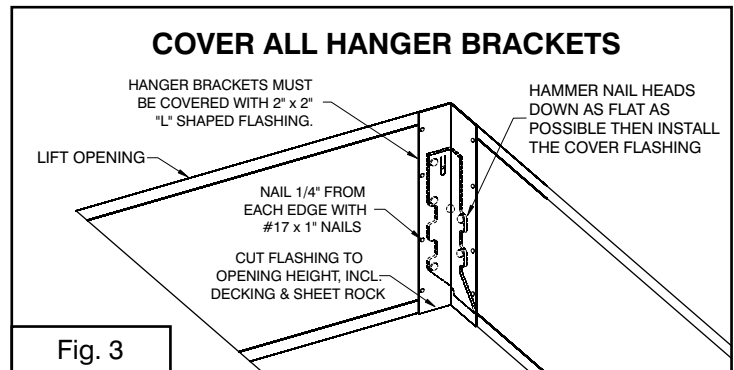
### OPENINGS IN SOLID WOOD JOISTS:

When ceiling joists are solid wood, the final opening size must be **22½" x 46½"**. All side walls must be smooth and perpendicular (the opening can't be smaller at the bottom). Cut sheet rock and decking flush with the walls.

**Nothing can protrude inside the opening:** Nail heads must be set flush or below the surface. Install the 2"x2" L-flashing (provided) in the corners of the opening to cover hanger brackets and nail heads (see Fig. 2a).

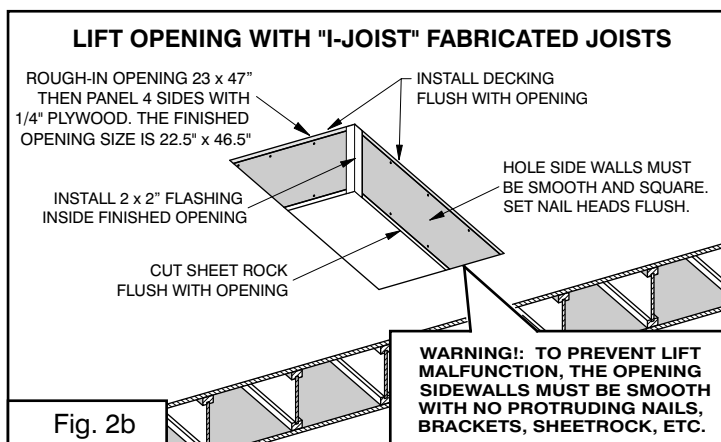


**INSTALL FLASHING IN ALL OPENINGS:** Install the 2 x 2" L-flashing the corners of all openings, even in I-Joist openings that are paneled with 1/4" plywood. Cut the flashing to the finished opening height (including sheet rock and decking). Align it to the bottom and nail both edges with #17 x 1" nails, placing nails within 1/4" from each edge (Fig. 3). The flashing strips cover nail heads and brackets while providing a slippery surface in the opening to reduce paint wear on the lifting frame.



### OPENINGS IN FABRICATED I-JOISTS:

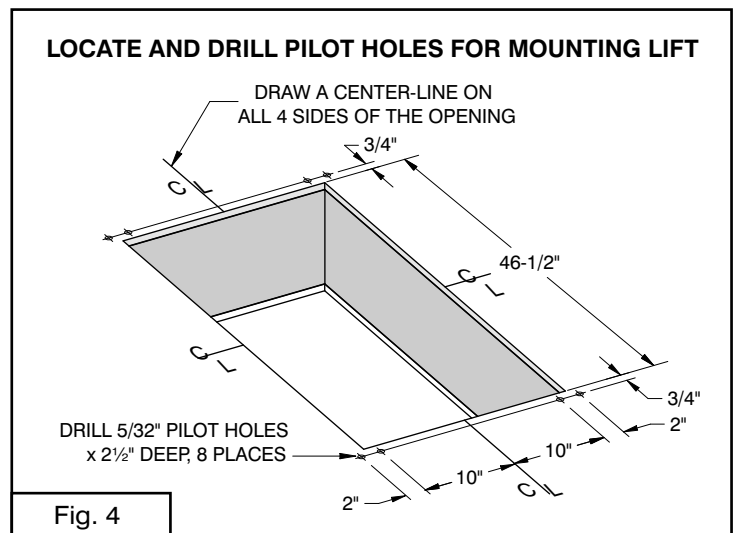
When ceiling joists are "I-Joists" the rough opening size must be 23 x 47" (½" larger in each dimension) to allow space to panel the joists with 1/4" thick plywood (Fig.2b). The 1/4" paneling will provide the required smooth walls and cover I-joist ledges. The paneled final opening size will then be 22½"x 46½". The side walls must be square (perpendicular) and all nail heads must be set flush or below the surface. Cut all sheet rock and decking flush with the edges of the opening. (See pgs. 8-9 on I-joists.) Install the 2"x2" L-flashing (provided) in the corners of the opening to cover hanger brackets & nail heads (Fig. 2b).



**PILOT HOLES FOR MOUNTING THE LIFT:** Mark the location of the mounting holes on the floor deck at either end of the lift opening. These will be pilot holes for the lag screws provided to secure the lift to the attic floor.

Find and mark the center on each side of the rectangular opening, then use a straight edge or square to draw a center line (Fig. 4). Next draw a line parallel to each of the narrow ends and spaced 3/4" away from the opening. Measure along the parallel lines 10" each way from the center line and mark 4 hole centers (Fig. 4). Then measure 2" over from the first 4 marks and mark 4 more hole centers (Fig 4). Find the "Mounting Rails" in the Versa Lift carton and place them over the hole centers you have marked to check your work. The hole centers should match the four slotted holes on the Mounting Rails. If so, drill 8 pilot holes with a 5/32" bit on the hole centers you have marked (Fig. 4). Approximate depth of the pilot holes is 2-1/2".

**⚠ WARNING** THE VERSA LIFT OPENING MUST HAVE SMOOTH PERPENDICULAR SIDE WALLS: Nail heads, hanger brackets, sheet rock or decking must NOT protrude or extend into the opening, as this can cause the lifting platform to hang up and malfunction, resulting in possible damage or personal injury! Product warranty is void if the opening does not meet the exact requirements detailed in these pages.



# 6 Versa Lift ATTIC OPENING PREPARATION

**NOTICE:** The general framing illustrations & techniques (pages 6-9) are provided for illustrative purposes only and are not intended as specific directions for you to follow in your individual installation. Use them to help you plan your installation with a professional engineer, architect, or contractor, according to local codes and building practices. BPG does not warrant this product to be suitable for your intended purpose, location, structure, installation or use. You are responsible for choosing the appropriate location, method of installation and determining suitability of this product.

## ALIGNED OPENING VS TRANSVERSE OPENINGS:

In general, transverse openings should be avoided because more joists will have to be cut which will weaken the ceiling more than an aligned opening.

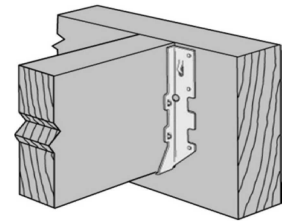
**An aligned** opening with joists 24" OC can be framed without the need to cut a ceiling joist (Fig. 5).

**An aligned** opening with joists 16" OC requires one joist to be cut (Fig.6).

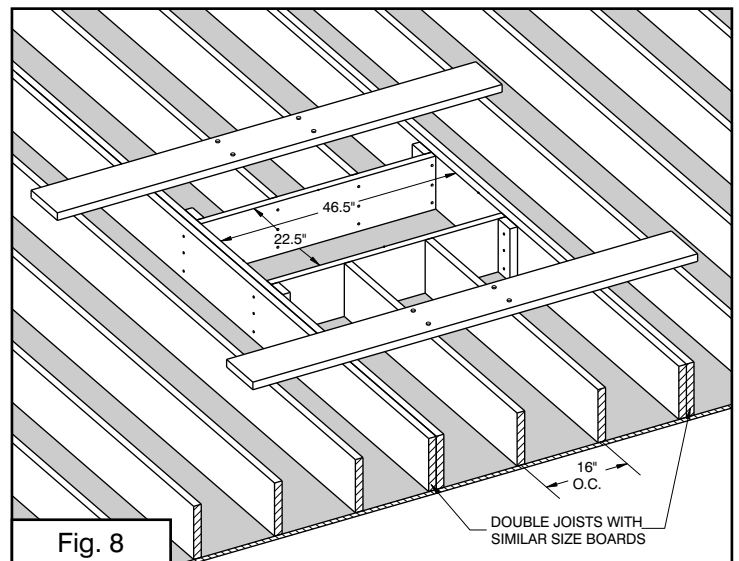
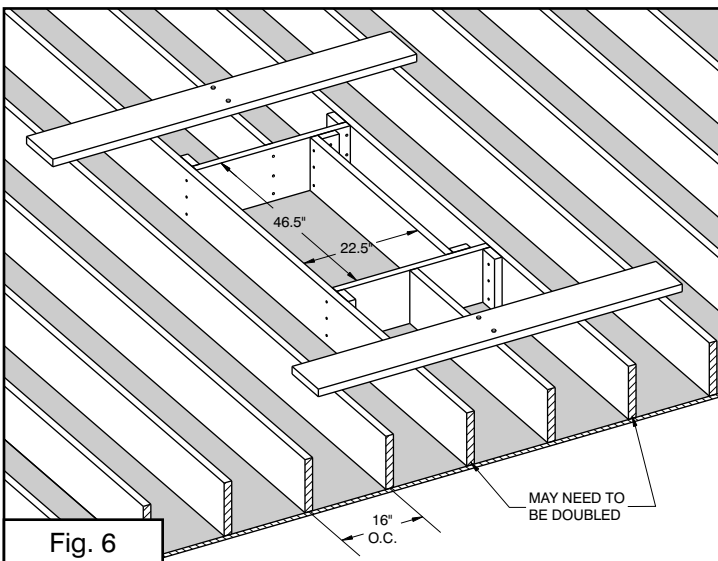
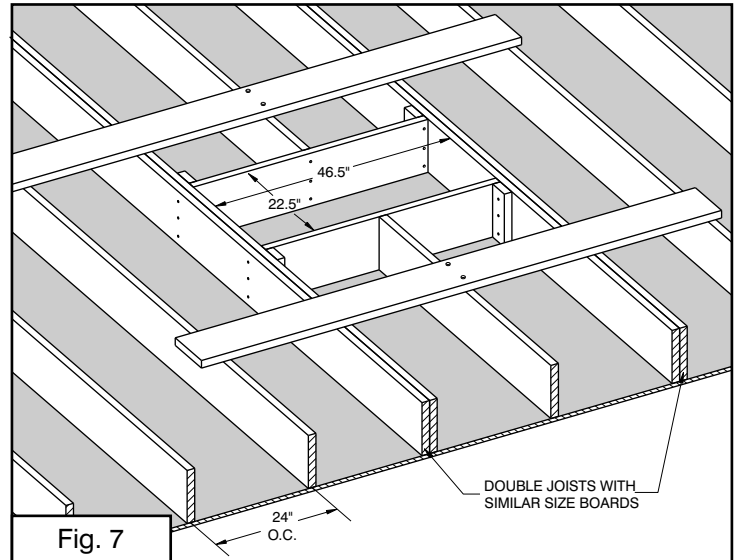
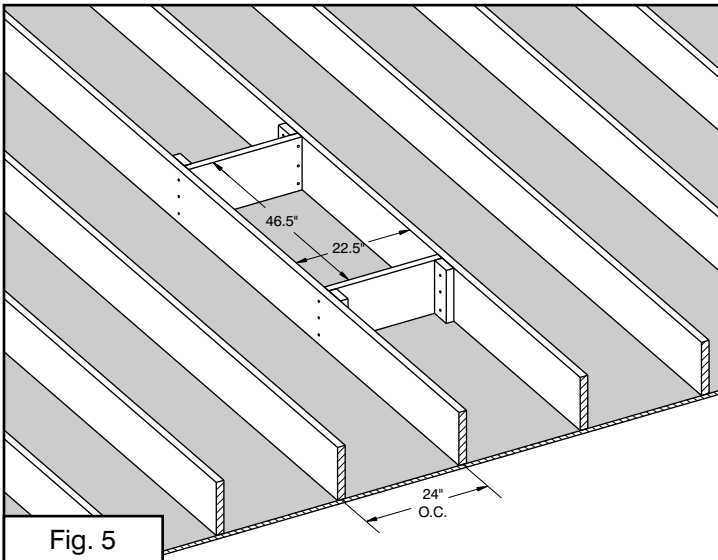
**A transverse** opening with joists 16" or 24" OC will require more joists to be cut (Fig. 7 & Fig. 8).

Please consult a professional to evaluate the strength ceiling construction and determine if transverse mounting is advisable and to determine if you will need to double the adjacent joists to compensate for the joist(s) you cut (see Figs. 7 & 8). This will depend on a number of factors, including the size and span of the existing joists, whether or not there are roof trusses involved, and where roof supports are located.

**Note: Joist hangers can be used instead of blocking.** Joist hangers must be covered with 2 x 2" "L" flashing (provided) to prevent the lift platform from hanging in the opening, causing lift malfunction or damage (see Fig. 2a, 2b, & 3 pg. 5 for details).



Joist Hanger for Solid Wood Joists

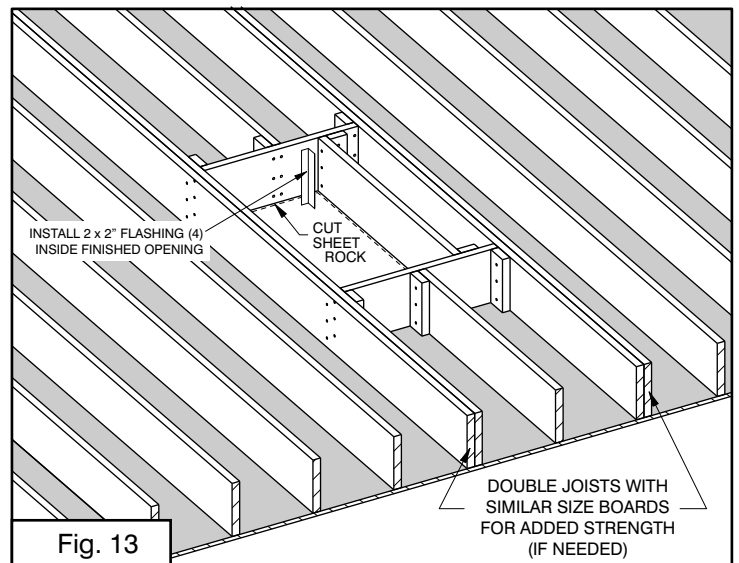
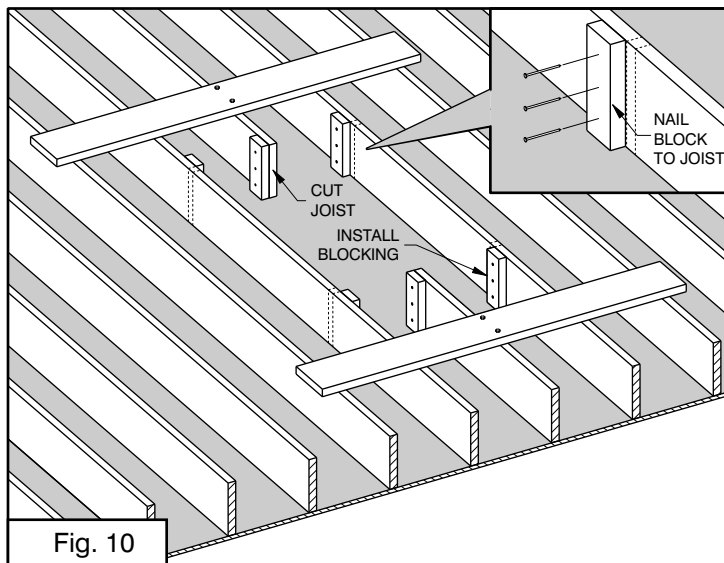
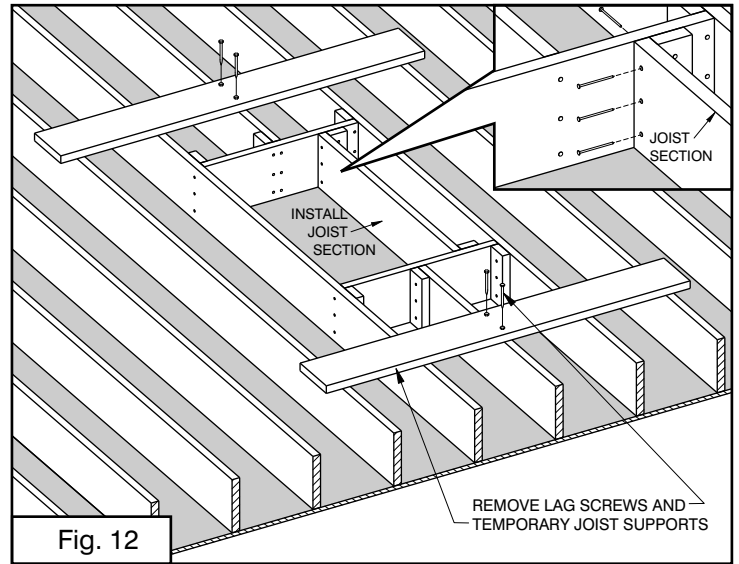
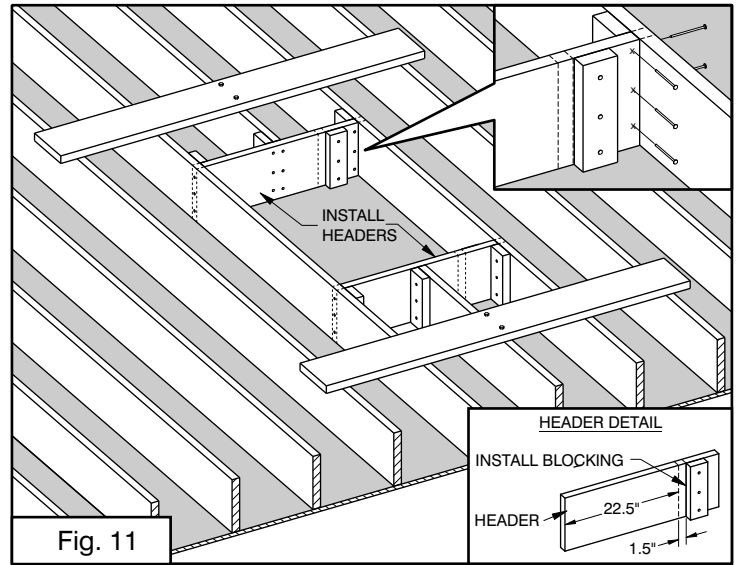
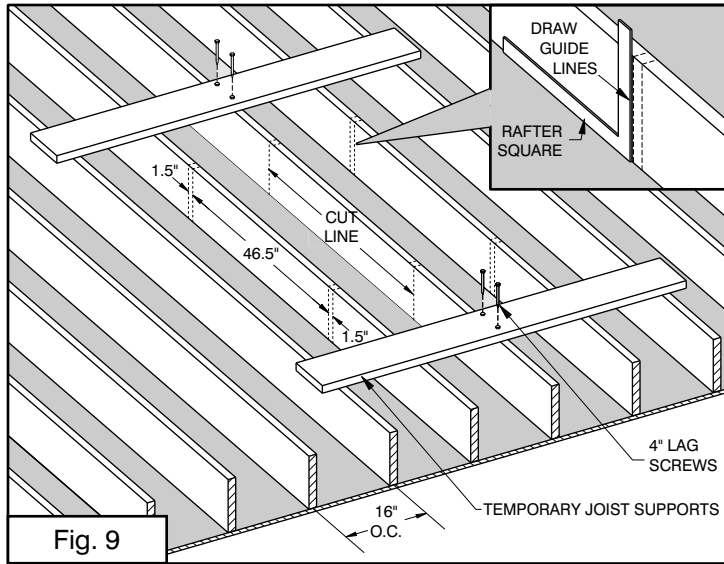


**ONE POSSIBLE FRAMING PROCEDURE for solid wood joists 16" OC:** After choosing a location, if your attic is already decked, you will need to remove enough decking to expose the joists in the area of the opening. If your attic is not yet decked, then nail down some plywood on either side for a temporary work surface.

You will need temporary supports for any joist that will be cut. One technique is shown below using two 2 x 8" (minimum size) planks to span the adjacent joists. Each plank is secured with 2 lag screws to the joist(s) to be cut (Fig. 9). A framing square is used to mark guide lines for headers and cut lines (Fig. 9 inset). After cutting the joist, 2x4" or 2x6" blocking is installed (Fig. 10 & inset). Mark, cut, and install headers with blocking (Fig. 11 & detail). Trim the joist section removed in Fig. 9 and install it to finish the framed opening (Fig. 12 & inset). Cut the sheet rock flush with the opening (Fig. 13). Install decking flush. Finally, install the 2 x 2" flashing in the corners (Fig. 13).

**Note: Joist hangers can be used instead of blocking. Joist hangers must be covered with 2 x 2" "L" flashing**

to prevent the lift platform from hanging up and causing the lift to malfunction (see page 5 for details).



**ONE POSSIBLE FRAMING TECHNIQUE for I-JOISTS 16" OC:** This procedure is generally the same as with solid wood joists (see prior page). However, I-Joists are too narrow on the ends to hold a nail when attaching one I-Joist perpendicular to the face of another.

I-Joists can be joined perpendicular by using specially formed metal hanger brackets.

Another way to join I-Joists is to install blocking on the ends of I-Joist sections and headers (see Fig. 14). The block provides a thickness to the end of the I-Joist that can be nailed into. Second, the block is offset so that it fits into the inset in the face of the perpendicular I-Joist. The blocking should be attached securely (Fig. 14 inset) and placed on the side opposite the opening (since the opening must not have anything projecting inward).

I-Joists have recessed faces that form ledges that can hang-up the lifting platform as it travels downward from the attic. To resolve this problem and to cover any metal hanger brackets, **all I-Joist openings must be framed 1/2" oversized in each dimension to 47" x 23"** (Fig. 15). Next cut 1/4" thick plywood panels (Fig. 16 inset) and nail them to the four I-Joists faces inside the opening (Fig. 16). The final size opening will be 46 1/2" x 22 1/2" (Fig. 16). Please note that any nail heads in the opening must be set flush or below the surface and decking and sheet rock must be cut or installed flush to the opening (Fig. 2b & 16). Finish the opening by installing the 2 x 2" flashing in the corners (Fig. 16).

As with solid wood joists, I-Joists that need to be cut must be supported by some means until they are connected to headers that tie them to adjacent I-Joists.

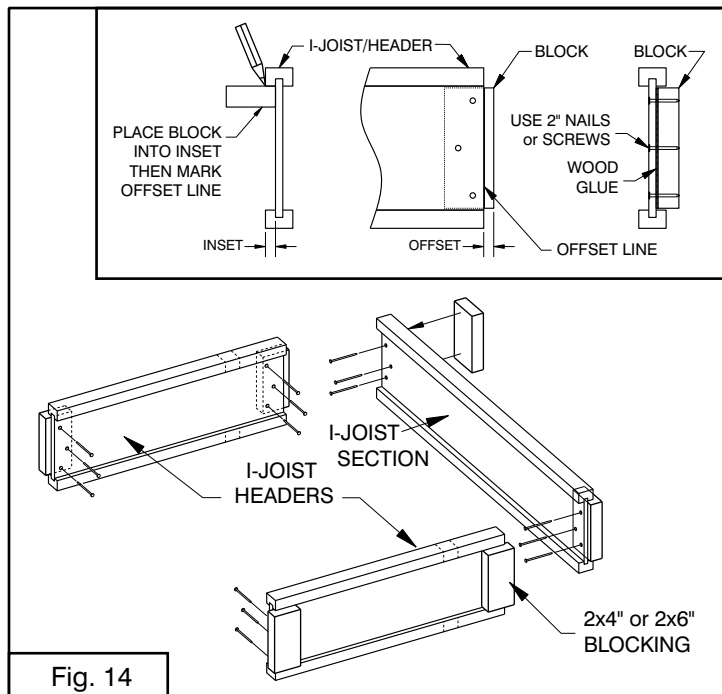


Fig. 14

This technique requires that you have additional I-Joist material of the same size as that used in you ceiling. If you do not have access to additional I-Joist, then see the technique on the following page.

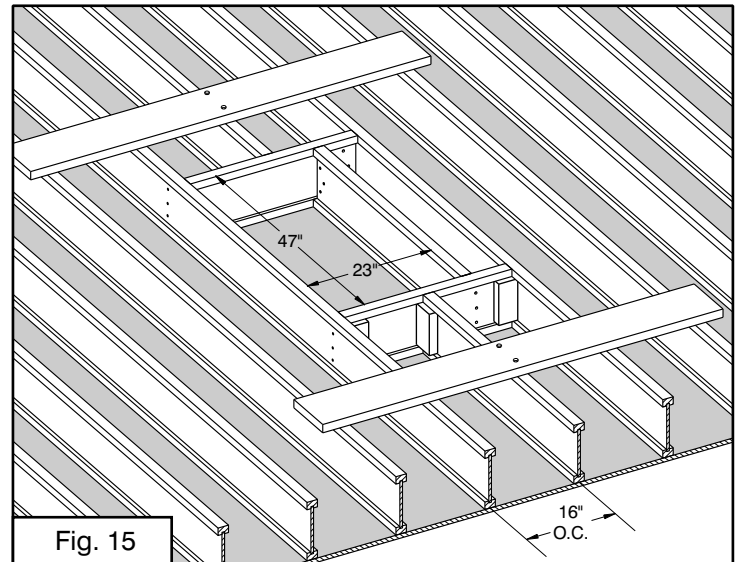


Fig. 15

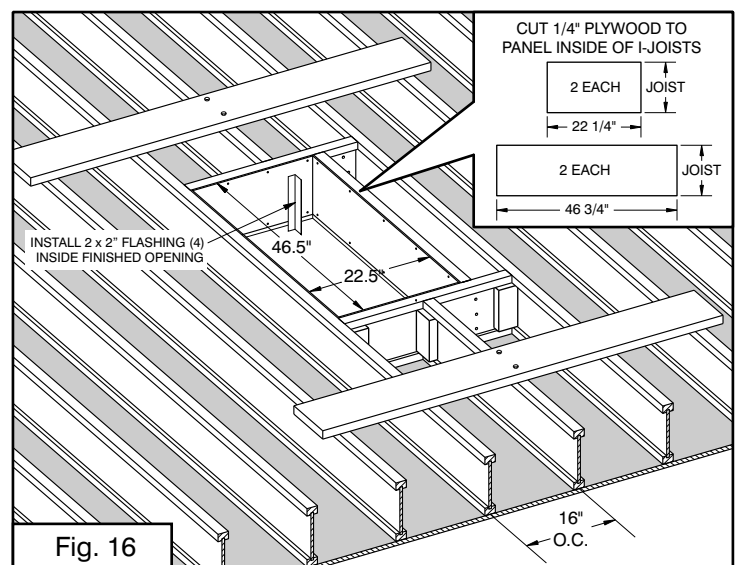
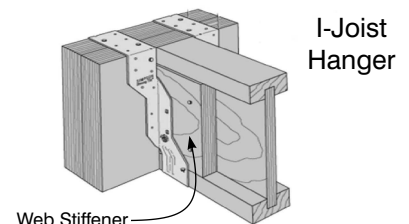


Fig. 16

**Note: I-Joist hangers can be used instead of blocking. Finish opening with 1/4" paneling to cover hangers and create a smooth-sided opening (Fig. 16), then install 2 x 2" flashing in every corner (Fig. 16 & pg. 5).**

Depending on location and code requirements, web stiffeners may be required for I-Joist when using hanger brackets.



