

Plastic Roof Covering (In Preparation)

Please see how to videos online for further clarification

Regardless of which covering will be installed on your building, the success or failure of the job, and your safety, will often be determined by the preparation and understanding of the task ahead.

The following is a checklist BEFORE you actually rolling out your cover.

- √ The top edge of your *ridge* should have been checked for roughness when you were installing it. Make sure these have been filed down.
- √ If your building is longer than 12' the *ridge* will have one (or more) *connectors*. These should be wrapped with duct tape.
- √ If your *wirelock channel* was not installed continuously over the crest, this edge should also be covered with duct tape.
- √ If your building includes *roll-up side walls*, the mechanism for securing the cover at the top of the *roll up* should be complete before proceeding. (It can be done later, but is significantly more complicated).
- √ You will require a ladder (or other elevating device) for comfortably reaching the peak at BOTH ends of your building as well as 2 thin ropes that are a minimum length of $\frac{3}{4}$ of your cover width (to assist in pulling the cover over).
- √ Your covering fasteners for the sides should be distributed along the sides (tucked against the building so as not to get in the way). If you are using spruce strapping, it saves time if you put all the screws in first. **Pre-drilling, as well as setting screws and washers will save the wood from splitting.**
- √ Walk along the side of the building where you will unroll your cover. **Check for and eliminate sharp objects** (broken off weeds are especially bad). If an object can't be removed, the edges should be covered. If there is absolutely NO room to roll out the covering along the building, give us a call to discuss "Plan B".
- √ Four (or more) people to install the cover are advisable if you have never done this before. It can be done with 2 or 3 but remember, the **slower the job goes the more chance there is of the wind picking up**. A couple extra people during the initial pulling over and squaring is helpful. These extra people can leave once the cover is tacked in place.
- √ The effect of wind, even a breeze, will be magnified by the size of your cover. **You will be looking at this cover for a long time, wait an extra day if necessary.** Early morning or late evening is usually best time of day.
- √ **If your ends are covered in plastic it is definitely easier to do the ends before the roof cover goes on. This is because the end plastic normally goes UNDER the roof plastic. At the very least it is recommended to have the end wall framing in place before the roof cover goes on.**
- √ **If you have a longer building and your cover has come on a cardboard core, make sure you have a pipe to unwind the roll on.**



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

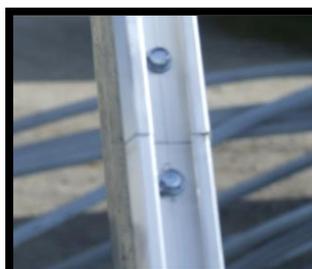
Roof Covering

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It is **CRITICAL** that you pull and tighten your cover lengthwise **BEFORE** doing the sides!

You are now ready to transform your sturdy shell into a functional shelter. Please see our website for additional pointers.

- √ ROLL your cover along the side of the building. **Do not drag** along ground as cover may snag on something. If you are doing double cover, roll them both out. This way the top one (clean) will become the inside layer.
- √ For most, determining the length and width is straight forward, but if your parts list shows a roof covering close to square, **verify that the way you have it rolled out is a minimum of 1' longer than your building.**
- √ Determine the leading edge corners of your cover. Grab the corner, making about a 12" "tail". Wrap a rope TWICE around the tail, making a simple tight knot. Take the opposite end of each rope and go to the top of the ladders that you've leaned against the peak of the building.
- √ **ALWAYS pull the cover to the peak BEFORE the person on the ground continues pulling.** Until the whole cover has crossed the *ridge*, pull back and forth, lengthwise, in sort of a "sawing" motion.
- √ Make sure that the side that is in contact with the dirt is going to be outside, so the rain can wash it clean.
- √ Continue to feed the cover over until it is centered on the building. Precision to the inch is not necessary. Judging straightness is simply a matter of eyeing a fold to one of the *purlins*. Longer covers will require someone helping it along half way down the side.
- √ Install 12" of *wire insert* at **each side of the ridge**, unless you are positive you will not have to adjust it. Put in the rest when any adjustments are made. **Don't allow more than 6" of overhang on the cover.**
- √ Go to the opposite end and pull the cover as tight as you can lengthwise. For pulling tight, **do not use anything more than human power on the cover wrapped on a short piece of 1x2 strapping.** Having many people pulling on a hot summer day can create a problem of the cover being too tight.
- √ Install a piece of your cover fastener half way down each side of the baseboard. Look along a crease to make sure it is straight. If your building has *roll-ups*, "doing the side" refers to the top of the *roll-up*.
- √ Usually the ends of the cover have been cut squarely. **Before proceeding, verify that you have enough material for all four corners.** Make adjustments needed.
- √ For a double cover, repeat the above steps paying special attention to not rubbing the rope over the cover over the ridge.
- √ Work from the centre to the ends, working the two sides simultaneously. As you approach the end you may need to pull lengthwise as well as down.
- √ If the wind starts picking up, work into the wind or upwind first. **If a wrinkle develops, always pull at 90 degrees to the mid point of the wrinkle.**
- √ If you are putting a double cover on, only pull on the inside layer for tightness. **The outside layer needs a little slack.** If you are putting the cover on in extreme cold you will need to tighten the cover once you have warm weather. Excess roof cover can be trimmed to 2-3 inches once **you are certain it is extra and has had a chance to settle.**



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