



Guidelines for the Safe Enjoyment of Your Batting Cage

Hitting in a batting cage involves a degree of risk; here are our suggestions to minimize that risk:

- 1) Make sure the netting moves freely for maximum wear and ball control. Don't secure the bottom rope or tie the bottom down in any way. It needs to be able to move in order for the netting to absorb the speed of the ball.
- 2) Make sure the netting doesn't contact anything solid, such as a wall or chain link fence.
- 3) Always keep spectators behind the hitter, and a safe distance from the net.
- 4) Inspect netting regularly for any area where a ball might go through. Netting is subject to wear, and this wear rate is completely subject to the following factors:
 - a. Amount of use. More use equals faster wear.
 - b. Weather conditions. The more sun, the shorter the lifespan. High winds will present side loads on the netting and thus the frame, much like a sail on a boat. If the weather prediction is for strong winds, we recommend taking down the netting.
 - c. Netting tension. We recommend hanging netting loosely. The tighter the net, the faster it will wear out.
- 5) If the netting is worn or damaged, stop using it until it is replaced or repaired.
- 6) Using the batting cage under the influence of any mind altering substance increases the risk of injury.
- 7) Always use protective gear such as L-screens and helmets inside a batting cage.

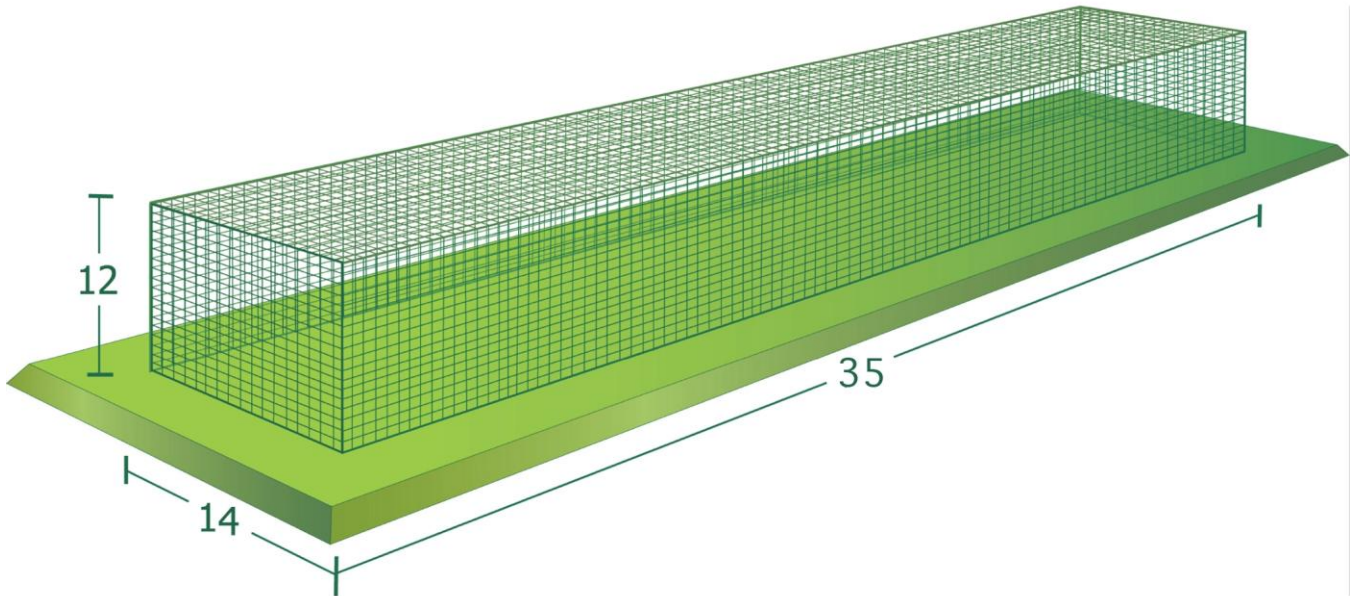


Warning: *If the weather prediction is for freezing rain or snow, you must take the netting down. Freezing rain or snow can stick to netting and present a load on the frame far in excess of the weight of the netting. This can potentially break fittings, bend poles, and/or collapse the frame. We never recommend entering or using a batting cage in these kinds of weather conditions.*



INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

12' Tall x 14' Wide x 35' Deep Batting Cage



Thank You for purchasing a BCI Batting Cage. Please take a moment to unpackage your shipment and ensure that you're not missing any items. Your batting cage frame kit comes with the following:

