

# ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

# Victoria Arbor

# 7

PLEASE READ THROUGH BEFORE YOU START ASSEMBLY

## CHECK BOX FOR THESE CONTENTS

- 1 27" Cap Boards (7)
- 2 Wood Arches (2)
- 3 Lattice Side Panels (2)
- 4 1 1/2" x 26" Plates (2)
- 5 Hardware (in plastic bag):  
(16) 3" Coated Wood Screws  
(14) 1 1/2" Coated Wood Screws

(Separate screws before starting)

## TOOLS YOU WILL NEED

- Phillips screwdriver
- Stool or short ladder

## HANDY TO HAVE:

- Carpenters square

## PRELIMINARIES

### IF YOU PLAN TO PAINT:

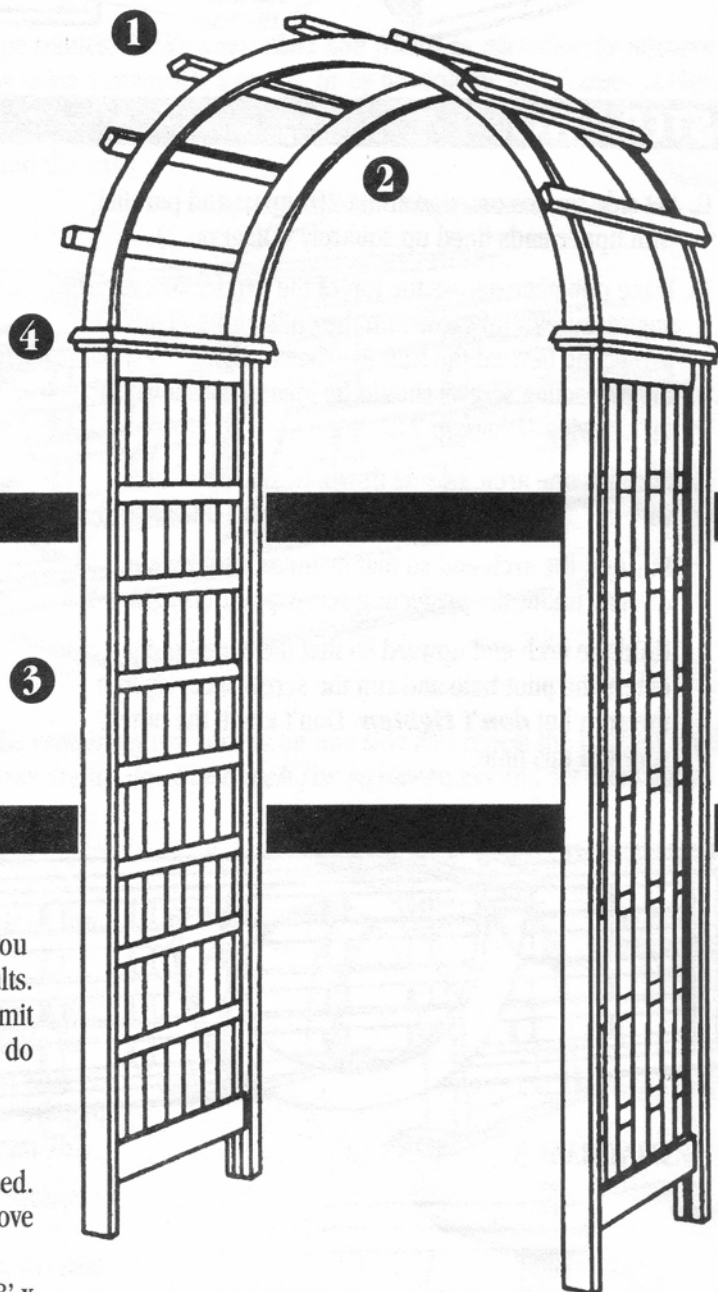
If you wish to stain or paint your arbor, we recommend that you do so before assembly, it makes the job easier, with better results. Use a good quality exterior stain or paint. Be careful not to permit paint to puddle in grooves in the arches or upper frame, and do not cover up strip guide marks on tops 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' x 4'. A lawn, driveway or wide path will be satisfactory.

