

# ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

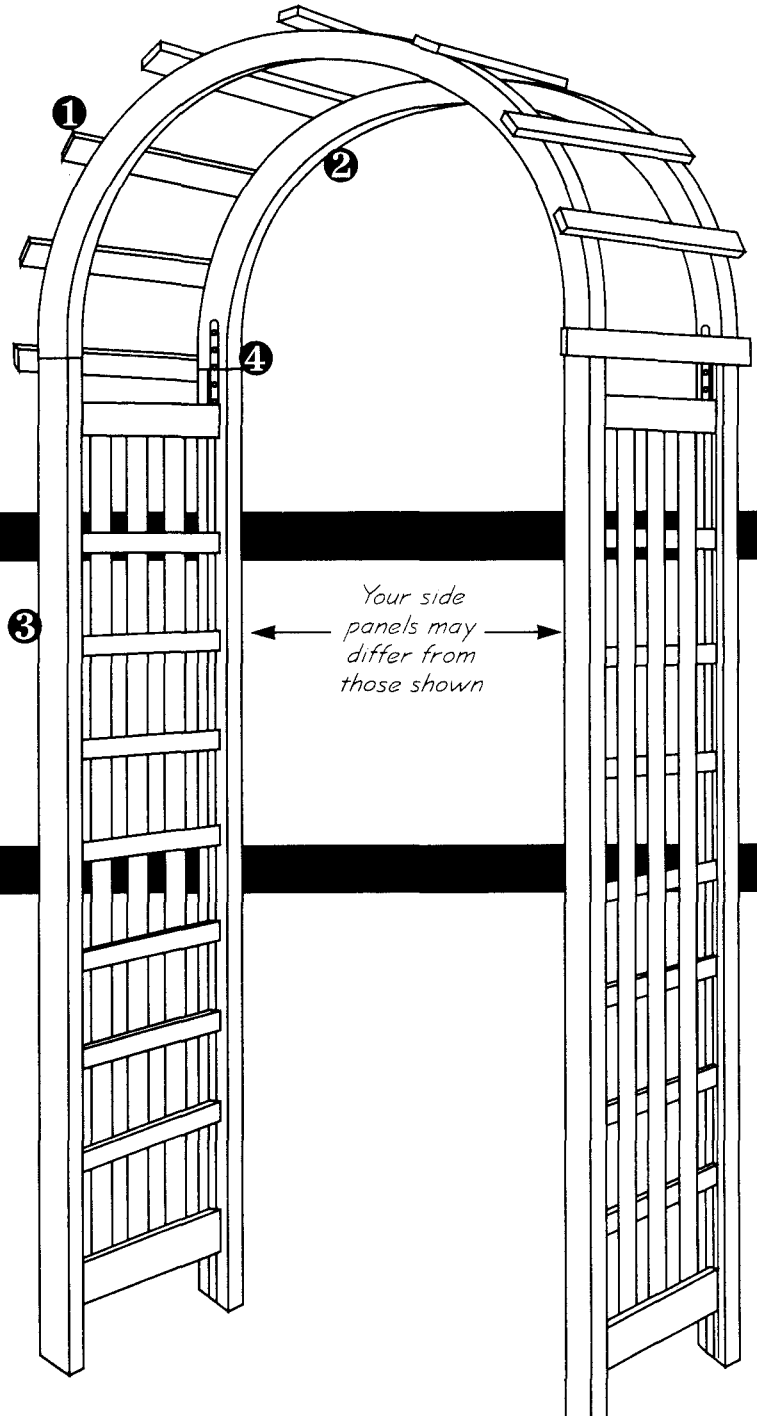
# Arch-Top Arbor

# 3

PLEASE READ THROUGH BEFORE YOU START ASSEMBLY

CHECK BOX FOR THESE CONTENTS

- ❶ Cap Pieces (7)
- ❷ Wood Arches (2)
- ❸ Lattice Side Panels (2)
- ❹ Connector straps (4)
- ❺ Hardware (in plastic bag)
  - 3/4" wood screws, bright (16)
  - 1 1/2" wood screws, gray (14)(separate screws before you start)



