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Weave Poles

I know that this sounds too simple to be true but this is exactly how my dogs are trained, and I have awesome weavers.

What you will need:

4 10' lengths of $\frac{3}{4}$ " or 1" PVC
Colored electrical tape (optional)

Tools:

Tape measure

Saw to cut PVC

- A PVC Cutter can be purchased at your local Home Improvement warehouse for about \$10. It's well worth the investment for building this equipment.

Hammer (a mallet type hammer works best)

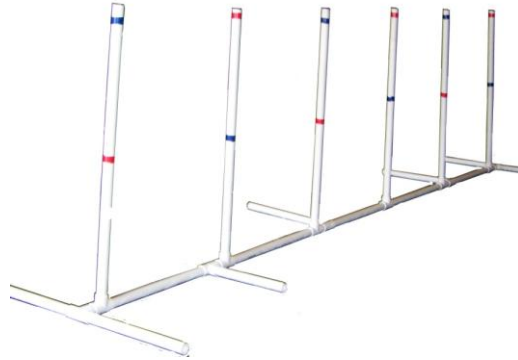
Step 1: Cut the PVC into 3 equal lengths of 40" each.

(Caution! Use care and wear eye protection when cutting PVC.)

Step 2: Find where you want to place them and pound them into the ground. There are a couple of different configurations you can use to start training your dog in the weaves. First you can angle the poles left and right. Or you can set the poles a few inches each side of the centerline. Remember that your dog *always* enters the weaves with the first pole on his left. Consult a professional trainer for more tips.

Weave poles are placed 20 - 24 inches apart in a straight line. Stripe your poles at the distance you want to place them. This aids in visibility for you and your dog and comes in handy when resetting your poles.

PLEASE NOTE: Currently the AKC regulation for weave poles is: The poles are 1 to 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " inches in diameter and **40** inches in height, and they are uniformly spaced at intervals of 20 to 24 inches (22 inches is recommended).



Set of 6 Weave Poles with Base

What you will need:

3 - 10' lengths of PVC

(larger PVC is a larger base for the dog to step over. You can use $\frac{3}{4}$ " to construct the base if you have already used this size for "pound in the ground" poles, and can save one 10' length.)

11 - PVC Tees (to match the pipe size)

For 20" spacing use this plan...

Cut the PVC pipe into the following lengths:

1- 10' pipe into:

4 - 30" pieces

1- 10' pipe into:

2 - 30" pieces

3 - 18" pieces

5 - plugs

"Plugs" are small $1\frac{1}{2}$ " to 2" lengths used to connect PVC connectors together.

1- 10' pipe into:

4 - 13" pieces

2 - 19" pieces

3 - 10" pieces

The 30" pieces will be your poles, put all 6 aside. The remaining pieces will be the base. See color coded diagram on page 4.

Construct your base:

First remember that the “side opening” of a Tee is the longer side, the part you could see straight through, and the “center opening” is the shorter side.

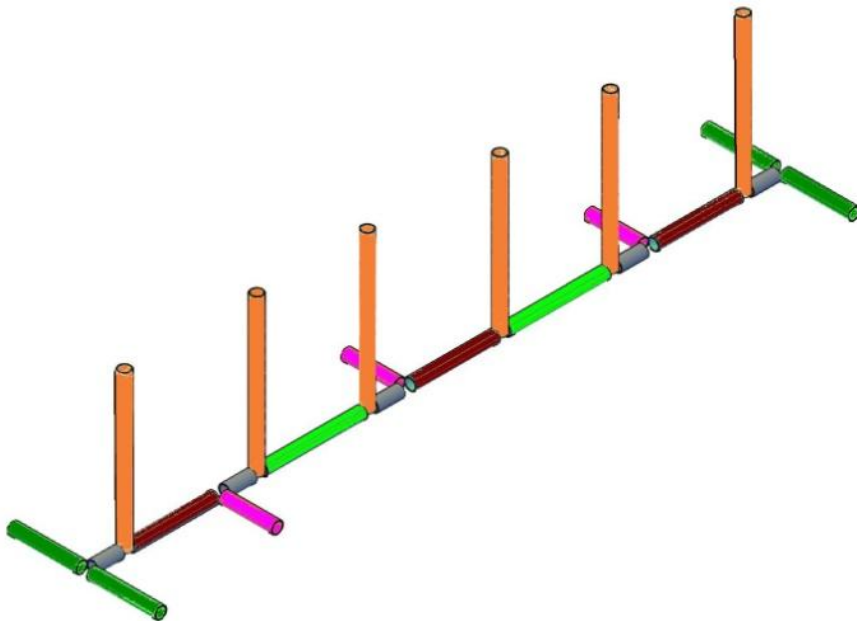
Let’s start with a Tee. From the center opening push in a plug, and from both side openings push in 13” pieces. Grab another Tee, from the plug attach this Tee at a side. (This Tee will face skyward and hold your first pole later) The next 9 Tee’s we will be using the side openings only, and building one long piece. Push pieces together in the following order:

18” (piece), Tee, plug, Tee, 19”, Tee, plug, Tee, 18” Tee, 19”, Tee, plug, Tee, 18”, Tee, plug, here attach the last Tee using it’s center opening. From the side openings of this last Tee push in 13” pieces. The bold “Tee’s” in the sequence above will face skyward and hold the weave poles. The other 3 will face either left or right and hold the 10” pieces and act as supports to make the base more stable. Keeping in mind that the dog always enters the weave poles with the first pole on his left turn these supports to the side that will not interfere with his feet.