**ANOTHER POSSIBLE FRAMING TECHNIQUE for I-JOISTS 16" OC:** The procedure is generally the same as with I-Joists on the prior page, but when the home is a finished construction (already built and owned) you may not have extra I-Joist pieces from which to construct headers. In this case, you may need a way to construct headers from other available material.

One way to address this problem is to construct headers from 1/2" or 3/4" plywood and 2 x 2" rails (Fig. 17). Join the rails to the plywood with wood glue and nails or screws. Then attach offset blocking (Fig. 17) as previously explained. Headers constructed this way will have good strength and have the advantage of a smooth face toward the opening. **NOTE:** The blocking is attached **flush with the ends** of the I-Joist Section when using constructed headers with a flat inside surface (Fig. 17).

**When headers are constructed as described above, the opening must be framed 1/2" oversized in only one dimension to 46 1/2" x 23"** (Fig. 18). Next, cut two 1/4" thick plywood panels (Fig. 19 inset) and nail them to the two I-Joist faces inside the opening (Fig. 19). The final opening size will be 23 1/2" x 46 1/2" (Fig. 19). Please note that any nail heads in the opening must be set flush or below the surface and decking and sheet rock must be cut or installed flush to the opening (Fig. 2b & 19). Finish the opening by installing the 2 x 2" flashing in the corners as shown in Fig. 19.

As with solid wood joists, I-Joists that need to be cut must be supported by some means until they are connected to headers that tie them to adjacent I-Joists.

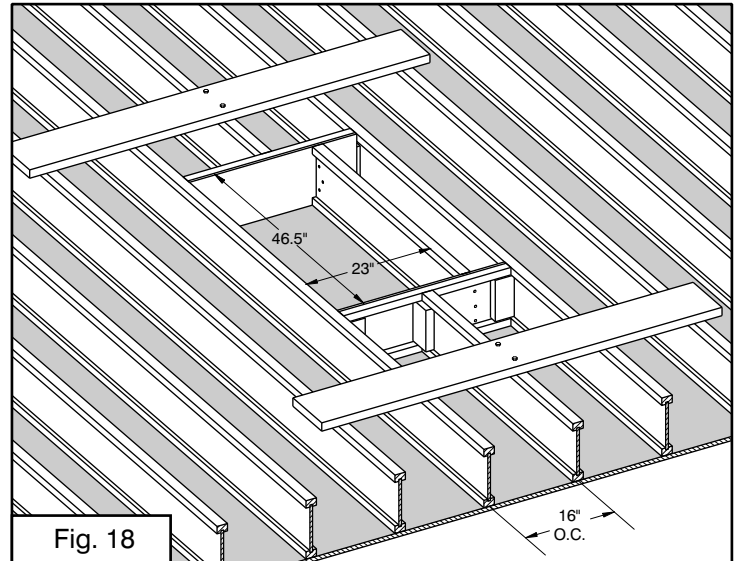


Fig. 18

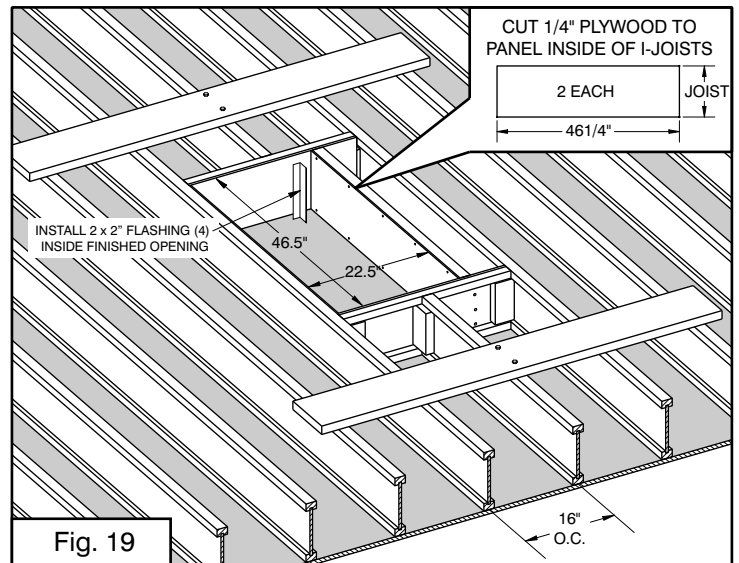


Fig. 19

**Note: I-Joist hangers can be used instead of blocking. Finish opening with 1/4" paneling to cover hangers and create a smooth-sided opening (Fig. 16), then install 2 x 2" flashing in every corner (Fig. 16 & pg. 5).**

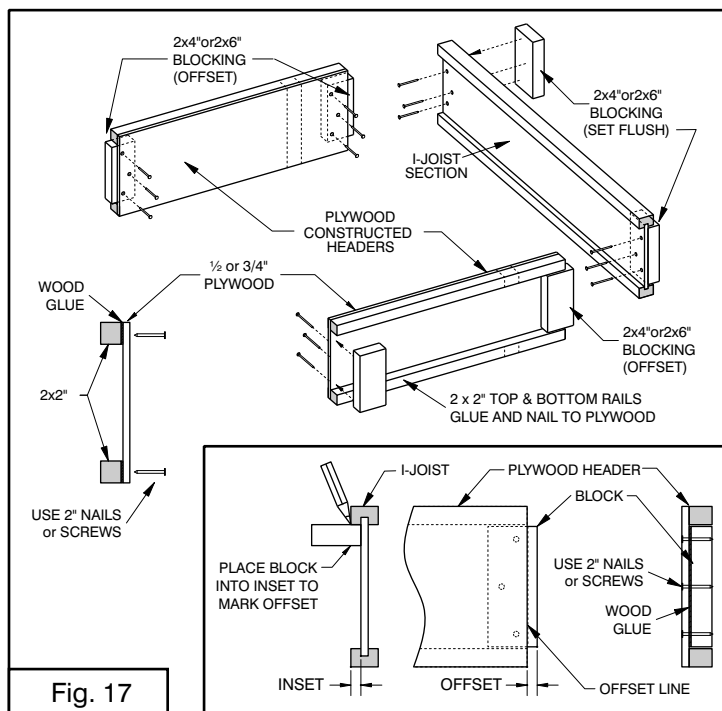
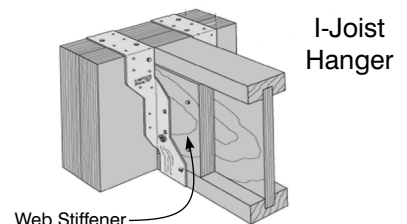


Fig. 17

Depending on location and code requirements, web stiffeners may be required for I-Joist when using hanger brackets.



I-Joist Hanger

Web Stiffener

**1a. UNPACKING Standard Models: Save Your Cartons! (You will need the carton for warranty repairs, save it!)**  
The Versa Lift is packed in two cartons. Carton 1 contents are shown below in Fig. 20a. The fasteners shown in Fig. 20a inset will be in a hardware bag. Open the carton and check the contents to locate all of the items in Fig. 20a.

Carton 2 contains the door panel and platform panel shown in Fig. 20b. Open the carton and remove the panels. Check all of the components in cartons 1 and 2 for damage. If any components are missing or damaged, do not proceed with assembly. First, contact BPG about a replacement for any missing or damaged items.

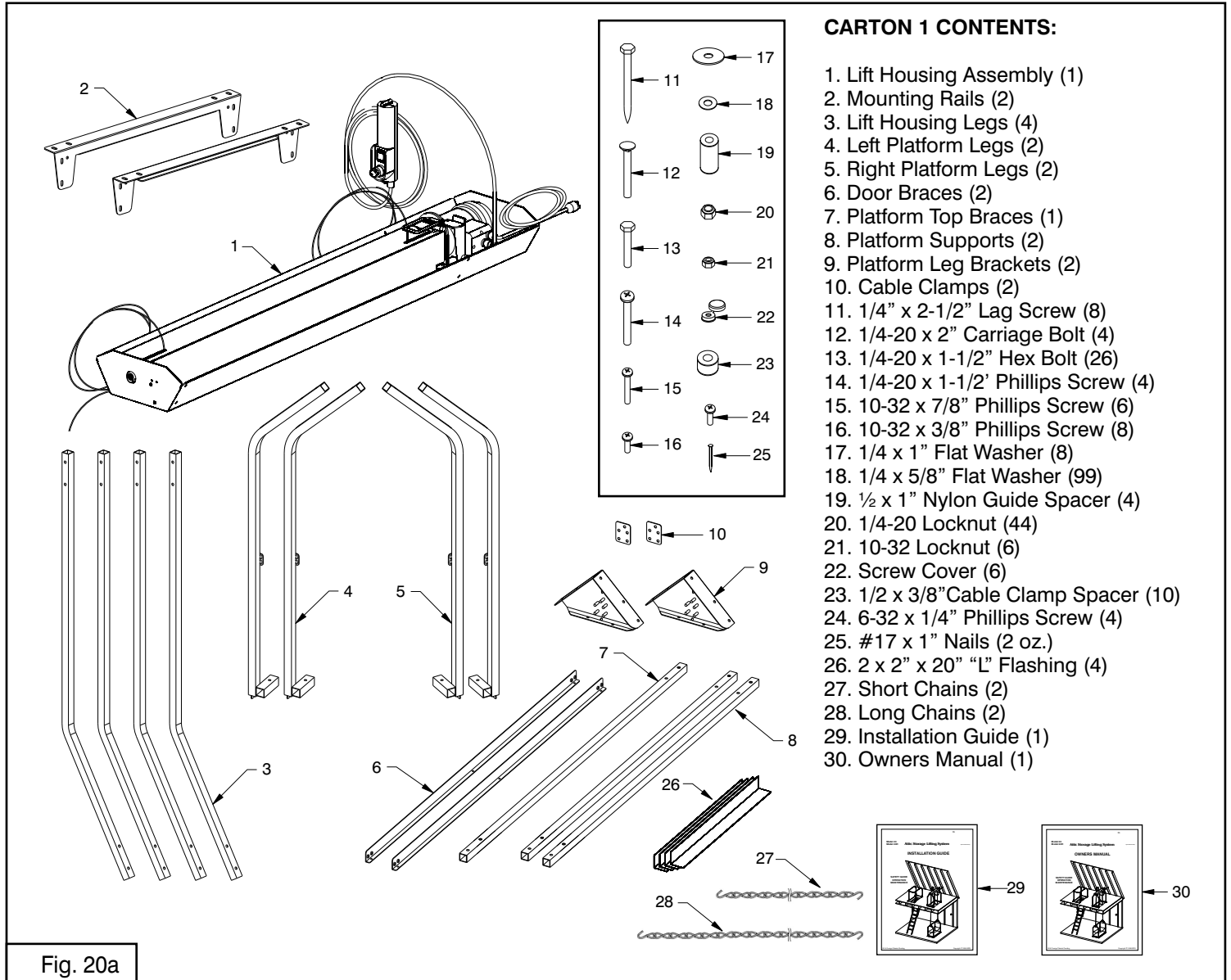


Fig. 20a

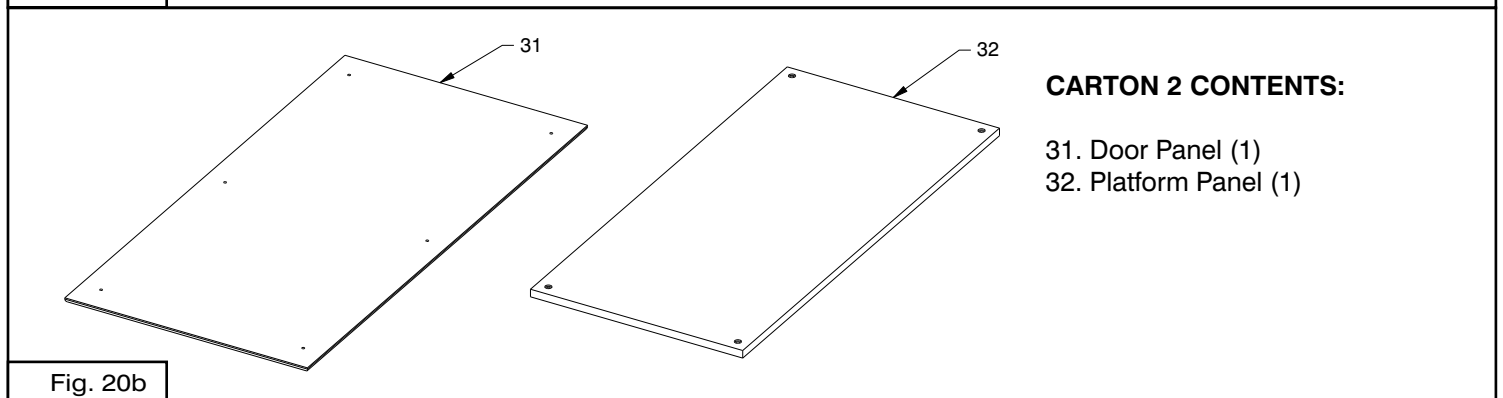


Fig. 20b

**1b. UNPACKING Wireless Models: Save Your Cartons! (You will need the carton for warranty repairs, save it!)**  
The Versa Lift is packed in two cartons. Carton 1 contents are shown below in Fig. 21a. The fasteners shown in Fig. 21a inset will be in a hardware bag. Open the carton and check the contents to locate all of the items in Fig. 21a.

Carton 2 contains the door panel and platform panel shown in Fig. 21b. Open the carton and remove the panels. Check all of the components in cartons 1 and 2 for damage. If any components are missing or damaged, do not proceed with assembly. First, contact BPG about a replacement for any missing or damaged items.

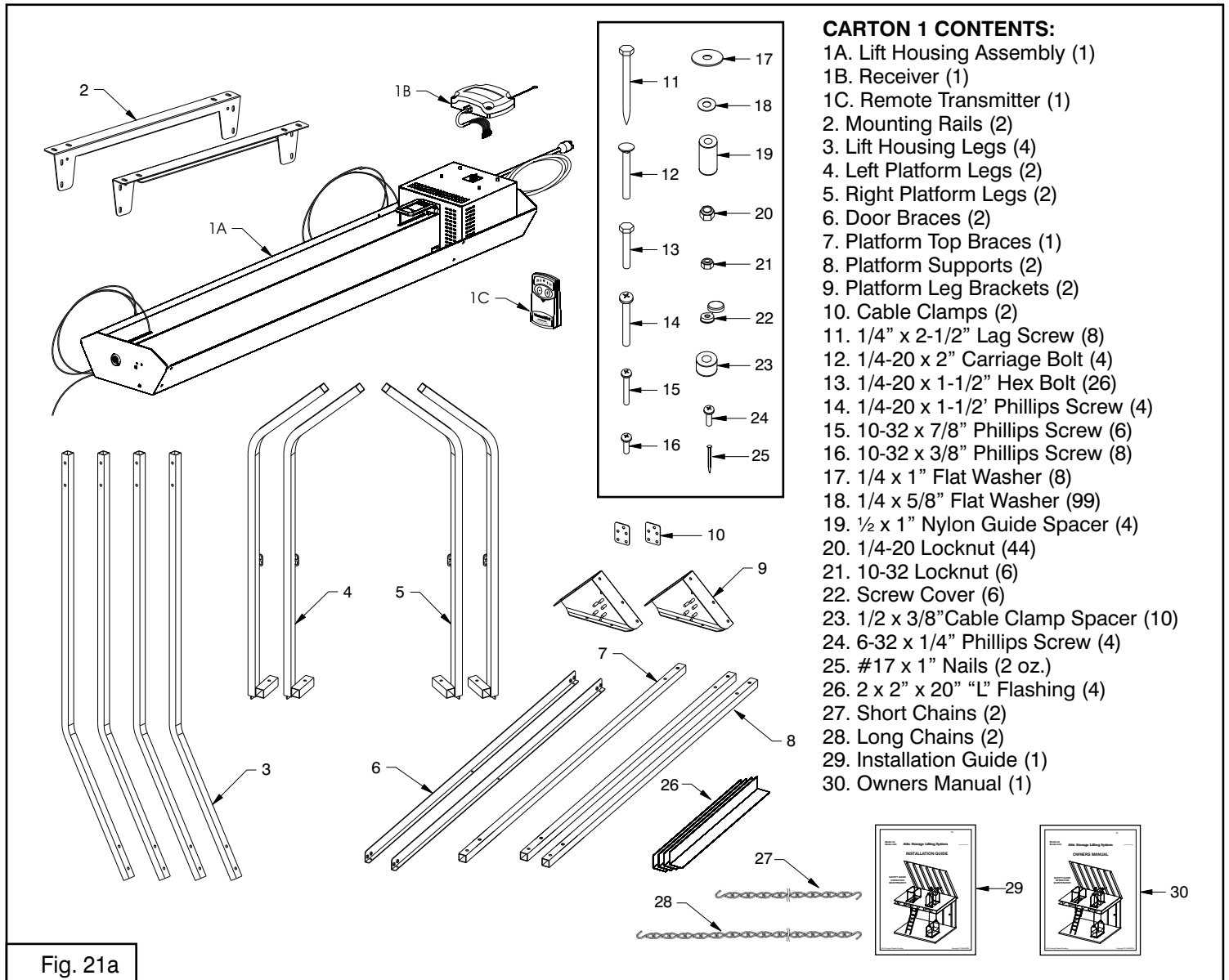


Fig. 21a

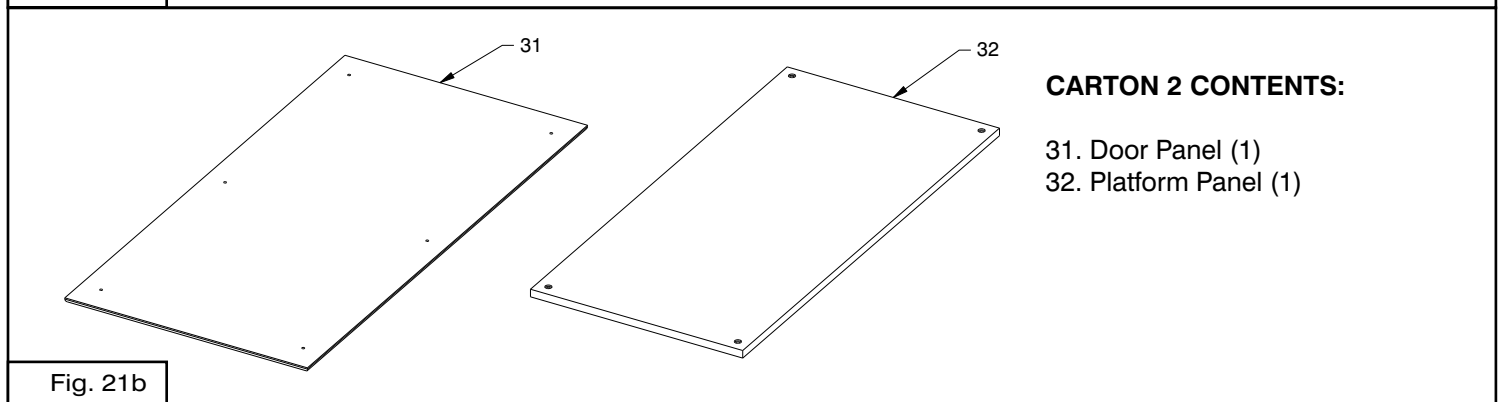


Fig. 21b

**CARTON 1 CONTENTS:**

- 1A. Lift Housing Assembly (1)
- 1B. Receiver (1)
- 1C. Remote Transmitter (1)
- 2. Mounting Rails (2)
- 3. Lift Housing Legs (4)
- 4. Left Platform Legs (2)
- 5. Right Platform Legs (2)
- 6. Door Braces (2)
- 7. Platform Top Braces (1)
- 8. Platform Supports (2)
- 9. Platform Leg Brackets (2)
- 10. Cable Clamps (2)
- 11. 1/4" x 2-1/2" Lag Screw (8)
- 12. 1/4-20 x 2" Carriage Bolt (4)
- 13. 1/4-20 x 1-1/2" Hex Bolt (26)
- 14. 1/4-20 x 1-1/2" Phillips Screw (4)
- 15. 10-32 x 7/8" Phillips Screw (6)
- 16. 10-32 x 3/8" Phillips Screw (8)
- 17. 1/4 x 1" Flat Washer (8)
- 18. 1/4 x 5/8" Flat Washer (99)
- 19. 1/2 x 1" Nylon Guide Spacer (4)
- 20. 1/4-20 Locknut (44)
- 21. 10-32 Locknut (6)
- 22. Screw Cover (6)
- 23. 1/2 x 3/8" Cable Clamp Spacer (10)
- 24. 6-32 x 1/4" Phillips Screw (4)
- 25. #17 x 1" Nails (2 oz.)
- 26. 2 x 2" x 20" "L" Flashing (4)
- 27. Short Chains (2)
- 28. Long Chains (2)
- 29. Installation Guide (1)
- 30. Owners Manual (1)

**CARTON 2 CONTENTS:**

- 31. Door Panel (1)
- 32. Platform Panel (1)

**2a. RECEIVER INSTALLATION - (WIRELESS ONLY)**

**This step requires two persons.** This assembly step should be done in the attic. Locate the parts shown below and move them up to the attic. The lift housing is heavy and requires 2 able persons to move it up to the attic. Place the lift housing on a rug or piece of cardboard open-side-up as show below in Fig. 22a.

Follow these steps:

**2a-1.** Remove the cover from the receiver by gently rotating the latches 1/4-turn counter-clockwise using a

flat-tip screwdriver (Fig. 22a inset).

**2a-2.** Connect the plug onto the 6-pin header visible thru the square hole in the motor housing. Orient the plug exactly as show below making sure to insert all six pins into the plug.

**2a-3.** Install the receiver to the motor housing using (4) 6-32 x 1/4" long screws as shown. (Note the antennae must extend off the rear of the motor housing.)

**2a-4.** Replace the cover onto the receiver by turning the latches 1/4-turn clockwise.

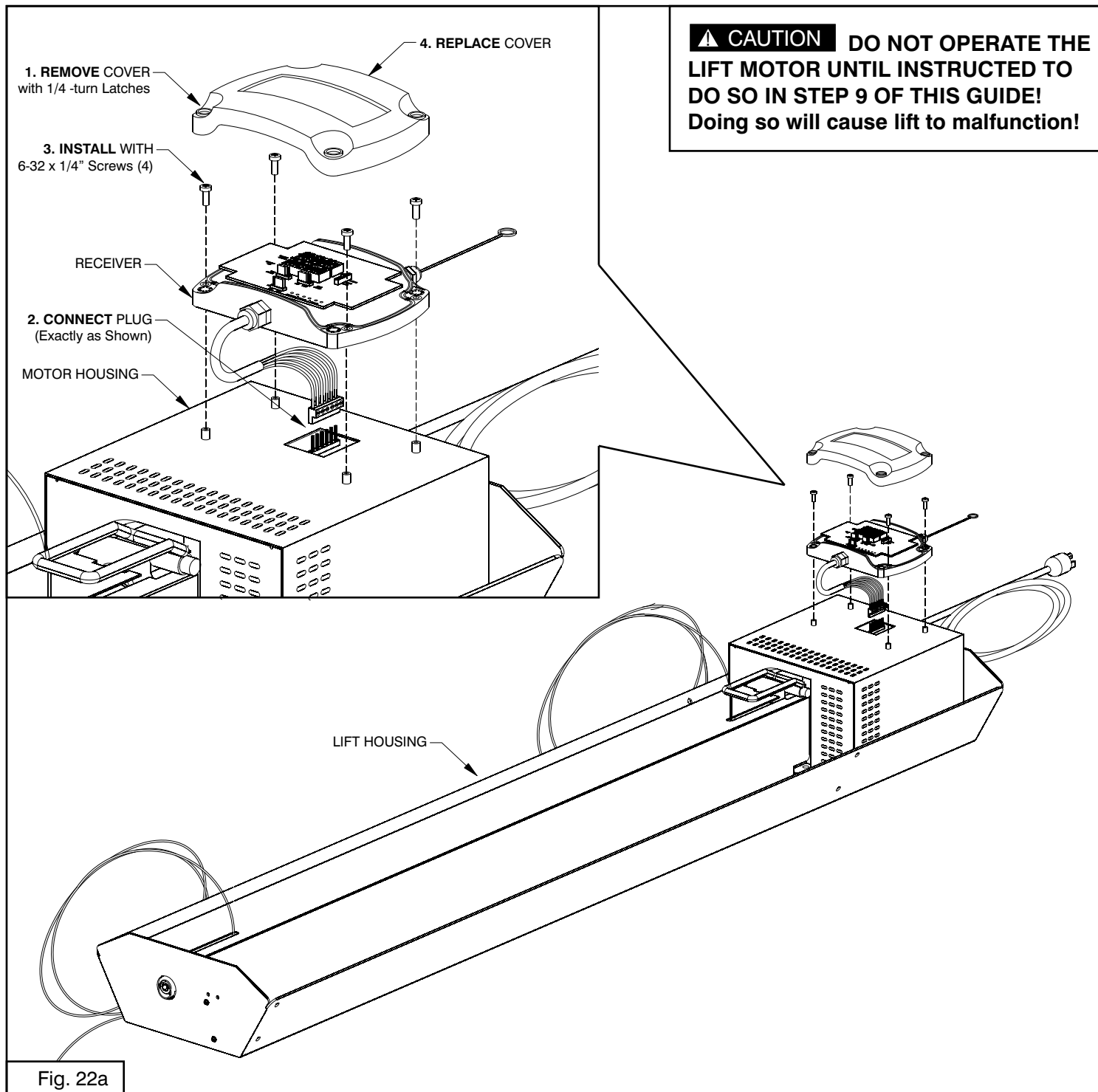


Fig. 22a



## 2b. LIFT HEAD ASSEMBLY - ALL MODELS

**This step requires two persons.** This assembly step should be done in the attic. Locate the parts shown below and move them up to the attic. The lift housing is heavy and requires 2 able persons to move it up to the attic. Place the lift housing on a rug or piece of cardboard open-side-up as show below.

Assemble the four lift housing legs to the lift housing (Fig. 22b Inset). **The locknuts provided will not work loose, so tighten the bolts and nuts firmly, but do not over-tighten or you will collapse the square tubing.**

Assemble the mounting rails to the lift housing legs (Fig. 22b) with bolts, washers and locknuts but do not tighten them yet. Leave them slightly loose for Step 4.