## TOOLS YOU WILL NEED

- Phillips screwdriver
- Measuring tape or ruler

### HANDY TO HAVE:

- Carpenters square
- Stool or short ladder

## PRELIMINARIES

### IF YOU PLAN TO PAINT:

If you wish to stain or paint your arbor, we recommend that you do so before assembly. It makes the job easier, with better results. Use a good quality exterior stain or paint. Be sure to avoid covering up cap piece guide lines on top of arches.

### WORK AREA

Select an area close to where the arbor will be finally placed. While the assembled unit is not very heavy, it is awkward to move far and requires two people to do so easily.

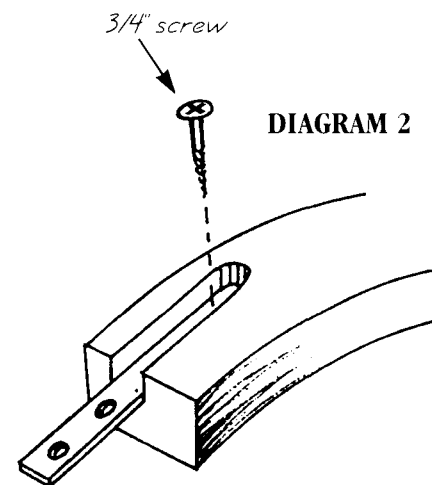
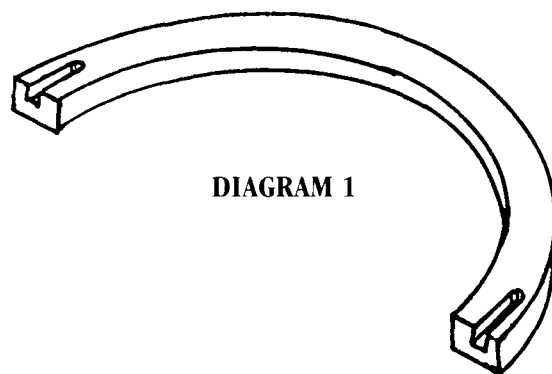
The assembly area should be relatively flat and open, at least 8' square. A lawn, driveway or wide path will be satisfactory.

It is a good idea to lay out the arbor shipping box on your work surface to protect the arbor from nicks and scratches.

## STEP ONE

- A. Lay both arches flat on the ground with the end grooves upward. (Diagram 1)
- B. Using the 3/4" screws, fasten one of the steel straps into each groove, with the round end snugly fitting into the top. (Diagram 2)

Secure at the upper end with one screw only. Drive the screw directly into the wood. No pilot hole is necessary.



## STEP TWO

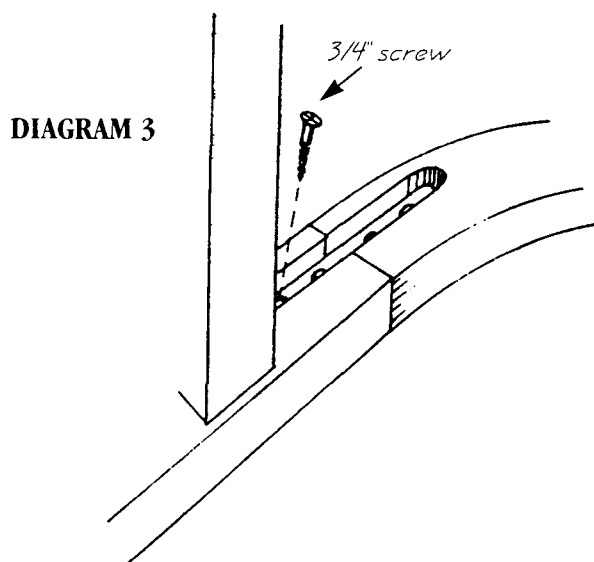
- C. Select one latticed side panel and stand it up on one long edge.