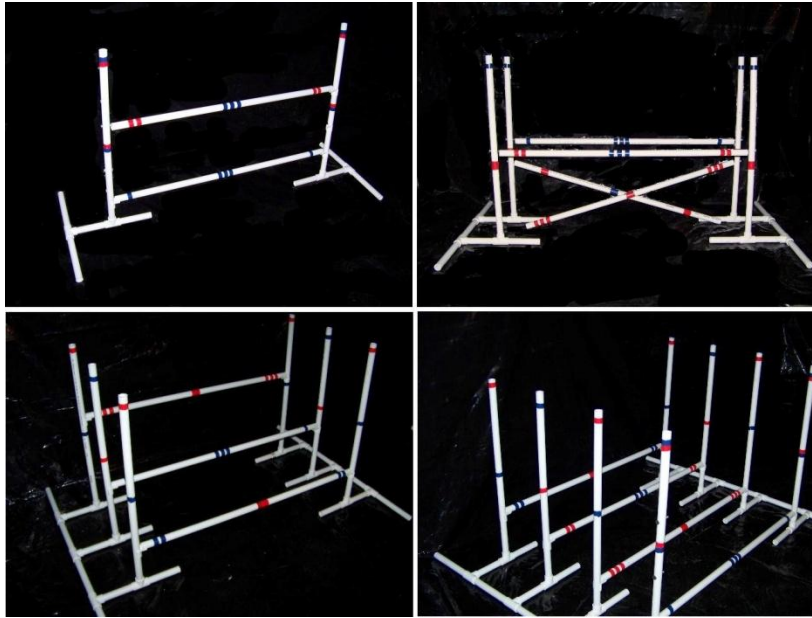
Following the sequence above the first 10” support will be to the right and the other 2 will be on the left.

If you prefer, or need, wider spacing, the same basic pattern can be used by just extending the length of the PVC between the poles, you will need extra PVC.

Note: if you have to purchase additional PVC for wider spacing you can also increase the length of the side supports for additional stability.



Have Fun!!



Jumps

What you will need:

I build jumps in sets of 3. This uses the materials most efficiently and offers the most versatility.

4 -10' lengths of PVC pipe

(I use $\frac{3}{4}$ " but 1" is nice too)

16 Tees (to match your pipe size)

Minimum of 6, $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 2" Carriage bolts and nuts

--OR -- 3 more Tee's

Current AKC equipment specifications state that the Bar Jump should be constructed of pipe that is between $1\frac{1}{4}$ " - $1\frac{1}{2}$ " outside diameter. Jump bars should be 5' in length. Uprights should be 36" - 40" high. After reading through these plans you can adjust your project to meet specifications.

Tools:

A saw or PVC cutter to cut the PVC pipe

Tape measure

Marker

Drill with $\frac{1}{4}$ " bit

Step 1 - Cut one length of PVC into 3 equal length of 40". These will be your crossbars.

(**Caution!** Use care and wear eye protection when cutting PVC.)

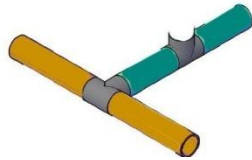
Step 2- Cut one length of PVC into the following lengths:

2 - 30" lengths

4 - 6" lengths

4 - 9 inch lengths

Step 3 - Construct your base by connecting a 9" length to each side of a Tee and a 6" length to that same Tee's center opening. Add another Tee, side opening, to the other end of the 6" length. Connect a second 6" length to the other side opening of that Tee. With the opening in the center of the Tee facing upward when this is placed flat on your work surface you have built your first base.

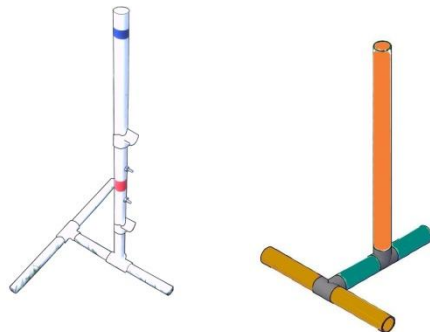


Step 4 - Repeat steps 2 and 3. When you are finished you should have 6 bases.

Step 5 - With your bases lying flat on your work surface and the opening in the Tee facing upward, connect the 30" pieces. You now have 6 standards.

Step 6 - Carefully measure and mark the height (or heights, see versatility below) that you want your crossbars. Remove the upright from the base and CAREFULLY drill 1/4" holes straight through the PVC upright.

Caution! Use care and wear eye protection when drilling or cutting PVC.



If you drill multiple holes be certain that the holes are in a straight line and straight through the PVC. Push the carriage bolts through the PVC pipe at the height that you want your crossbars. Hand tighten the nut on the opposite side. The threads should protrude about 1 inch.

Step 7- Reconnect the uprights to the bases with the protruding carriage bolts pointing toward the bottom of the Tee formed by the bases. Slip one open end of a 40" crossbar onto the protruding carriage bolt and the other end of the same crossbar onto another upright. You should have your first jump!!



You can create snap on/sliding “jump cups” by cutting extra Tee’s. First cut the tee in half, then slice the back off. See the photo. The more you cut off the back the easier the jump cup will snap on and slide to the desired position, conversely the easier it will come off so be careful.

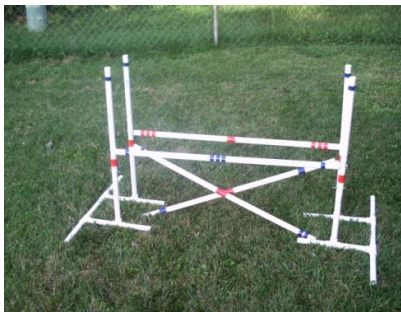
Do not glue your jumps!!! Press the pieces of PVC together firmly. The jump should collapse easily if collided with to avoid injury!

Repeat this process as many times as needed....

RUN WITH IT!!

Versatility:

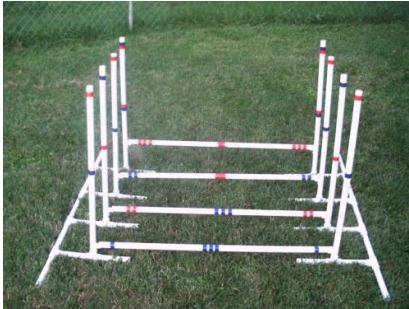
- 1) To create a double bar jump; place Two jumps side-by side. Remove the 9 inch pieces from the sides of one of the bases and connect it directly to the base of the second jump at the tee. Reattach your crossbars at the same height.



