

Replacing Deluxe Gourd Rack Rope

Step 1: Standing about 3 feet from the pole, lower the gourd rack hub and arms as if doing a nest check.

Step 2: Remove the gourd arms from the hub by lifting up on the arm. Keeping the gourds attached to the arms (this helps balance them in an vertical position), place the gourds upright on the ground. **If the gourds have nests, it is very important to mark the location of each gourd with respect to its orientation on the pole. The gourd must be reattached in the same position. If a gourd with a nest is relocated in a different position, the martin parents will not be able to find the nest, causing it to be abandoned.**

Step 3: Remove the aluminum pole from its ground stake by sliding the pole upward. An adult of average strength can typically do this alone, but to be safe, have another person assist. Lay the pole on a 5-gallon pail or similar object.

Step 4: Observe how the existing rope goes through the double pulleys, as the new rope will need to be threaded through in the same way. Remove the old rope from the two double pulleys.

Step 5: Remove the 6" eyebolt from the pole.

Step 6: Remove the 3/8" nut from the eyebolt. This nut pinches the rope between the flat washers.

Step 7: Remove the old rope from the eyebolt and replace it using the new rope.

Step 8: Thread the 3/8" nut back on the eyebolt. Make sure the rope is pinched between the 2 flat washers.

Step 9: Put the eyebolt back into the pole and refasten. The open end of the eyebolt needs to be turned upward.

Step 10: Wind the rope through the double pulleys.

Step 11: Place the pole vertically over the ground stake and slide it down to ground level.

Step 12: Reattach the gourd arms to the hub in their original positions. Make sure the gourd arms are seated (all the way down) in the U-shape slot.

Step 13: Standing about 3 feet from the pole, pull down on the rope until the hub and arms slide up the pole. Make sure the rope comes down between the set of arms directly below the pulleys.