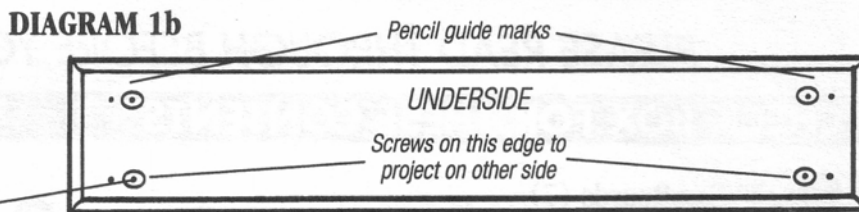
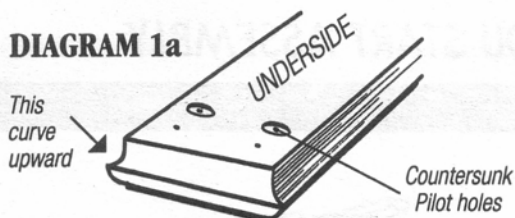
It is a good idea to lay out the arbor shipping box on your work surface to protect the arbor from nicks and scratches.



## STEP ONE

- A. Keep box intact and set aside.
- B. Start 3" screws into countersunk pilot holes in underside of plate boards (Diagram 1a).

Drive in the two screws on one long edge so they stick out about 1/2" through. The other two should not project through the wood (Diagram 1b).

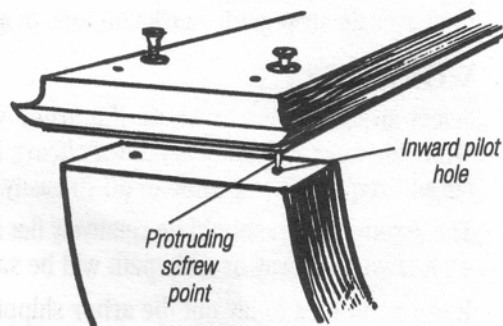
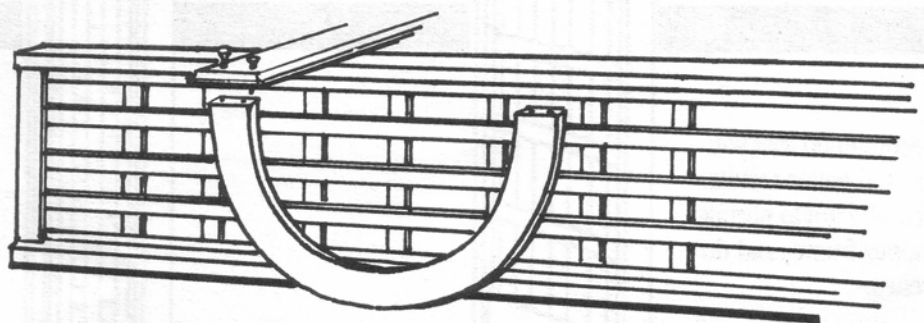
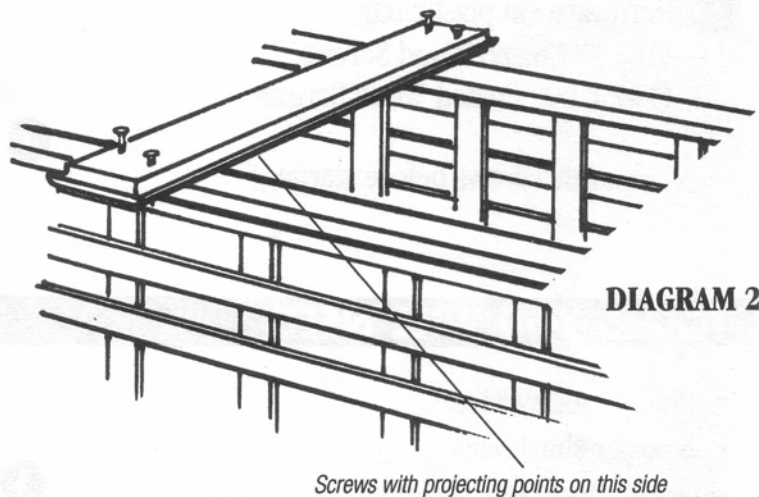