**Important:** Note that the posts of the side panel project beyond the cross-frames 4" at one end and only 3 1/2" at the other.

- D. Put the shorter (3 1/2") end of the frame against the end of one of the arches as it lies flat on the ground, inserting the square end of the steel strap into the groove on the side post. (Diagram 3)

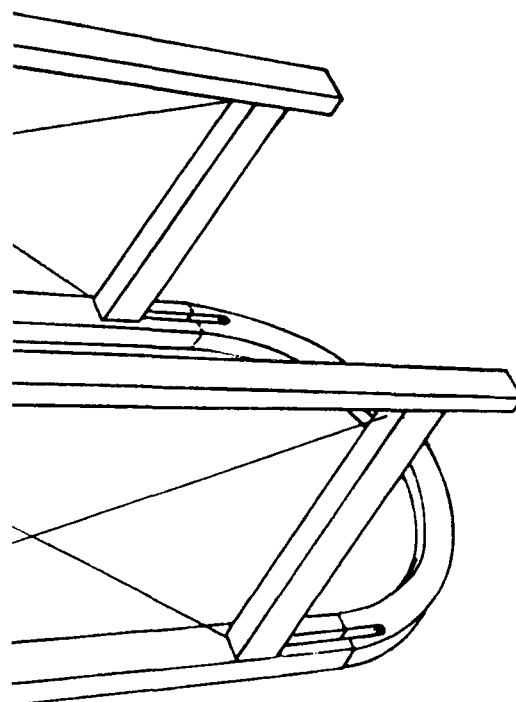
Holding the two pieces firmly together, fasten the steel strap in place with a screw into the lower hole.

Drive screw at a slight angle away from the joint to help make a snug fit.



**NOTE:** To simplify drawings of details of assembly, the panels are shown without any lattice in place.

DIAGRAM 4



- E. Fasten the strap securely to both pieces with screws in the other two holes.
- F. Place the other side panel on edge, into similar position at the other end of the same arch, and insert the end of the steel strap into the groove. (Drawing 4)

**Be sure the short end is being attached.**

- G. Repeat the fastening procedure with 4 more screws:

- Use the angled driving to draw the pieces to a snug fit.
- Set the screws firmly but do not overtighten, particularly if you use a power screwdriver.

## STEP THREE

### H. Raise this partial assembly to upright position:

Standing at the arch end, place your hands under the arch below joints on both sides (see Diagram 5a) and lift it to chest height.

Then "walk" it to full upright position, moving your hold to the side posts.

It will stand unsupported. (Diagram 5b)