**Note: The legs fit on the INSIDE of the lift housing.**

**⚠ CAUTION DO NOT OPERATE THE LIFT MOTOR UNTIL INSTRUCTED TO DO SO IN STEP 9 OF THIS GUIDE! Doing so will cause lift to malfunction!**

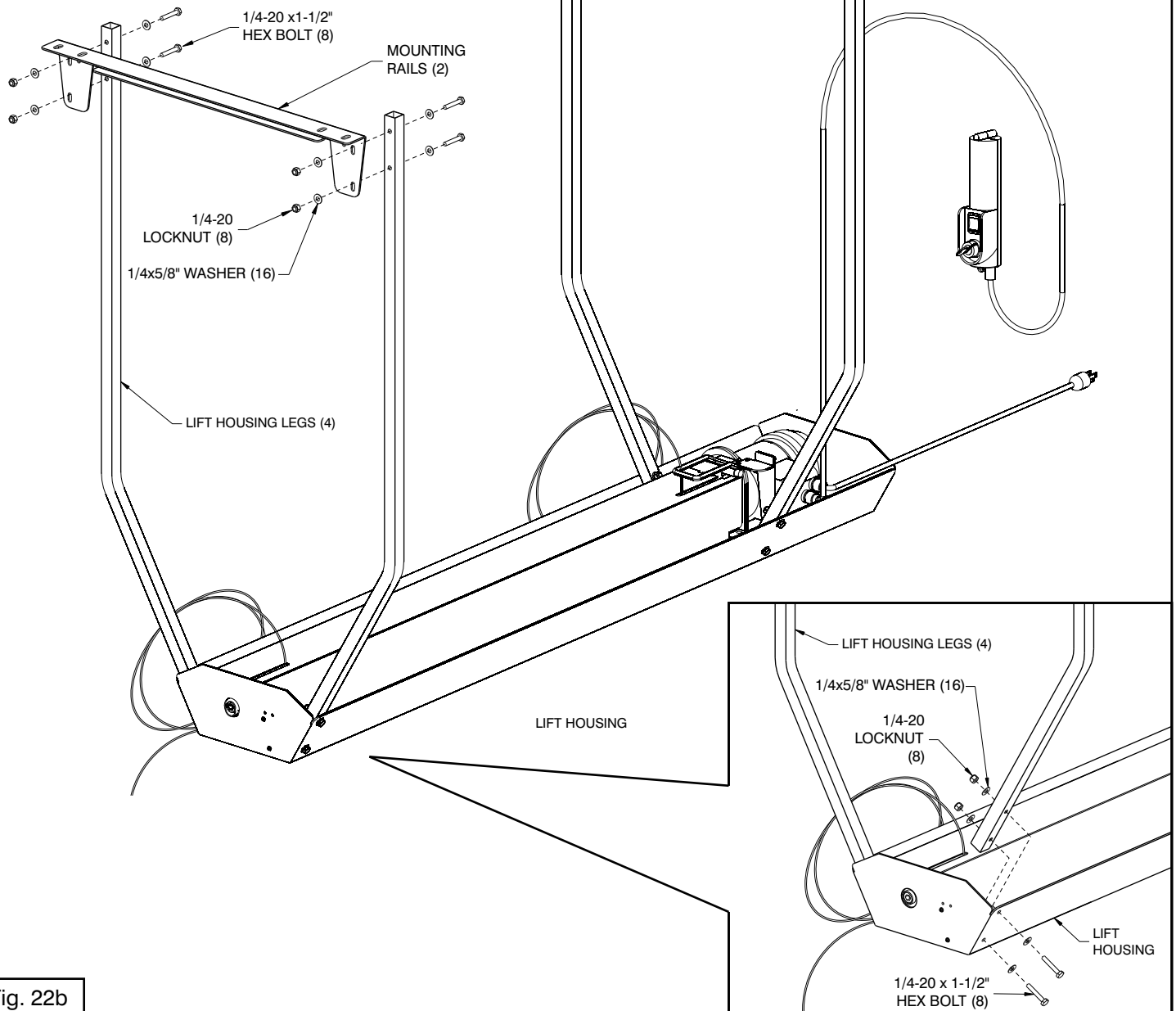


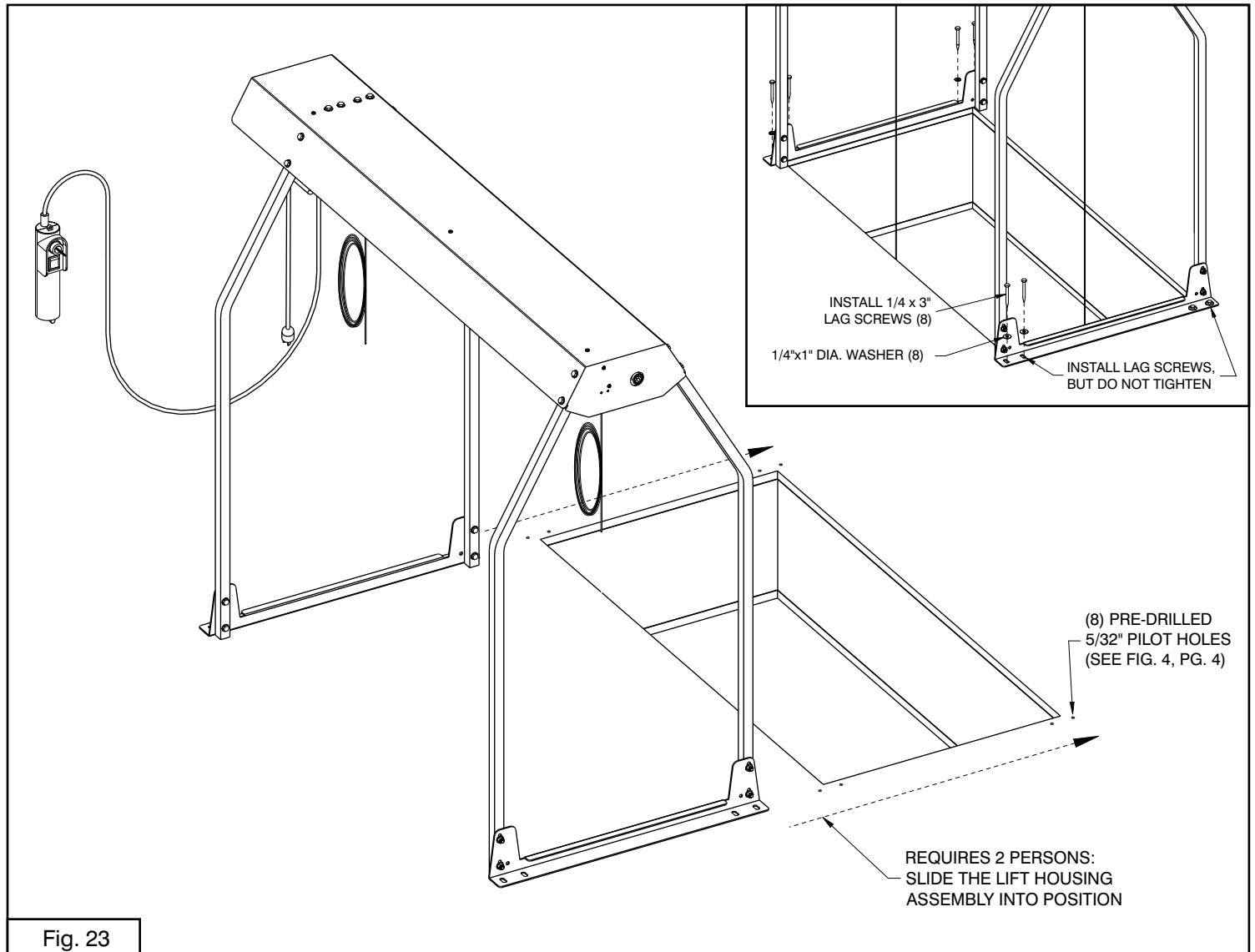
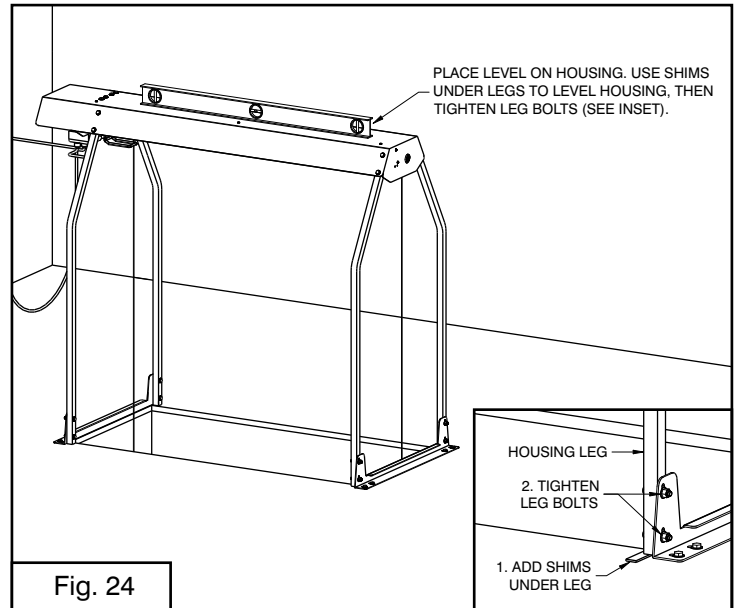
Fig. 22b

### 3. INSTALLING THE LIFT HEAD

**This step requires two persons.** Turn the lift head assembly upright and position it in front of the opening (Fig. 23). With one person on each end, lift slightly and move the assembly over the opening (Fig. 23) and align the slots in the mounting rails with the pilot holes in the decking. Install the 8 lag screws and 1" diameter washers into the pilot holes and screw them down until they almost contact the mounting rail, but leave them loose so the mounting rails can be adjusted later (Fig. 23 inset).

### 4. LEVEL THE LIFT HEAD

The bolts that hold the legs to the mounting rail must be loose for this step. Place a bubble level lengthwise on the housing and see if head is level (Fig. 24). Place shims under both legs on the low end (Fig. 24 inset). Adjust the shims until the head is level and then tighten all 8 leg bolts (Fig. 24 inset).



## 5. DOOR ASSEMBLY

The door must be assembled down-stairs. Locate the door, door braces, and fasteners shown in Fig. 25. Insert the screw through the screw cover then through the panel, then through the door brace (Fig. 25 and inset), and fasten with the locknut. Tighten all 6 screws,

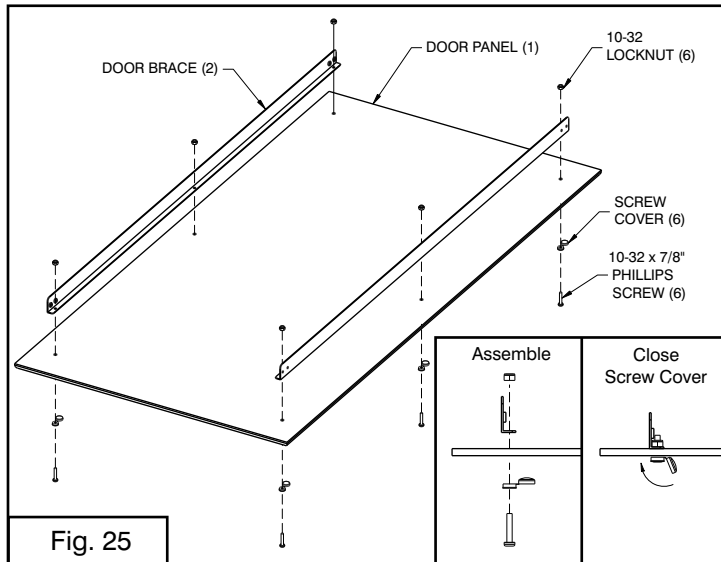


Fig. 25

then close the screw covers, Make sure they snap completely shut (Fig. 25 inset).

## 6. PLATFORM ASSEMBLY

The platform must be assembled down-stairs. Locate the platform, 2 platform supports, 4 platform legs, carriage bolts, washers, and locknuts (Fig. 26). Note that the top side of the platform has recessed holes. Insert the platform support into one of the left legs as shown (Fig. 26 inset). Align the hole in the leg with the hole in the outer end of the support. Next insert a carriage bolt down through the platform, leg and support (Fig. 26). Secure with a washer and locknut, but do not tighten until all four bolts are installed. When all legs are assembled as shown in Fig. 26, tighten all of the bolts and locknuts, but do not over-tighten or you will collapse the tubing.

Locate the platform leg brackets, platform top brace, and fasteners. Install each of the brackets with 4 bolts, washers, and locknuts (Fig. 27 inset). Tighten as above. Install the platform top brace with 2 bolts, washers and locknuts (Fig. 27) and tighten fasteners as above.

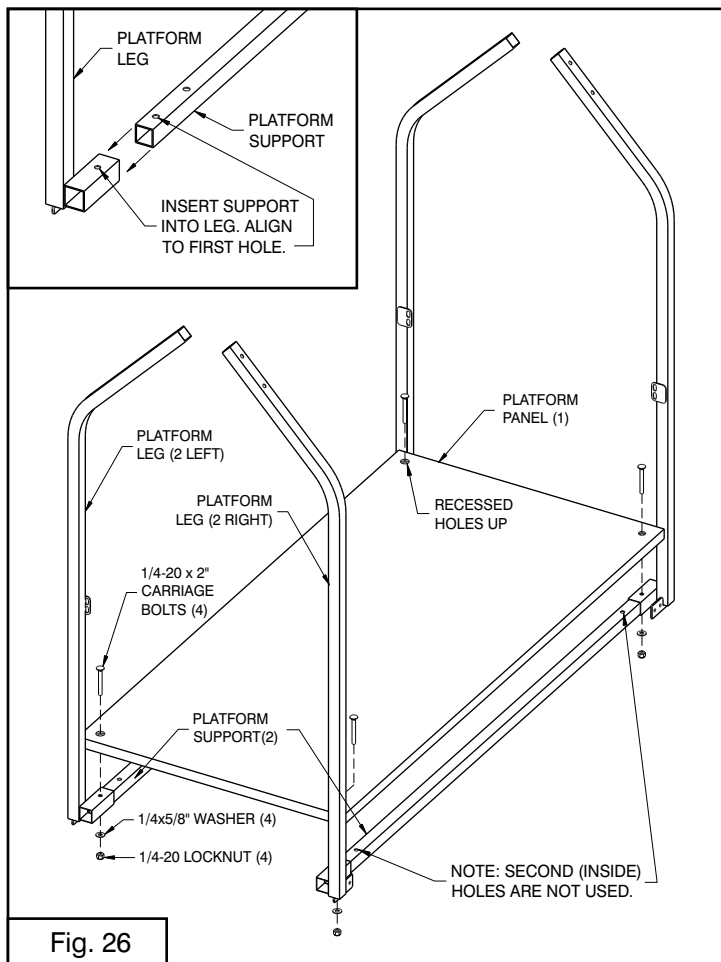


Fig. 26

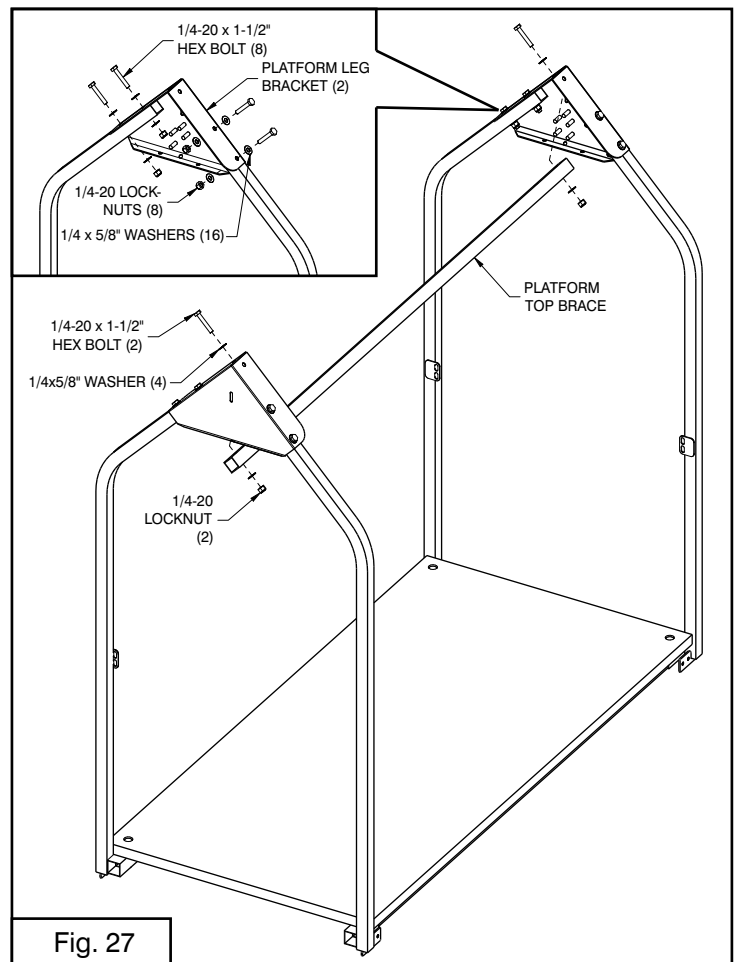


Fig. 27

## 7. DOOR AND PLATFORM ASSEMBLY

**7-1.** Locate the (8) 10-32 x 3/8" screws. Lift the platform assembly onto the door assembly (Fig. 28).

**Note:** The spring brackets on the end of the platform legs fit outside of the door braces (Fig. 28 inset).

**7-2.** Install and tighten the screws through the spring brackets and into the door braces.

**7-3.** Locate the short and long chains. The last link on each end of each chain is open to form a hook. Hook the end of each chain onto the chain brackets on each platform leg (Fig. 28 and inset). You can open the hook further with pliers, if needed, to make it easier to hook.

**7-4.** Close the hooks on both ends of the short chains so the chain is secured to the chain brackets. Close one hook on each long chain, leaving the other ends open for loading the platform.

**Read the Owners Manual for complete information about using the chains and safety guidelines about loading the platform.**

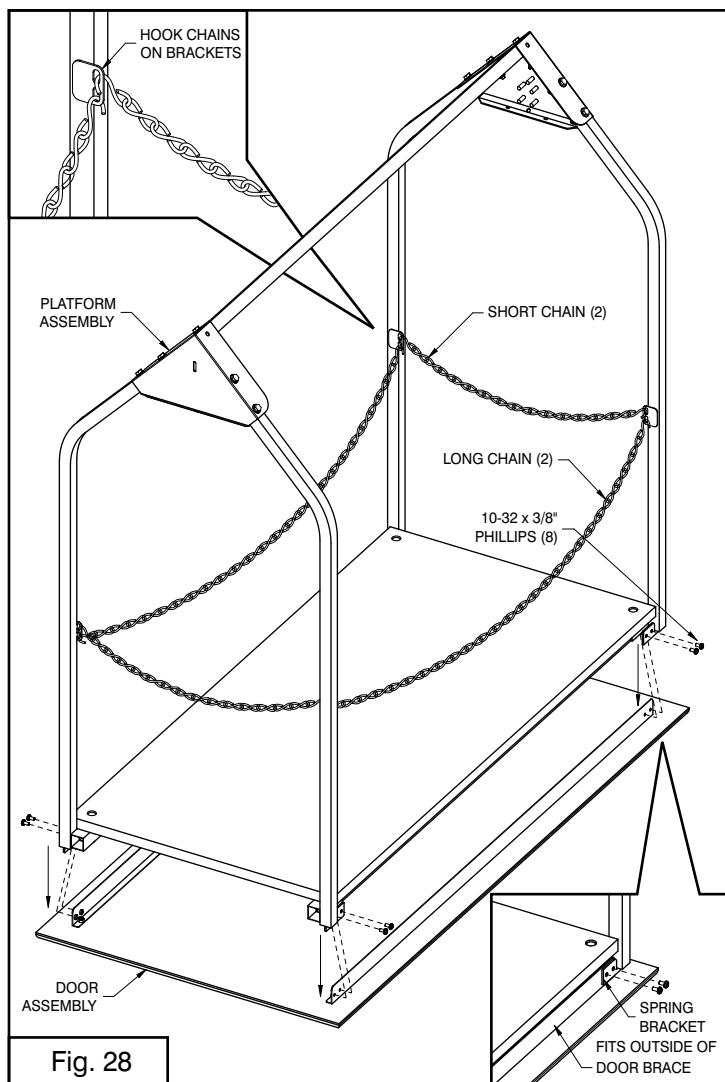


Fig. 28

## 8. CONNECT THE LIFT HEAD TO THE PLATFORM

**8-1.** Release the cables and let them hang down through the lift opening.

**8-2.** Position the lifting platform assembly on the floor directly below the lift opening (Fig. 29). (You can hang a plumb line from the corners of the lift opening to mark the garage floor below where the corners of the platform assembly should sit.)

**8-3.** Pass the ends of the cables through the slots in the platform leg brackets as shown in Fig. 30.

**8-4.** Pull the cable tight and wind it tightly around the threaded studs exactly as shown in the illustration. Wrap it as tightly as possible. Pinch the last loop around the last stud, then pass the end of the cable through the center hole in the bottom of the leg bracket (Fig. 30).

**8-5a.** Draw the cable tight by pulling firmly on the end of the cable (Fig. 30).

**IMPORTANT: DO NOT USE A POWER TOOL TO INSTALL THE CABLE CLAMP NUTS. USE ONLY A WRENCH OR A SOCKET AND RATCHET!**

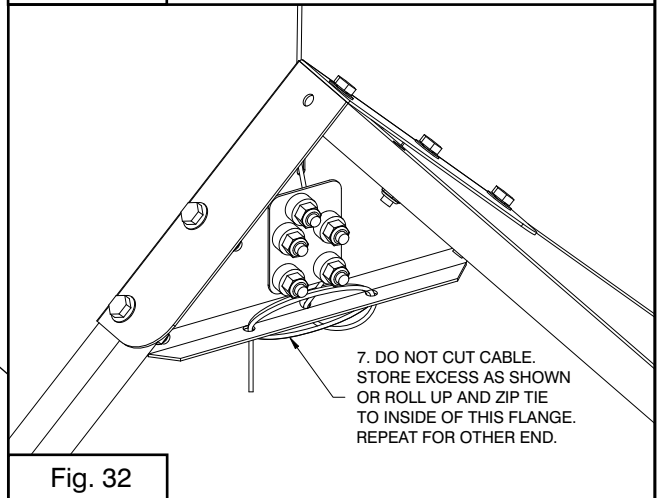
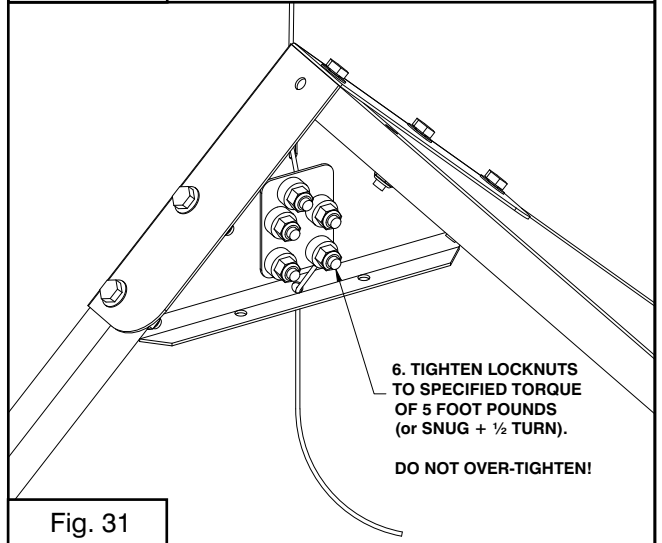
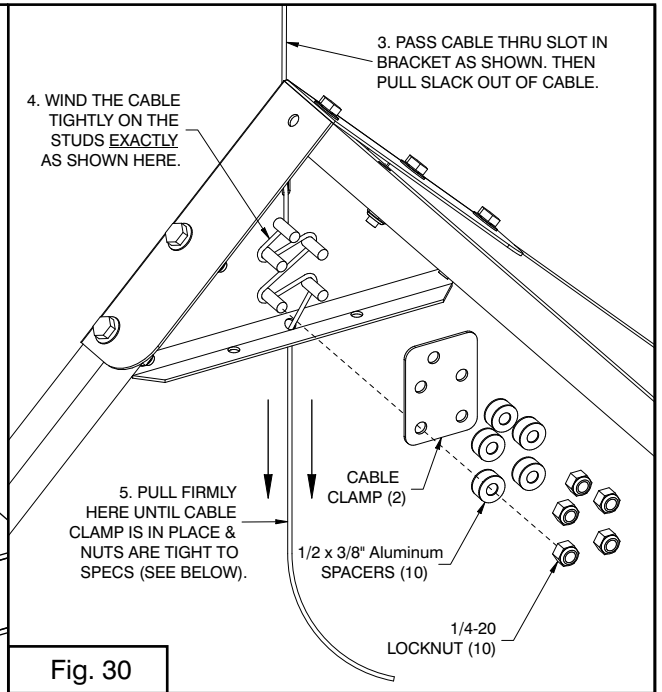
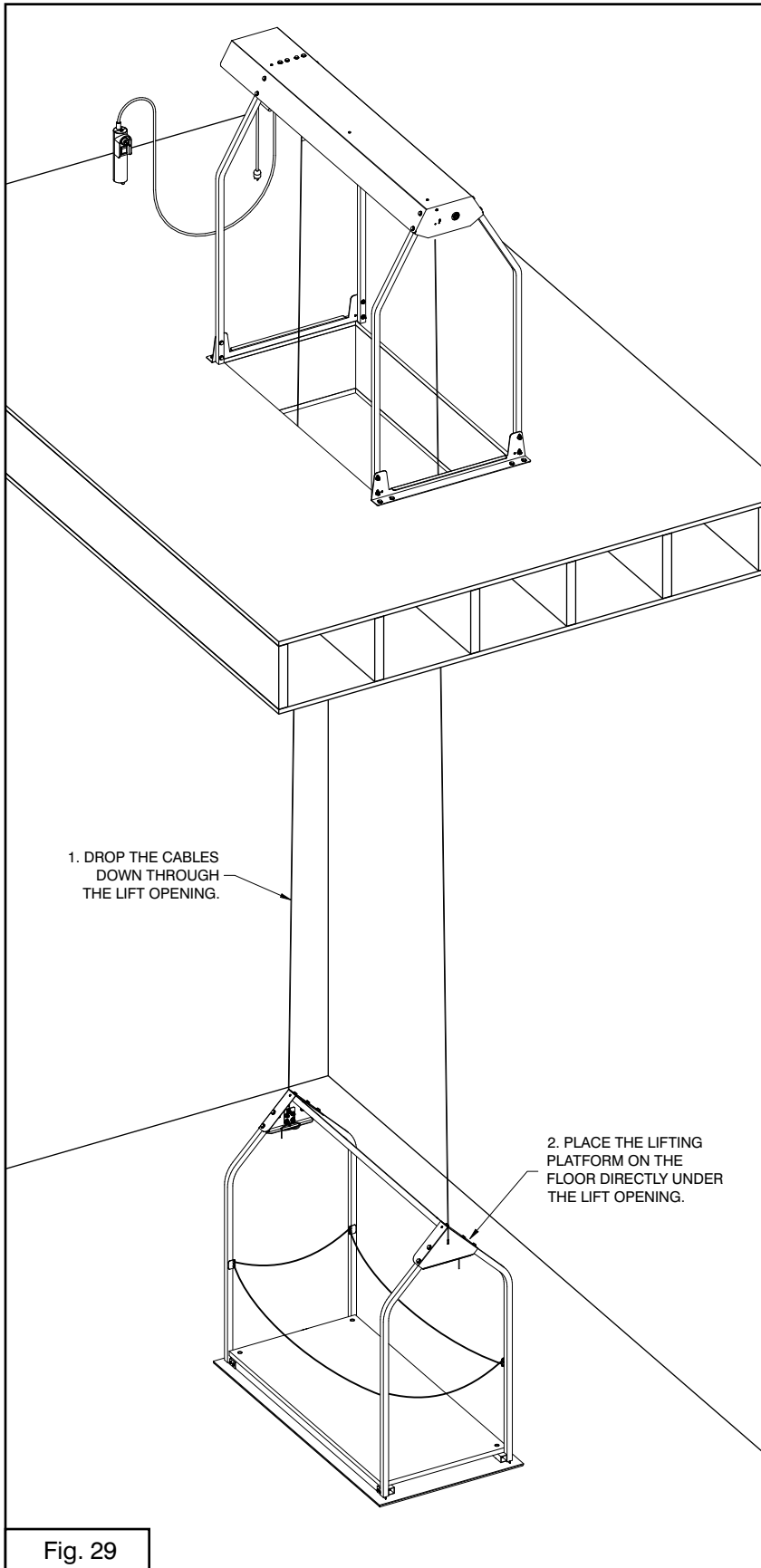
**8-5b.** While holding tension on the cable, install the cable clamp first, then install a 1/2 x 3/8 aluminum spacer and locknut on the last stud and snug it down to hold the cable, but don't tighten it yet (Fig. 30). Then install the rest of the aluminum spacers and locknuts and snug them down (*you can tell when the locknut is getting snug when it begins to turn a little harder and the aluminum spacer can't be turned with your fingers.*) Repeat this procedure for the second cable and apply the same tension (or slight slack) as with the first cable.

