GracieBee™ Quilting Frame

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Care of Your GracieBee™

The frame may be sealed and/or stained with an application of tung oil which will help preserve the wood and will help to prevent warping. Test stain on an inconspicuous place. Many different finishes and/or stains may be suitable for sealing and beautifying your GracieBee™. You may want to consult your local paint retailer for finishes which will apply easily and dry hard, not oily.

Caution
- Store frame in a dry place--preferably with poles and braces in vertical positions if not assembled.
- Do not use frame or its parts for purposes other than those outlined in these instructions.
- Do not use the GracieBee™ Quilting Frame as a table.

Five-Year Limited Warranty
GraceWood, Inc will replace or repair, at our choosing, any part of the GracieBee Quilting System which may be shown to be defective. This warranty does not cover parts damaged through misuse, improper storage, improper assembly, loss, natural events and willful or accidental destruction. Defective parts may be returned only with a valid RMA# which may be obtained by Calling GraceWood, Inc at 1-800-264-0644 or 1-801-485-6688.

Note: Warranty card must be filled out, stamped and mailed to the address on the card within 30 days of purchase!

Contact Information
For technical support or any other correspondence concerning your GracieBee, call 1-800-264-0644
or email robin@graceframe.com
or fax 1-801-908-8888
or write to:
The Grace Company
PO Box 27823
Salt Lake City, UT 84127
For details on accessories and other information, see us online at www.graceframe.com.

About the Grace Quilting Frame
The Grace Quilting Systems have been developed over the past decade with several original design innovations. Thanks to feedback from many of the thousands of quilters who have purchased and do use the GraceFrame we have been able to make Quilting Frames that will really enhance the entire process of hand quilting from beginning to the end. Our Greatest Desire is to promote the Great American Art of Hand Patchwork Quilting and to create Quilting Frames and Tools which will truly enhance your Productivity, Quality, Comfort, and (Most of all) Quilting Friendships. If you have any suggestions that will help us to improve our product or service, please contact the Grace Company.

Thank you and Happy Quilting!
GracieBee™ Parts List

(4) Six Foot Rail Extensions
(4) Four Foot Rail Extensions
(4) Two Foot Rail Extensions
(4) Upright Stand Leg
(4) Steel Rail Connector
(4) Upper Stand Base
(4) Lower Stand Base
(4) C-Clamp
(2) Wood Handle
(4) 1/4” Washer Wing Nut
(2) 1/4” x 10” Carriage Bolt (short)
(2) 1/4” x 12” Carriage Bolt (long)
Section 1. Setting up the GracieBee™ Frame

Step 1. Set up the four stands
Parts Needed: 4-Upper Stand Base
4-Lower Stand Base
4-Upright Stand Leg

- Each stand is comprised of one (1) upper stand base, one (1) lower stand base, and one (1) upright stand leg.
- To assemble, slide a lower stand base and an upper stand base together, lining up the grooves as shown. Make sure the pieces are pushed completely together.
- Next, with the base pieces sitting feet down, insert one upright stand leg down at a 45 degree angle over the base until it stops. This may be a tight fit with a new frame, but it will loosen with use.

- Repeat this process for the other three stands. Position the stands in their approximate four corner spaces for the size quilt which will be quilted.

Step 2. Planning and Sizing the Rails
Parts Needed: 4-Six Foot Rail Extension
4-Four Foot Rail Extension
4-Two Foot Rail Extension
4-Steel Rail Connector

- Lay out your quilt lining flat and measure the four sides to determine the rail sizes needed. Remember that your rail sizes will need to be one or two inches larger than your lining measurements.

Example-- When quilting a 90” x 108” size quilt, you will connect a six-foot and four-foot rail to create the longer rail size, and a six-foot and two-foot rail for the shorter rail.

- Once you have determined the quilt size, assemble the rails.

- The GracieBee™ offers three rail sizes to choose from: size-foot, four-foot, and two-foot. There are four rails for each size. To create your quilt size, you can join any two or three rails together using the four steel connecting sleeves provided. 24 different size combinations are possible. Sides may range in length from 2 to 16 feet.

Tip-- The steel connecting sleeves may be adjusted if they are too tight or loose.
**Optional Rail Preparation**
- You may find it helpful to put reference lines on the rails before assembling the frame and mounting the fabric.
- One line straight down the center of each rail (or 1- 1/8” from the edge) will be a good reference to tack the quilt edge to.
- Lines placed across the rail every 1 or 2 inches will be helpful as a clamping reference to keep the frame square and the sides even.