- (4) Three-Way Corner Fittings
- (2) Four-Way Corner Fittings
- (6) Ground Sleeves
- (20) 5/16" x 1/2" bolts
- (13) 59" Poles – straight, hole on each end
- (3) 17 1/2" Poles – swaged on one end, hole in the other end
- (20) 59" Poles – swaged on one end, hole in the other end
- (6) 36 1/2" Poles – swaged on one end, hole in the other end
- (4) 46" Poles – swaged on one end, hole in the other end
- (50) Carabiner clips
- (50) Rope hangers



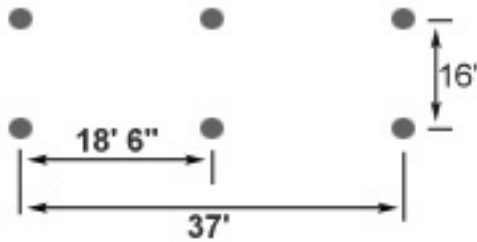
Warning: This frame and netting system are not engineered to withstand severe weather or strong winds. Additional supports are available, such as ground sleeves and diagonal braces. Use your judgment as to whether or not your cage needs additional support. You may also use long stakes and cables and clamps to tie it down to the ground.



Step #1: Preparing The Surface

The area where you will be installing your batting cage should be relatively level and free of debris.

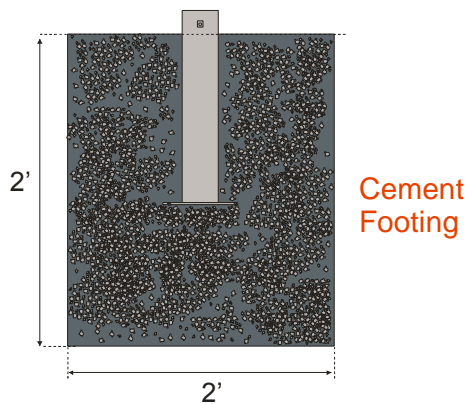
Lay out the following pattern on the ground where the vertical poles will be placed.



The frame is designed to be approximately 37' long by 16' wide, which is larger than the footprint of the net itself. This will allow the net to slow a ball more before it hits the frame, thus reducing the speed of ricochets.

Step #2: Installing the Ground Sleeves

Your kit includes (10) ground sleeves which create a very stable installation, and allows the system to be taken down in the off-season. Dig your holes in the locations as laid out in Step #1. Each hole should be approximately 24" in diameter and about 24" in depth. The greatest stability is attained when the holes are slightly wider at the bottom than at the top. Begin to pour concrete into the hole, position the ground sleeve, then fill the rest of hole. Be careful not to allow any concrete into the sleeve.



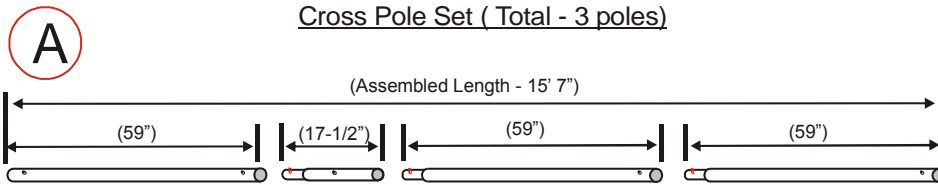
*This illustration shows the bolt hole exposed, however some customers elect to mount the sleeve flush with the ground to avoid hitting the sleeve with lawn maintenance equipment.**. While the concrete is setting up, you can begin to assemble the framework for your batting cage. Please refer to the following diagrams to assist you in putting together the cross, vertical and longitudinal pole sections.






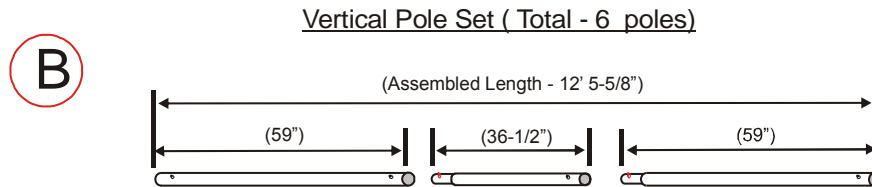
Step #3: Assembling the Frame




Important: Make sure to insert the ends of the poles completely into their respective 3 and 4-way fittings. **DO NOT** attempt to thread the supplied bolts through the holes in the ends of the poles – this will enlarge the frame unnecessarily and will make the frame weaker, and there’s a good chance your net will not fit!

