

## Ridge

Please note that quantities of pieces and stub spacing will vary order to order.

The *ridge* is the very top part (the spine) of your structure. *Stubs* are welded on every 2, 3, 4 or 6 feet according to the requirements of your particular structure. It is onto these *stubs* that the *hoops* will be fastened.

A few points about the *Ridge*:

**It is mandatory that you report any ridge damage before starting the assembly**

- Always check the top of the *ridge* for galvanizing burrs or rough edges and grind off if necessary.
- Hairline cracks in the galvanizing are surface only and no cause for concern.
- The *ridge* section with a pair of *stubs* at both ends is your *ridge cross or starter*. **The connected piece of your starter NEVER goes on the end.** It faces inward and connects to the open end of the next ridge section (see drawing and photo 4)
- The joints of the ridge may not line up perfectly. A couple wraps of duct tape will protect your cover. (see photo 1)
- For 1x2 steel use #14 3/4 *speed screws*. The *hoops* are secured to the *ridge* with 4 #14 *speed screws*.
- It is a good idea to make the holes of the 1x3 *ridge* while it is still on the ground.

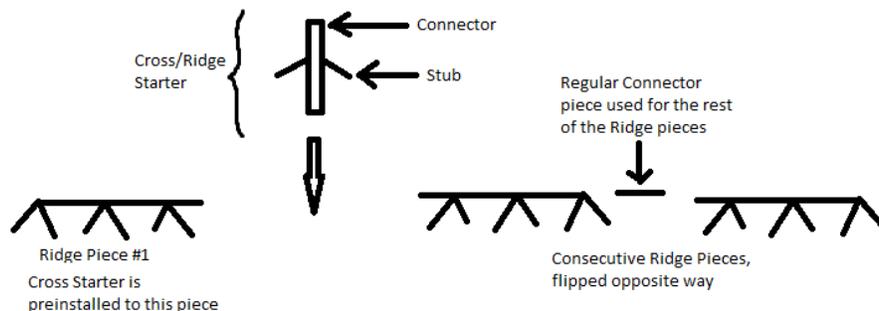


### Ridge Cross/Starter

This is a piece (photo 4 above) that is supplied by MSS, **usually preinstalled**, into the first *ridge*. This *ridge* is flipped around to connect in with the rest of the line of ridge pieces you will be installing.

The diagram below depicts 4' spacing only. If you have 3' *hoop* spacing, you will have 4 pairs of *stubs* per *ridge*; 2' spacing has 6 pairs of *stubs* per *ridge*; and 6' spacing has 2 pairs of *stubs* per *ridge*.

Also, please note, larger structures will have more *ridge* in the line for connecting. If your structure is not a multiple of 12' your starter *ridge* section will be shorter and may not have the "standard" number of *stubs* as mentioned above.



The *ridge cross/starter* is always used to join the first and second length of *ridge* together. Two #14 *speed screws* on either side of the connection, from the bottom are used.

### Ridge joiners

When the structure is more than 24' long there will one *ridge connector* for each additional 12' length of *ridge*. This connector is a 10" long galvanized piece of U-channel (same dimension as the ridge stubs). These connectors will be secured from the underside with four #14 *speed screws* (2 on each side of the joint). This joint should be wrapped with duct tape to prevent cover damage since seldom is the connection perfect. It is usually simple to secure the connector to the leading edge of the ridge while it is still on the ground.

*PLEASE NOTE: Any italicized words in this document are words that are listed in the glossary*

## Hoops

**Note: Be aware of safety and use a scaffold for putting up the larger structures, especially when building the unit on a wall. (see previous pics)**

### **CRITICAL NOTE:**

**When the FIRST SECTION of the ridge is complete, secure with a guide rope so that everything stands vertical.**

The guide ropes must go both ways as an inverted V and secured with some sort of anchoring post.

If you do not plumb the building NOW, it will be much more difficult later.

**General Notes:** The curved part of the *hoop* is usually the bottom, the straight part is the top. For structures that have been supplied as a cathedral unit (for RV, boats, etc.) the curved part goes up and the long straight part goes down.

**Always put hoops up in pairs for better balance and stability.**

Apply downward pressure on the top edge of the *hoop*.

**The fastener ALWAYS goes horizontally.**

For the remaining *ridge* sections:

1. Always secure to the *connector* of the previous *ridge* first
2. Then secure the last pair of *hoops* and then do the intermediate *hoops*.
3. Sometimes the end of the *hoop* has a dimple, this can be removed with pliers or the claw of a hammer.

### **1 x 2 Hoops with Base Brackets**

- hold the *ridge* at the appropriate height, short scaffold is best, but 2 step ladders will also work
- slide the top of the *hoop* over the *ridge stub* and secure with a #14 *speed screw*
- slide the bottom of the *hoop* over the *base bracket* and secure with a #14 *speed screw*

### **1 x 2 with Anchor Posts**

- Always fasten the bottom first and then insert over the *ridge stub*.
- The top of a 1 x 2 *hoop* is secured with a #14 *speed screw*.

### **When your building has 1 x 3 ribs**

1. **Always bolt the top first.**
2. The person on the ground can move the *hoop* so that the top hole lines up.
3. The *base bracket* or *anchor post* is done second.

### **Hoops for a Lean-to**

- set your base beam and secure your *base brackets* to the beam at required spacing
- attach header (2x4 or 2x6) to wall at predetermined height
- attach wall brackets to header slide top end of *hoop* over top bracket, and place end of *hoop* on bottom bracket
- apply downward pressure on top of the *hoop* while fastening *hoop* to bracket with self-tapping screw, then complete tightening of lag bolts at the top.



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