



FRAMES & FOUNDATION

Instructions for Assembly

www.bee-commerce.com

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Materials (for each frame to be constructed):

- 1 Top Bar
- 2 Bottom Rails
- 2 Side Pieces
- 1 Sheet of Foundation
- Nails and Support Pins Required for Assembly

Assembly (Frame):

1. Take the top bar and snap out the wedge. Use your hive tool to pry the wedge from its place. Clean up any filigree (rough edges) by scraping the wood with your hive tool. Save the wedge for use when you install the foundation.
2. Place the top bar on your tabletop work surface, with the flat side facing down on the table.
3. Take the two sidepieces and snap the wider end into the slots at either end of the top bar.
4. Now snap your two bottom rails into the slots at the narrow end of the sidepieces.
5. You may now nail all five pieces together using the longer nails in the packet. Each corner of the frame will get two of the long nails. Each end of each bottom rail gets one, and each end of the top bar gets two. If you wish, you may also glue the parts together using an all-weather wood glue (a very good quality Hive Glue is available at www.bee-commerce.com).

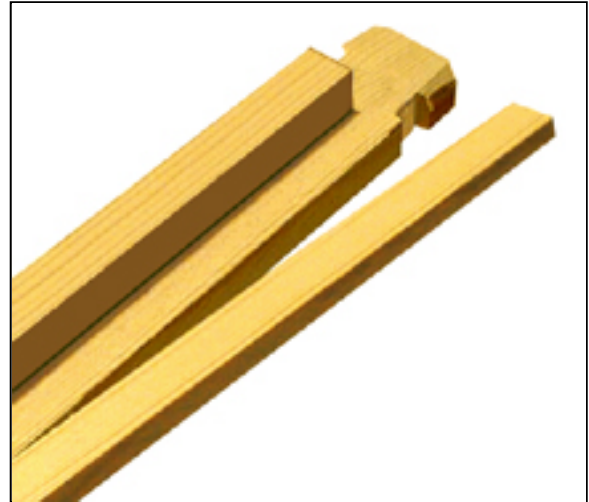
Assembly (Foundation)

1. First, take a good look at a sheet of beeswax foundation. Note that there are wires imbedded in the foundation. Also note that on one edge of the foundation, these wires extend out and are bent at right angles.
2. Slide a sheet of beeswax foundation (NOT the side with the protruding wires) into the space made by the two bottom rails. Coax it gently in place so as not to damage the delicate foundation.
3. Let the other end of the foundation drop into the space left by the wedge bar you have already removed. This is the edge of the foundation where the wires come out at right angles. The wires should nestle into place where the wedge bar was removed.
4. Now replace the wedge bar on the top bar and tap it firmly in place. The wedge bar will help hold the foundation in place.
5. Using four short nails (or small brads), secure the wedge bar back in its place. NOTE: a brad driver makes this step a breeze (Brad drivers are available from www.bee-commerce.com).
6. Finally, install TWO support pins in each side of the frame (these look like tiny metal clothes pins). The support pins are punched through the pre-drilled holes in the sidepieces, and the slotted pin grabs the foundation and holds it in place.

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NOTE: Only use a total of four (4) support pins on each frame – two on each side!! All those extra holes in the side pieces are for wiring the foundation – which you don't need to do because bee-commerce foundation is pre-wired.

7. Congratulations! You've assembled your first frame and foundation. Happy beekeeping!



NOTE: Assembly for deep, medium and shallow frames is identical. The only difference is the length of the side pieces.



ILLUSTRATIONS

Upper Left: Exploded view of (medium) frame shows top bar, two bottom rails, and two side pieces.

Upper Right: Shows wedge piece removed from top bar.

Lower Left: Pin inserted in one of the predrilled holes in side piece. Pin pinches foundation to hold it securely.

Lower Right: Detail of wires that extend from foundation and are bent at right angles. The wires are nestled into place where the wedge was removed from the top bar. When the wedge is nailed back in place, the foundation is held securely in place.