## STEP TWO

- C. Set side frames on edge about 20" apart and parallel, with upper ends lined up squarely (Diagram 2).
- D. Place one plate across the top of the two frames at right angles, screws upward, with the ends of the plates projecting beyond the frames. The side with the projecting screws should be located as shown in the drawing (Diagram 2).
- E. Position one arch, upside down, beside one frame, with its left end directly under the plate (Diagram 3).

Position the arch end so that its inner pilot hole is directly under the projecting screw point (Diagram 4).

Hold the arch end upward so that the screw point enters the pilot hole and run the screw securely into the arch but **don't tighten**. Don't touch the other screw at this time.



## STEP THREE: ASSEMBLING THE ARCH TOP

- F. Place the other plate across the frames and lined up with the other end of the arch with the projecting screws toward the center of the arch (Diagram 5).

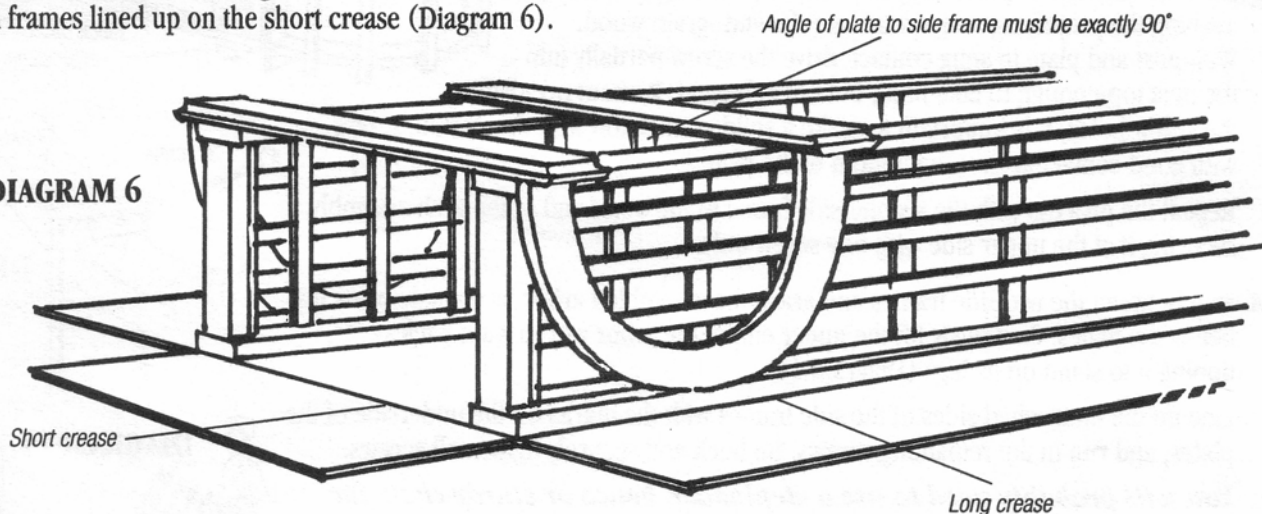
Align the projecting screw with the inner pilot hole on the end of the arch and secure without tightening.

- G. Repeat the above process at the other ends of the plates, attaching them to the second arch.
- H. Remove the capboard from its temporary location and push the two side frames outward, so that they are snug against the two arches.

Position the first plate so that it is right at the end of the side frames. **Make sure that the plate is absolutely square with the edges of the side frames.** You can do this by using a carpenter's square or by placing the side frames in their upright position on the inside of the shipping box, opened up and laid flat.

Line up one frame with the length-wise crease of the box and the ends of both frames lined up on the short crease (Diagram 6).

