



# Assembly Instructions: Tall Hybrid Cage System



**2\*Hydration Mount:** For mounting industry standard mist heads and a 1/4" tubing input for plant drip system.

**Solid side & Back Panels:** Provides humidity retention, visual isolation, protects house walls from mist over-spray, and offers a strong base for mounting plants.

**6 \* Dragon Ledges:** Anchors for mounting horizontal branches and potted plants.

**Acrylic Door:** Provides superior viewing and humidity retention.

**Flip-up Service Door:** Convenient access to clean cage floor and chimney effect ventilation.

**Cage Floor Option:** Solid for resting potted plants or screen for maximum drainage.

**Fitted Drainage Tray:** To catch and hold waste water away from cage inhabitants.

*The Dragon Strand Tall Hybrid Cage System includes features needed by keepers of chameleons and other arboreal species. The Dragon Ledges allow you to easily create a floating garden style interior while the true drainage tray maintains a hygienic environment by keeping water away from droppings and escaped feeder insects. If you have any questions while assembling this cage please reference the product page for links to detailed instructions, email [bill@dragonstrand.com](mailto:bill@dragonstrand.com), or call (714) 788-3617.*

## Tools Needed for Assembly:

- Phillips Head Screwdriver
- Scissors (to unwrap parts)
- Bowl (to hold screws)

## Optional:

WD-40 or Goo Gone (to remove stickers)

**Caution 1: Do not over-tighten screws!** Tighten the screw until it is fully seated in the frame and stop turning when the screw is tight. Forcing the screw beyond this point will strip the hole.

**Caution 2:** Beware of slipping with the screwdriver and punching a hole in the screen or scratching the acrylic. Tighten the screws firmly and deliberately, but do not rush yourself or press harder than necessary.

**Success Hint:** Open a screw bag only when it is required and store screws in a bowl.

## Step 1: Unpack and Verify Contents

Carefully unpack the box and find each item. If there is anything missing or if there is shipping damage please contact me at [bill@dragonstrand.com](mailto:bill@dragonstrand.com). **Acrylic and/or PVC panels may come with a protective film. Remove this protective film for use.**

### Drainage Tray

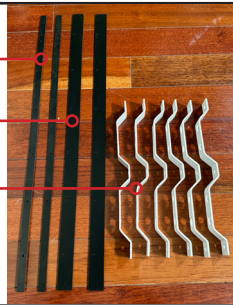


### Plastic Parts:

2\* Door Stop Spacer Strip

2\* Door Stop

6\* Dragon Ledge



### Cage Panels:

### Type

(A) Left Panel	PVC
(B) Back Panel	PVC
(C) Right Panel	PVC
(E) Top Panel	Screen
(G) Service Door	Screen
(G2) Upper Front	Acrylic
(H) Main Door Frame	Acrylic
(I) Screen Floor	Screen
	PVC Floor

### Cage Frame:

### Panel:

(D) Bottom Frame	None
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## Hardware Packs:

### Labelled Bags:

Doorstop Screws  
Cage Assembly Screws



### Hinge Bag:

2\* Hinges  
8\* 1/4" #8 Screws



### Latches/Keepers

Bag:  
4\* Latches  
4\* Keepers  
16\* 3/8" #8 Screws



### Fogger Bag:

1\* Fogger  
2\* 1/2" #8 Screws



Ledges Mounting Hardware  
18\* Machine Screws  
18\* Caps



Hydration Mounts Bag  
2\* Hydration Mount  
2\* Grommet  
6\* 1/2" Screws

## Step 2: Assemble DoorStops

The Service door and Upper Face Panel require door stops to be attached. The doorstops are the black PVC strips. Remember that these strips need to be installed so that they hang over the edge. This is the part that will stop the door. ***Be extra careful to not turn the screw beyond when it is fully seated.***



1) Find the Upper Front Panel (G2) which is an acrylic panel.

2) Locate the bottom of the panel on the acrylic side which has six pre-drilled pilot holes.

3) Lay down a Doorstop spacer strip across the six pilot holes on the bottom and then lay a doorstop strip on top of the spacer strip. Make sure the doorstop strip is extending beyond the frame and not over the acrylic. Tack the complete stack down with six Doorstop screws in the doorstop screw bag.