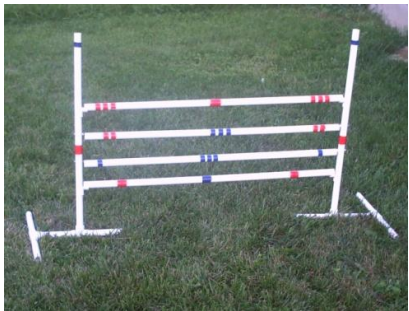
- 2) For a Triple jump use a third jump. Reattach your crossbars at ascending heights.



3) For a Broad jump effect use three or more jumps and place the crossbars low to the ground but further apart. You can adjust the length of the pieces of the base that connect the jumps together if necessary. (For a different version of the Broad Jump see page 9.)

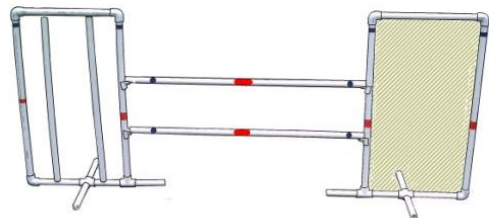
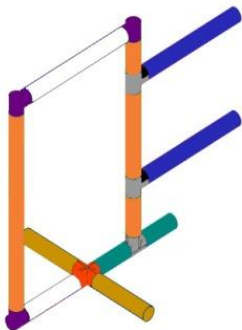


4) For a Panel jump effect place multiple crossbars on the same set of standards.



Have Fun!!

“Wings” can be added to the bar jump. The easiest way to accomplish this is to exchange the tee at the outside of the upright with a **PVC cross**. Then construct a **rectangle of 30”** (the length of the upright) by as wide as you want your wings to be. Use **90 degree corners** at the top of standard and two outside corners. Then secure some type of barrier such as snow fencing, hardware cloth, PVC pieces, *anything you want*, use your imagination! Whatever it is it can be tied with string (I used fishing line) to the frame.



Broad Jump

For the Broad jump the dog must jump horizontally double the distance of the vertical jumps. See the chart below. The dog must not step on or visibly move the boards while attempting to clear the obstacle. Corner markers are used to ensure a jump straight over the obstacle. Corner markers can be jump standards or weave poles.

I built this from 1"x6"x6' pine boards. The front of each board is approximately 1" lower than the back and the highest point of the longest board is 8".

Depending on which section I was building I cut a rectangle off the end, cut the rectangle in half at an angle so that one side was about 1" longer than the other.



The measurements should be as follows:

First piece: 6' board, cut off 7", cut that 7" piece at an angle at 3" on one side to 4" on the other.

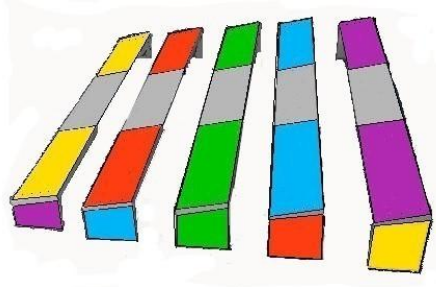
Second: cut off 9", cut at 4" and 5"

Third: 11", cut at 5" and 6"

Fourth: 13", cut at 6" and 7"

And Fifth: 15", cut at 7 and 8".

The smaller 3-4 inch pieces will be the end pieces for the shorter 4' 9" board and the longer 7-8 inch pieces will be attached to the longer 5'4" board. Attach the end pieces so that the section sits with the front edge approximately 1" lower than the rear edge.



Division	Length (Inches)	No. of 6" Sections
8 Inch	16	2
12 Inch	24	3
16 Inch	32	4
20 Inch	40	5
24 Inch	48	5
26 Inch	52	5



Hoop

What you will need:

2 - 10' lengths of PVC pipe

(I used 1", 1 1/4" is also a good choice, Just be certain that the pipe and connectors are the same size.)

4 - PVC Tees

2 - PVC 90 degree elbows

4 - PVC caps

(optional, see instructions below)

4" corrugated drain pipe

1/4" Hook bolt and nut

Medium duty (swing) chain- about 2'

String or twine

The only difference between this design and current AKC equipment specifications is that there should be a 7" space between the Hoop and the supporting frame. To accomplish this just add 6" to the length of the 30" crossbars.

Tools:

Saw or cutter to cut PVC

Utility knife to cut drainpipe

Drill and 1/4" bit

Step 1: Cut PVC into the following lengths:

(Caution! Use care and wear eye protection when cutting PVC.)

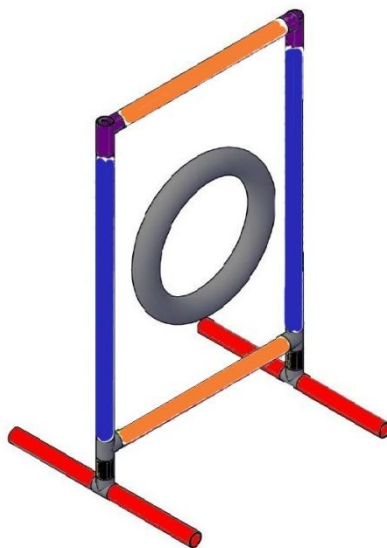
4 - 15" each

2 - 30" each (36" for AKC spec.)

2 - 46" each

2 - Plugs (to connect Tee's to Tee's)

Step 2: Assemble the hoop stand similar to the diagram. Start with a Tee. Insert a 15” length into each side opening. Repeat this with the other 15” lengths and a second Tee. From the opening remaining in each of these pieces connect a plug. These assemblies are your feet. Put aside until later. Next build a rectangle. The top corners will be 90 degree corners and the bottom corners will be tees. Push the plug lengths from the feet into the Tee’s from the rectangle. You should have your hoop stand similar to the diagram.



OPTION: Fill the feet with sand and cap with the PVC caps to add weight and stability to your hoop stand.

