Multipurpose Pole with Winch Add-on

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS: Read and understand all of the instructions and cautions prior to the assembly and installation of the Multipurpose. Assemble and install Multipurpose only to the following instructions as improper installation could result in damage or serious injury. When installing, be aware that the edges of aluminum may be sharp.

LOCATION: Your Multipurpose should be as far away from trees as possible. An average minimum distance of 40 feet away from trees is required. Martins like wide open flight paths around their housing. Think of your martin housing being an airport and the martins as the airplanes. Martins prefer to have two or more runways to land and take off. Also, martin housing should be no closer than 25 feet or no further than 120 feet from human housing. Martins like to be close to people.

Step 1: Use a post hole digger, dig a hole 36” deep by 9” in diameter. Depending on your soil conditions, a larger diameter hole may be needed. Remove the 1-1/2” square steel ground stake from the aluminum pole. Stand the ground stake in the center of your hole. The painted end, which has the long piece of welded angle along the side, is the end which is to be above ground. The welded clip at the opposite end will be at the bottom of hole. The welded clip is for shipping purposes. Fill the hole with wet premixed cement to ground level. Be sure the ground stake is plumb and leave 21” above the cement. Also fill the inside of the ground stake with cement, to prevent water from accumulating and freezing inside. The pole will slide over the ground stake later, so be sure to wipe clean the ground stake of any excess cement. The dimensions above require 2 bags of dry cement mix available at your local building store.

Step 2: Lay the bottom section of pole (section with no holes) onto a 5 gallon pail or similar object. Slide the splice support to the top section (the section with holes at one end) into either end of the bottom section. The two sections are held together by friction and gravity once erected.

Step 3: Slide both perch rods into the top holes in the pole. Center both rods and secure with two 1/4” set screws and allen wrench included with the hardware.

Step 4: Insert the black cap into the top end of the pole. The cap is held in place by friction. You may need to gently tap the cap using a hammer. The black cap is important to keep water from filling the inside of the pole.

Step 5: Orient the hole so that the remaining hole, at the top of the pole, is vertical and on the left half side of the pole as shown in the photo. Orient the hub so the quick link, with cable attached, is at the top left hand corner. Insert the bottom end of the pole into the top end of the hub. Slide the hub upward towards the top end of
the pole.

**Step 6:** Remove the locknut from the eyebolt and insert into the remaining 3/8” hole at the top of the pole. The eyebolt with pulley attached should be at the same corner as the quick link with cable attached to the hub (see photo). Reattach the locknut and tighten with wrench. The split, in the eye, of the eyebolt should be turned upward so the pulley will hang freely and the eyebolt will not open with the weight of the hub.

**Step 7:** When raising your housing, some types may actually hit the top perch rods and bend them. To prevent this from happening, attach the two 3-1/2” aluminum plates to the pole using two 1/4” x 2-3/4” bolts with flange nuts. The stop should be mounted above the hub and adjusted according to the height of your martin house.

**Step 8:** It is important to mount the winch on the same side of the pole as what the cable that extends downward. Mount the winch using two aluminum u-channels and 1/4” x 4-1/2” bolts with flange nuts. The winch can be mounted at any desired height though nest checks will be easier if the winch is mounted lower to the ground.

**Step 9:** Attach the cable guide pulley approximately 10” above the winch using one aluminum u-channel and 1/4 x 4-1/2” bolts and flange nuts.

**Step 10:** Thread the winch handle onto the winch. Slide the spring onto the winch beside the handle. Secure the spring with the 3/4” wide nut.

**Step 11:** Your Multipurpose is now ready to be erected. The lower you keep the hub on the pole when erecting, the easier it is to balance. Obtain assistance when erecting as working with objects above your head can cause serious injury. Set the Multipurpose hub, with pole, vertically over the ground stake and slide the pole down to ground level.
**Step 12**: Place the arm bracket on the hub aligning the holes from the bracket to the holes in the hub. Insert two of the 3/4” bolts provided in the hardware bag through the holes in the bracket into the hub. Repeat this same process for the remaining three arm brackets. When all brackets have been positioned, tighten the nuts and bolts.

READ EACH METHOD THOROUGHLY BEFORE PROCEEDING TO DETERMINE WHICH METHOD IS BEST FOR YOUR PARTICULAR HOUSING. IMPORTANT: Whichever method you choose, orientation of the plate relative to the entrance side of the house is critical. DO NOT position your houses that the entrances face the pole.

**Method A**: Attach universal mounting plate to arm hub, then attach house to mounting plate.

**Method A; Step 1**: Place one house upside down. Using two boxes placed a foot apart works ideal with the roof peak between the boxes or placing the house upside down inside the shipping box.

**Method A; Step 2**: Center the mounting plate on the house bottom. To center, the measurements should be the same from side to side and the same from top to bottom. Mark the locations of the outside holds with a pencil or marker. (The holes in the center are used to attach the plate to the hub arm.) Orientation of the plate relative to the entrance side of the house is critical.

**Method A; Step 3**: Drill 1/4” holes at the marked locations. Repeat this process for the remaining martin house.

**Method A; Step 4**: Bolt one mounting plate to each of the hub arms using 3/4” bolts and nuts.

**Method A; Step 5**: Mount the Martin House to the mounting
plate using 3/4” bolts with flange nuts.

Method B: Attach the house directly to the hub arms.

Method B; Step 1: Using the mounting plate only as a template to mark the holes where the house’s bottom will attach directly to the hub arm. Place the mounting plate upside down (from what is shown in the photo) so the center of the plate is against the house bottom. Center the plate and mark the plate’s middle section holes.

Method B; Step 2: Drill 1/4” hole at the marked location. Repeat this process for the remaining martin house.

Method B; Step 3: Mount the Martin House to the hub arm using 3/4” bolts with flange nuts.

Method C: Make a custom attached plate.

Method C; Step 1: Wood that is customized for your house’s bottom can be used for a mounting plate. Cedar is suggested because it weathers well. Being creative, The holes in the wooden plate will need to correspond to the house bottom and the hub arm. The universal mounting plate can be used as a template.

Step 13: Attach the gourd arms to the hub. The gourd will slide into the end of the arm with a small hole drilled in it. Insert the opposite end (the end with no holes) onto the arm bracket. There are two bend types of arms, right bend and left bend. The right bends are bundled with red rubber bands. The left bends are bundled with blue rubber bands. Looking at the face side of the hub, the right arms (red rubber band) will go into the left bracket. The left bend (blue rubber band) will go into the right bracket. Make sure the gourd arms are pushed all the way down into the u-shaped slot.

Step 14: Vertically hung gourds may require their hanging holes to be enlarged to 3/8”. Slide the gourd onto the gourd arm and insert a hitch pin into the small hole, at the end of the
arm to prevent the gourd from sliding off. Horizontal gourds require a hitch pin at each end of the gourd.

**Step 15:** Check all bolts making sure they are securely tightened before raising your housing. Your Multipurpose is now ready to be raised! When you reach the top of the pole and are against the stop, DO NOT over tighten or damage may occur.

**CARING FOR YOUR MULTI-PURPOSE:** Oil the pulley once a year to keep them working smoothly. It is recommended waxing the aluminum pole once a year with car wax. Remove the nests to clean both martin houses and gourds at the end of each season. It is highly recommended to store the complete system inside for winter storage. Check all the bolts to make sure they are all tight before putting the system up each spring.