Assembly Instructions for Cedar Garden Bridges

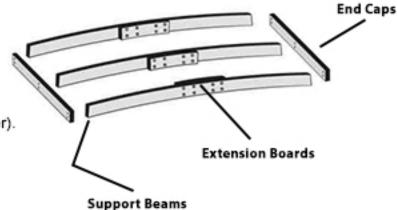
STEP1 Attaching the 2 x 8 Support Beams with the 2 x 8 Extension Boards. (8' and longer bridges only)

NOTE: SKIP Step 1 for 4' and 6' Long bridges which have one piece beams - there is no need to join them together and do not have "extension boards" (or wooden gussets).

For 8' bridges and larger, using the 3" Lag Bolts, join two beam sections together using extension boards as shown. Be sure the tops of the beams and tops of the extension boards are aligned (Flush) and that the beams

are butted together tightly. Extension boards are placed on the inside of the outer two beams. (For the middle beam it doesn't matter what side you put the extension board on.) Insert Bolts from the outside and tighten with 1/4" wrench from the inside. Stand all three beams up on end; be sure that the extension boards for the outer two beams are facing the center beam (facing each other).

Note: a #2 Square Bit Head for the screws is included.



1 x 6 Decking

Step 2 Securing the Beams

Find a level area and spread the beams out. To hold the beams on and and in place, take one of the end caps and place it at one end of the beams. Be sure that the end cap is flush with the outside of the outer two beams as well as the top of the outer two beams. Screw the end cap to the end of the outer two beams. Take the center beam and put it in the the middle of each end cap and screw it in. (Make sure it is flush with the top of the end cap). Repeat this procedure for the other end cap.

Step 3 Bridge Decking

1 x 6 decking is precut and have pre-drilled pilot holes. The end of the boards will be flush with the beams. For the first deck board, over hang it about 1/4° past the outside of the end cap and, making sure that the ends of each deck board are flush with the outside of the beams, attach it to the beams using the designated pilot holes. Start from one end and work toward the other. Screw

down the first deck board with 21/2" screws, and lay the rest of the deck boards tightly against the first without attaching them. This is to insure that the last board will overhang about the same on both sides. Once you find that the overhang is the same or close, go back and screw the deck boards down with 21/2" screws. (Each board gets 6 screws). You may have to adjust the beams slightly as you go by pushing in or pulling out. This will insure that the bridge

is square and that the beams are parallel. Continue to the end. If your bridge is a plank (no railing) bridge, you are now finished.

Step 4 Installing the Posts

All bridges with railings, except the 4' length (which have 4 posts), have a total of 6 posts. Examine the six posts and look at the angles at the bottom notch. This will determine where they are placed. The two posts with the square cuts are for the middle posts - one per side, and the four with angled cuts are for the ends. Determine the location of each post. End Posts are positioned so that the outside of the posts are 9 inches from the end of the beam. Be sure that the notch in the post is tight against the decking, and fasten with four 3" screws. Do this for all four outside posts. Center post is positioned at the exact center of the bridge.

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Step 5 Installing Railings

Railings are screwed into the notches in each post. For shorter bridges, 4 and 6 foot long, each railing is one piece. Longer bridge railings come in two pieces. Single piece rails should be positioned in the notches and adjusted until

the overhanging pieces at the ends of the bridge are equal. Bridges with double rails: Begin at the center post so that the flat end of the rail is in the center of the center post, screw in the first rail, and then place the other rail so that it is tightly butted against the last rail. The overhang at the end of the bridge will be the same. NOTE: Double rail bridges have posts with 2 notches; single rail bridges have one in each post. If your bridge has a picket rail, the pickets are to be positioned so that the tops are even with the top of the railing. Evenly space the railings. Start the first picket using the post as a guide and make sure that the pickets remain plumb (straight up and down).

8' Bridge Shown