Step 3: Construct and hang your hoop. The 4” corrugated drain pipe is usually sold in 10’ lengths, which have one end designed to fit into the opposite end of the next pipe. Bend the pipe around to form the size hoop that you want, AKC spec. is 24” diameter. Cut off excess from the end keeping the end that allows the pipe to fit together. Drill a ¼” hole in the center of the top crossbar. Push the hook bolt through the hole from the bottom up so the hook is on the bottom of the bar, secure with a nut. If you don’t need an adjustable hoop simply tie the hoop at the desired height.

Loop twine around the sides of the hoop and the frame to keep the hoop in the desired position.

To create an adjustable hoop: connect the chain to the Hoop and use the links in the chain to hook the hoop at the desired height. Always tie the sides to the frame tight enough to keep the hoop straight but loose enough to allow the hoop to be raised and lowered.

Enjoy your Hoop Jump!



Pause Table

What you will need:

Base #1:

4 - Concrete Blocks

-OR-

Base #2:

2 - 10' lengths of 1" PVC

8 - 90 degree PVC corners (1")

2 - 1" PVC crosses

Table Top

36"x36" square of Plywood - 15/32" recommended

Hint!! - Many Home Improvement Warehouses sell pieces of plywood other than full 4'X8' sheets. You need only 3'x3'. Look for this size piece and buy only what you need. If it is not the exact size many places offer a cutting service for free (usually 2 cuts). Take advantage of this and take home a 36"x36" table top.

1 - 2"x4"x10' Stud

Screws

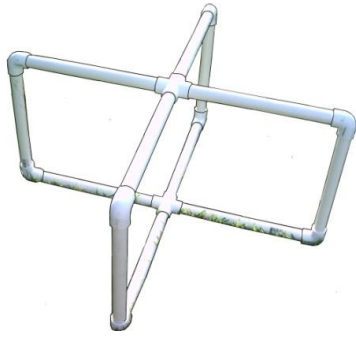
Paint and Sand

Tools

Circular saw

Screwdriver

Step 1: Assemble Base #1. I didn't see any need to make this complicated. Any dog, any size, can benefit from a simple board on 4 concrete blocks. It's your choice to have the blocks lay down for about an 8" height, or stand on end for about a 16" height.



Step 1A: Assemble Base #2: For a lighter weight stand you can construct a base using PVC. Cut 8 16 ½” pieces; connect a corner to one end of each. Create 2 X’s by slipping the ends opposite the corners into the PVC crosses. Position the corners so that they are opening upward. Now determine the height you would like your table to be. For example, my dogs jump 16”; I need a 16” table. Subtract 3” from your height and cut that length for the 4 legs of your table. In my example my legs are 13”. Push the legs into the elbows on one X then connect the other X. You now have a PVC table stand. For maximum stability and safety I recommend limiting the length of the legs to a maximum of 17 inches, for a 20” table height.

Step 2: Assemble Table Top. Cut 2”x4”x10’ stud into 4 - 30” lengths.

(Caution! Use care and wear eye protection when cutting boards.)

Screw these pieces on one side of the plywood creating a square frame. There will be about 1 ½” between the edge of each 2”x4” and the edge of the plywood. Screw down from the plywood into the 2”x4”’s, these pieces adds rigidity and “Stop Boards” to the table. -OR-

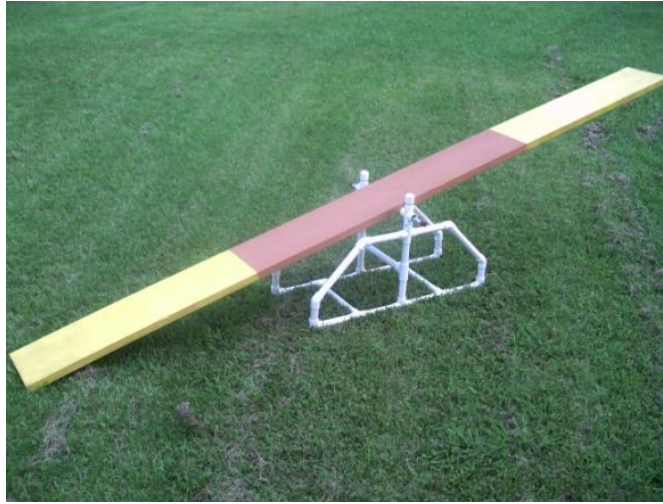
Step 3: Determine where to set up your table; set concrete blocks about 22” apart in a square and position table top on top. The blocks can be slid out to rest just inside the 2’X4” stop boards.

-OR- Position the table top on the PVC Stand.

I recommend coating the table top with a mixture of 1 part sand and 2 parts paint. This will not only make your table more weather resistant but accustom your dog to the surface he will come in contact on other Pause Tables.

Sit! Stay! (5, 4, 3, 2, 1) Go! Have Fun!





Teeter

What you'll need

Stand

2 - 10'x1" PVC
8 - 1" PVC 45 degree elbows
4 - 1" PVC 90 degree corners
4 - 1" PVC Crosses
8 - 1" PVC Tee's
2 - 1" PVC caps
PVC cement

Plank

1 - 12"x1"x12' plank
4 - 2 hole conduit straps and appropriate screws to attach it to the plank
1 - 3/4" x 24" nipple pipe
(or other sturdy pipe to act as a fulcrum)
Sand and Paint

Step 1: Cut the PVC into the following pieces:

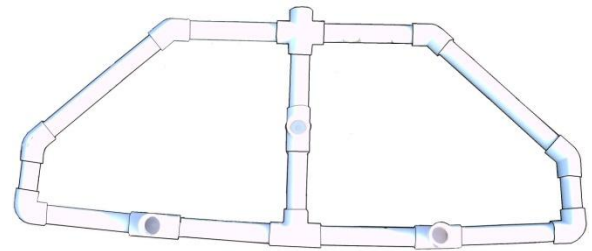
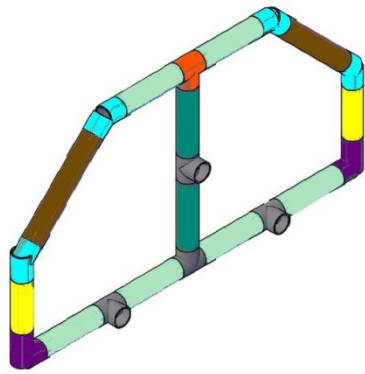
(Caution! Use care and wear eye protection when cutting PVC.)

