



36" Wide Cage Dragon Ledges

Installation Instructions

020823

Introduction. Your Dragon Ledges allow you to create an internal landscape for your screen cage. These solid anchors distribute weight to the frame instead of the screen. Using these ledges you are free to hang plants or create interior landscapes.

Installation of the Dragon Ledges is done in four main steps.

- 1) Verify Contents
- 2) Attaching the Braces to the outside aluminum frame
- 3) Preparing the entry into the cage
- 4) Assembling the Dragon Ledge on the inside

Verify Contents

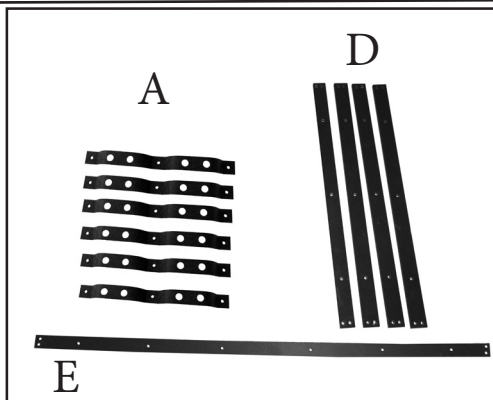
Contents. Each pack contains 4 horizontal Dragon Ledges for the sides and 1 vertical double Dragon Ledge for the back.

Qty: 6 (A) Ledge

Qty: 1 (B) Parts Bag

Qty: 4 (D) Side Horizontal Brace

Qty: 1 (E) Back Vertical Brace



Contents of Bag B

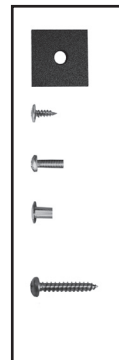
Qty: 18 (T) Spacer Disk

Qty: 20 (V) Mounting Screw

Qty: 18 (W) Machine Screw

Qty: 18 (X) Threaded Cap

Qty: 1 (Z) Hole Screw



Important: Brace E goes vertically on the back panel. This is designed to fit a 36" x 18"x36" cage such as the Exo-Terra Large X-Tall screen cage. Brace E will hold two Dragon Ledges.

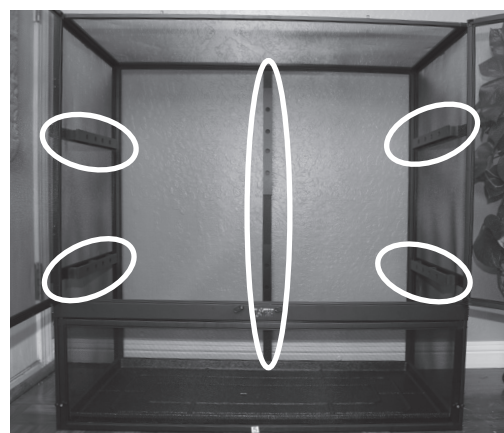
Attach Braces

Note: Dragon Ledges may be installed on assembled cages, but it is much easier to install them on panels laying flat on the floor. It is recommended you install Dragon Ledges before assembling the cage.

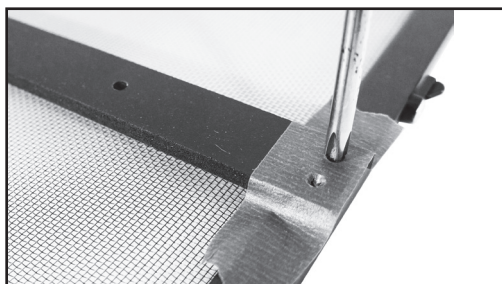
The strength of the Dragon Ledges is that they transfer all the weight to the aluminum frame which is quite strong relative to what we need to hang in the cage. The Mounting Screws (V) are designed to self-tap so a constant pressure and a firm turning of the screw will puncture the aluminum framing and provide a tight fit. If you are not comfortable with this action then you may drill a pilot hole first.

The one limitation is that the Dragon Ledges were not designed to be mounted on the top panel and support weight hanging down. One thing to always keep in mind is to make sure you are using the correct length Back Brace for the panel. Before you screw the Brace down, verify that the mounting holes on both sides align with the frame.

If you are unsure where you want to position the Dragon Ledges I suggest splitting the panel evenly. If you are doing a side panel with two Dragon Ledges then split the cage in thirds. For the one Back Brace, go down the middle. There are two things to watch out for. The first is to make sure you do not cover up and mounting holes that you will need later. The second is to not worry so much if the Dragon Ledge assembly is not in the exact middle. "Approximate" works just fine in this case!



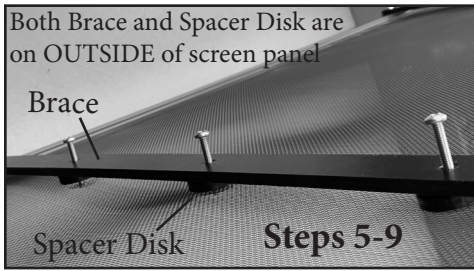
Included are two horizontal Dragon Ledges per side and one vertical double Dragon Ledge mounted in back.



Steps 1-4) Affixing the Brace to the outside of the frame.