**8-6.** Torque all 10 locknuts to 5 foot pounds (60 inch pounds). **If you do not have a torque wrench, then snug all 10 locknuts as explained above, then turn each nut one-half turn (180 degrees) beyond snug (see Fig. 31). Do not over-tighten or you may break the studs off!**

**8-7.** You don't need to cut the excess cable, you can thread it through the two holes in the bottom of the leg bracket (Fig. 32) or you can wind it into a coil and zip tie it inside the bracket. If you do cut off the excess cable, you must leave at least a foot so that you can re-adjust the cable if it becomes necessary.

**NOTE:** It is important that the excess cable is secured where it can't get caught in the lift opening when the platform goes up or down.

**IMPORTANT: DO NOT USE A POWER TOOL TO INSTALL THE CABLE CLAMP NUTS. USE ONLY A WRENCH OR A SOCKET AND RATCHET! THESE NUTS MUST BE TIGHTENED TO THE SPECIFIED TORQUE ONLY!**



## 9. RAISE THE LIFTING PLATFORM

Before proceeding, review the first 8 steps to make sure you haven't missed any assembly steps. All of the bolts must be tight **except the lag screws** that hold the mounting rails to the deck. These must be loose enough that the rails can move freely the distance that the slotted holes allow. After reviewing steps 1-8, proceed as follows:

**9-1.** Make sure the corded remote and power cord hang freely from the rear of the lift motor and are not wrapped around the housing, the legs or the motor (Fig. 33).

**9-2.** Make sure the key switch (Standard) or the power switch (Wireless) is in the "OFF" position, then plug in the power cord (Fig. 33).

**9-3.** Stand clear of the lift mechanism and keep your hands clear too. Turn the key or power switch to "ON." Jog the "UP" direction switch (Fig. 33 insets) and watch as the platform comes up. When the platform nears the opening, jog (bump) the "UP" direction switch to move the platform in small increments, watching to make sure that it does not catch or bind on the opening. (If it hangs or binds, turn the key or power switch to off and unplug the power cord, then look to see what the problem is. Correct any problems before continuing the operation.)

**9-4.** When the platform reaches its upper limit, the upper limit switch will stop the motor and stop the platform.

**Turn off the key or power switch and unplug the power cord before proceeding to the next step.**

## 10. INSTALL THE PLATFORM GUIDE SPACERS

Locate the 4 screws, spacers, washers and locknuts shown in Fig. 34 inset. Install the spacer into the hole in the mounting rail between the housing legs and the platform legs. Tighten each screw firmly. These spacers guide the platform to the center of the opening in one direction, the mounting rails will guide the platform in the other direction.

## 11. ADJUST THE MOUNTING RAILS

Carefully measure 22" in from either end of the lifting platform and make a small mark perpendicular to the edge (Fig. 35). This is the center of the platform. The mounting rails are slotted so that they can be adjusted to guide the platform to the center of the opening where you made a center mark earlier, when preparing the opening (Fig. 4, Pg. 5). Push the mounting rails towards the center, moving the platform left or right until the center marks are aligned. **First**, tighten the lag screws firmly on the first mounting rail, but do not over-tighten them and strip the threads in the floor. **Second**, tighten the second mounting rail lag screws as above, but leave a little space between the mounting rail and the platform legs (note: a business card folded double makes a good gage).

**Congratulations! Your installation is now complete!**

**Please read and understand the Owners Manual completely to learn important safety rules you need to know before operating this lift system!**

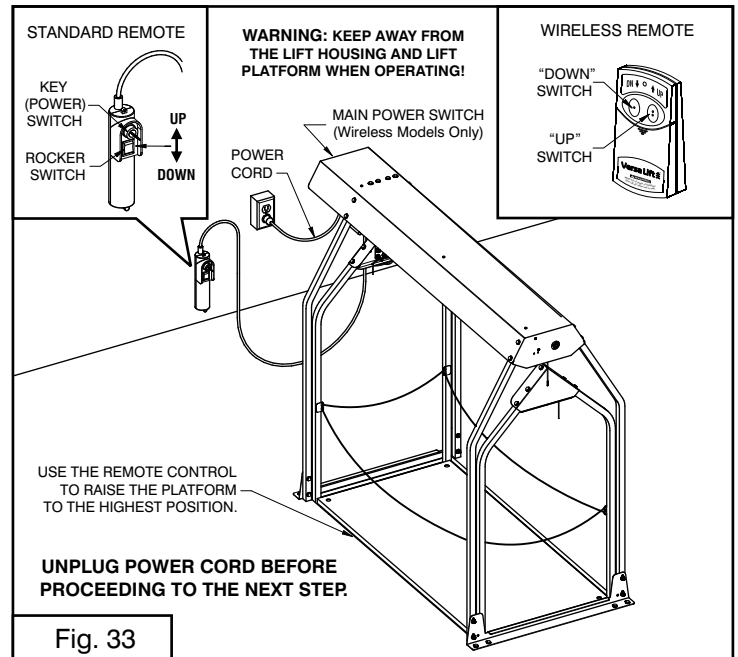


Fig. 33

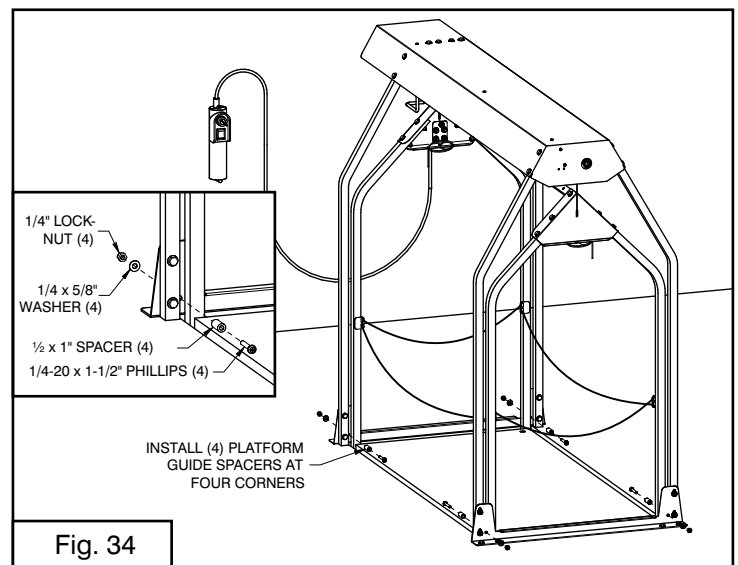


Fig. 34

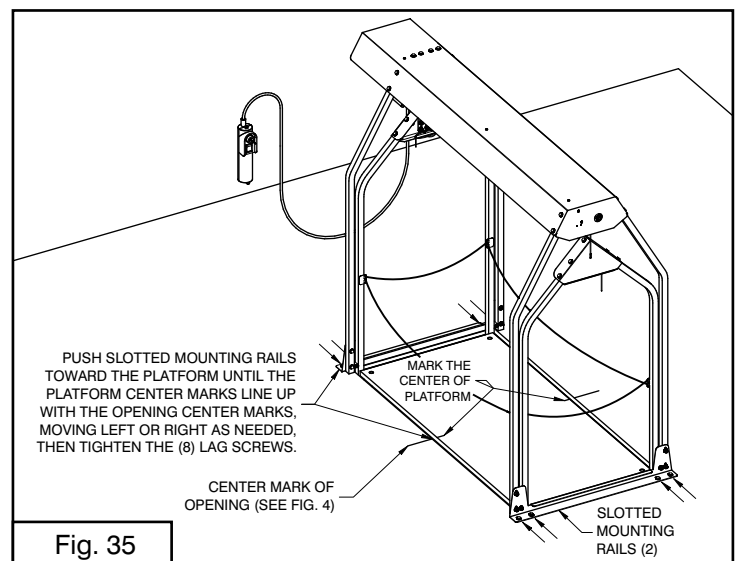


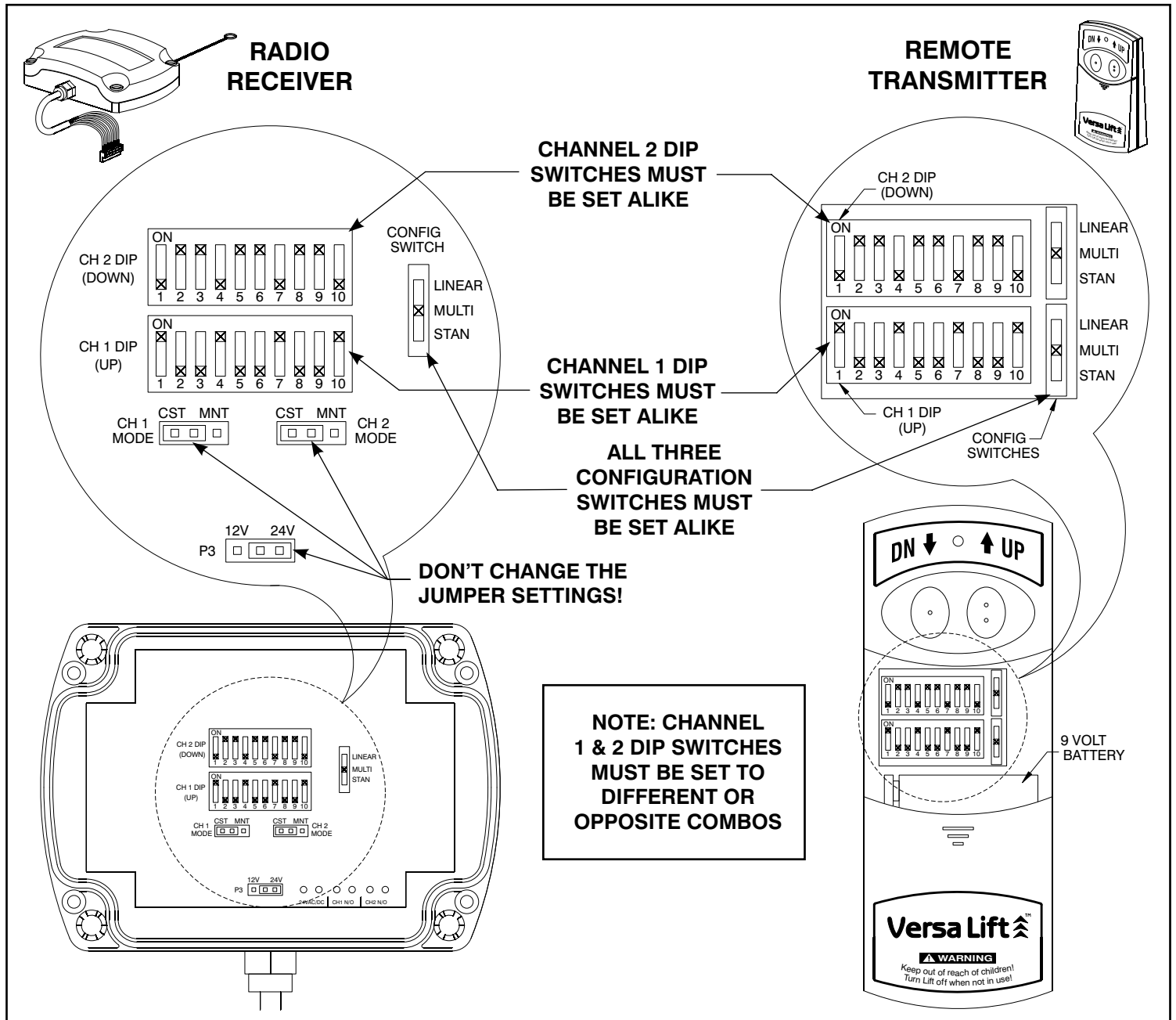
Fig. 35

## 12. WIRELESS REMOTE SETTINGS & OPERATION

The wireless receiver and remote transmitter are pre-set at the factory to the codes and configurations shown below. A 9-volt battery will also be installed in the transmitter at the factory. If your transmitter fails to operate the lift, first make sure the lift power cord is plugged in and the power switch on the rear of the motor housing is turned ON and lighted. If the transmitter still fails to operate the lift, replace the battery with a fresh 9-volt battery. The indicator light at the top of the transmitter when either the up or down button is pushed and a signal is being transmitted. See the Owners Manual for details about operation of the remote transmitter.

## 13. CHANGING CODES & CONFIGURATION SETTINGS

Normally you will not need to change the factory settings unless someone within a block of you is operating a Versa Lift wireless model too or you are getting interference from some other radio frequency device, tower, or broadcasting station nearby. If so, first try changing the configuration switch settings on both devices to "LINEAR" or "STAN." This will most likely correct the problem. If not, you can change the codes on the dip switches (see below). Do not use these codes: All 10 positions ON; All 10 positions OFF; Alternating ON/OFF; Alternating OFF/ON. Use a random code combination and follow the rules below.



**⚠ WARNING** Read and understand the Owners Manual completely before operating this lift! There are IMPORTANT SAFETY FACTS THAT YOU MUST KNOW BEFORE USING THIS PRODUCT!



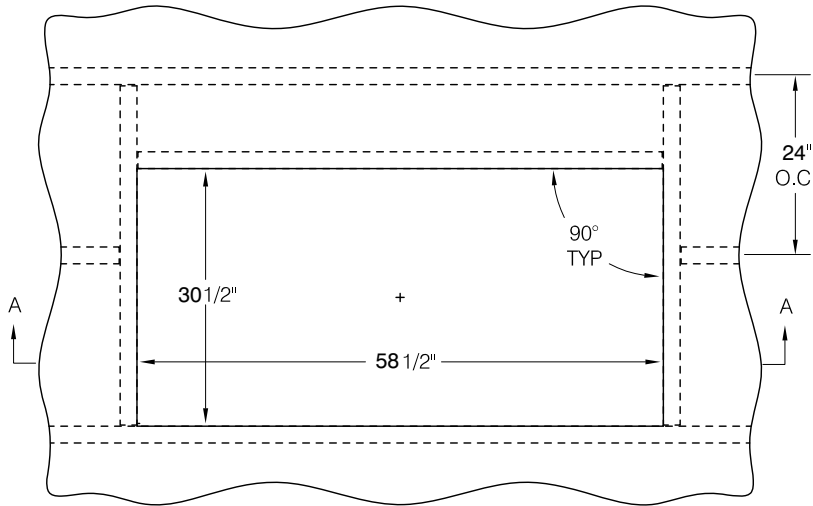


## Rough-In Guide for Solid Lumber Joists

### Roughing-In Notes:

Tolerance for opening dimensions is +1/4" (6mm), -0" (-0mm). The opening must be square and the side walls perpendicular. Maximum joist height is 18" tall. See specification sheet for maximum floor-to-floor height of specific models. For detailed framing suggestions, see the [Versa Lift Installation Guide](#).

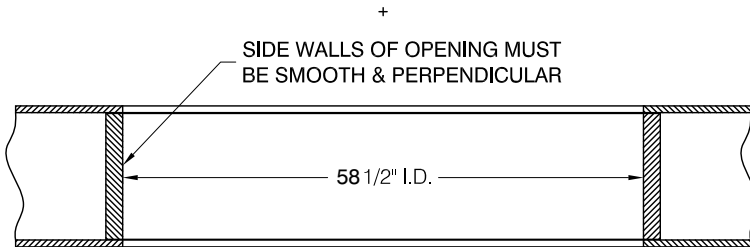
### TYPICAL FRAMING FOR 24" O.C. SOLID JOISTS



CAD: 32RUFN-24-PLAN.DWG

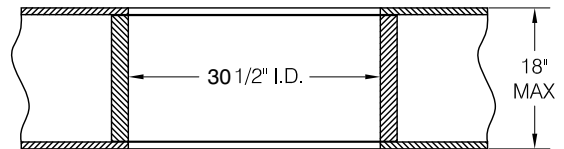
### IMPORTANT NOTE:

The required finished opening is 30.5 x 58.5" with smooth sidewalls. Whenever joist hanger brackets are used to frame the opening, they must be covered to prevent interference with the lifting platform operation. 2 x 2" "L" shaped flashing strips (4) are provided by BPG to cover hanger brackets and nail head in the corners of the lift opening.



CAD: 32RUFN-FRT-X.DWG

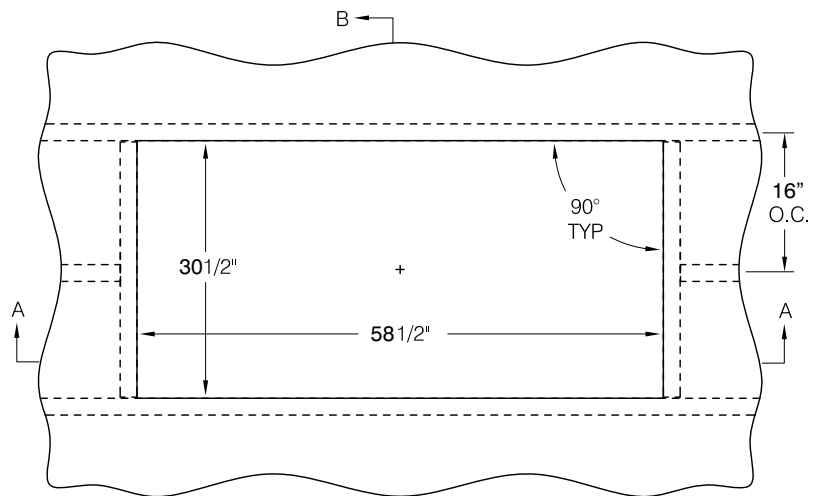
SEC. A-A



CAD: 32RUFN-SIDE-X.DWG

SEC. B-B

### TYPICAL FRAMING FOR 16" O.C. SOLID JOISTS



CAD: 32RUFN-16-PLAN.DWG

### IMPORTANT NOTE:

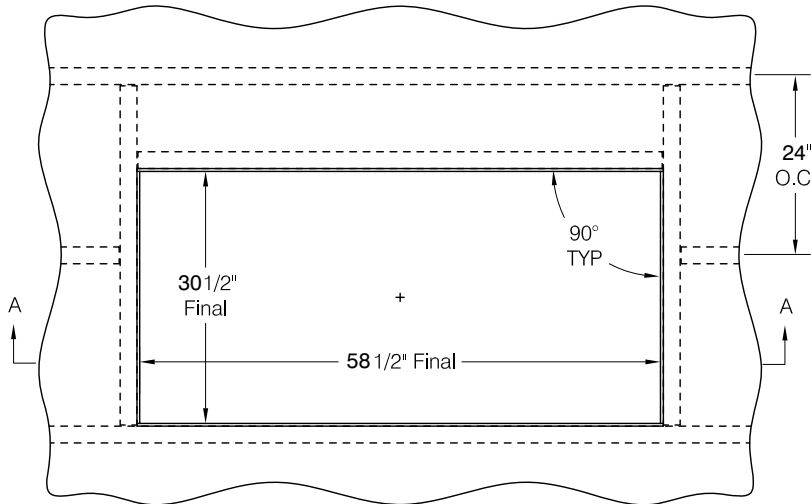
The required finished opening is 30.5 x 58.5" with smooth sidewalls. Whenever joist hanger brackets are used to frame the opening, they must be covered to prevent interference with the lifting platform operation. 2 x 2" "L" shaped flashing strips (4) are provided by BPG to cover hanger brackets and nail head in the corners of the lift opening.

## Rough-In Guide for Fabricated "I-Joists"

### Roughing-In Notes:

For I-Joists, frame the opening 1/2" larger in each dimension, then skin the side walls with 1/4" plywood for a smooth opening. Tolerance for opening dimensions is +1/4" (6mm), -0" (-0mm). The opening must be square and the side walls perpendicular. Maximum joist height is 18" tall. See specification sheet for maximum floor-to-floor height of specific models. For detailed framing suggestions, see the **Versa Lift Installation Guide**.

### TYPICAL FRAMING FOR 24" O.C. Fabricated I-JOISTS

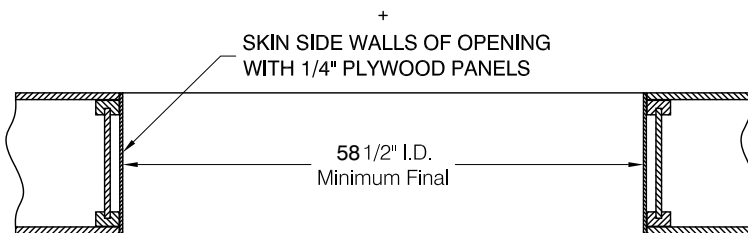


CAD: 32RUFN-16-I-PLAN1.DWG

-OR-

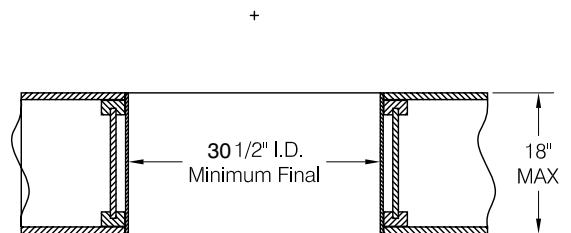
CAD: 32RUFN-16-I-PLAN2.DWG

**Note: For I-Joists, frame opening 31" x 59", then skin inside with 1/4" plywood to make the final opening size 30.5" x 58.5" with smooth side walls.**



CAD: 32RUFN-I-FRT-X.DWG

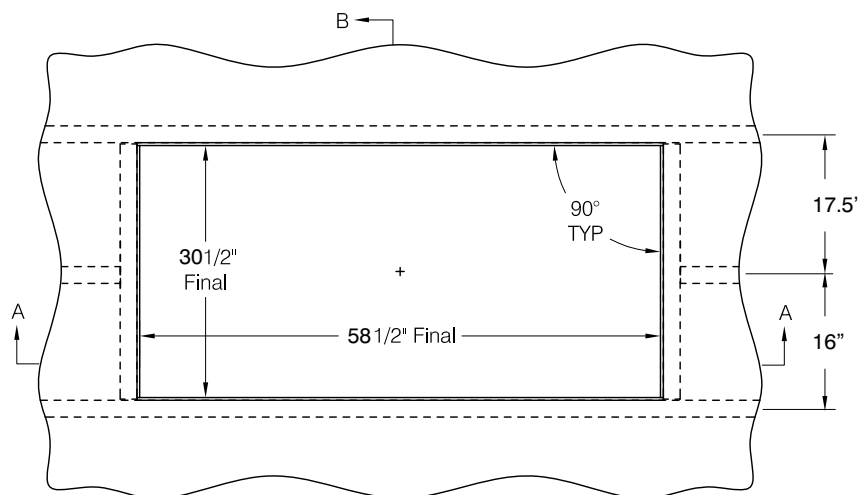
SEC. A-A



CAD: 32RUFN-I-SIDE-X.DWG

SEC. B-B

### TYPICAL FRAMING FOR 16" O.C. Fabricated I-JOISTS



CAD: 32RUFN-24-I-PLAN.DWG

**Note: For I-Joists, frame opening 31" x 59", then skin inside with 1/4" plywood to make the final opening size 30.5" x 58.5" with smooth side walls.**

**Important: To get the required 31" x 59" opening, one I-Joist must be shifted 1 1/2" off-center - or - you must cut two I-Joists and box in the opening using a stringer.**

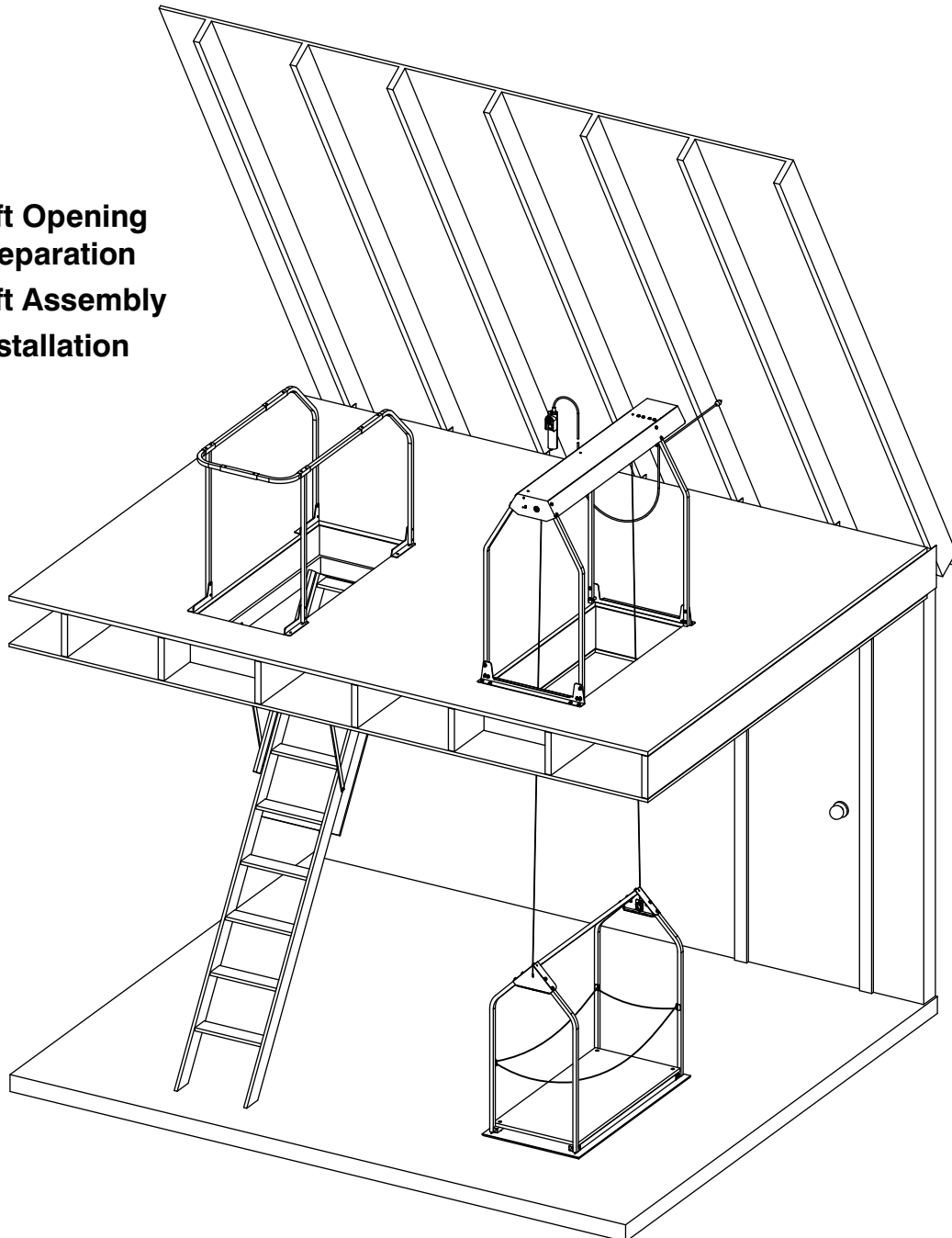
# Versa Lift ™

## Attic Storage Lifting System

### INSTALLATION GUIDE

Standard Models 32, 32H, & 32HX  
Wireless Models 32W, 32WH, & 32WHX

- Lift Opening Preparation
- Lift Assembly
- Installation



PHONE (405) 516 2412

US & Foreign Patents Pending

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# READ THIS BEFORE YOU GET STARTED

## SAFETY GUIDELINES - DEFINITIONS:

It is important to read and understand this manual. The information it contains relates to protecting *your safety* and *preventing problems*. The symbols below are used to help you recognize safety information.