DoorStop

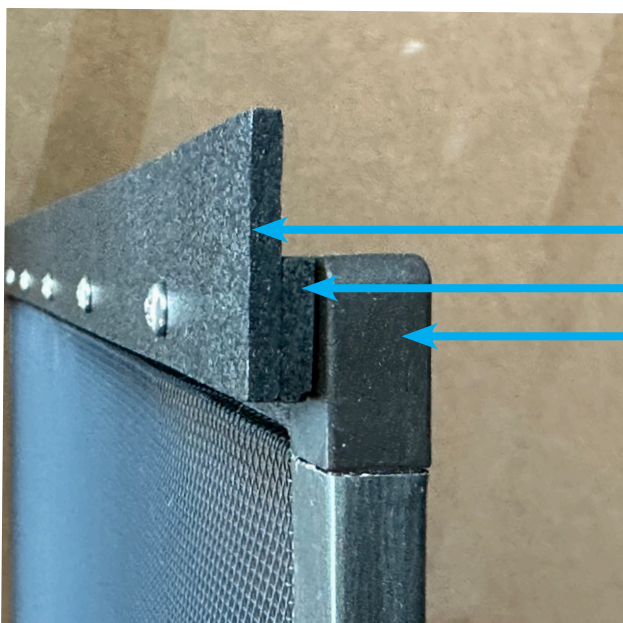
Spacer

Upper Front Panel (G2)



Finished

Upper Front Panel (G2)



2) Repeat the same stack of Doorstop Spacer strip and Doorstop strip on the Service Door screen panel (G)

DoorStop

Spacer

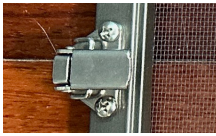
Service Door (G)



### Step 3: Install Doorstops, Latches, Keepers, and Hinges

All latches, keepers, and hinges are mounted on the outside of the panels in pre-drilled holes.

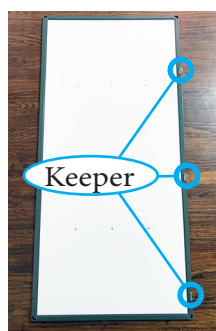
Latch



Keeper



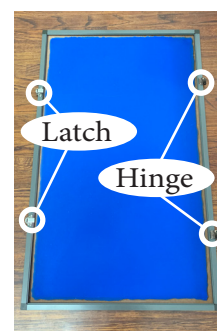
Left Panel (A)



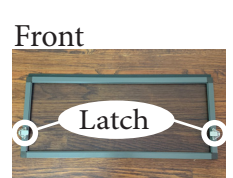
Right Panel (C)



Main Door (H)



Service Door (G)



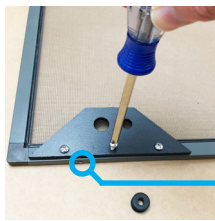
Hinge



Screws for latches/keepers and hinges are in the latches/keepers and hinges bags. Use only half the hinge screws for this step

### Step 4: Install Hydration Mounts and Fogger input

The two Hydration Mounts may be mounted with the pre-drilled pilot holes on the inside front of the top panel (E). The grommet is used to allow a 1/4" drip system tubing. The larger hole is for Mist King value mist heads (not included). Install mist heads after the cage is together. Both mist heads and grommet may be installed anytime in the future. **Ensure that the mount screws will not interfere with the predrilled holes for cage assembly.** The Fogger input can be installed on the pre-drilled pilot holes on the outside of the (E) Top Panel. You can choose left side, right side, or middle back.



If installed, remove grommet before attaching Hydration Mount. Place Hydration Mount and screw in with 1/2" Screws. Place so the edge of the mount is flush with the frame edge. **Do not interfere with Cage Assembly Screws!**

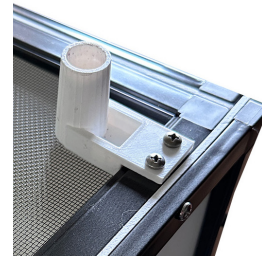


To Install Grommet: Cut "X" pattern in screen from top.



Insert Grommet. Squeeze grommet to push it through.

*Note: If you are not going to use the grommet input then you may skip these two steps. You can install the grommet at any time in the future you choose.*

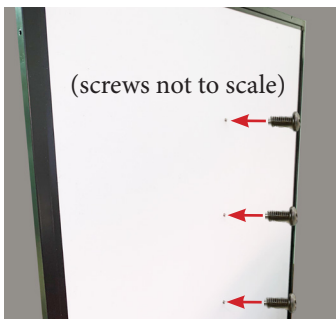


Use the two fogger screws to mount the fogger input anywhere you desire on the top panel.