12- 8" lengths
3 - 13" lengths
4 - 12" lengths
4 - 4" lengths
4 - 6" lengths
4 - Plugs

Step 2: connect plugs to opposite sides of a cross. Repeat this for a second cross. Cap one plug on each cross. These pieces will hold your fulcrum and serve as the top of your teeter stand. Put them aside for later. To increase the height of your pivot point you will lengthen the piece opposite the cap.

Step 3: Assemble 2 identical polygon shapes. NOTE: For this step press the pieces together just enough to keep them connected. You will want to disassemble them later to glue them. Working from left to right; Start with one 90 degree corner with the closed bend to your left and down. Connect an 8" length, and then connect a Tee from the side opening. Twist this Tee so the opening on the short end faces up, toward the sky, not the top of the shape. Attach another 8" length to the opposite side opening. Next comes a second Tee, this one should be twisted to point away from you, toward what will be the top of the base. Add another 8" length, and another Tee, twisted to point skyward, a fourth 8" length and finally a 90 degree corner, assembled so that the bend is on the right hand end of the line. This device will be one side of the bottom of your base. Next connect a 4" length to the openings on the 90 degree corners. A 45 degree elbow comes next, on each side, twisted so that the openings point to the center of the shape. Connect a 12" length to the opening on each 45 degree elbow, followed by another 45 degree elbow on the ends of each of the 12" lengths. These elbows should be twisted so that the openings point toward each other. From each of these openings connect an 8" length. Complete the top side of the polygon by connecting these 8" lengths with a cross. Between the cross at the top of the shape and the Tee at the bottom of the shape connect a 6" length, a Tee in the center, and a 6" length at the bottom, connected to the Tee that was placed pointing away from you. You should have a shape similar to the diagram below, with 3 openings pointing skyward. If the shape is not lying flat on your work surface twist the connections until it does.

Repeat the above process to form the opposite side of the base.

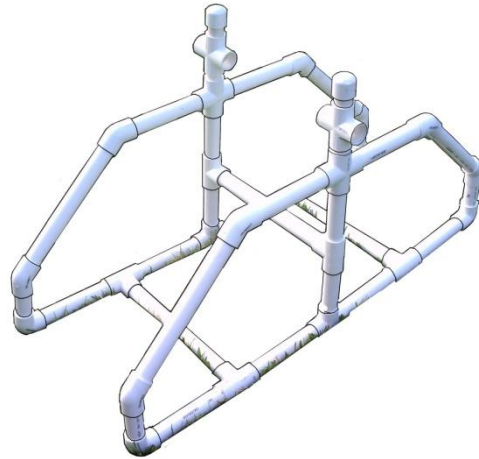
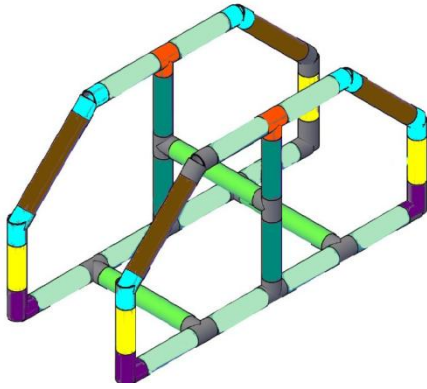


PVC elbow
PVC corner
PVC cross

8" length
6" length
4" length
12" length
13" length

Step 4: You should have constructed two identical polygon shapes with 3 openings. These sides will be connected by the 13" lengths. Firmly press one 13" length into each of the openings on one of the sides. Next fit the opposite ends of the 13" lengths into the corresponding openings on the other side.

Stand your base up and assure that it sits squarely on your work surface. You should have two openings on the top of your base.



Step 5: Assemble the plank. Measure to find the center of the 12' plank. Attach the 24" nipple pipe (or other sturdy metal bar) to the plank using the 2 hole conduit clamps. You should have several inches of bar extending off the sides of the plank. From these extensions slide on the crosses constructed in Step 2.



Step 6: Carefully insert the non-capped ends of the Crosses from step 2 into the openings in the top of your teeter base. You now have your teeter.

Step 7: The plank on your teeter is slippery. Remove the teeter plank with the Crosses and paint the plank only. Mix 1 part sand with 2 parts paint and coat the plank for traction. This will aid dramatically in training your dog. (Of course you will have to wait for the paint to dry.)

Step 8: You will notice that the teeter base has a tendency to come apart at certain connections. With your PVC cement you can glue your teeter base. I recommend you disassemble the base one side at a time, arrange the pieces so that they are easily reconnected, and glue your teeter base together using the PVC cement manufacturer's directions. Work quickly and be sure all Tee's and other connections are twisted to the correct angle as you work. Do not glue the pivot crosses to the top of the base. This allows the plank to be removed from the base.

Following the above pattern you will construct a teeter with the pivot point about 14" from the ground. AKC equipment specs state that the pivot point should be at 24". This is a simple modification; increase the length of the PVC pieces in Step 2 that connects the Crosses to the base.

Have Fun!!



Dog Walk

What you will need:

Stands

4 - 10' lengths of PVC pipe

(I used 1", 1 1/4" is also a good choice. Just be certain that the pipe and connectors are the same size.)

32 - PVC Tees

Optional Stand base -

2 additional 10' length of PVC

8 90 degree elbows

8 PVC Tee's

Ramps and Plank

2 - 12"x2"x12' boards

Paint Sand

1"x2"x10' board for treads and Nails

4 - 3" hinges

Tools:

Circular saw to cut PVC and boards

Screwdriver

Hammer

Step 1: Cut PVC into the following lengths

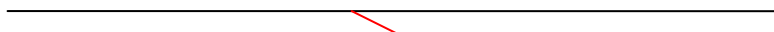
(**Caution!** Use care and wear eye protection when cutting PVC and boards.)