**⚠ DANGER** Indicates an imminently hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.

**⚠ WARNING** Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.

**⚠ CAUTION** Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in minor or moderate injury.

## READ THIS INSTALLATION GUIDE AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS EXACTLY WHILE INSTALLING THIS PRODUCT.

**⚠ DANGER** NEVER ALLOW PERSONS ON OR IN THE LIFT! ABSOLUTELY NO RIDERS! No person under 18 year of age should be allowed to operate this product. Children should be kept away from the lift when it is in operation. This product can cause serious injury or death to a child who attempts to ride the lift or to lift others! When not in use, ALWAYS raise the lifting platform to the highest position, then unplug the power cord, lock the remote (standard models) and store the keys or wireless remote safely away where children cannot get to them!

**⚠ WARNING** When working with power tools, follow all of the manufacturers safety guidelines and wear approved safety glasses and hearing protection.

**⚠ WARNING** When you work in the attic, stay on decked areas. If you must be in non-decked areas, step only on the joists. The materials between the joists will not support your weight and will collapse if you stand or sit on them. Be alert to any overhead hazards, such as exposed nails. Beware of and avoid openings, such as the ladder or lift openings when working or moving around in the attic.

**⚠ WARNING** Do not work alone in the attic, always work with another person to help you. Do not work in the attic in the heat of the day. You can quickly be overcome by heat exhaustion in a hot attic. Morning hours are the coolest time to work in the attic after it has had all night to cool off.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE:

**DO NOT OPERATE THE MOTOR UNTIL YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO IN STEP 9 OF THIS GUIDE!** The Versa Lift Housing and Motor are pre-assembled at the factory and the winch shaft is pre-positioned for correct installation. If you run the motor before you are instructed to, you will cause the lift to malfunction and require recalibration by factory or authorized dealer. This repair is not covered by the warranty.

**⚠ WARNING** The ladder opening and lift opening present falling hazards to any person who enters the attic. When you are in the attic space, be alert at all times to these openings. *We highly recommend you install a safety railing around your ladder opening, such as the Versa Rail by BPG\* (see Fig. 0).*

**⚠ WARNING** If you install this lift product inside the living space of a home, or in a closet, or a walk-in attic accessible to children, then you must also install the Auto-Shutter\* from BPG that automatically closes the lift opening as the platform goes down to help prevent children, pets, etc. from falling through the opening (the Auto-Shutter is not illustrated in this manual).

\*For information on the Versa-Rail, Auto-Shutter, and other Versa Lift accessories visit [www.bpghome.com](http://www.bpghome.com) or call BPG.

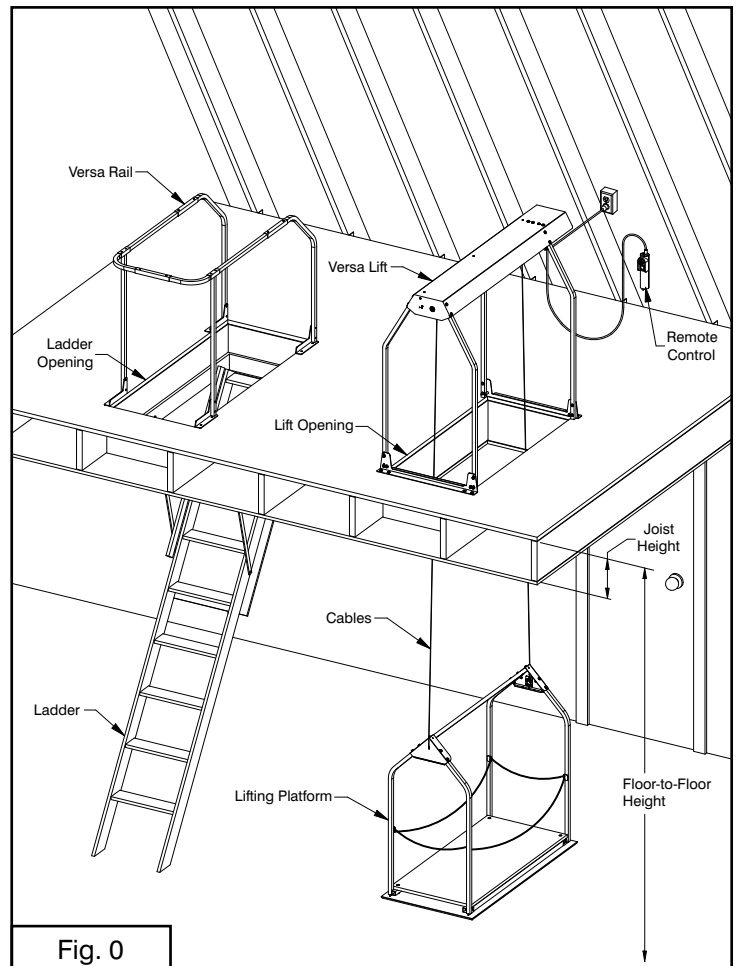


Fig. 0

## BEFORE INSTALLING THIS LIFT:

Verify that this product and its installation does not violate local building codes. You can find out this information from a local building inspector, architect, structural engineer, or your building contractor.

Find out if there are any code restrictions on what types of things you can store in your attic.

Get professional advice and estimates on framing, decking and assembly if you are not qualified or physically able to do these tasks. You can find building contractors, remodeling contractors, architects, engineers and inspectors in the Yellow Pages.

You are responsible for determining the suitability of this product for your individual purposes, as well as installing it in a way that meets local building and safety codes.

**⚠ WARNING** Two persons are required to perform certain tasks in this guide for safer and easier installation. Performing these tasks alone is not recommended.

### VERSA LIFT SPECIFICATIONS:

General Specifications		(All Models 32)
Dimensions	34W x 69L x 60H	
Vertical Attic Space Req'd.	60" Min.	
Max. Joist Height	18"	
Lift Opening Size	30.5 x 58.5"	
Motor	0.6 hp	
Voltage	110 VAC	
Power	4.5 amps	
Lift Capacity Max.	250 lbs.	
Lifting Speed	8 in/sec	
Duty Cycle (minutes)	2 on / 4 off	
Lifting Cables (2)	.093 (7x19)	
Shipping Wt. (approx)	195 lbs.	
Remote Control		Model
15' Corded Remote		32, 32H, 32HX
Wireless Remote		32W, 32WH, 32WHX
Model	Ceiling Height	Floor-to-Floor
32, 32W	10 ft. Max	8-11 ft.
32H, 32WH	13 ft. Max	11-14 ft.
32HX, 32WHX	19 ft. Max	14-20 ft.

## Versa Lift INSTALLATION OVERVIEW:

### 1. FRAME THE OPENING:

The first step to installing your new Versa Lift is preparing an opening in the ceiling where the lift will be located.

**Tools/Materials Required:** Saws, Drill, Hammer, Nails or Screws, Framing Square, Tape Measure, Header & Joist Lumber to match Existing Joists.

**Skill Level: Professional** - Do not attempt this part of the installation yourself unless you have professional skill in construction framing. Hire a building contractor or a remodeling contractor to do this job correctly. It will be well worth the cost to have this part done right. Before cutting any ceiling joist, consult a structural engineer to determine the best location for your lift and construction appropriate for your ceiling type. Also, get some advice on the best areas to deck your attic for storage, if your attic is not decked. For example, areas over walls will hold more weight than areas over large rooms.

### 2. DECK AN ATTIC SPACE:

If your attic is not already decked in the area where your Versa Lift will be installed, then decking material such as plywood must be added on top of the ceiling joists to make a floor that you can walk on and store items on.

**Tools/Materials Required:** Skill Saw, Hammer and Nails or Screws and Power Driver, Square, Tape Measure, Decking.

**Skill Level: Handyman** - If you have skill with general carpentry tools (sawing, measuring, nailing or screwing) and the physical strength to move large pieces of wood, then you can do this part yourself with a helper. (You can get 2 x 4-ft pre-cut plywood at most lumber stores. It is much easier to handle than 4 x 8-ft sheets.)

### 3. ASSEMBLE AND INSTALL THE LIFT:

The Versa Lift comes partially assembled. The cartons contain all of the parts and fastening hardware, along with detailed instructions in this guide for assembly.

**Tools/Materials Required:** Drill, 5/32" Drill Bit, Square, Tape Measure, Level, Phillips Screwdriver, Wrenches and/or Sockets and Ratchet.

**Skill Level: Handyman** - If you have the skill for general repair and maintenance using hand tools and can read and follow instructions, then you can do this part yourself with a helper.

# 4 Versa Lift Installation - Lift Opening Requirements

## ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS:

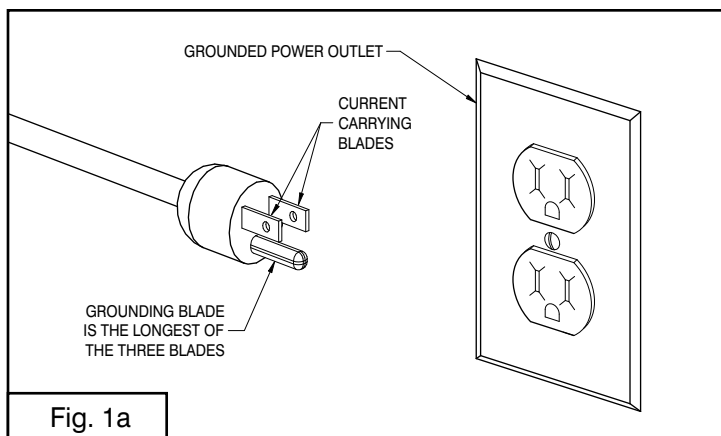
### ELECTRICAL OUTLET:

You will need a single 110 volt AC grounded electrical outlet to plug in the Versa Lift power cord. It is highly recommended that the outlet be on the same switched circuit as the lighting in your attic so that when the attic lights are turned off, the power to the Versa Lift is also turned off. This arrangement will be more convenient for you and will prevent unintended operation of the lift.

The power cord provided with this product has three blades. The longest blade is the grounding blade (Fig. 1a). The shorter flat blades are the current carrying blades. You will need a grounded power outlet (receptacle) as shown below (Fig. 1a). If your outlet does not have a grounded receptacle for a three blade plug or if you are unsure if your outlet is correctly grounded, have a qualified electrician check the outlet (receptacle) to make sure it meets local codes. Incorrect grounding puts you at risk of electrical shock.

**Never modify the equipment plug to fit a two blade outlet (receptacle)!**

If you use an extension cord, it must be a heavy duty three-wire type with a three blade grounding plug and matching grounded outlet (receptacle) like those shown in Fig. 1a and rated for at least twice the load (10 amps minimum).



**⚠ WARNING** To prevent unintended lift operation, you must turn the power switch off, unplug the power cord, or disconnect the power when not in use! The wireless model radio is active if the lift has power and is turned on and can operate the lift whenever a coded signal is received, either from the Versa Lift remote control transmitter or from another transmitter in your area! Unintended operation could cause the lifting platform to move downwards unexpectedly, possibly causing injury to persons or damage to property located directly under the lift.

## LIFT OPENING REQUIREMENTS:

### VERTICAL ATTIC SPACE:

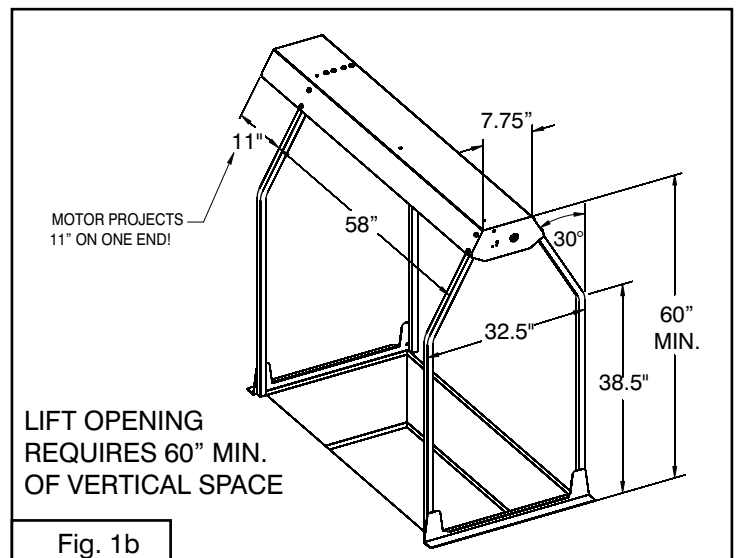
The Versa Lift requires a minimum of 60" of vertical space directly over the lift opening (Fig. 1b).

### OPENING DIMENSION & TOLERANCES:

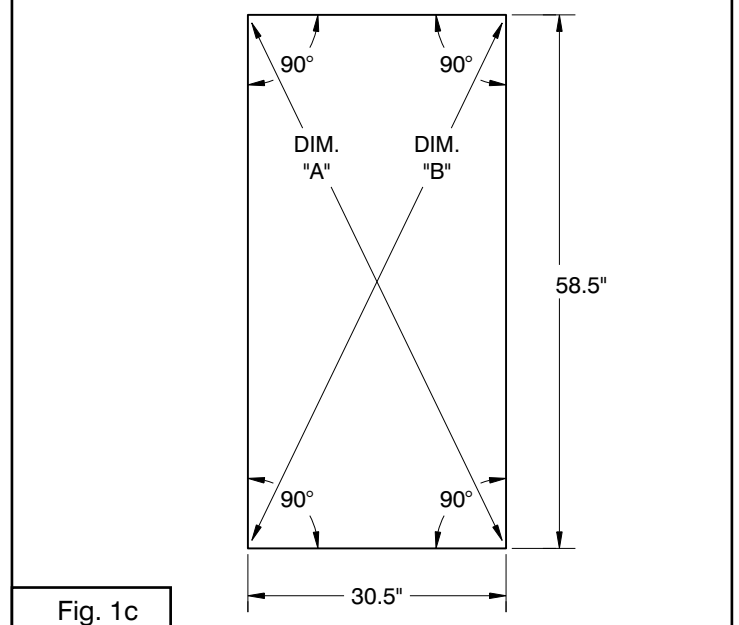
The final opening size is 30½" x 58½" with a tolerance of +1/2" and -0" (the opening can be up to 1/2" larger, but no smaller.) The lift opening must be square as shown below (Fig. 1c). Diagonal A should equal B within 1/2".

### LIFT OPENING FINISH:

The lift opening must have smooth, perpendicular side walls. No nail heads, brackets, sheet rock or decking can protrude or extend into the opening, as this will cause the lifting platform to become caught on those edges and the lift will malfunction. (See Figs. 2a, 2b, & 2c).



LIFT OPENING MUST BE SQUARE ( $A = B \pm 1/2"$ )

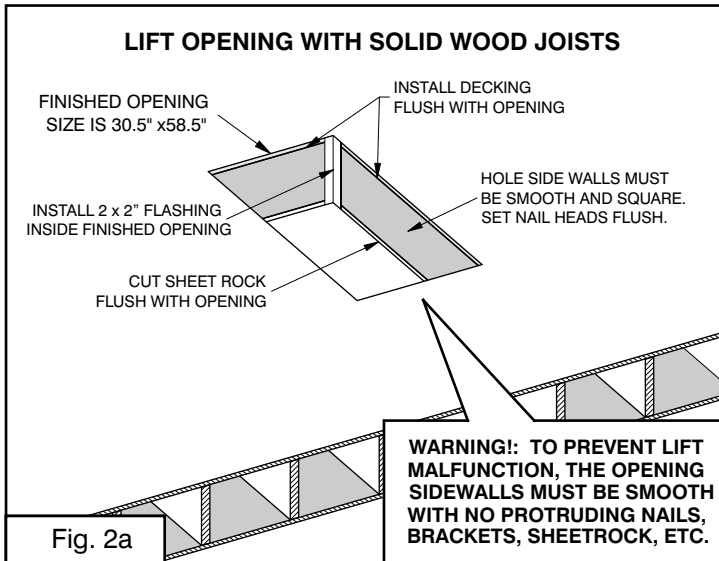


## LIFT OPENING REQUIREMENTS (Cont):

### OPENINGS IN SOLID WOOD JOISTS:

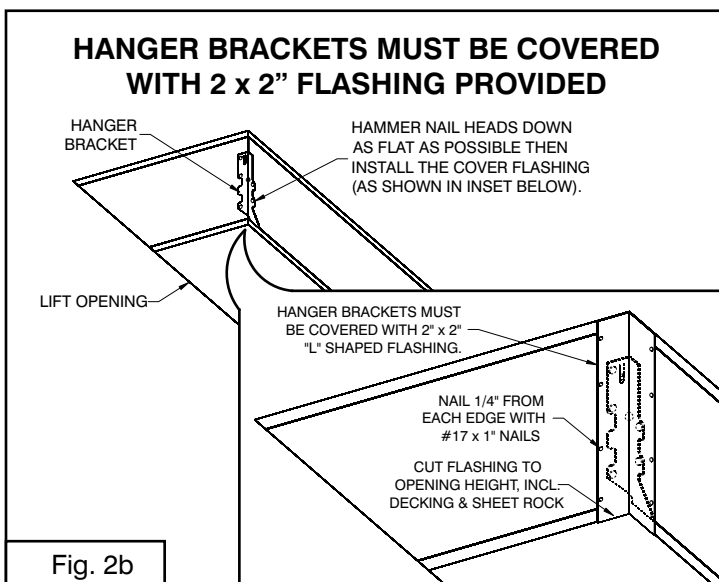
When ceiling joists are solid wood, the finished opening must be **30½" x 58½"** with smooth side walls. The side walls must be square (perpendicular) so that the opening does not get smaller at the bottom. The sheet rock and decking must be cut flush to walls (see Fig. 2a).

**There must be no protrusions inside the opening:** All nail heads must be set flush or below the surface. If joist hanger brackets are used, the 2"x2" L-flashing (provided) must be installed in the corners of the opening to cover the hanger brackets and nail heads (see Fig. 2b below).



### INSTALL 2 x 2" "L" FLASHING IN ALL OPENINGS:

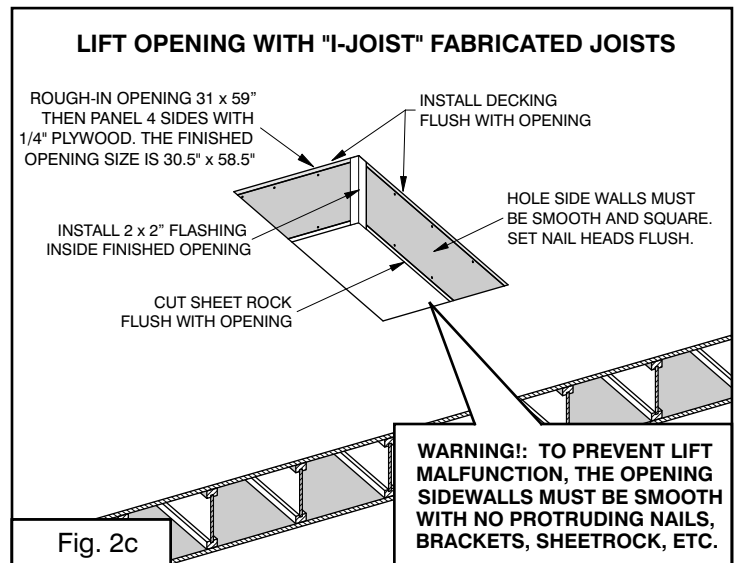
2" x 2" "L" flashing is provided and should be installed into the corners of **all openings**, especially those having exposed joist hangers. **Any hanger brackets must be covered over as shown below.** Cut the flashing to the finished opening height (including sheet rock and decking). Align it to the bottom and nail both edges with



#17 x 1" nails, placing nails within 1/4" from each edge (Fig. 2b & Inset). **The flashing strips are strongly recommended to finish all openings, even I-Joist openings that are paneled with 1/4" plywood.** The flashing strips not only cover nail head and brackets, they also provide a slippery protective surface to guide the lifting platform through the opening and will reduce paint wear on the lifting frame.

### OPENINGS IN FABRICATED JOISTS:

When ceiling joists are "I-Joists" instead of solid wood, the rough opening size should be 31 x 59", ½" larger in each dimension, to allow space to panel the joists with 1/4" thick plywood (Fig. 2c). **The 1/4" paneling will provide the required smooth walls and cover any joist hanger brackets.** When paneled, the finished opening size will be 30½" x 58½". The side walls must be square (perpendicular) and all nail heads must be set flush or below the surface. Cut all sheet rock and decking flush with the edges of the opening. (See pgs. 8-10 on I-joists.) Install the 2"x2" L-flashing (provided) in the corners of the opening to cover nail heads and provide a smooth non-abrasive guide-way for the lifting platform (see Fig. 2b).



## IMPORTANT NOTICE

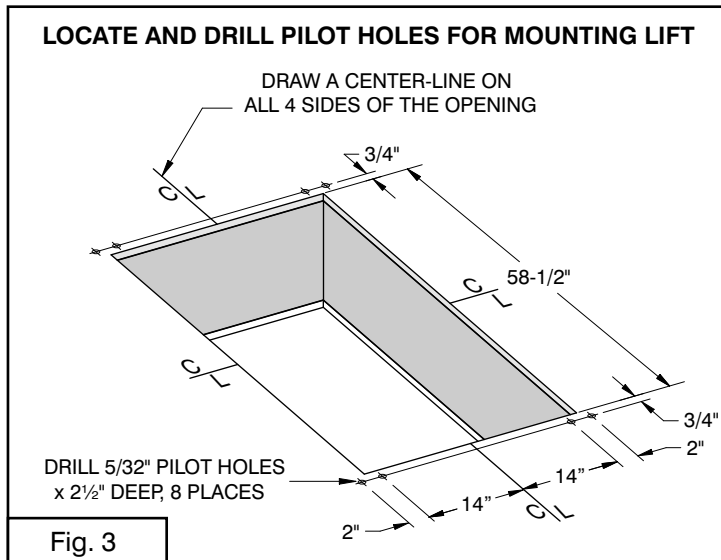
**⚠ WARNING** THE LIFT OPENING MUST HAVE SMOOTH PERPENDICULAR SIDE WALLS. **NO** nail heads, hanger brackets, sheet rock or decking can protrude or extend into the opening, as this will cause the lifting platform to become caught on those edges, causing the lift to malfunction, resulting in possible damage or personal injury! **The product warranty is void if this product is installed on an opening that does not meet the exact requirements detailed on these pages.** Carefully read the instructions detailed and illustrated in "Lift Opening Requirements" and "Framing Techniques" (Fig. 1a thru Fig. 19, pgs. 4-10).

# 6 Versa Lift Installation - Lift Opening Requirements

## PILOT HOLES FOR MOUNTING THE LIFT:

Before assembling the Versa Lift, mark the location of the mounting holes on the floor deck at either end of the lift opening. These will be pilot holes for the lag screws that have been provided to secure the lift to the attic floor.

Find and mark the center on each side of the rectangular opening, then use a straight edge or square to draw a center line (Fig. 3). Next draw a line parallel to each of the narrow ends and spaced  $3/4"$  away from the opening. Measure along the parallel lines  $14"$  each way from the center line and mark 2 hole centers (Fig. 3). Then measure outward  $2"$  more on each side for a total of 4 hole centers on each end of the opening (Fig. 3). Find the "Mounting Rails" in the Versa Lift carton and place them over the hole centers you have marked to check your work. The hole centers should match the four slotted holes on the Mounting Rails. If so, drill 8 pilot holes with a  $5/32"$  bit on the hole centers you have marked to a depth of about  $2-1/2"$  (Fig. 3).



## IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT FRAMING:

The Optional Framing Techniques and Illustrations provided on pages 6 thru 10 are strictly for illustrative purposes and are not intended as specific recommendations or directions for you to follow in your individual installation. These are provided only as visual aids that may help you plan your installation with a professional, such as a structural engineer, architect, or contractor, according to local codes or building practices. BPG does not warrant this product to be suitable for your purpose, location, structure, installation or use. Each user is responsible for determining the suitability, appropriate location and method of installation for this product.

Please consult a professional to evaluate your ceiling construction and the desired location and whether the remaining joists should be doubled to compensate for the joist(s) that will be cut. This will depend on a various factors, including the size and span of the existing joists.

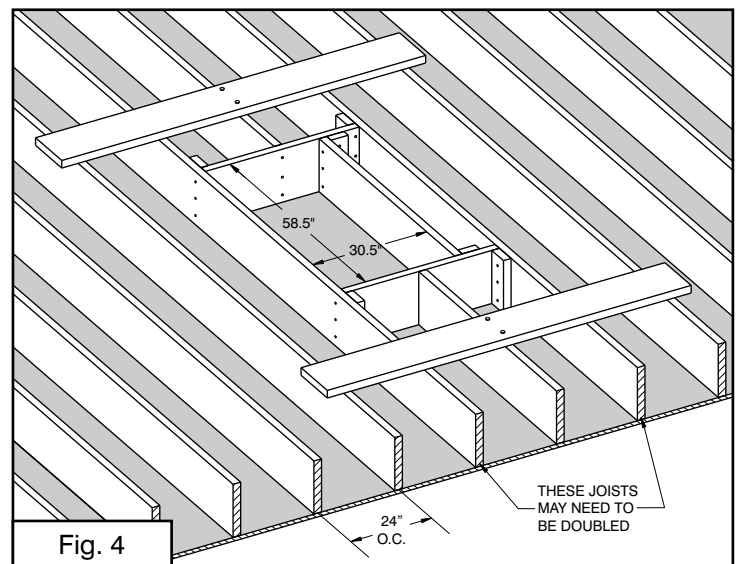
## LIFT OPENING ORIENTATION

The following illustrations (pages 7-10) show lift openings in solid  $2 \times (1\frac{1}{2}"$ ) lumber and I-joists spaced  $16"$  or  $24"$  on-center. All openings shown are **aligned with the joists** meaning the long dimension of the opening is oriented parallel to the joists so the fewest number of joists need to be cut. When the opening is **aligned** with solid wood joists on  $16"$  or  $24"$  centers or I-joists on  $24"$  centers, only one ceiling joist has to be cut to frame the opening (see Fig. 4). For I-Joists on  $16"$  centers, 2 joists may need to be cut (see page 8, for additional details).