- 1) Position your first Brace (D for side panels or E for back panel) in the desired location on the outside of the screen panel. Double check to ensure you are attaching to the OUTSIDE of the side panel! In most commercially manufactured screen cages there will be a gap between the Brace and the screen.
- 2) Verify that both ends of the Brace have the mounting holes directly over framing so that the mounting screws will be able to go directly into the aluminum frame.
- 3) Use masking tape to hold the Brace in place while you install the screws. This allows you to move the Back Brace around until it is in a position that you are happy with.
- 4) Once you are happy with placement, use a Phillips head screwdriver, pen, or any other small object to open a hole in the tape for the Brace mounting hardware.

- 5) Insert a short Mounting Screw (V) into the center of the hole. Press firmly on the short screw and slowly twist it into the aluminum frame of the cage. Make sure you are stable and do not slip. Alternatively, you may use a powered drill with a 1/8" drill bit to create a pilot hole that will allow easier installation. **Do NOT use a power drill to drive the screw in. It will strip the hole!**
- 6) Fasten the screw in a couple of turns to firmly lodge it and then carefully remove the masking tape (if used) from around the Mounting Screw and Brace.



- 7) Continue to twist the screw in until it is tight. Do not over tighten the screw as you will strip the aluminum framing.
- 8) Repeat steps 3 through 7 for the other mounting points.
- 9) In three places, slip in a Spacer Disk (T) between the Brace and the screen. Hold it in place by dropping three long Machine Screws (W) into the Brace mid-holes and aligning the Spacer Disks so the screws go into the holes to the screen.

Preparing Entry into the Cage

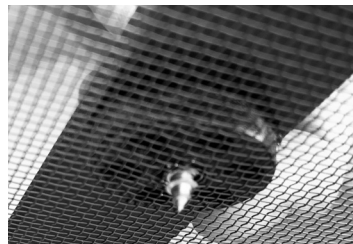
Dragon Ledges work by transferring the weight from the inside of the cage to the outside Brace that is firmly anchored on the framing. This does mean that we need to create a transfer point through the screen. You will be creating three small holes to create a metal core to each of the Dragon Ledge anchor points that will go from inside to outside. Many people balk at creating holes in the sides of their new cage. But these holes will be completely covered and unnoticeable. Dragon Ledges are an integral part of a cage and there should be no reason to remove them once they are in place.

- 10) We will now create the first entry hole by removing the machine screw (W) in the middle hole and replacing it with the self-tapping Hole Screw (Z). You will use the pointed end of the Hole Screw to poke a hole through the screen. You can twist the screw to break through the screen. This hole only needs to be big enough that the machine screw can be pushed through.
- 11) Remove the Hole Screw and push the Machine Screw (W) all the way through the Brace, Spacer Disk, and screen.
- 12) Repeat step 10 – 11 for each of the three holes.

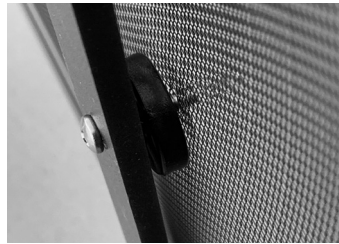
Assembling the Dragon Ledge on the inside



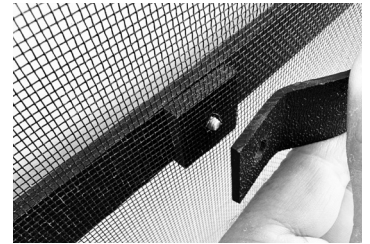
Step 10) Use Hole Screw (Z) to make a clean hole in the screen.



Step 10) The Hole Screw can be twisted to help it through

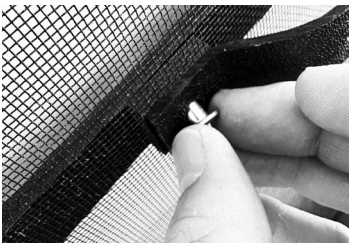


Step 11) Replace the Hole Screw with the Machine Screw

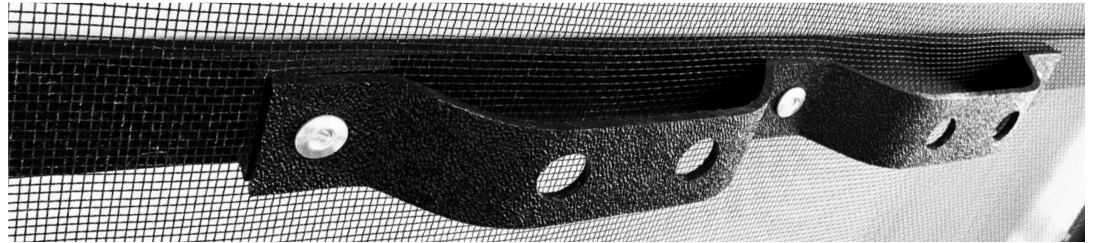


Step 13) Put Dragon Ledge part on inside of cage aligning holes

- 13) Place the Dragon Ledge (A) on the inside of the cage and align the mounting holes with the machine screws poking through
- 14) Insert a Threaded Cap (X) into the mounting hole on the Dragon Ledge (A)
- 15) Hold the Threaded Cap tightly in place while you screw the Machine Screw into it.
- 16) Repeat steps 14 – 15 for all threaded caps
- 17) Tighten all Machine Screws with handheld screwdriver to ensure that the Dragon Ledge Assembly acts as one solid piece



Step 14 - 15) Create metal core with screw and threaded cap



The final Dragon Ledge assembly viewed from the inside of the cage.

Your Dragon Ledge is installed. Repeat for your other Dragon Ledges!