24-8" each

8-20" each

8-12" each

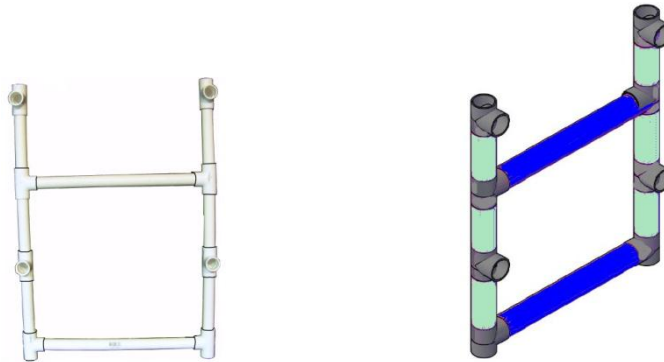
Cut **One** of the 12' boards in half at a 45 degree angle. (2 pieces of 6')



Cut the 1"x2" board into 12 lengths, 10" each.
These are your slats for your ascending and descending ramps.

Step 2: Assemble 4 rectangle shapes similar to the diagram.

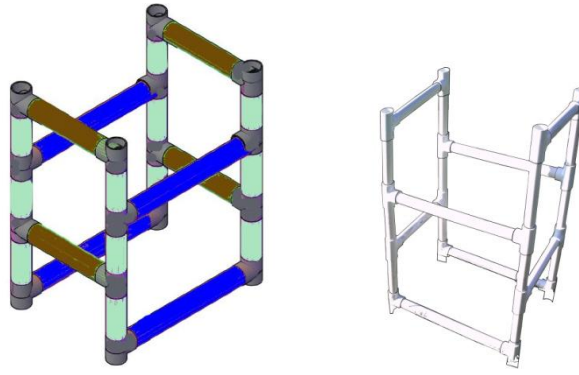
Start with 2 tees; connect them with a 20" length from the center opening. Push an 8" length into one side opening on each tee. Add another tee, side opening, to each 8" length. Turn these tee's so the center opening is pointing skyward when this piece is lying flat on your work surface. Next come 8" lengths from each tee, side openings, and another set of tees. This set should be turned so the center openings are facing each other, connect these openings with a 20" length. From the final opening in this set of tees connect an 8" length, capped off with more tees, with the center openings skyward. You should have a rectangle similar to the diagram. Repeat this process 3 more times for 4 rectangles.



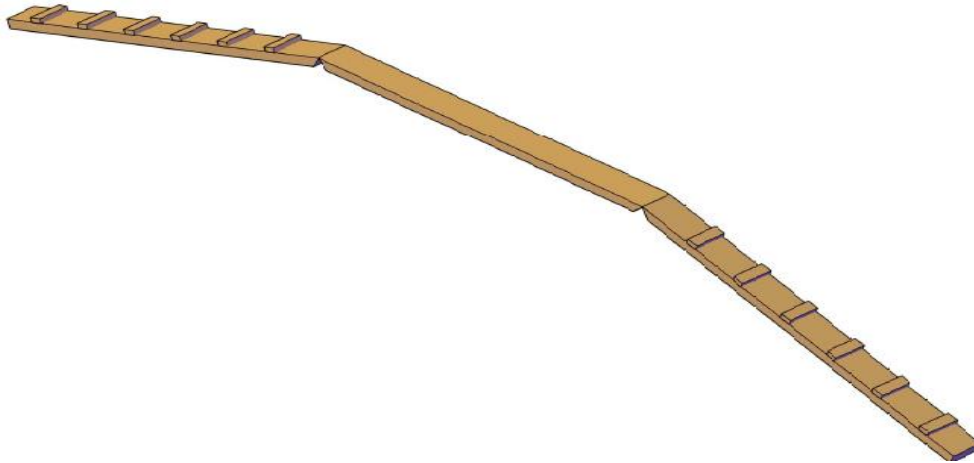
8" length
20" length
12" length
PVC Tee

Step 3: With the 12" lengths you will connect 2 rectangles to assemble 1 stand. With one rectangle lying flat on your work surface push one 12" length into each of the openings on the 4 tees. Position a second rectangle over the opposite end of the 12" lengths and press the two sides together. Repeat this process with the remaining pieces for the other stand.

NOTE: This assembly will produce a stand approximately 30" high. This coupled with 6' ascending and descending ramps produces an experience similar to a 48" competition obstacle.



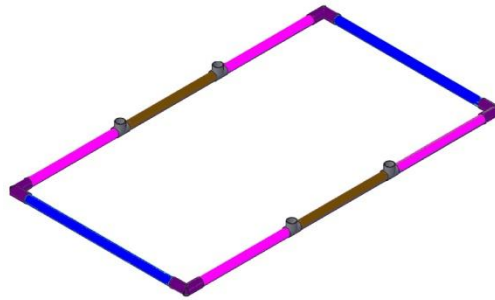
Step 4: Assemble the ramps and plank. The side of each board that is slightly longer than the other due to the angle of the cut will be referred to as the top. Line up all 3 boards end to end, top up. Connect the ramps to the plank with the hinges, being certain the hinges will allow the ramps to fold onto the top of the plank. Nail the slats to the ramps tops to create treads. Start about 6 inches from one end and space them about 8 - 10 inches. Coat the top surfaces with one part sand and 2 parts paint for traction.



Step 5: Now that you have your two stands and Plank/Ramps you're ready to put them together. Find flat, level ground and place the stands about 8' apart. The plank will fit between the four tees on the top of the stands resting on the 12" lengths. I keep the hinged joint of the ramp/plank about 2" from the edge of the stand. This may need adjusting each time the obstacle is repositioned. Test for sturdiness and have a run!!

If you think you need a more stable stand there is an option for an additional base for this stand. Notice that there are Tee's at the 4 corners of the stands. We are going to construct a rectangular base that will connect directly to these Tee's...