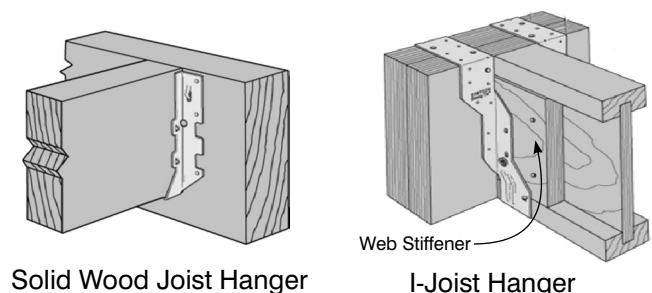
In contrast, a **transverse** opening will require either two joists ( $24"$  centers) or three joists ( $16"$  centers) to be cut.

**Important:** For the above reasons, only **aligned** opening types are recommended for the Versa Lift Model 32. It is not recommended to orient the opening **transverse** (across) to the joist direction with the Versa Lift Model 32 because more joists will have to be cut which will weaken the ceiling structure more than an aligned opening.

## ALIGNED OPENING IN SOLID WOOD JOISTS 24" O.C.



**Note:** The framing technique illustrations (pg. 6-10) show blocking used to join joists and headers. Joist hanger brackets can be substituted for the blocking as desired. Depending on location and code requirements, web stiffeners may be required for I-Joist when using hanger brackets. Typical joist hangers are illustrated below:





# Versa Lift Installation - Optional Framing Techniques <sup>7</sup>

## Optional Framing Technique #1

### For Homes with SOLID WOOD JOISTS 16 or 24" OC:

If your attic is decked, you will need to remove some decking to expose the joists in the area of the opening. If your attic is not decked, nail down some plywood on either side for a temporary work surface.

You will need temporary supports for any joist that will be cut. One technique is shown below using two 2 x 8" (minimum size) planks to span the adjacent joists. Each plank is secured with 2 lag screws to the joist(s) to be cut (Fig. 5). A framing square is used to mark guide lines for headers and cut lines (Fig. 5 inset). After cutting the joist, 2x4" or 2x6" blocking is installed (Fig. 6 & inset).

**Note: Joist hangers can be used instead of blocking.**

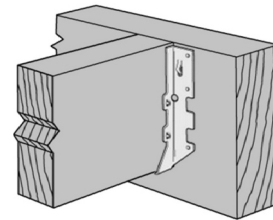
### Mark, cut, and install headers:

**For joists on 16" centers:** Cut the headers 30.5" long (Fig. 7 & inset) and install them as shown.

**For joists on 24" centers:** Cut the headers 46.5" long and install blocking (Fig. 8 & inset). Install the headers. Trim the joist section (removed in Fig. 5) to 58.5" long and install it to finish the framed opening (Fig. 8).

Depending on the size and span of your joists, you may need to double the joists on either side of the opening for added strength as shown in Fig. 7. The sheet rock can now be cut flush with the opening. Install decking flush to the inside edge of the opening (not illustrated). Note that decking and sheet rock must not extend into the opening (see Figs. 2a & 2c on pg. 5).

**Note: Joist hangers can be used instead of blocking. Joist hangers must be covered with 2 x 2" "L" flashing (provided) to prevent the lift platform from hanging in the opening, causing lift malfunction or damage (see Fig. 2b, pg. 5 for details).**



Solid Wood Joist Hanger

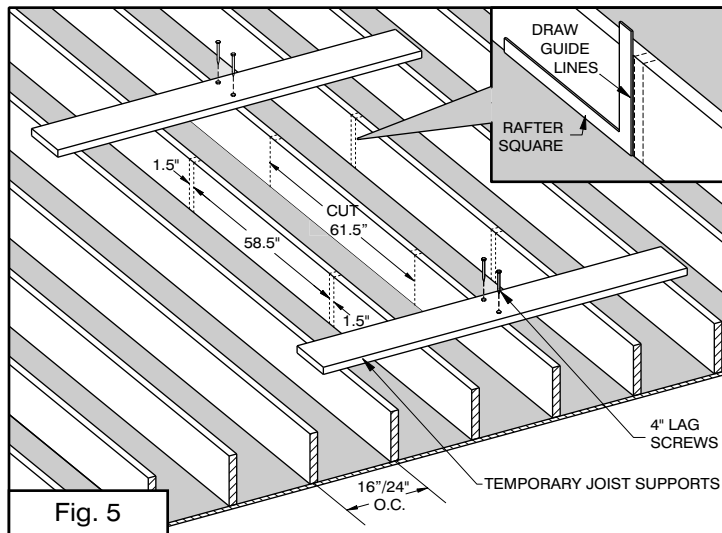


Fig. 5

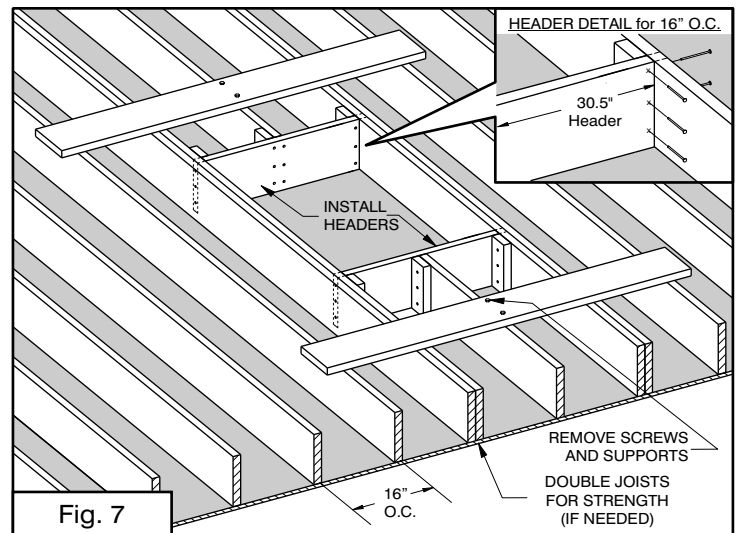


Fig. 7

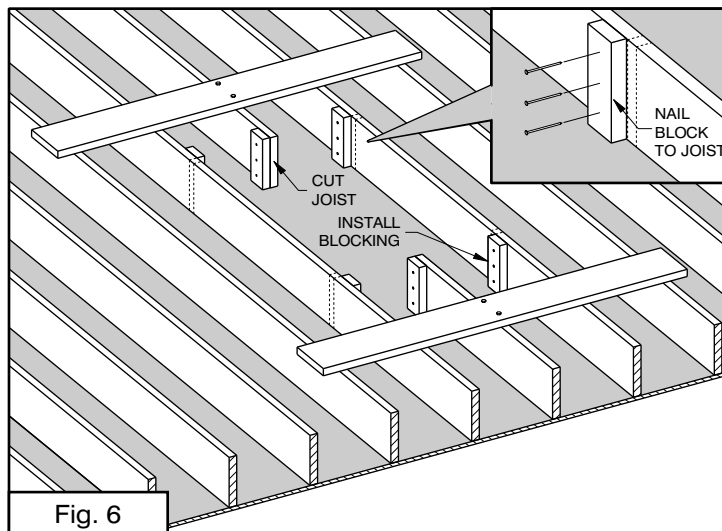


Fig. 6

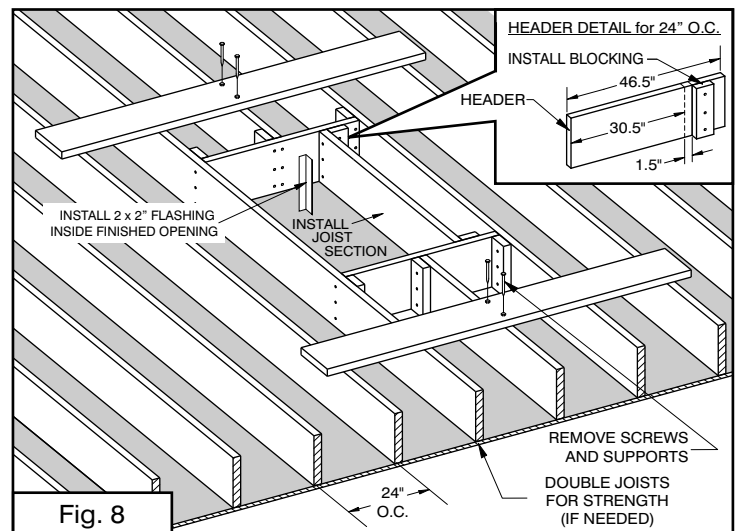


Fig. 8

# 8 Versa Lift Installation - Optional Framing Techniques

## Optional Framing Technique #2 FOR I-JOISTS ON 16" CENTERS:

(This technique requires that you have additional I-Joist of the same size as that used in your ceiling. If you do not have additional I-Joist, see the technique on page 10.)

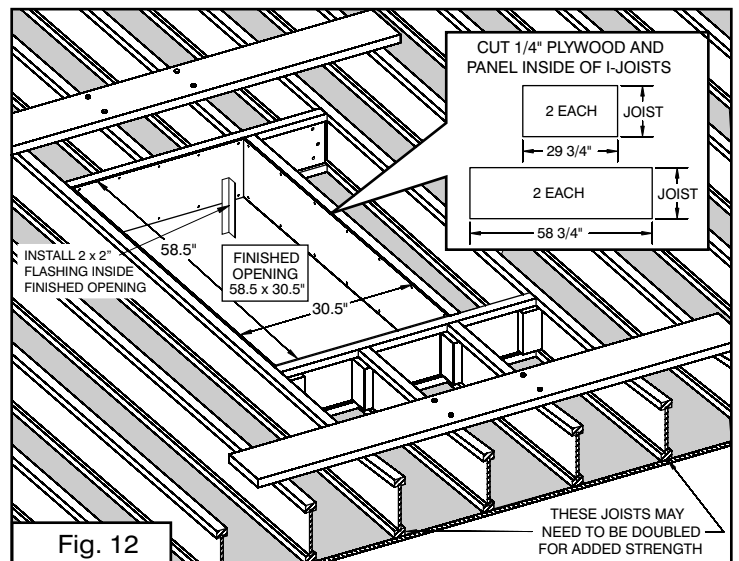
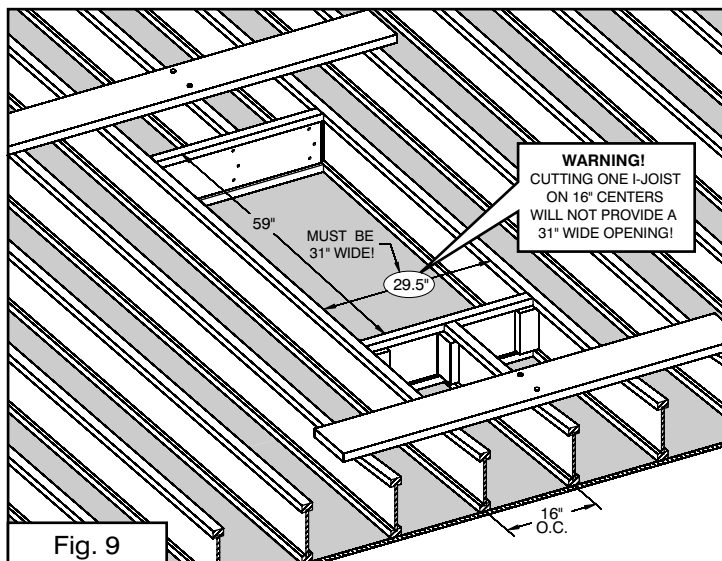
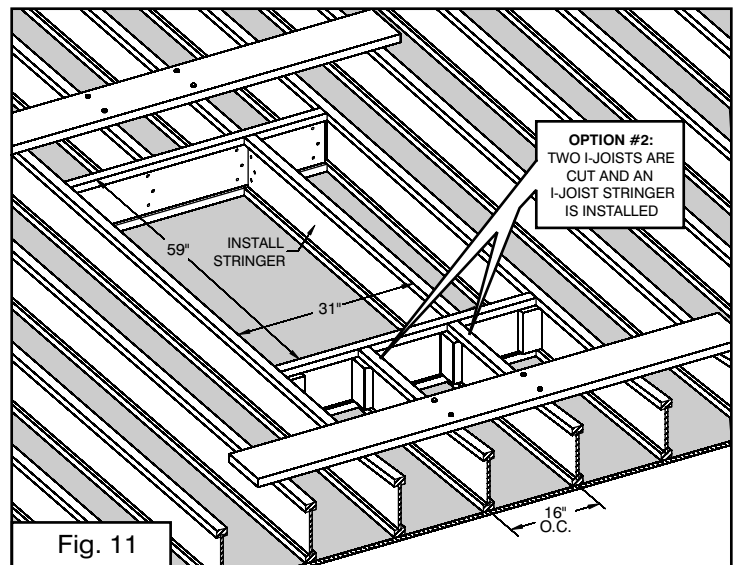
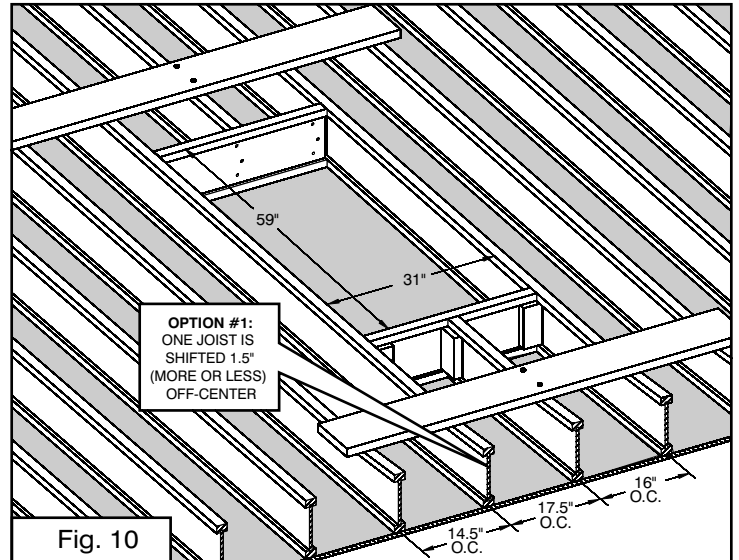
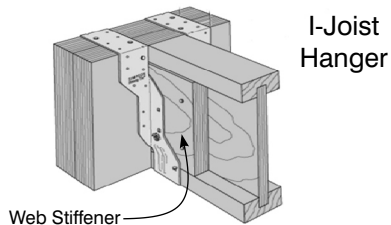
I-Joists differ from solid lumber in that the "I" shape beam is too narrow for "end nailing" when attaching one I-Joist perpendicular to the face of another. Furthermore, the face of an I-Joist is inset, making it less than an ideal surface to join something to. One way to address both problems is to install blocking on the ends of I-Joist sections and headers. For details about using blocking, see Figs. 14 & 17 on pages 9 & 10.

### OPTIONS FOR FRAMING THE OPENING

Because I-Joists are typically 2.5" wide (solid wood joists are 1.5"), cutting one I-Joist only creates a rough opening of 29.5" when 31" is required (see Fig. 9). To resolve this problem, you must either set one joist off-center by 1.5" (see Fig. 10) -OR- you will need to cut two joists and install a stringer in order to get the required opening width of 31" (see Fig. 11). Note the rough opening must be 31" x 59" (1/2" oversize) so that it can be paneled with 1/4" plywood (see Fig. 12). After paneling the finished opening will be 58.5" x 30.5" with smooth sidewalls.

**Note: I-Joist hangers can be used instead of blocking.** Finish opening with 1/4" paneling to cover hangers and create a smooth-sided opening (Fig. 12), then install 2 x 2" flashing in every corner (Fig. 2b, pg. 5).

Depending on location and code requirements, web stiffeners may be required for I-Joist when using hanger brackets.



# Versa Lift Installation - Optional Framing Techniques<sup>9</sup>

## Optional Framing Technique #3 FOR NEW HOME CONSTRUCTION USING I-JOISTS ON 24" CENTERS:

(This technique requires that you have additional I-Joist of the same size as that used in your ceiling. If you do not have additional I-Joist, see the technique on page 10.)

I-Joists differ from solid lumber in that the "I" shape beam is too narrow for "end nailing" when attaching one I-Joist perpendicular to the face of another. Furthermore, the face of an I-Joist is inset, making it less than an ideal surface to join something to.

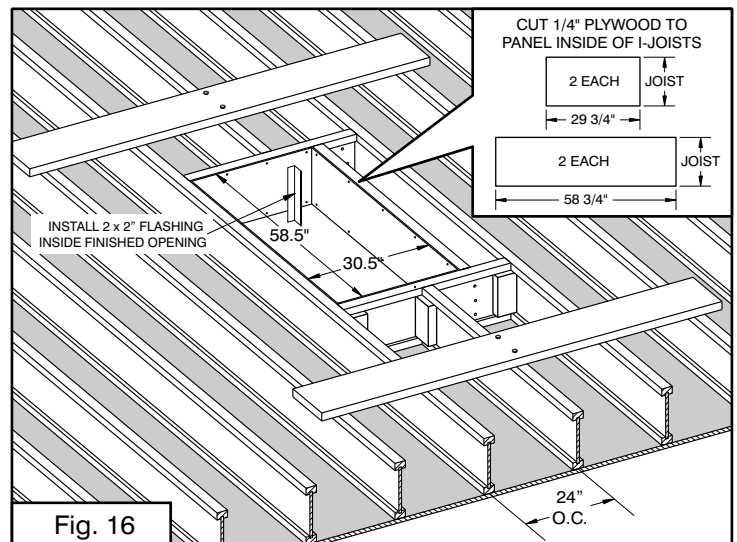
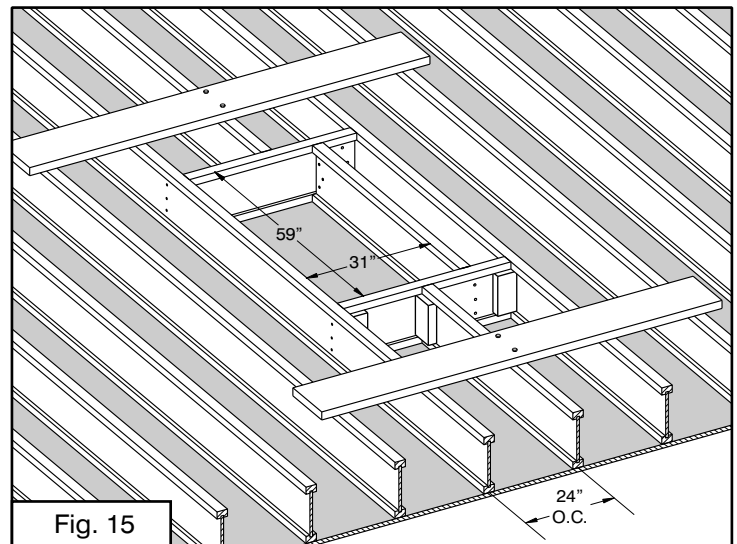
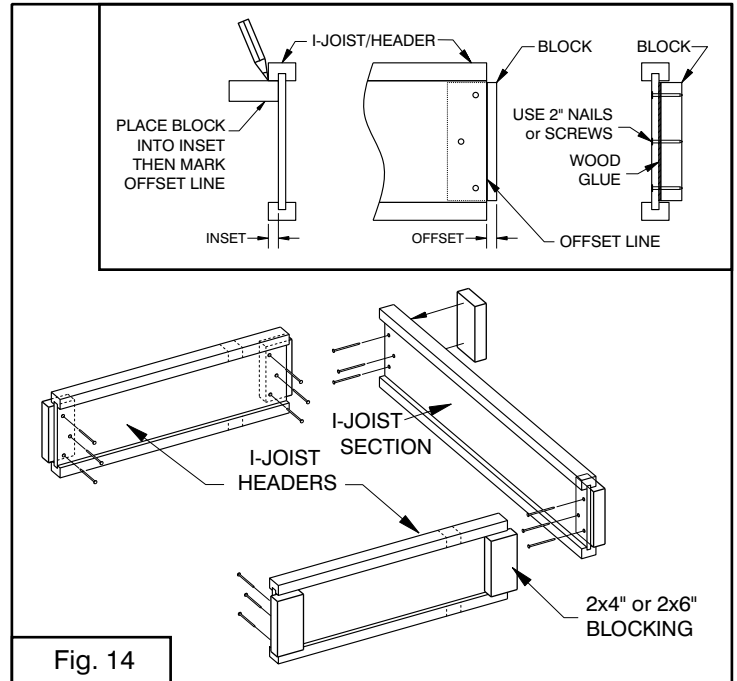
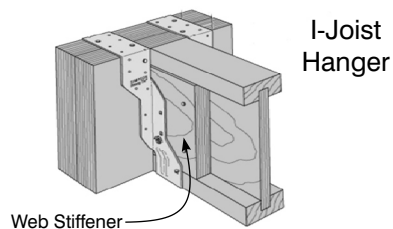
One way to address both problems is to install blocking on the ends of I-Joist sections and headers (Fig. 14): First, the block provides a thickness to the end of the I-Joist that can be nailed into. Second, the block is offset so that it fits into the inset in the face of the perpendicular I-Joist. The blocking should be attached securely (Fig. 14 inset) and placed on the side opposite the opening (the opening must not have anything projecting inward).

Another problem with I-Joists is that the recessed face forms ledges that can hang-up on the lifting platform as it travels downward from the attic. To resolve this problem, the opening must be framed  $\frac{1}{2}$ " oversized in each dimension to 59" x 31" (Fig. 15) so that  $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick plywood can be cut (Fig. 16 inset) and used to panel all four I-Joist faces inside the opening to produce the final size opening of 58  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 30  $\frac{1}{2}$ " (Fig. 16). Please note that any nail heads in the opening must be set flush or below the surface and decking and sheet rock must not extend into the opening (Fig. 2a & 2c on page 5).

NOTE: These illustrations show I-Joist on 24" centers, but this framing procedure can also be used for 16" centers (page 8). As with solid wood joists, I-Joists that need to be cut must be supported by some means until they are connected to headers that tie them to adjacent I-Joists.

**Note: I-Joist hangers can be used instead of blocking. Finish opening with  $\frac{1}{4}$ " paneling to cover hangers and create a smooth-sided opening (Fig. 16), then install 2 x 2" flashing in every corner (Fig. 2b, pg. 5).**

Depending on location and code requirements, web stiffeners may be required for I-Joist when using hanger brackets.



# 10 Versa Lift Installation - Optional Framing Techniques

## Optional Framing Technique #4 FOR EXISTING HOMES WITH I-JOISTS: (How to Fabricate Headers for I-Joists)

The procedure is generally the same as with I-Joists on the prior page, but when the home is a finished construction (already built and owned) you may not have extra I-Joist pieces from which to construct headers. First you should check with local building supplies, but if you can't find the same size I-Joists used to build your home you may need a way to **construct headers from other available material**.

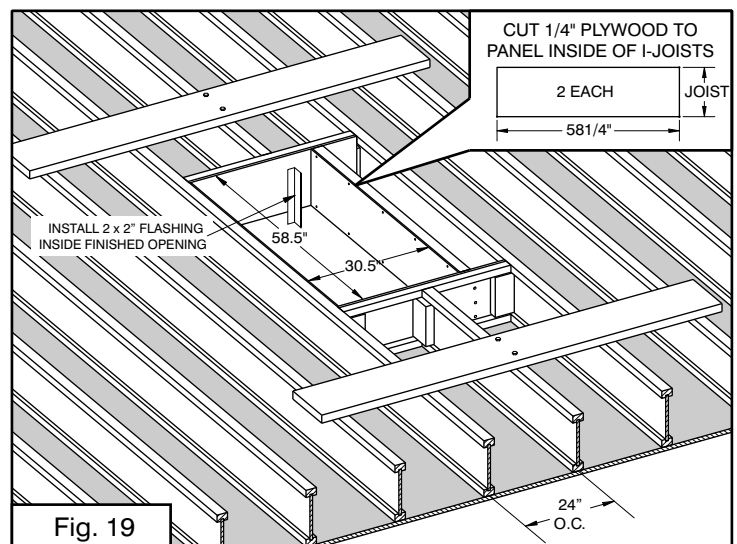
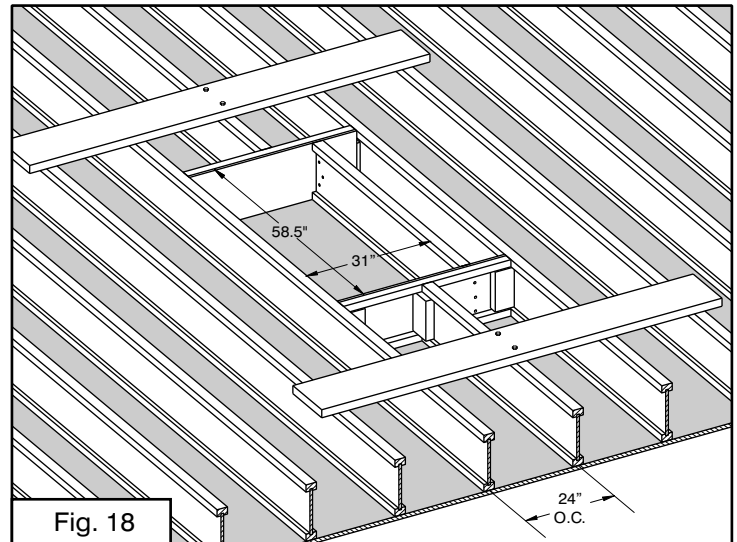
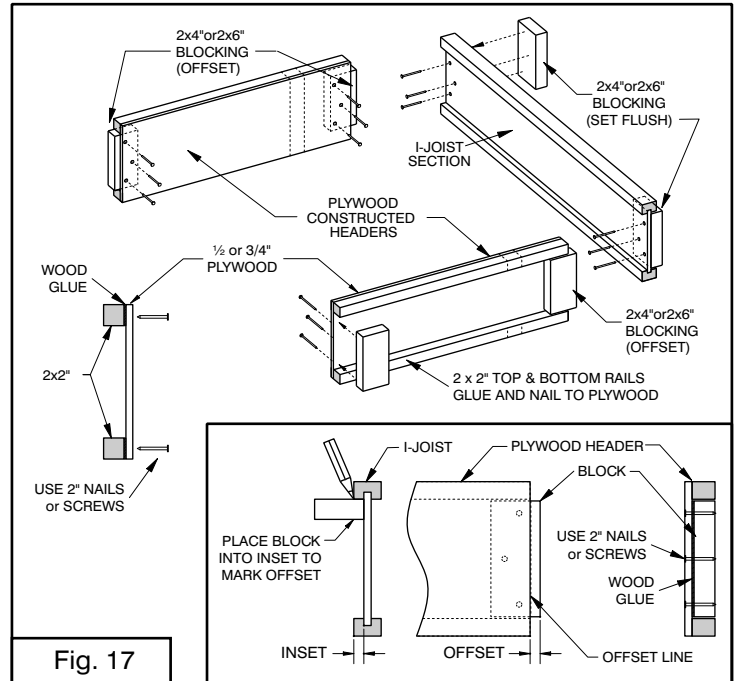
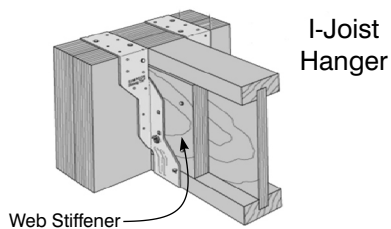
One way to address this problem is to construct headers from 3/4" plywood and 2 x 2" rails (Fig. 17). Join the rails to the plywood with wood glue and nails or screws. Then attach offset blocking (Fig. 17) as previously explained on page 9. Headers constructed this way will have good strength and have the advantage of a smooth face toward the opening. **NOTE:** The blocking is attached **flush with the ends** of the I-Joist Section when using constructed headers with a flat inside surface (Fig. 17).