### Step 5: Install Dragon Ledges

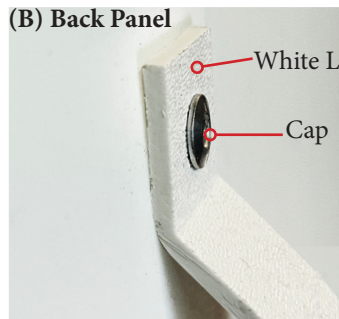
Use White plastic Dragon Ledge pieces and "Ledges Mounting Hardware" bag. Dragon Ledges are mounted on the INSIDE (PVC side) of the back and side panels. Back panel (B) has pre-drilled holes for two vertically orientated Dragon Ledges while both the side panels (A) and (C) have pre-drilled holes for two horizontal Dragon Ledges each. The inside of the panel is the side with the PVC. Latch hardware will be on the outside of the panel. Please double check before installing Dragon Ledges!

#### Installing Back Panel Dragon Ledges



Push a Machine Screw from outside of Back Panel (B) to inside (PVC side).

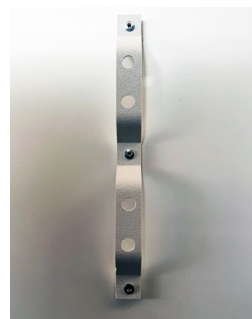
(B) Back Panel



White Ledge

Cap

Place White Ledge across screw end and tighten down with one Cap per screw end. Twist cap and screw together tightly. Repeat until both Ledges have three screws each,

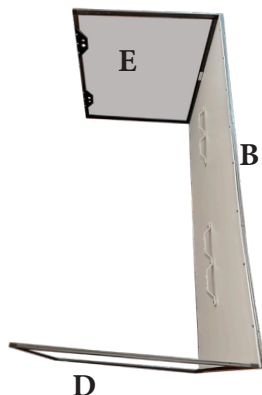


#### Completed Back Panel Assembly



Repeat for side panels (A) & (C). Ledges on side panels are horizontal.

## Step 6: Construct Cage



1) Construct cage core with Back Panel (B), Top Panel (E), and Bottom Frame (D). Use two Cage Assembly screws each. Bottom Frame sticker is on outside. Other panels are installed with stickers on inside.



2) Add Side Panel Assemblies (A) and (C) with eight Cage Assembly screws each. Attach to Top Panel (E) first to avoid slipping and possible screen damage to Top Panel.



3) Install the Upper Front panel (G2) with six Cage Assembly screws.

4) Install the Service Door (G) with two Cage Assembly screws **from the sides**. Latching the latches can hold the panel in place.

5) Attach Main Door (H) when you are done setting up the inside to avoid scratches. Latch door in place and use remaining hinge screws.

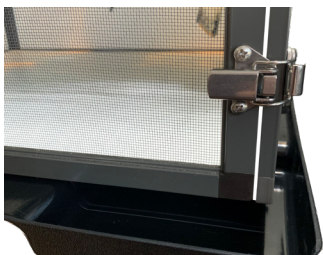


**Door Weight** It is normal for the main acrylic door to require a small lift when closing the door to clear the service door and sit in the space against the doorstop.

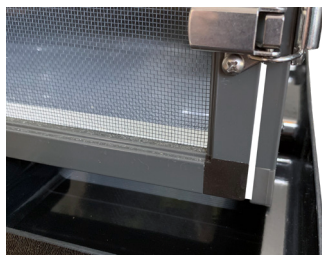
**Drainage Tray** Your cage sits on top of this tray. With the cage floor in, there is a physical separation between your reptile and the waste water. You can remove the gathered water via a wet/dry vacuum, turkey baster, and/or evaporation. To access the water use a crevice tool and insert it in the space to the side of the cage.

**Floor Selection** The white PVC floor is used when you plan on resting potted plants on the floor. You may drill drainage holes to facilitate quicker drainage if desired. The screen floor is for builds which have all plants on the sides with the Dragon Ledges. Keep the other floor around to have a temporary floor during the time you remove the main floor for cleaning. The longer side of the floor panel goes towards the back.

**Dragon Ledges** can be used to their full potential by installing a strong branch support structure. From there, horizontal perching branches and pots for plants can be mounted. In this example, the branches and pots have been attached using zip ties. I use the double pot method where one pot has holes drilled in it to allow zip ties to attach it to a support branch and then an identical pot with the planted plant will be slipped into the mounted pot. **WARNING:** do **not** force the zip tie connection and pull tight. The Dragon Ledges are **very** strong and can pull the cage walls together which will affect door fit. Loosen zip ties if door does not close cleanly.



Included PVC solid floor option. This provides support for potted plants. Small drainage holes may be drilled if more drainage is desired.



Included Screen floor option. This provides maximum drainage and can be used with plants installed along the side panels with the Dragon Ledges.



*If you have any questions this assembly guide does not answer, please email me at [bill@dragonstrand.com](mailto:bill@dragonstrand.com)*





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