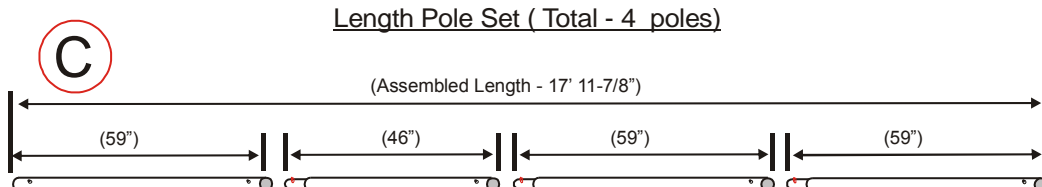
35’ (42mm) Pole Kit






- 3 Pcs - 59” Straight (hole on **each** end) 
- 3 Pcs - 17-1/2” Swaged one end (hole on other end) 
- 6 Pcs - 59” Swaged one end (hole on other end) 



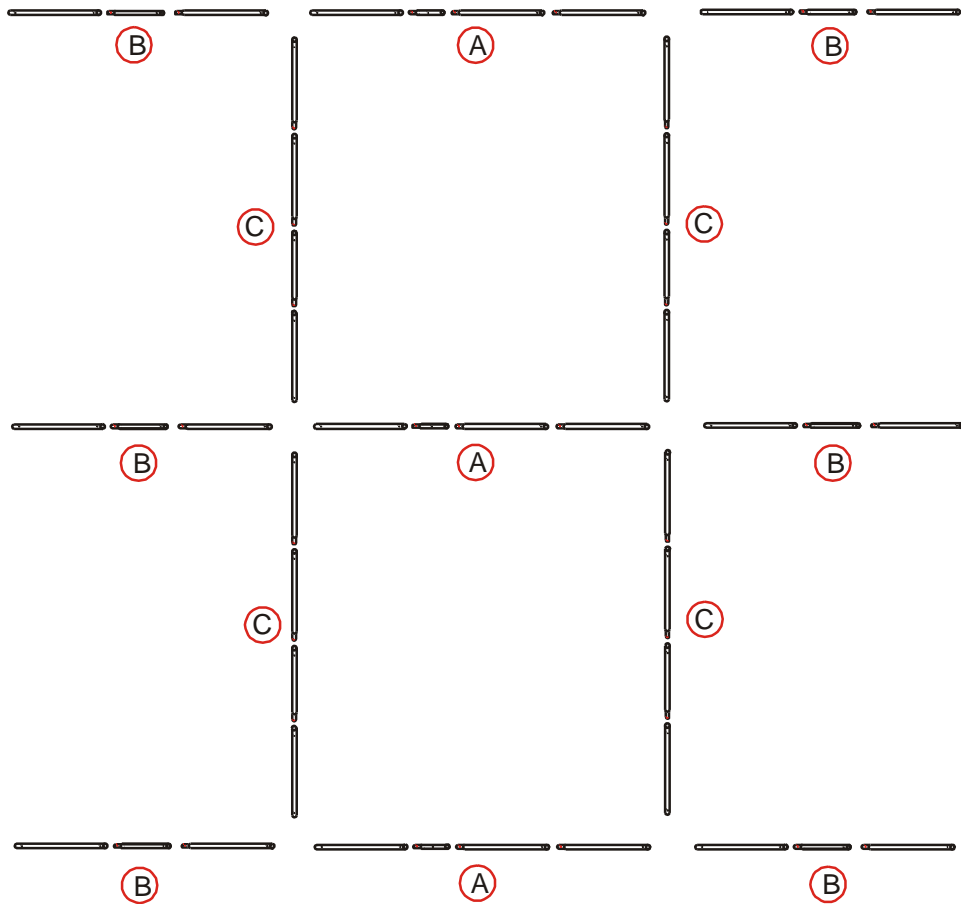
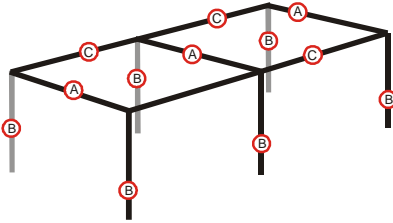
- 6 Pcs - 59” Straight (hole on each end) 
- 6 Pcs - 59” Swaged one end (hole on other end) 
- 6 Pcs - 36-1/2” Swaged one end (hole on other end) 



- 4 Pcs - 59” Straight (hole on **each** end) 
- 8 Pcs - 59” Swaged one end (hole on other end) 
- 4 Pcs - 46” Swaged one end (hole on other end) 



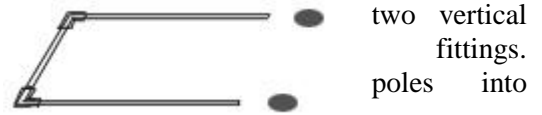
35' (42mm) Pole Kit Layout Diagram





Step #4: Setting Up the Frame

End Assemblies: With the poles still lying on the ground, connect pole sections to one cross pole section using the 3-way corner fittings. Thread the supplied 5/16" x 1/2" bolts into the fittings, and lock the fittings by tightening the bolts.