The opening must be framed 1/2" oversized in only one dimension (58 1/2" x 31") (Fig. 18), so that 1/4" thick plywood can be cut (Fig. 19 inset) and used to panel the two I-Joist faces inside the opening (Fig. 19) to produce a final opening size of 58 1/2" x 30 1/2" (Fig. 19). Please note that any nail heads in the opening must be set flush or below the surface and decking and sheet rock must not extend into the opening (Fig. 3).

**NOTE:** These illustrations show I-Joist on 24" centers, but this framing procedure can also be used for 16" centers (page 8). As with solid wood joists, I-Joists that need to be cut must be supported by some means until they are connected to headers that tie them to adjacent I-Joists.

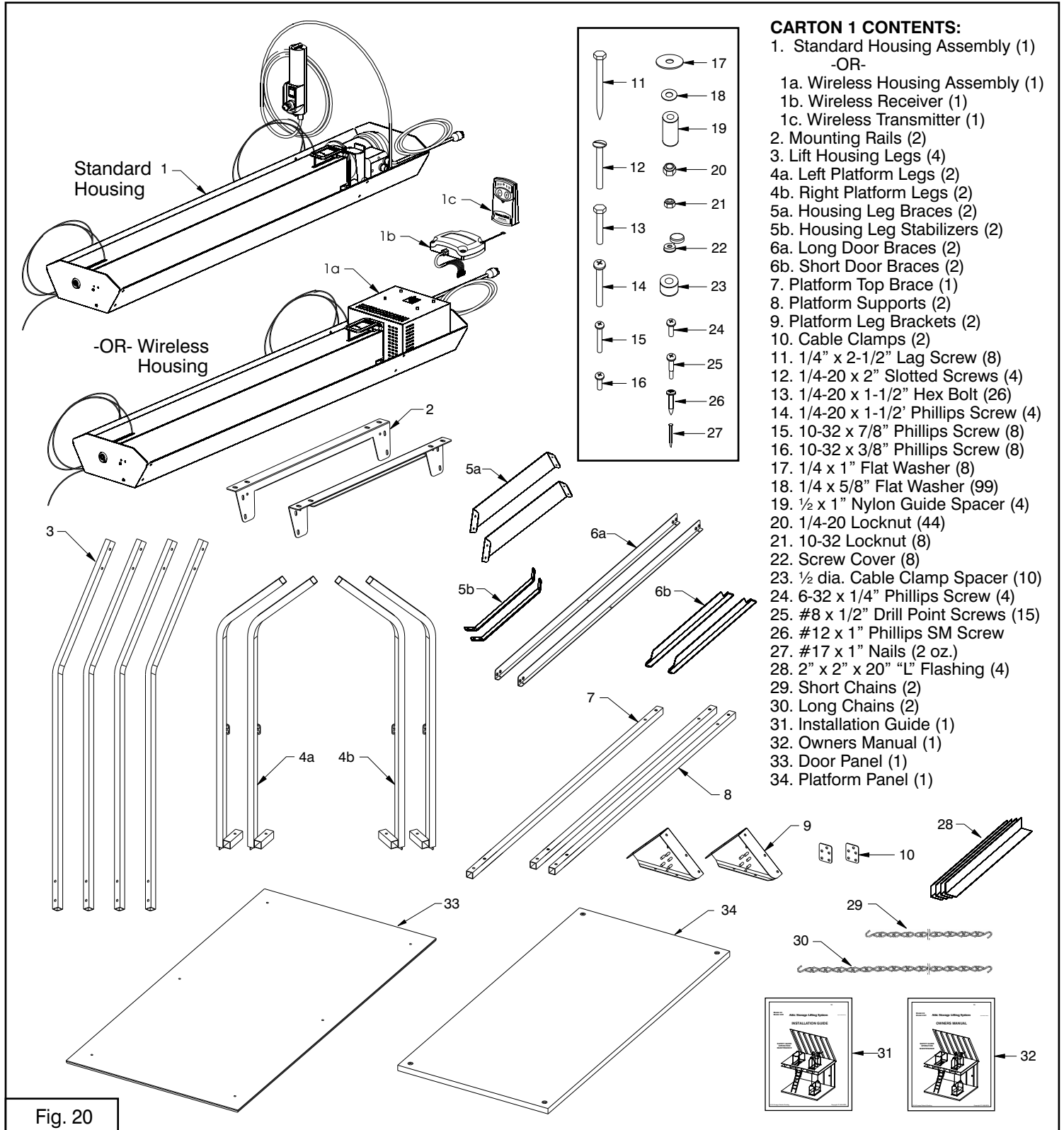
**Note: Joist hangers can be used instead of blocking. Finish opening with 1/4" paneling to cover hangers and create a smooth-sided opening (Fig. 19, then install 2 x 2" flashing in every corner (Fig. 2b, pg. 5).**

Depending on location and code requirements, web stiffeners may be required for I-Joist when using hanger brackets.



**1. UNPACKING: Save Your Lift Housing Carton!**  
**(You will need the carton for warranty repairs, save it!)**  
 The Versa Lift 32 is packed in three cartons. Open the cartons and check the contents to locate all of the items in Fig. 20. Check all of the components for any damage. If any components are missing or damaged, do not

proceed with assembly. Instead, contact BPG about a replacement for any missing or damaged items.  
**NOTE: Fig. 20 shows the Standard Housing (Item 1) AND the Wireless Housing, Radio and Transmitter (Items 1a, 1b, and 1c). You will get only the Standard or Wireless Housing, depending on what you ordered.**



# Versa Lift Receiver Installation (Wireless Models)

## 2a. RECEIVER INSTALLATION - (WIRELESS ONLY)

**This step requires two persons.** This assembly step should be done in the attic. Locate the parts shown below and move them up to the attic. The lift housing is heavy and requires two able persons to move it up to the attic. Place the lift housing on a rug or piece of cardboard open-side-up as show below in Fig. 21.

Follow these steps:

**2a-1.** Remove the cover from the receiver by gently rotating the latches 1/4-turn counter-clockwise using a

flat-tip screwdriver (Fig. 21 inset).

**2a-2.** Connect the plug onto the 6-pin header visible thru the square hole in the motor housing. Orient the plug exactly as show below making sure to insert all six pins into the plug.

**2a-3.** Install the receiver to the motor housing using (4) 6-32 x 1/4" long screws as shown. (Note the antennae must extend off the rear of the motor housing.)

**2a-4.** Replace the cover onto the receiver by turning the latches 1/4-turn clockwise.

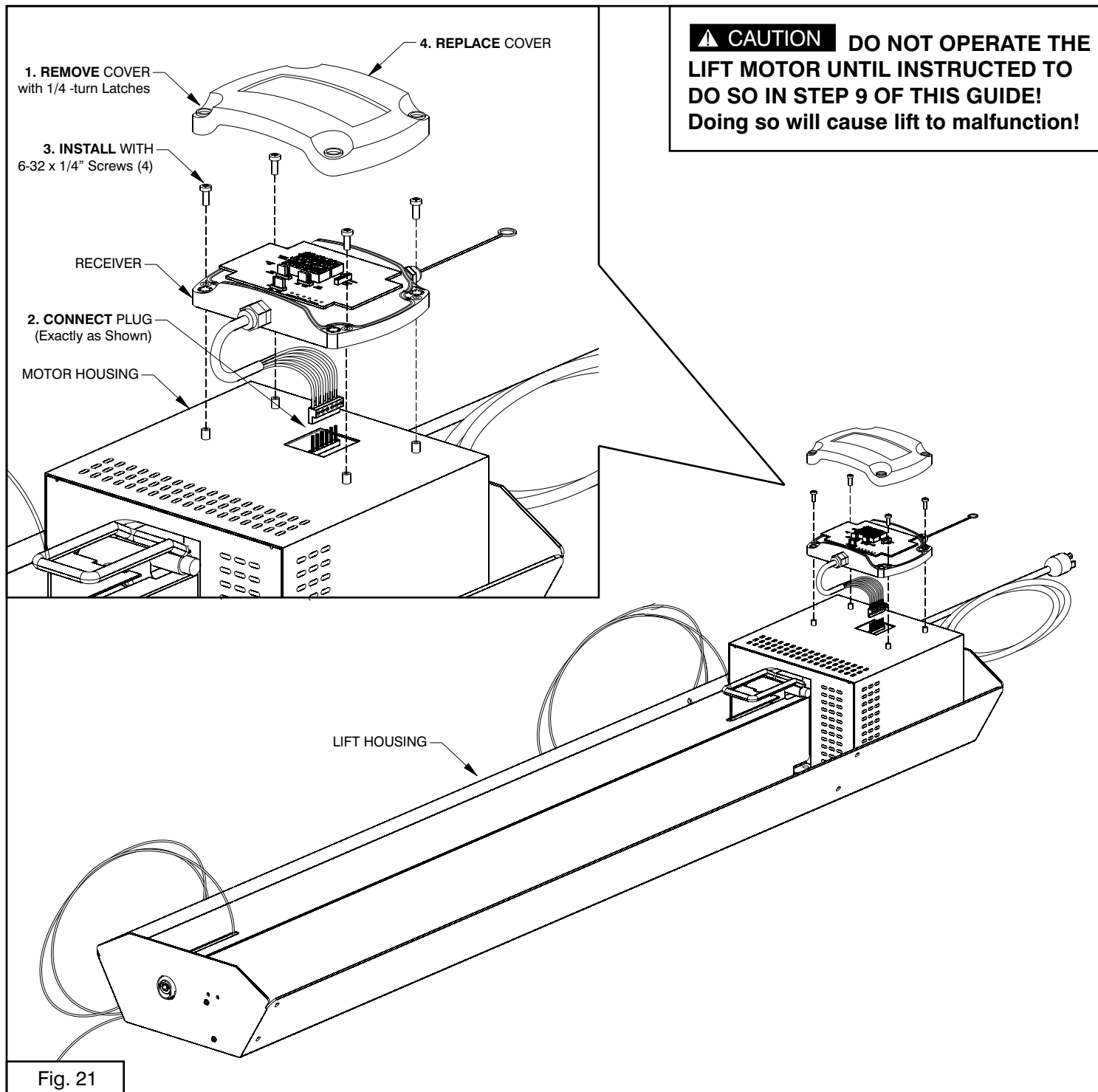


Fig. 21

## 2b. LIFT HEAD ASSEMBLY - ALL MODELS

**This step requires two persons.** This assembly step should be done in the attic. Locate the parts shown below and move them up to the attic. The lift housing is heavy and requires 2 able persons to move it up to the attic. Place the lift housing on a rug or piece of cardboard open-side-up as show below.

Assemble the four lift housing legs to the lift housing (Fig. 22 Inset). **The locknuts provided will not work loose, so tighten the bolts and nuts firmly, but do not over-tighten or you will collapse the square tubing.** Assemble the mounting rails to the lift housing legs (Fig. 22) with bolts, washers and locknuts but do not tighten them yet. Leave them slightly loose for Step 4.

**Note: The legs fit on the INSIDE of the lift housing.**

**⚠ CAUTION DO NOT OPERATE THE LIFT MOTOR UNTIL INSTRUCTED TO DO SO IN STEP 9 OF THIS GUIDE! Doing so will cause lift to malfunction!**

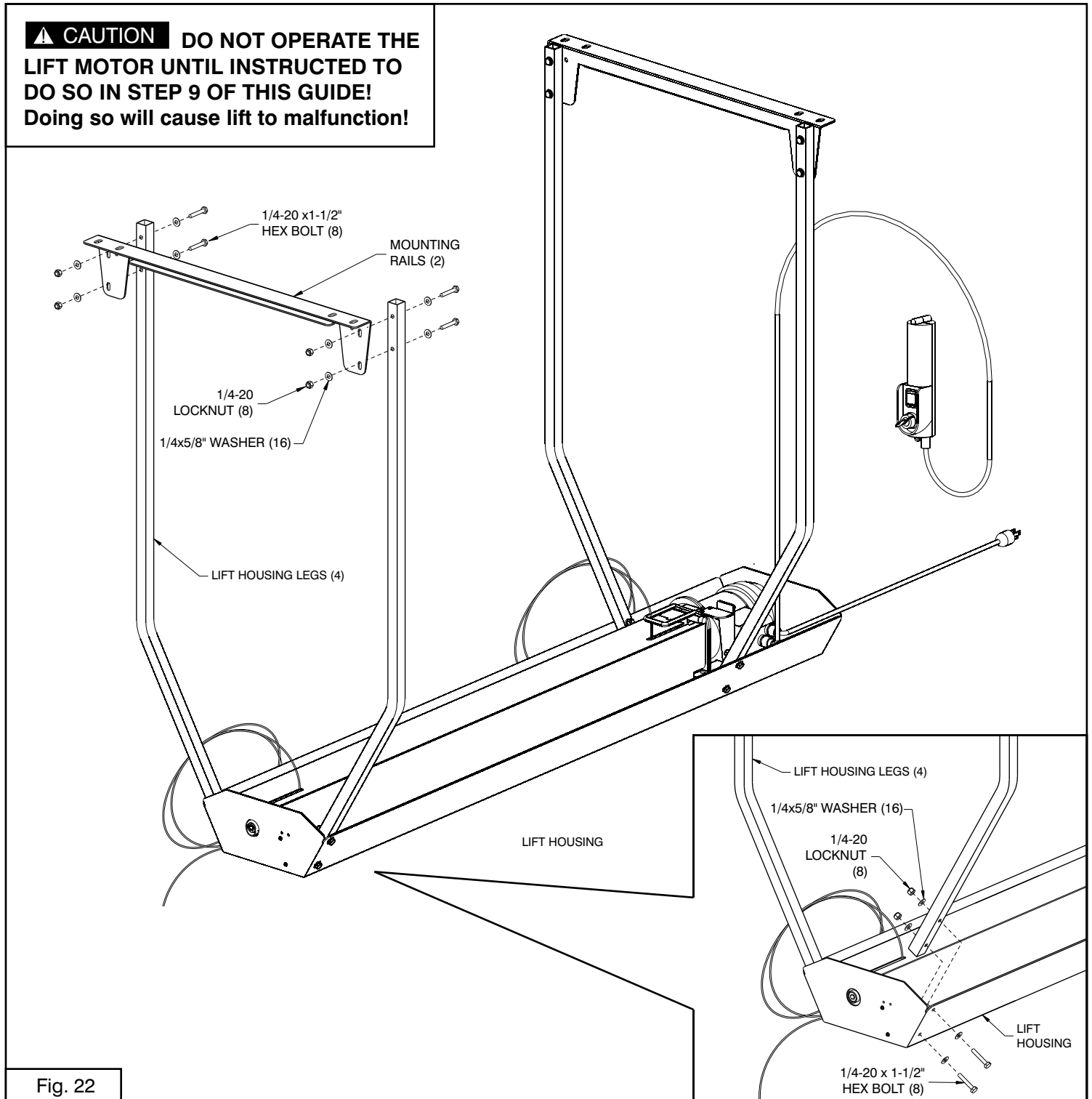


Fig. 22

### 3. INSTALLING THE LIFT HEAD

This step requires two persons. Turn the lift head assembly upright and position it in front of the opening (Fig. 23). With one person on each end, lift slightly and move the assembly over the opening (Fig. 23) and align the slots in the mounting rails with the pilot holes in the decking. Install the 8 lag screws and 1" diameter washers into the pilot holes and screw them down until they almost contact the mounting rail, but leave them loose so the mounting rails can be adjusted later (Fig. 23 inset).

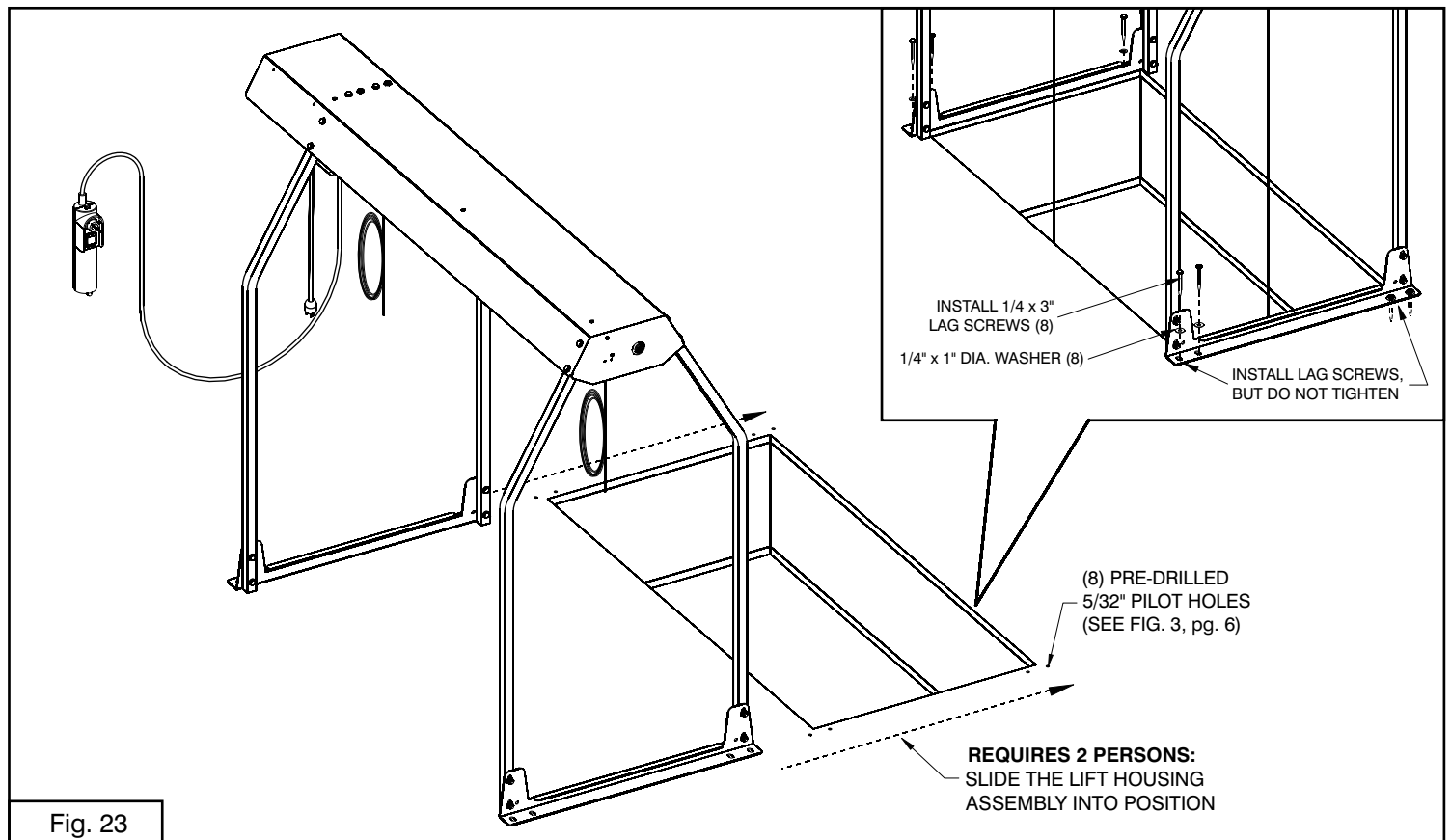
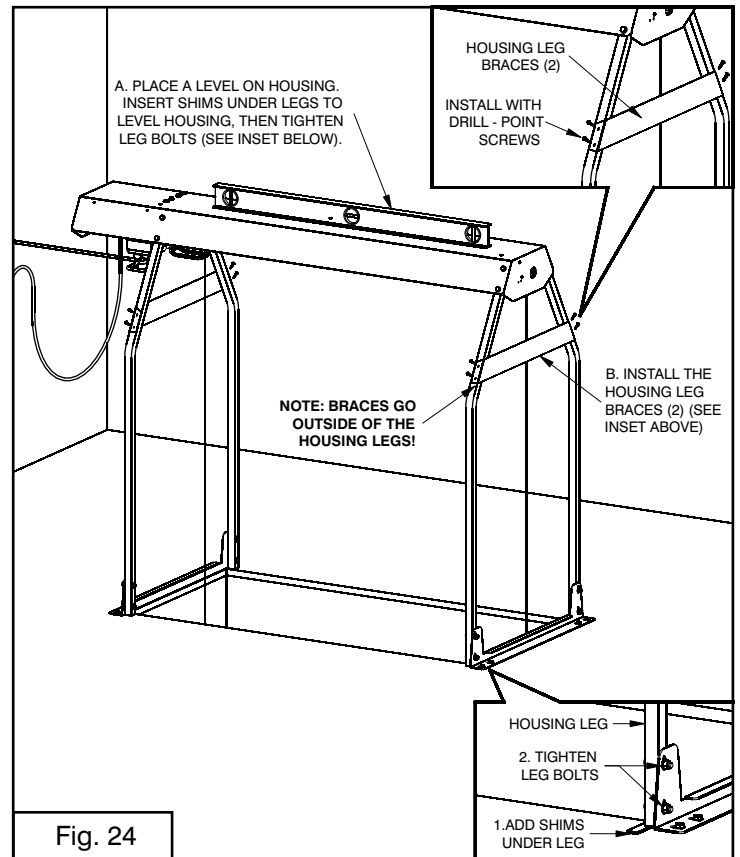
#### 4A. LEVEL THE LIFT HEAD

The bolts that hold the legs to the mounting rail must be loose for this step. Place a bubble level lengthwise on the housing and see if head is level (Fig. 24). Place shims under both legs on the low end (Fig. 24 bottom inset). Adjust the shims until the head is level and then tighten all 8 leg bolts (Fig. 24 bottom inset).

#### 4B. INSTALL THE HOUSING LEG BRACES

Install the housing leg braces (2) using the self-drilling drill-point screws (8) as illustrated (Fig. 24 and top inset).

**CAUTION: Install the braces on the OUTSIDE of the housing legs, NOT on the inside! If the braces are installed on the wrong side, the lifting platform will become jammed and cable damage may occur.**





## 5. DOOR ASSEMBLY

The door must be assembled down-stairs. Locate the door, door braces, and fasteners shown in Fig. 25. Insert each screw through a screw cover then through the panel, then through the door braces (Fig. 25 and inset).

**IMPORTANT: All door braces must be oriented exactly as shown in Fig. 25 with the horizontal flanges all**

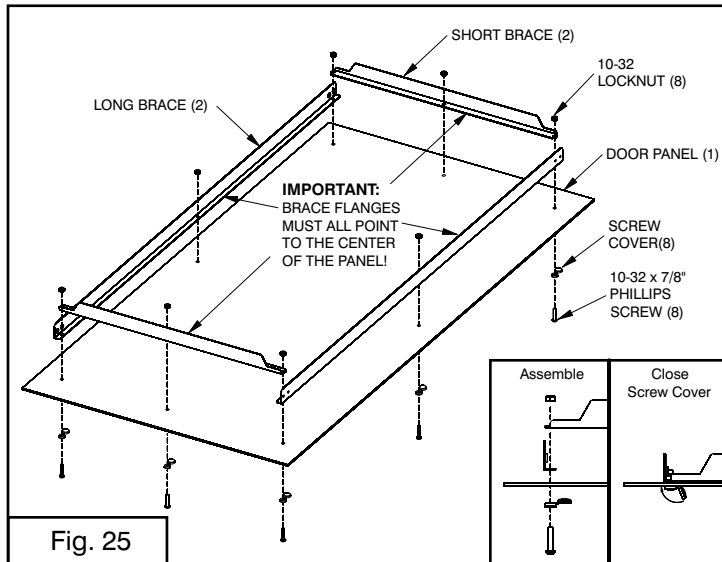


Fig. 25

**pointing toward the center of the panel.** Fasten each screw with a locknut. Tighten all 8 screws, then close the screw covers, Make sure they snap completely shut (Fig. 25 inset).

## 6. PLATFORM ASSEMBLY

The platform must be assembled down-stairs. Locate the platform, 2 platform supports, 4 platform legs, 1/4-20 x 2" slotted screws, washers, and locknuts (Fig. 26). Note the top side of the platform has recessed holes. Insert the platform support into one of the left legs as shown (Fig. 26 inset). Align the hole in the leg with the hole in the outer end of the support. Next insert a 1/4-20 screw down through the platform, leg and support (Fig. 26). Secure with a washer and locknut, but do not tighten until all four bolts are installed. When all legs are assembled as shown in Fig. 26, tighten all of the screws and locknuts, but do not over-tighten or you will collapse the tubing.

Locate the platform leg brackets, platform top brace, and fasteners (Fig. 27). Install each of the brackets with 4 bolts, washers, and locknuts (Fig. 27 inset). Tighten as above. Install the platform top brace with 2 bolts, washers and locknuts (Fig. 27) and tighten fasteners as above.