DIAGRAM 6



With the arch held firmly against the side frame, drive in the remaining two screws on one side and repeat the process on the other. Set the screws but do not fully tighten. When all screws are in, **double check for squareness** and set them tight.

- I. Remove the arch/plate assembly and set it upright on your work surface (Diagram 7a).

Start the 1 1/2" screws into the pilot holes of the capboards so that their points protrude slightly.

Locate the center capboard at the top of the assembly, between the guide marks on the top of the arches. There are no pilot holes for the capboards, so center the screws on the thickness of the arch at one end and drive in, then do the same at the other end, moving the arch top in or out so that the two sides are parallel (Diagram 7b).

Repeat with the other caps at the locations marked on the arches.

**NOTE: If you have no extra scrap wood available, do not attach the bottom cap on both sides. You can use them in a later step.**

DIAGRAM 5

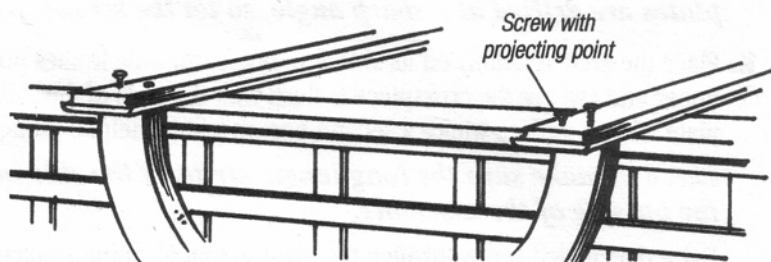


DIAGRAM 7a

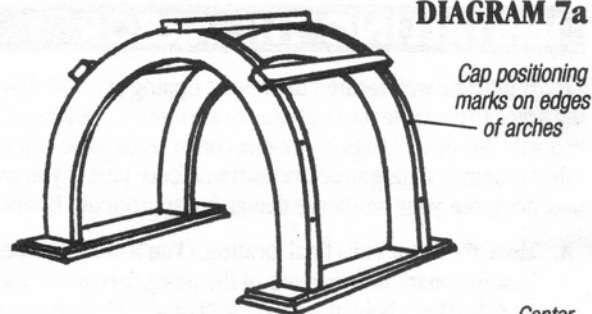
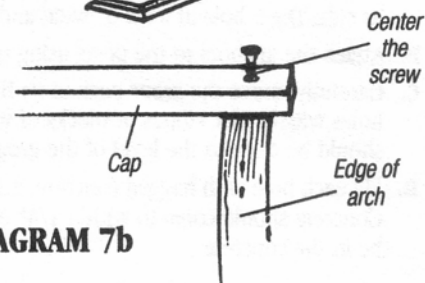


DIAGRAM 7b





## STEP FOUR: CONNECTING ARCHES TO SIDE PANELS

J. Start the remaining 3" screws into the pilot holes on the upper side of both plates (Diagram 8). Do not drive all the way through. **The countersunk pilot holes at the ends of the plates are drilled at a sharp angle, so let the screws 'find their own way'.**

K. Place the arch assembly on its side with one of the side frames positioned with its upper end (where the crosspiece is flush with the ends of the sideposts) against the plate. This is a place where a second person will be helpful (Diagram 9).

**Check to make sure the long length strips of the side lattice are to the outside of the assembly.**

Drive one angled screw through the plate so that its point projects about 1/8".

Raise the side frame by blocking it up with two capboards you set aside, or with wood scraps or pads of folded corrugated cardboard, so that the edges of the frame are even with the lines marked on the underside of the plate (Diagram 10).

L. Hold the end of one post firmly in position (see Diagram 10) pushing the projecting screwpoint into the end-grain wood. With post and plate in snug contact, drive the screw partially into the post top-enough to take hold, but not tightened. Without pre-drilling the screw holes, it is important to make a solid connection with the starting screw, with good contact against the bottom of the plate.

Repeat the process with the second side frame to the other end of the arch assembly, securing it at the upper side with one screw only.