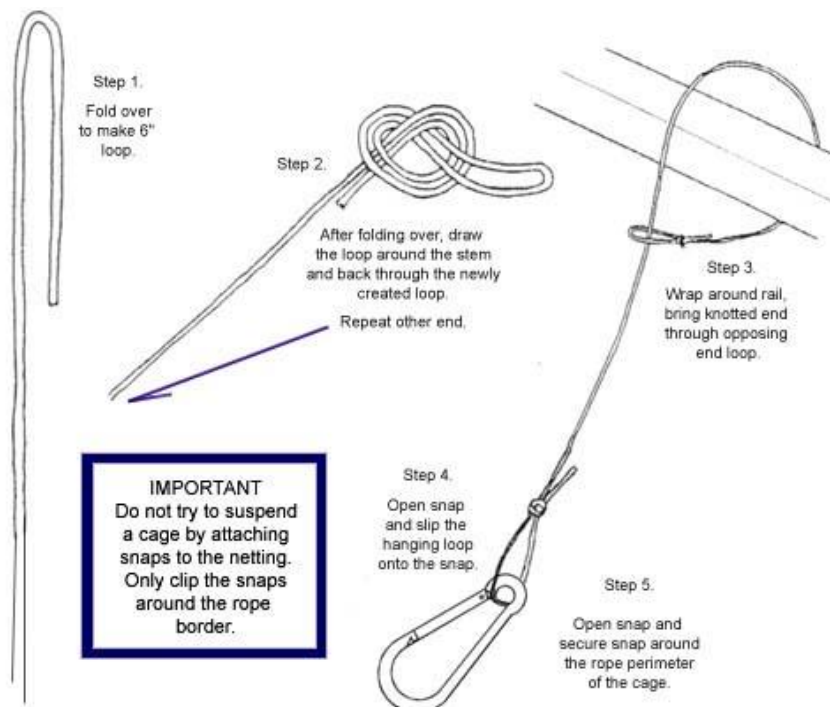
Middle Assemblies: With the poles still lying on the ground, connect two vertical pole sections to one cross pole section using the 4-way corner fittings. Thread the supplied 5/16" x 1/2" bolts into the fittings, and lock the poles into the fittings by tightening the bolts.

With 2 people, stand up each assembled section and place them in the sleeves. Install the longitudinal pole sections last, adjusting the fittings for any length variances. Each pole should go approximately half way into each fitting. Thread the supplied 5/16" x 1/2" bolts into the remaining fittings, and lock the poles into the fittings by tightening the bolts.

****Make sure that the "through" part of the 4-Way fitting runs horizontally, as this allows for some adjustability ****
Add additional bracing (if necessary).

Step #5: Hanging Your Net

Using the supplied rope sections, make "hangers". Tie one long hanger about every 5-6' along the sides of the frame, and one short hanger off the center of each middle cross pole.





Stretch the net out on the ground and loosely tie off each corner to the vertical poles and raise the net up as high as you can. You will probably get it about 6' high.

Connect some of the hangers to the top of the net near the center of the frame.

Raise the corners up more, and keep adding hangers going toward the ends of the frame.

Once all of the hangers are in place, tie the corner ropes of the net firmly to the corner vertical poles at the desired height.



Ground Sleeve Installation

Dig holes positioned as specified in your batting cage instructions. The holes for these ground sleeves should be at least 2' deep. The greatest stability is attained when the holes are slightly wider at the bottom than at the top.

Begin by pouring the concrete, filling the hole about $\frac{3}{4}$ full. When the concrete is just starting to set up, insert a cap into the bottom of the sleeve and set into place. You may want to insert a section of pipe into the sleeve to assist in positioning the sleeve and to check it for plumb. Fill the hole the rest of the way

Be sure not to pour concrete above the welded nut, or you won't be able to install the tightening bolt. *Optionally, you can mount the ground sleeve level with the surface of the concrete for a flush installation. Gravity will keep the vertical poles from coming out of the ground sleeves.

Cement Footing