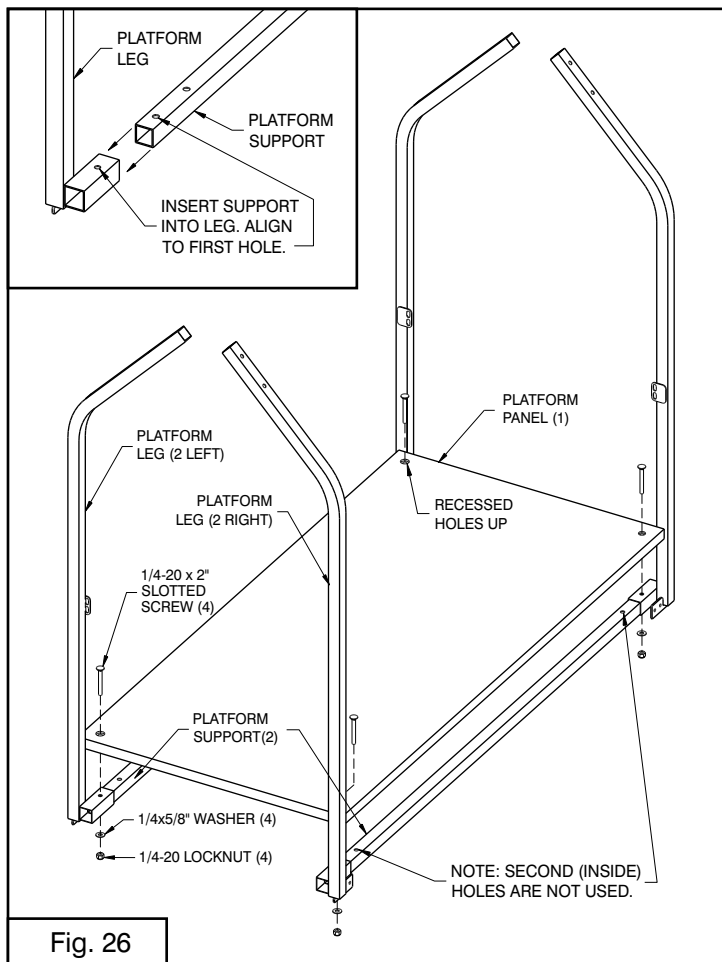


Fig. 26

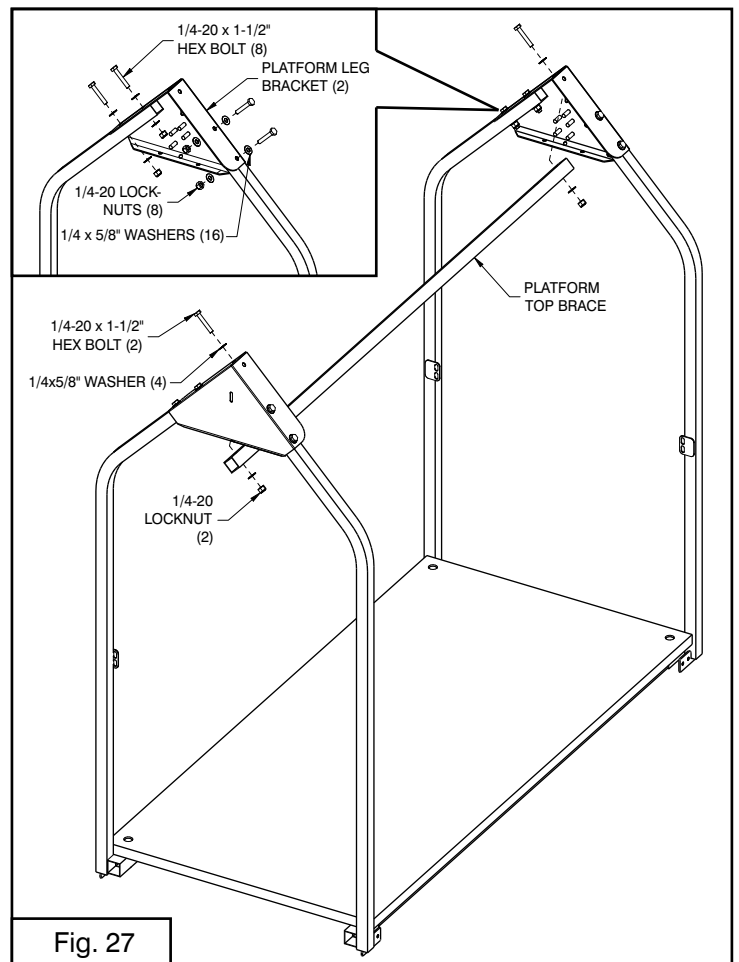


Fig. 27

## 7. DOOR AND PLATFORM ASSEMBLY

**7-1.** Locate the (8) 10-32 x 3/8" screws. Lift the platform assembly onto the door assembly (Fig. 28).

**Note:** The spring brackets on the end of the platform legs fit outside of the door braces (Fig. 28 inset).

**7-2.** Install and tighten the screws through the spring brackets and into the door braces.

**7-3.** Locate the short and long chains. The last link on each end of each chain is open to form a hook. Hook the end of each chain onto the chain brackets on each platform leg (Fig. 28 and inset). You can open the hook further with pliers, if needed, to make it easier to hook.

**7-4.** Close the hooks on both ends of the short chains so the chain is secured to the chain brackets. Close one hook on each long chain, leaving the other ends open for loading the platform.

**Read the Owners Manual for complete information about using the chains and safety guidelines about loading the platform.**

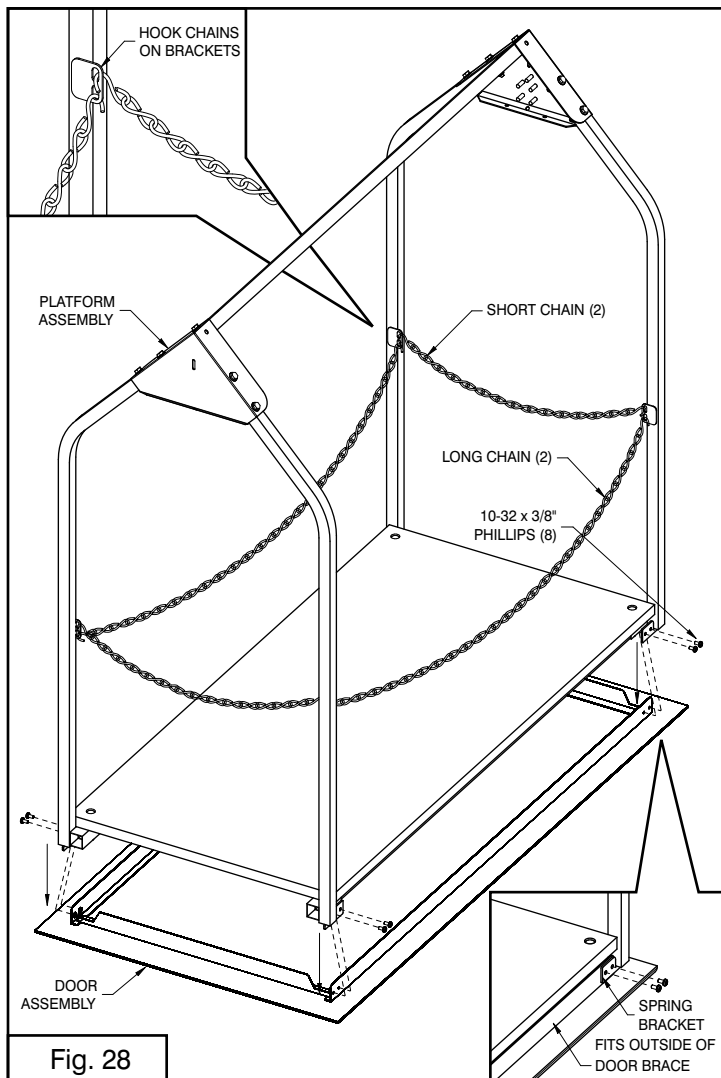


Fig. 28

## 8. CONNECT THE LIFT HEAD TO THE PLATFORM

**8-1.** Release the cables and let them hang down through the lift opening.

**8-2.** Position the lifting platform assembly on the floor directly below the lift opening (Fig. 29). (You can hang a plumb line from the corners of the lift opening to mark the garage floor below where the corners of the platform assembly should sit.)

**8-3.** Pass the ends of the cables through the slots in the platform leg brackets as shown in Fig. 30.

**8-4.** Pull the cable tight and wind it tightly around the threaded studs exactly as shown in the illustration. Wrap it as tightly as possible. Pinch the last loop around the last stud, then pass the end of the cable through the center hole in the bottom of the leg bracket (Fig. 30).

**8-5a.** Draw the cable tight by pulling firmly on the end of the cable (Fig. 30).

**IMPORTANT: DO NOT USE A POWER TOOL TO INSTALL THE CABLE CLAMP NUTS. USE ONLY A WRENCH OR A SOCKET AND RATCHET!**

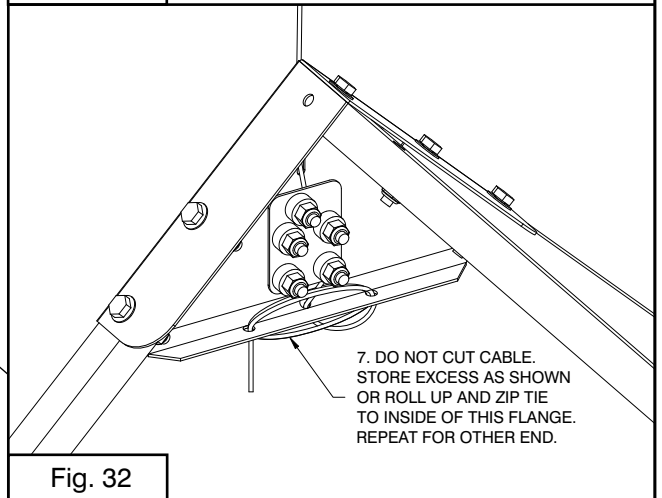
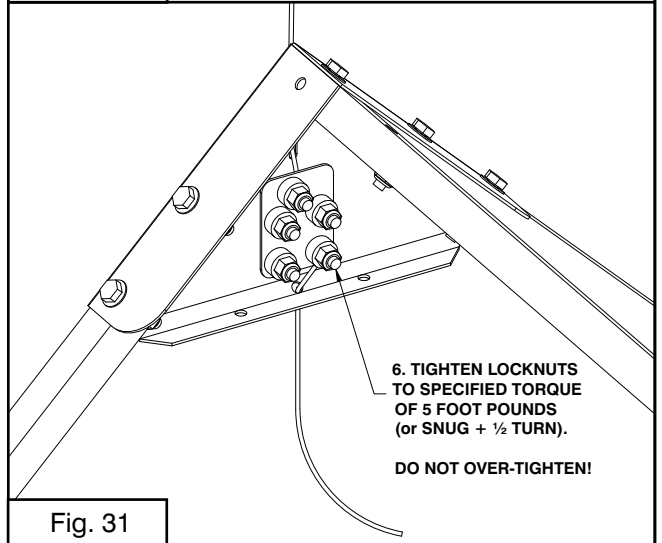
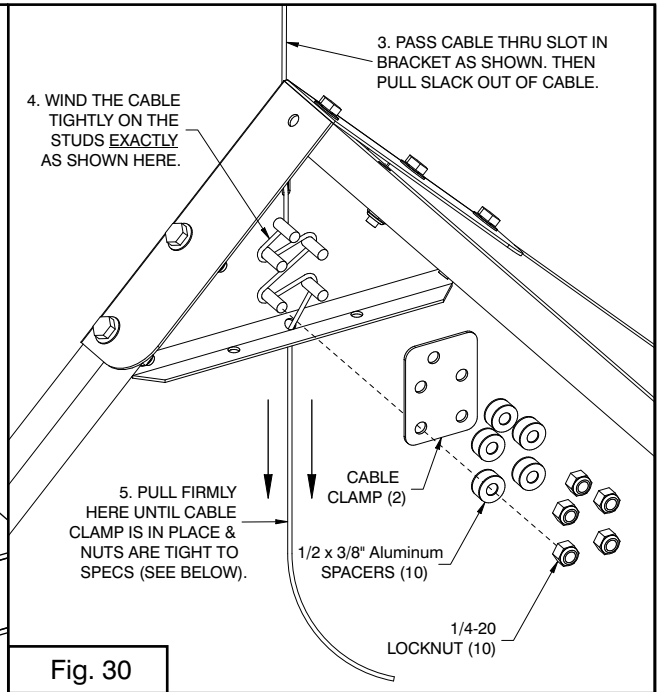
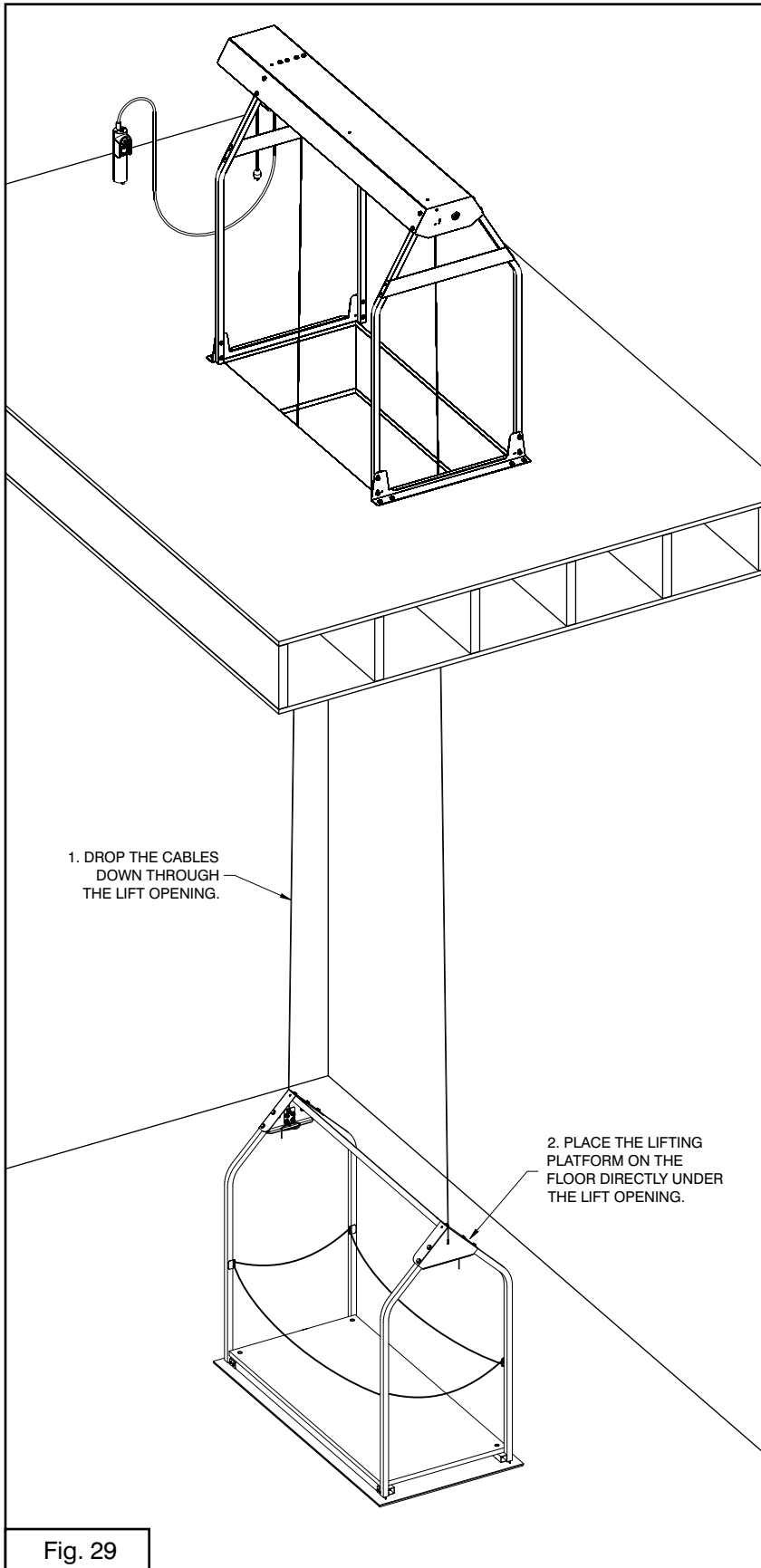
**8-5b.** While holding tension on the cable, install the cable clamp first, then install a 1/2 x 3/8 aluminum spacer and locknut on the last stud and snug it down to hold the cable, but don't tighten it yet (Fig. 30). Then install the rest of the aluminum spacers and locknuts and snug them down (*you can tell when the locknut is getting snug when it begins to turn a little harder and the aluminum spacer can't be turned with your fingers.*) Repeat this procedure for the second cable and apply the same tension (or slight slack) as with the first cable.

**8-6.** Torque all 10 locknuts to 5 foot pounds (60 inch pounds). **If you do not have a torque wrench, then snug all 10 locknuts as explained above, then turn each nut one-half turn (180 degrees) beyond snug (see Fig. 31). Do not over-tighten or you may break the studs off!**

**8-7.** You don't need to cut the excess cable, you can thread it through the two holes in the bottom of the leg bracket (Fig. 32) or you can wind it into a coil and zip tie it inside the bracket. If you do cut off the excess cable, you must leave at least a foot so that you can re-adjust the cable if it becomes necessary.

**NOTE:** It is important that the excess cable is secured where it can't get caught in the lift opening when the platform goes up or down.

**IMPORTANT: DO NOT USE A POWER TOOL TO INSTALL THE CABLE CLAMP NUTS. USE ONLY A WRENCH OR A SOCKET AND RATCHET! THESE NUTS MUST BE TIGHTENED TO THE SPECIFIED TORQUE ONLY!**



## 9. RAISE THE LIFTING PLATFORM

Before proceeding, review the first 8 steps to make sure you haven't missed any assembly steps. All of the bolts must be tight **except the lag screws** that hold the mounting rails to the deck. These must be loose enough that the rails can move freely the distance that the slotted holes allow. After reviewing steps 1-8, proceed as follows:

**9-1.** Make sure the corded remote and power cord hang freely from the rear of the lift motor and are not wrapped around the housing, the legs or the motor (Fig. 33).

**9-2.** Make sure the key switch (Standard) or the power switch (Wireless) is in the "OFF" position, then plug in the power cord (Fig. 33).

**9-3.** Stand clear of the lift mechanism and keep your hands clear too. Turn the key or power switch to "ON." Jog the "UP" direction switch (Fig. 33 insets) and watch as the platform comes up. When the platform nears the opening, jog (bump) the "UP" direction switch to move the platform in small increments, watching to make sure that it does not catch or bind on the opening. (If it hangs or binds, turn the key or power switch to off and unplug the power cord, then look to see what the problem is. Correct any problems before continuing the operation.)

**9-4.** When the platform reaches its upper limit, the upper limit switch will stop the motor and stop the platform.

**Turn off the key or power switch and unplug the power cord before proceeding to the next step.**

## 10. INSTALL THE PLATFORM GUIDE SPACERS

Locate the 4 screws, spacers, washers and locknuts shown in Fig. 34 inset. Install the spacer into the hole in the mounting rail between the housing legs and the platform legs. Tighten each screw firmly. These spacers guide the platform to the center of the opening in one direction, the mounting rails will guide the platform in the other direction.

## 11. ADJUST THE MOUNTING RAILS

Carefully measure 28" in from either end of the lifting platform and make a small mark perpendicular to the edge (Fig. 35). This is the center of the platform. The mounting rails are slotted so that they can be adjusted to guide the platform to the center of the opening where you made a center mark earlier, when preparing the opening (Fig. 3, Pg. 6). Push the mounting rails towards the center, moving the platform left or right until the center marks are aligned. **First**, tighten the lag screws firmly on the first mounting rail, but do not over-tighten them and strip the threads in the floor. **Second**, tighten the second mounting rail lag screws as above, but leave a little space between the mounting rail and the platform legs (note: a business card folded double makes a good space gage).

***Congratulations! Your installation is now complete!***

**Please read and understand the *Owners Manual* completely to learn important safety rules you need to know before operating this lift system!**

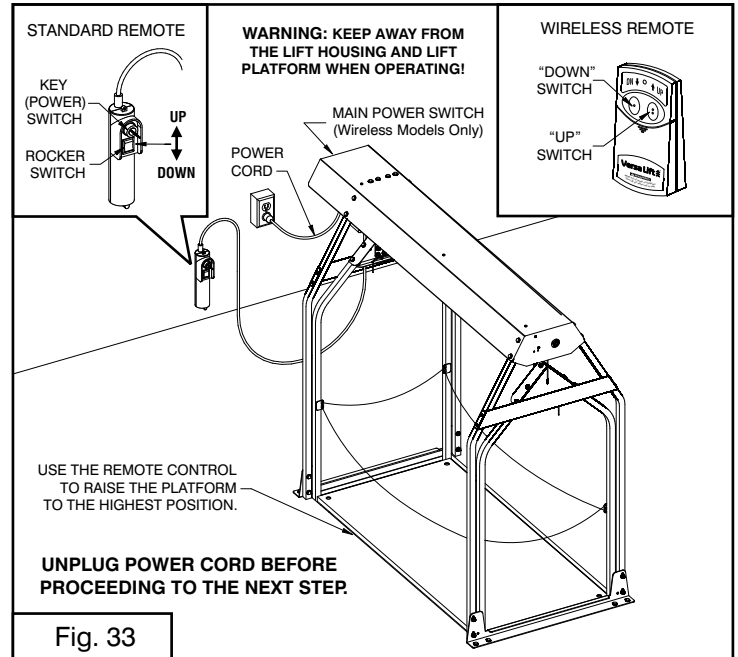


Fig. 33

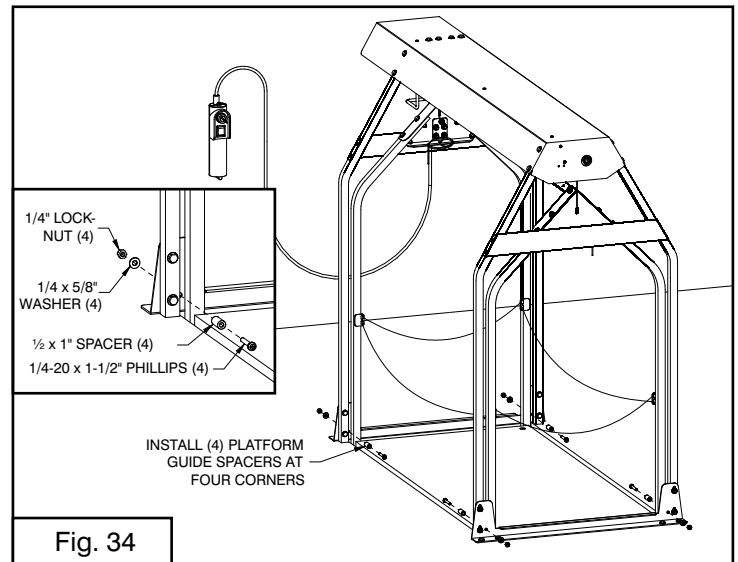


Fig. 34

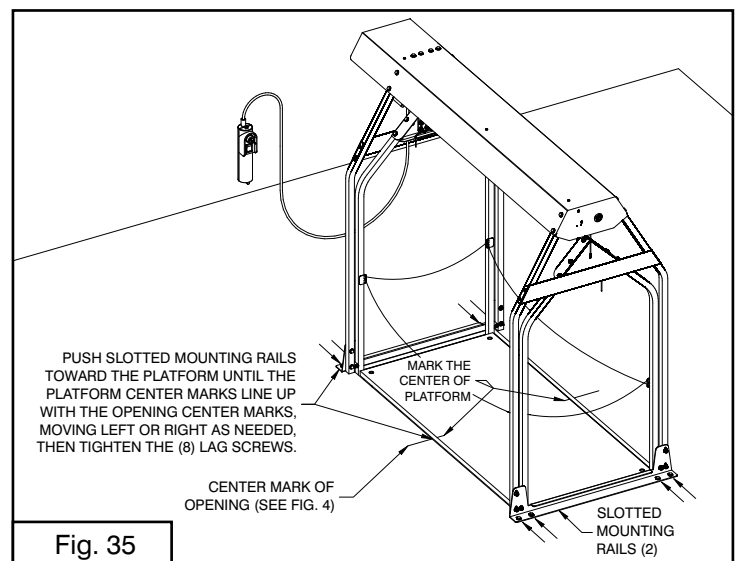


Fig. 35

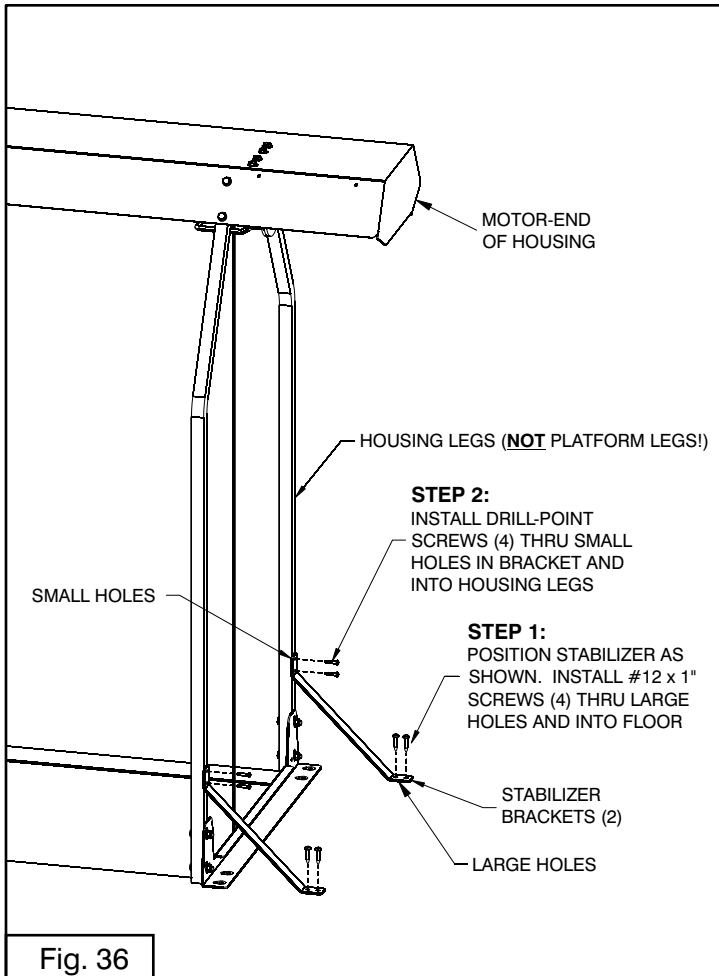
## 12. INSTALLING THE STABILIZER BRACKETS:

**Note:** The stabilizer brackets have larger holes on one end and smaller holes on the other end. Position the stabilizer bracket with the small-hole end at the top and the large-hole end on the floor. The bracket should form a 45 degree brace with the ends in flush contact with both the floor and the housing leg (Fig. 36).

**Step 1:** Position the stabilizer bracket as detailed above under the motor-end of the lifting head (Fig. 36). Install the #12 x 1" screws through the larger holes and into the floor decking. Tighten screws snug, but don't strip them out.

**Step 2:** Using a power driver or drill, install the drill-point screws through the smaller holes in the upper end of the bracket and into the housing leg (Fig. 36). Take care not to drive these screws too fast because when they become tight the screw stops instantly. If you are driving it too fast the screw can break or strip out!

**IMPORTANT:** For safety reasons, the stabilizer brackets should be installed under the motor-end (over-hang) of the lifting head so the brackets do not project into your walking pathway! (See Fig. 36.)



## 13. WIRELESS REMOTE SETTINGS & OPERATION

The wireless receiver and remote transmitter are pre-set at the factory to the codes and configurations shown below. A 9-volt battery will also be installed in the transmitter at the factory. If your transmitter fails to operate the lift, first make sure the lift power cord is plugged in and the power switch on the rear of the motor housing is turned ON and lighted. The indicator will light at the top of the transmitter when either the up or down button is pushed and a signal is being transmitted. If the indicator does not light and the transmitter fails to operate the lift, replace the battery with a fresh 9-volt battery. When opening the battery compartment, the dip switches can be accidentally moved out of place. **See the Owners Manual, page 13 for complete details about operation and settings of the remote transmitter.**

## 14. CHANGING CODES & CONFIGURATION SETTINGS

Normally you will not need to change the factory settings unless someone within a block of you is operating a Versa Lift wireless model too or you are getting interference from some other radio frequency device, tower, or broadcasting station nearby. **If you are having interference problems, see the Owners Manual, page 13 for complete details about operation and settings of the remote transmitter.**

***Congratulations! Your installation is now complete!***

**Please read and understand the *Owners Manual* completely to learn important safety rules you need to know before operating this lift system!**

**Versa Lift** <sup>TM</sup>  
Attic Storage Lifting System

(405) 516 2412

**⚠ WARNING** Read and understand the **Owners Manual** completely before operating this lift! The **Owners Manual** provides many **IMPORTANT SAFETY FACTS THAT YOU MUST KNOW BEFORE USING THIS PRODUCT!**

