EZwhelp Fab System Assembly

Most pictures are shown for the Fab4x4 model. Assembly for the Fab4x4 and Fab4x6 is the same except where noted.

Assembly is easier if you look over these instructions in their entirety before proceeding.
Remove all contents from the shipping carton.

The door will have to be removed from the front panel by pulling out 2 posts, as shown.
Before proceeding with assembly, note that we call this a sleeve.
If a panel (or the door) doesn’t seem to “fit” it is likely that you have the sleeves facing the wrong direction. Sleeves should be on the inward side of the panel.

Now, proceed with assembly...
Begin with the door. Wrap it as follows.

Cover the door piece as shown in these pictures. Note the location of the fabric liner care label. When placing the door down onto the fabric cover, be sure the 4 sleeves (shown in yellow) are facing downward.

Now set the door aside, it will be used later.
Place the corrugated plastic sheet on the floor. This twin walled sheet provides a layer of air insulation and soft subsurface between the fabric insert and the floor.

Place the fabric liner on top. Note that the EZwhelp logo will be positioned at the back wall of the whelping box, facing inward.
Lay out all the black straps to point away from the box floor area (see blue arrows). Be sure to include the front doorway straps (shown in red).

At each corner, 3 little strap pairs are attached to themselves during packing. **Detach** them for easy access later (see green marks).

Do not set up the panels yet, but see how they will be placed around the floor area on top of the black straps (as shown below).
Panels for the Fab4x4 are set up as shown on the left of the above picture. The Fab4x6 front and side setup is shown on the right.

For the Fab4x6 the front and back panels are the same as the Fab4x4. But the left and right sides are each composed of two shorter panels in line, as shown above and below.
For the Fab4x6 only, attach the straight brace over the connection between each pair of side panels, as shown. Use the shorter 1” screws with the serrated nuts positioned on the inward side.

Do not overtighten. Only a screwdriver is required. Holding the nut by hand while tightening is sufficient.
Connecting the Panels (All Sizes)

The method for connecting the panels is shown below. Line up the sleeves. Then insert the post downward through the sleeves. Guide the tip of the post if needed. It may be helpful to turn the post while inserting to assist with alignment.

Now begin connecting panels as shown on the next few pages.
The **back** corner connection between two regular panels is shown above. The post is shown partially inserted. The sleeves at each end of these panels will be positioned toward the inside of the box.

This picture shows the **front** corner connection between the side panel and the front panel. Note that the front panel (the panel with the doorway) has sleeves both on the inward and the outward sides -- refer to the next slide.
Be sure the front panel is properly placed. The short sleeves (in red) face outward.

The extra sleeves shown below in yellow will not be used for the main room. They are for optional additional room attachments.
Add the corner braces. Use 1.5” screws. Handhold the serrated nuts while tightening.

Do not overtighten.
Now start fastening the fabric liner. To start, keep all fastening very loose. Don’t tighten anything at this point.

Fasten the middle straps to begin. This will help to generally position the liner.

Pull up the straps on the outside of the panel. Then feed them through the mating plastic connector. Finally, pull them down and attach each strap to itself (hook and loop).
Tightly fasten the three straps at each corner as shown.
As the liner takes shape, tighten all fastened straps.

Note the fastening method on the front as shown above.
At the corner of the doorway, if a sewing junction protrudes tuck it behind the fabric--away from puppy teeth (as shown below).
Insert the whelping pad. The pad is washable and waterproof.

Next, consider the door.
Usually you would start using the whelping box without the door. When you add it, it can be mounted two directions for two different heights. And it can be mounted on a single side for swing action. These pictures show various configurations.

The door connection is usually tight and will require some force to align the sleeves and insert the posts.
The picture below shows the door mounted at full height with optional rails inserted into box.
This completes the assembly for the main box.

Usually you will not need to wash the fabric liner until the puppies have moved out. Care instructions for the liner are found on the back side of the door cover.

The liner will fit into most home washing machines.

IMPORTANT: Before washing the liner, be sure to attach all hook and loop straps to themselves (otherwise they will latch onto other straps during the washing cycle).