DIAGRAM 5a

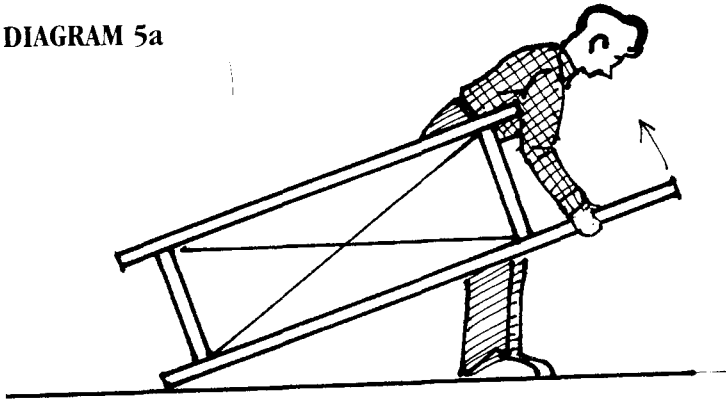
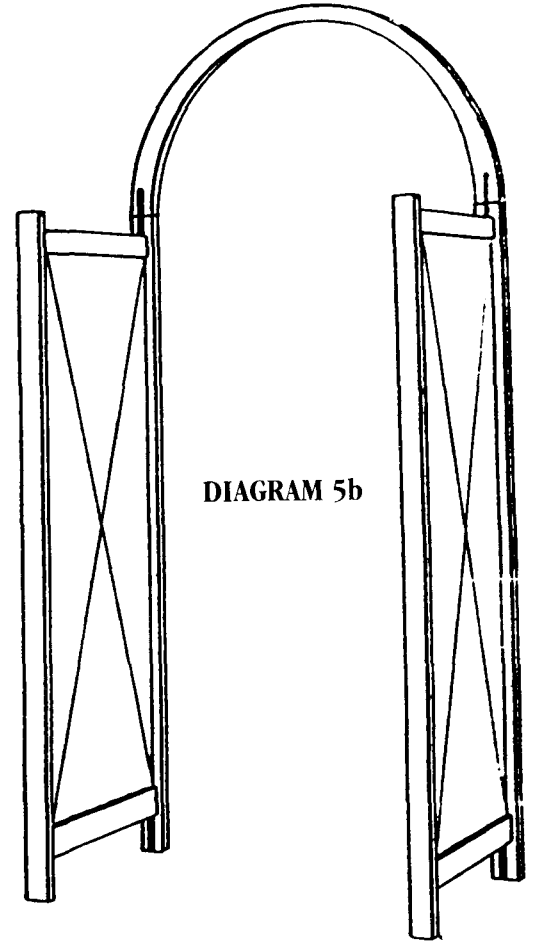


DIAGRAM 5b

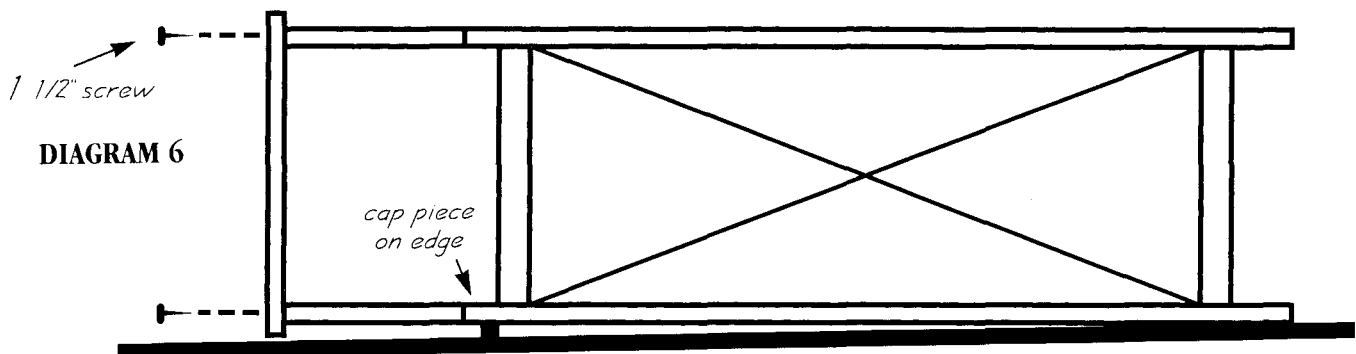


- I. Measure the distance between the panels at top and bottom and adjust at bottom to make sure they are equal.
- J. Place second arch on top of the other side panel, with the steel straps inserted in the post grooves.
- K. Make sure the panels are still parallel. Fasten the arch and panel firmly together with the remaining screws.

## STEP FOUR

### L. Carefully tip the assembly back on the ground again, with arch side down.

### M. Prop up the arch end from the ground with one cap board, on its narrow edge, under each of the upper ends of the side posts. (Drawing 6)



- N. Using the 1 1/2" screws, fasten the center cap board upright across the two arches, between the two marks on each arch top. Center the screw holes on the width of the arch frames and drive screw in solidly.
- O. Now attach the next two cap boards at opposite ends of the arch. The lower edge of the cap strip will be flush with the joint to the side frame.
- P. Now you can remove the supporting cap board and screw on the remaining cap strips.

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