

Pearl River Garden Bridge Assembly Instructions

Attaching the 2 x 10 Support Beams with the 2 x 10 Extension Boards. (8' and longer bridges only)

NOTE: SKIP Step 1 for 4' and 6' Long bridges which have one piece beams – there is no need to join them together and do not have “extension boards” (or wooden gussets). For 8' bridges and larger, using the 3" Long Hex Head Bolts, join two beam sections together using extension boards as shown. Be sure that the tops of the beams and tops of the extension boards are aligned (Flush) and that the beams are butted together tightly. Extension boards are placed on the inside of the outer two beams. (For the middle beam it doesn't matter what side you put the extension board on.) Insert Bolts from the outside and tighten with $\frac{1}{4}$ " wrench from the inside. Stand all three beams up on end; be sure that the extension boards for the outer two beams are facing the center beam (facing each other).

Securing the beams

Find a level area (ie. Driveway, patio, or a level place in the yard) and spread the beams out. To hold the beams on end and in place, take one of the end caps and place it at one end of the beams. Be sure that the end cap is flush with the outside of the outer two beams and also at the same time, flush with the top of the outer two beams. Screw the end cap to the end of the outer two beams. Take the center beam and put it in the middle of the end cap and screw it into place. (Make sure it is flush with the top of the end cap). Repeat this procedure for the other end cap.

Bridge Decking

1 x 6 decking is precut and have pre drilled pilot holes. The end boards will be flush with the ends of the beams. For the first deck board, over hang it about $\frac{1}{4}$ " past the outside of the end cap and making sure that the ends of each deck board are flush with the outside of the beams and attach it to the beams using the designated pilot holes. Start from one end and work toward the other. Screw down the first deck board with xyz screws, and lay the rest of the deck boards tight against the first without attaching them! This is to insure that the last board will overhang about the same on both sides. Once you find that the overhang is the same or close, go back and screw the deck boards down with xyz screws. (Each board gets 6 screws). You may have to adjust the beams slightly as you go by pushing in or pulling out. This will assure that the bridge is square and that the beams are parallel. Continue to the end. If your bridge is a plank (no railing) bridge, you are now finished.

Installing the Posts and Railing

Put the center posts on first. Next put the steep angle railings on with 2 1/2" screws. Next attach the 4 outside posts to the top of the steep angle railing making sure they are flush with the end. Finally, attach the top railings with 16-2 1/2" screws.

4' Railing Installation Position shown below.