M. Step between the two side frames and grasp the assembled arbor by the side posts just below the plates. Cautiously lift the upper end of the arbor as you walk backwards, tipping it to stand on its legs (Diagram 11).

Line up the unattached sides of the side frames with the marks on the underside of the plates, and run in the remaining screws. Go back and securely tighten all screws.

**You will probably need to use a stepladder, bench or sturdy chair for this purpose.**

N. Install the two remaining cap pieces if you have used them as blocks. This completes your assembly.

DIAGRAM 8

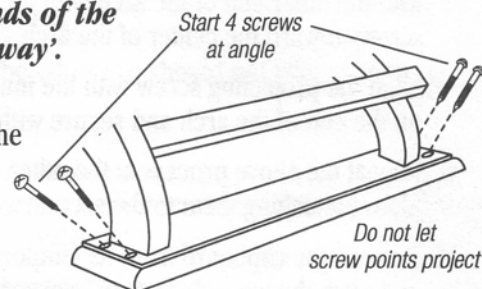


DIAGRAM 9

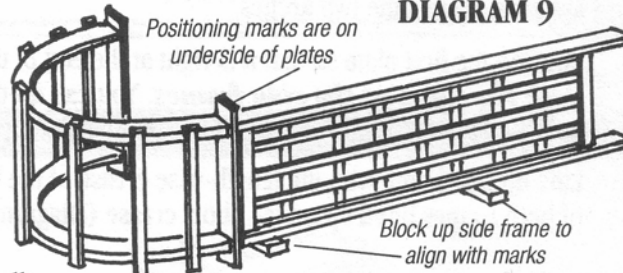


DIAGRAM 10

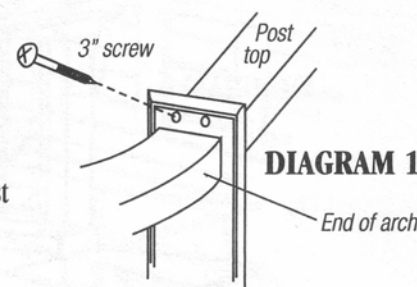
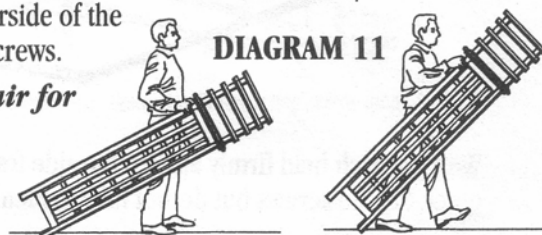


DIAGRAM 11



## INSTALLING THE ARBOR

Arbors must be well secured to prevent tipping over. We have provided 4 anchors for securing the arbor to concrete footings, the most common method of securing it. If you use this method you will also need 2 bags of pre-mix concrete. In some cases it may be acceptable to secure the arbor to some existing structure such as a fence post. If you are installing your arbor on concrete or a deck, see your hardware dealer for appropriate hardware.

- Move the arbor to its final location. (You'll need a helper). When you are satisfied with the location, mark the positions of the posts, then move the arbor aside and lay it carefully on its side. Dig a hole at least 6" wide and 12" deep for each post.
- Attach the anchors to the posts using the 3/4" screws provided. See Diagram 1.
- Carefully, move the arbor back to its final position. Support it plumb and level over the holes with bricks, stones or blocks of wood under the side panel rails. The post bottoms should be close to the level of the ground surface. See Diagram 2.
- Fill each hole with bagged concrete, mixed according to the manufacturer's instructions. Concrete should come to within 1/4" of the bottom of the posts but the post should not be in the concrete.

DIAGRAM 1

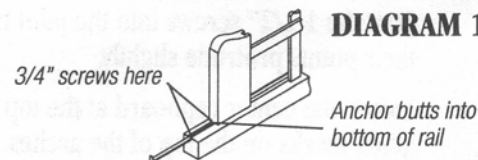


DIAGRAM 2