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**Step 3. Laying and Clamping the Rails**

**Parts Needed:**
- 4-Assembled Stands
- 4-Assembled and Sized Rails
- 4-C Clamps

- Position the stands in the four corners of your quilting area.

- Lay the two shorter rails opposite each other, resting them on the stands.

*TIP-- Make sure the rails are placed so that the open sides of the connecting sleeves are facing up. This will allow continuous thumb-tacking across the rail.

- Place the two longer rails on the top of the ends of the short rails, opposite each other. The longer rails will be rolled later during the quilting process.

- Next, fasten rails together at the corners using the four c-clamps.

- The clamps and rails will need to be adjusted as the fabric is installed.
Section 2. Mounting the Fabric

Step 1. Tacking Lining to Longer Rails

*TIP-- The quilt lining and top will mount best if they are cut straight and square. The seams in the lining should be sewed with a loose stitch.

- The lining should always be 2 inches larger than the top on all four sides.
- If you have seams in your lining, iron them open and flat so they will be easier to quilt through.
- Line up your longest edge of the lining fabric with the straight edge of one of the longer rails.
- Beginning at the center of the rail, thumb tack the lining to the rail, keeping the two aligned.
- Lay fabric naturally and evenly along rail. Do not stretch fabric from tack to tack.
- Place tacks about twelve inches apart to both ends of the rail. Gaps between tacks will be filled in when the quilt top is mounted.
- Repeat the process on the opposite long rail.

*TIP-- Large-head tacks work very well. Be sure you seat the tacks completely, so the head of the tack is holding the fabric, rather than the tack stem. This will prevent fabric tear-out.

- Pull any sagging out of the lining by adjusting the rails in the corners with the clamps.

Step 2. Tacking Fabric to Shorter Rails

- Fabric may now be tacked along the short axis while pulling just enough side tension to remove any sagging or wrinkles.
- Thumbtack to the two shorter rails following the same center-to-end method used on the longer rails.
Step 3. Applying the Batting

- Layer the batting evenly over the installed lining, aligning it with the edges on all four sides. DO NOT stretch the batting!

Step 4. Preparing the Quilt Top

- Cut your quilt top straight and square on all sides.

- Cut a 2” wide tacking strip for each side of the top. This can be out of unbleached muslin cut on the straight of the fabric.

- Baste the tacking strip on all four sides of the top... baste with a long machine stitch or by hand.

- This should make your quilt top about the same size as the lining.

Step 5. Mounting the Quilt Top

- Place the finished and prepared Quilt Top over the lining and batting.

- Starting in the center of the long side of the quilt, thumbtack the tacking strip to the rail. This keeps tack holes out of the quilt top and allows the quilt stitches to go completely to the edge of the quilt.

- Place tacks about 3 to 6 inches apart.
• Tack as you did with the lining, beginning with the two longer rails, and then the shorter rails.
• Lay fabric naturally and evenly along rail. DO NOT stretch fabric from tack to tack.
• Pull the wrinkles out of the top fabric by adjusting the corners with your c-clamps and rails.
• Tighten the layers smooth and even.

Step 6. Rolling the Quilt

• The quilt will be ready to roll after the stitching is complete across the entire long rail side of the frame.
• Remove the c-clamps on the side to be rolled.
• Remove tacks on the short rails on both sides.
• Slightly fold back fabric in the corner of the end of the long rail being rolled; so the rails may be reclamped easily.
• Roll under.

• Roll both sides equally toward the unfinished center until quilt is finished.
Using your Carrying Handles

The easiest way to store or carry your frame is to stack all the rails together onto the 1/4” x 12” Carriage Bolts (long), with the longest rails on the bottom. You should slide the metal sleeves onto the end of a couple of rails. Place a wooden handles onto the bolt ends, and slide it down against the parts. Thread a washered wing nut onto bolt end and tighten down to the handle. You will follow the same procedure for the legs and bases, making sure the legs are on the bottom.

Please Send Any Helpful Comments about the GracieBee™
or these instructions to The Grace Company.

We do listen to and value all comments from any quilter. The quilting methods outlined in this booklet are, by no means, the only methods which will make mounting the quilt successful. Quilters are urged to experiment and find new ways to exploit the features of the frame or to try any time-tested techniques handed down over the years. The GracieBee™ quilting frame is designed with the best materials available, with a larger quilting group in mind. Our greatest desire is to enhance the group quilting experience using the GracieBee™ Quilting Frame.