



# **Chimney Climb**

## Installation Instructions

NOTES: Please check for any damage caused by the shipping company and take appropriate steps to file a claim, if needed.

\*Please call **Digsafe** and check for any underground utilities before digging anywhere.

### **Materials needed**

Cordless driver, star drive bit, phillips head bit, 1/4" hex drive bit, 1/4"x6" wood drill bit, carpenters square, 8" adjustable wrench, (24) 5" structural screws, and (24) 6" structural screws (both provided), post hole shovel, level, tape measure, 50 lb bags of premixed concrete (not included). Concrete amounts can be easily calculated at <http://www.quikrete.com/Calculator/Main.asp>. Amount required depends on how deep you dig the holes.

### **Instructions**

1. Go to where you want to erect this Chimney Climb. Keep in mind that this is a climbing element and therefore it needs a fall zone extending 6 feet out on all sides of it which is usually 12" deep. You can create a container for this material by using either 2 layers of 6x6 retainers made for this purpose (which we can provide), or by digging a hole 12" deep. If you choose to dig the 12" deep hole, keep in mind that it needs to be drained so it doesn't fill up with rainwater or snow melt.
2. Carefully remove all components and fasteners from the pallets/packaging.
3. Locate the 6x6 posts and the four, ~42" long extenders which will be added to the bottoms of the 6x6 posts using the 5" structural screws provided. The tops of the 6x6 posts are the ones that are notched out on both sides of the "tongue."
4. If there is not a mark on the 2x6 pieces or on the bottoms of the posts, the 2x6 pieces will be mounted on opposite sides of the bottoms of the two 6x6 posts, 12" up the posts.
5. Lay the posts so the tall parts of the tongues at the tops of the posts are facing each other. The post extensions will be added to bottom of the posts on the sides that are facing the ground and the sides that are facing the sky.
6. Draw lines on these sides of the 6x6s 12" up from the bottom. These lines mark the top point of the beveled 2x6. The beveled tops of the 2x6 are the top ends of the 2x6s, and the top point of the bevel is against the sides of the 6x6, matching up to the lines you just drew. Make sure the 2x6s are aligned with the posts, then fasten using the 5" structural screws, 6 on each 2x6 (if you can fit them).
7. Now measure from the ledge at the top of the 6x6s (the ledge at the bottom off the tongue) down the posts 8' and make a mark (if it's not already there). This is the line for the top of the fall zone. So - if you are making your fall zone 12" deep, then the actual ground line (the ground at the bottom of the fall zone hole) should be marked at 9 feet. If you are making the fall zone 9" deep, then the actual ground line will be 8' 9" from the ledge at the top of the post.
8. Find the top cap that goes between the tops of both posts. See the attached picture that shows how this is attached. It may be a tight fit, so be prepared with a rubber mallet, or a hammer (with a scrap piece of wood as a buffer between the hammer and the cap). Remove the bolts from the holes.

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9. Follow the markings to make sure the ends of the cap are on the right posts, and move into place so the holes are aligned and you can drive the bolts through the holes. Attach the cap to the posts using the bolts, washers under the nuts, and nuts. Hand tighten.
10. Use your carpenter's square to square the cap to the posts, and when both posts are perfectly square/perpendicular to the cap, tighten the nuts with your adjustable wrench.
11. Now take 2 pieces of 8' strapping, and fasten them from the tops of each post to the opposite bottoms of each post so you have a X holding the two posts in position. Use one sheetrock screw at each end.
12. In the middle of your fall zone area, mark the centers of the two posts 3' 8-1/2" apart, then dig 2 holes 4' deep x 12" diameter. Unstable soil may require sonotubes.
13. Fill bottom of each hole with 6" of 3/4" drainage stone.
14. Bring your post structure over and drop posts into holes.
15. It's very likely that the whole thing will sit crooked, which is why you need your level to plumb the posts in both directions, the four 7' pieces of strapping, the 4 strapping stakes, and 8 sheetrock screws.
16. Remember to allow for the 12" of fall zone material, so the final height from the top of the fall zone material to the underside of the cap is 8'. Adjust the depth of the drainage stone to plumb the posts in that one direction, then plumb the posts in the other directions and use the strapping and stakes to hold both posts in position.
17. Mix concrete per manufacturer recommendation and add to holes around the posts. Use the rebar to mix the concrete up and down to get it between the post extensions and to remove any air pockets.
18. After concrete cures, backfill holes and remove all braces.
19. Now it's time to install the two Chimney Climb faces. These may be snug. See the drawing to see how the pockets on the backs of the walls go around the 6x6 posts. These will not slide early once they are in place, so make sure the wall is up tight against the cap before you hammer them tight into place into the pocket and against the 6x6s.
20. Once they are in place, drill six 1/4" holes equally spaced down the 4x4s through each of the 4x4s on each side of the 6x6. DO NOT DRILL INTO THE 6x6!
21. Use the 6' structural screws in these holes, and screw them tight into the 6x6.
22. Now add the 12" of fall zone material, and you're done!
23. To use this, the kids put their backs against one wall, their feet against the other, and then work their way up the "chimney!" This is how people in tight holes (like in caves) climb up out of the holes :)

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24. All wood is treated with kid-friendly preservative, but as is the case with all wood facing the elements, it needs to be cared for, so check it periodically for rough spots, splinters, etc, and sand them out, and treat it with kid-friendly wood preservative (we have it available if you can't find it) once or twice a year to keep the wood from deteriorating.
25. Enjoy your Chimney Climb!