Cut your 2 additional 10' PVC pieces



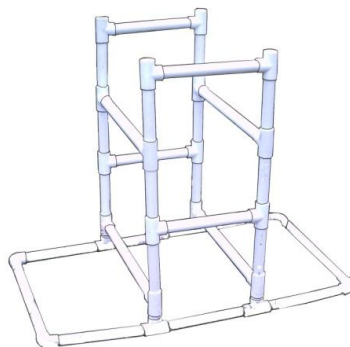
4 - 20" each

4 - 12" each

8 - 10" each

8 - plugs

Construct two rectangles similar to the diagram. The 12" lengths go between the Tee's, the 10" pieces complete each long side. Connect the longer sides with the 20" lengths at each end. It is all held together by the 90 degree corners at the 4 corners. Using the plugs connect these rectangles directly to the bottom of the stands that you have already constructed.



Note: If you have built the Teeter Stand and have some of the PVC cement left over it's not a bad idea to go ahead and glue the Dog Walk stands together. Follow the manufacturers' instructions for best results.

Option: This whole stand can be eliminated. Cinder blocks can be used for lower dog walks, saw-Horses can be used for higher ones. The disadvantage of these is the weight. The stands described above are lightweight and easily moved. With sawhorses the legs can be made short at first and as the dog(s) gain experience the legs can be made longer.

With this pattern the 8" lengths can be adjusted to build any height stand you wish.



A-Frame

This project is difficult, and the materials are heavy. You will most likely need a helping hand. Read through all of these instructions before you begin.

I built the A-frame in 3 pieces; the Cap, and 2 side panels.

Step 1 - Decide what size you want your A-frame. I built mine with 6' x 3' sides, AKC regulation is 9' x 35"-49" sides. I can tell you that that is BIG and extremely heavy. It took all of my strength to maneuver the one I built.

You can follow this pattern to build whatever size you decide on.

What you'll need:

Plywood (I used 15/32"), enough to cover both side panels.

****See the HINT on Page 12 regarding cutting Plywood.**

2"x4" studs - 4 times the height of the sides

And 6 times the width, using continuous lengths.

(In my example I needed 4 6' studs, 2 36", and 4 about 29" long)

Sturdy hinges. I used 3 for a 3' width,

I recommend 4 for wider.

Lots of 2" screws

Slats - enough to place across the width of the panel within 1/4" of the edge spaced approximately every 12", and nails or screws to attach it.

Medium duty chain, 10-15'

- optional but recommended, and hex head screws and washers, or hook screws to attach it to the sides.

Step 2 - Build the “cap”. After cutting your plywood to the size desired for each side cut off 12” from one end of each. (HINT: If you are attempting to build a regulation A-Frame use a full sheet of plywood for each side panel *plus* this 12” x48” piece equals 9’) This is going to be the Apex and hinge of your A-Frame. You then will cut 2 studs to match that width. (in my example the studs were 36” long or if using a full sheet for a regulation A-Frame these pieces would be 48”). Connect the studs with the hinges so that they will fold together like a book, with the hinges on the inside. This is going to be a stress point for the structure so be sure to use sturdy hinges and secure them well.

Next attach the small (12”) pieces of plywood to the hinged studs. To do this place one piece flat on your work surface and stand the other on its edge butted up against the side of the first. They should be positioned at a 90 degree angle to each other.

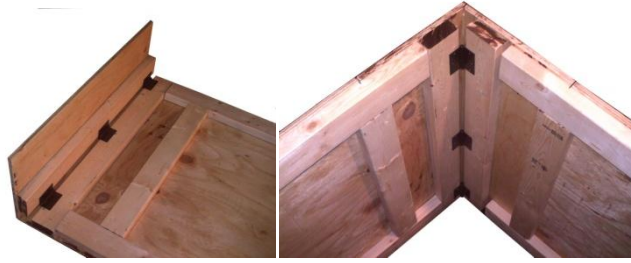


Have a helper hold the plywood pieces in place while you mark and/or connect the hinged studs. Notice that the studs are not flush against the edge of the plywood (they are back about 1 ½”); this will allow the pieces to fold but when the hinge is opened to 90 degrees there is no gap. Your cap should fold (like a book) and lay one on top of the other. When folded there is a large gap between the sides.

**CAUTION!! THIS CREATES A PINCH HAZARD.
KEEP YOU HANDS AND FINGERS CLEAR!!**

Step 3 - Frame each side panel with the 2”x4” studs. This will add strength and rigidity to your panels. Designate one end of each side as the top. The 2”x4” studs must extend 6” off this end and run continuously to the bottom of the panel where the A-Frame will meet the ground. (In my example these studs were 5’ 6” long, for a regulation size it would be 8’ 6”). The extended studs are where the cap will connect to the side panels. Also, the stud along the top edge should be screwed on with half the width of the stud. A 2”x4” stud is actually only 3 ½” wide. 1 ¾” will be attached to the side panel, the other 1 ¾” will “hang over” and provide a place to attach the cap.

Step 4 - Attach the cap to each side by the 6” extensions of the side studs and the half width of the top stud. The edge of the cap will be flush with the top of each panel.



The easiest way to accomplish this assembly is laying the sides on the ground, inside frames facing. Think of the sides as the cover, the framing as the pages, and the hinge as the spine of a book. Square everything up and start screwing the sides together at the cap. Always screw down through the plywood into the 2"x4"'s and countersink the screw heads. The maximum opening is 90 degrees, but the assembly will fold to where the panels touch.

Step 5 - Finishing Touches...You can now stand it up.

BE CAREFUL!!

This obstacle is HEAVY and the Apex presents a PINCH HAZARD!!

The A-Frame will stand as is but I recommend connecting the side studs with a chain. This chain will take stress off of the cap. You can use Hex head screws and a fender washer to secure the chain to the studs, or hook screws. Affix slats, starting about 12" from the bottom and about every 12". There is a seam where the cap attaches to the sides about 12" from the apex, that's a great spot for your top-most slat. Add your paint/sand mixture or other protective, traction coating (see instructions in Teeter or Dog Walk for this) and you're done! Enjoy!!

Training Aids:

The next 3 obstacles are not items you would see in an Agility Trial ring. They are fun things that are used to teach your dog valuable skills.



Buja Board

Also called a Wobble Board or Rocker Board it's used in early training to teach dogs to accept movement under their feet. It also makes noise. This is an important first step in training a confident and solid teeter. (See-Saw)

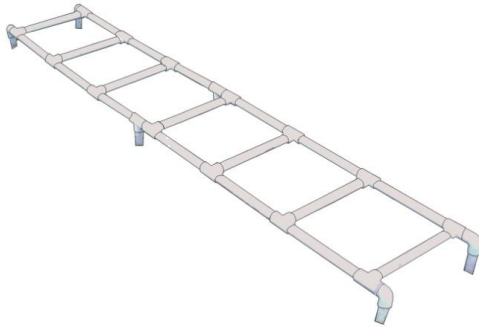
What you will need:

A Platform, about 30" across, either round or square.

A Rocking device, either cylindrical such as a length of PVC, or spherical, such as a ball. The size of your rocking device will determine the amount of wobble.

Constructing a Buja Board is very simple. Cut a piece of plywood or similar material in a square or circle of about 30" across. Attach a rocking device to the bottom. This could be a length of PVC, a cylindrical device would allow the board to wobble in just two directions; back and forth. Or it could be just about any type of ball, from a golf ball to a basketball, a spherical device would allow the board to wobble in any direction. Now, you might be thinking "how would you attach a ball to the bottom of a board". There are three approaches to this. The simplest is to place the ball in a sock and staple the sock to the board. Of course this has two disadvantages; 1) it limits the size of the ball and 2) it won't last very long. The next idea is to construct a square out of 2"x4" boards, attach this square to the board and place the ball in the box under the board; the ball is not directly attached to the board. A third is to use a rather long screw and screw down through the board and into the ball. This works best with a baseball or softball. (This is my recommended method; the softball is almost a perfect size, inexpensive, and durable.)

Reward your dog each time he moves the Buja Board. Soon he will discover he can control its movement and you will be well on your way to a confident and solid Teeter.



Ladder

Does your dog know he has hind feet? Most dogs go where their nose leads them and the rear feet simply follow the front. The Agility Ladder is used to teach rear end awareness, coordination and balance. The Agility Ladder also builds confidence.

What you will need:

2 - 10' lengths of $\frac{3}{4}$ " or 1" PVC

16 - PVC Tees to match your pipe size

4 - 90 degree PVC corners to match pipe size

Tools:

A saw or PVC cutter to cut the PVC pipe

Tape measure

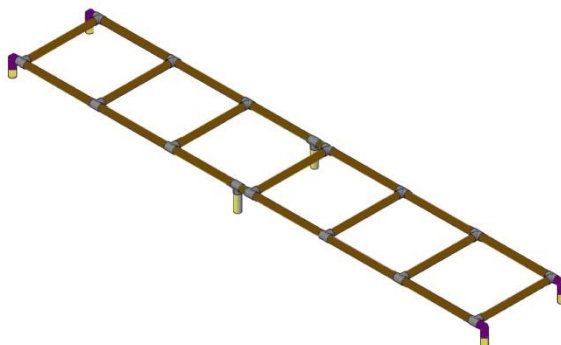
Step 1: Cut the PVC into 20 equal pieces of 12" each

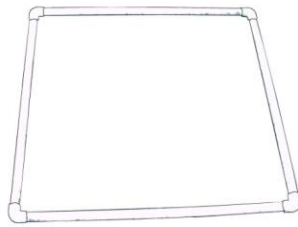
(**Caution!** Use care and wear eye protection when cutting PVC.)

Cut one 12" piece into plugs.

Step 2: Construct the ladder similar to the diagram. The **BROWN** pieces are 12", the **GRAY** pieces are Tees, and plugs will be needed to connect the **PURPLE PVC corners** to the Tees at each corner. To add the Tees/legs near the center of your ladder you will need to cut side pieces and insert the Tees. Be sure this is in the same section so the pieces line up squarely.

Step 3: Twist the connections so your ladder sits square on the ground. You can add **legs**. Early training can be done with the ladder on the ground but as the dog progresses the legs can be added and lengthened for an extra challenge. These **legs** can be any length of matching PVC that you choose.





Box

What you will need:

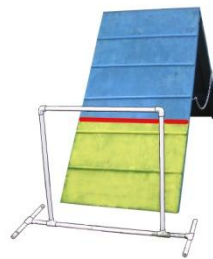
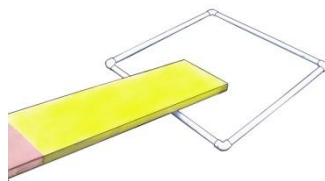
10' length of PVC
4 PVC corners

Cut the PVC into 4 equal 30" lengths and form it all together with the corners. This is a good size for most dogs and applications. You can adjust this to the exact size you need.

Yes, that's as simple as it sounds. Here are a couple of interesting uses for this simple box.

Teach contacts:

2-on-2-off contact training can utilize this box by placing the box flat on the ground. The dog learns to stop in the box.



Running contacts can be trained by a simple adaption. The box can be stood up and the dog learns to run under it when exiting the contact obstacle.

Exchange 2 corners for Tee's on one side of the Box. I added feet by connecting 6" lengths to all 3 sides of a Tee and then connecting that assembly to the tee's now on the corners of the box. (Similar to jump bases on page 6.)

Control/pause - Without a Pause Table? Use the Box as a substitute.

The box can also be used in Obedience Training as a "go to" spot.

Enjoy your equipment!

I hope that the information provided was helpful. I make no claim to increased performance from you or your dog and cannot be held liable for any loss or injury sustained by your participation in building or using this equipment.

Whether your goal was to create a fun activity to enjoy in your backyard or to train for competitions with your dog I wish you many years of happiness!