

Squirrel Stopper

Congratulations on your purchase of the Squirrel Stopper Birdfeeder Post Assembly! Please carefully read the following instructions in their entirety before assembly and use.

CONTENTS- **Please take an inventory of these parts before you begin.** This box contains 1 auger with hex bolt assembly, 1 lower section of the vertical post (2" diameter), 1 middle section of a vertical post (2" diameter) with 1 connected Squirrel Stopper shroud (with 3 connected springs), 1 upper section of the vertical post, 2 horizontal birdfeeder crossbars (1" diameter), 8 eyelet screws, 8 lock washers and 8 thumbnuts, 4 support brackets, 2 bracket screws with 2 thumbnuts, a decorative top holder with 2 thumb screws (already inserted), and a cardinal decorative top.

WARNINGS- Pieces are made of metal and are heavy and may have sharp or rough edges. Handle with care. Keep fingers clear when adjoining sections. When screwing auger into the ground, keep clear of electrical or water lines. Securely attach all pieces of the Squirrel Stopper, and check regularly to assure that none are loose. Do not climb erected Squirrel Stopper apparatus or use as support. Attach birdfeeders securely to eyelets on completed unit, and check regularly to assure that they remain secure. Regularly check and tighten all exposed attachments on the apparatus. Do not place hands underneath the shroud, as springs are present. Do not twist or pull on the shroud, as this may deform the springs. This will void the warranty. **WEIGHT LIMIT for each of the four hangers is 15 lbs. (60 lbs. total for all four hangers).**

INSTALLATION AND ASSEMBLY- **Squirrels have great leaping ability. Therefore, do not install this unit within 10 feet of trees, fences, house roof, or any other overhang or elevated platform.**

*** Please consult Figure 1 (on the back of this page). Consult Figure 2 for Step 5.**

Step 1. Line up the grooves on the auger with the indentions on the lower post section. Insert top of auger into bottom of the lower section of the vertical post. Secure with hex bolt using a small wrench.

Step 2. Carefully insert one of the 1" diameter horizontal bars through the two corresponding holes in the lower section of the vertical post so that it is centered. Place auger point at desired location on the ground, and begin to screw auger clockwise into the ground (for more information see Picture 1 on our installation page at squirrelstopper.com/installation-details/) to a point 18"- 24" above the auger (indicated on lower post section). Bar will be suitable to screw auger into most soils. **If soil provides very firm resistance, or you feel that horizontal bar is going to bend, loosen soil with pick-ax or shovel, and/or use another device (broom handle, solid metal rod, etc.) to screw post in.** Use level to assure that post is plumb.

Step 3. Line up bump on the inside surface of the lower rim of the middle section of the vertical post (with shroud attached) with the groove on the outside surface of the upper sleeve of the lower section of the vertical post. Lower the middle section until it stops (see Picture 2 on installation page at squirrelstopper.com/installation-details/), then twist it clockwise to secure it. **Do not twist or pull on the shroud, as this may deform the springs.****

Step 4. Note rubber grommets lining cross tube holes in upper post segment. **Lubricate these rubber grommets with water, which will allow easy insertion** of 1" diameter horizontal birdfeeder support bars through the appropriate sets of holes (see Picture 3 on installation page at squirrelstopper.com/installation-details/). Slide bars in until centered.

Step 5. Install support brackets (see Fig. 2). Place bracket against 2" central post and 1" birdfeeder support crossbar. Secure to crossbar with eyelet screw (eyelet should be on the bottom), lock washer, and thumb nut. Repeat this procedure with bracket on the opposite side of the central post. Secure the bottom of the bracket by running the bracket screw through the bottom hole on one bracket, then through the central post, then through the bottom hole of the opposite bracket. Secure with thumb screw. Next: **Repeat this procedure with the two support brackets which connect to the other crossbar.**

Step 6. Line up bump on the inside of the lower rim of the upper section of the vertical post with the groove on the outside surface of the upper sleeve of the middle section of the vertical post. Lower the upper section until it stops (see Picture 4 on installation page at squirrelstopper.com/installation-details/), then **gently** twist it clockwise to secure it.

Step 7. Place birdfeeder eyelet screws (4) into holes at both ends of the two horizontal birdfeeder support bars. Eyelets should be at the bottom. Secure with lock washers and thumbnuts on the topside of the bars.

Step 8. Place decorative top holder over the top of the upper section of the vertical post. Secure with thumbscrew. Center decorative top in slot on top of the decorative top holder. Secure with thumbscrew.

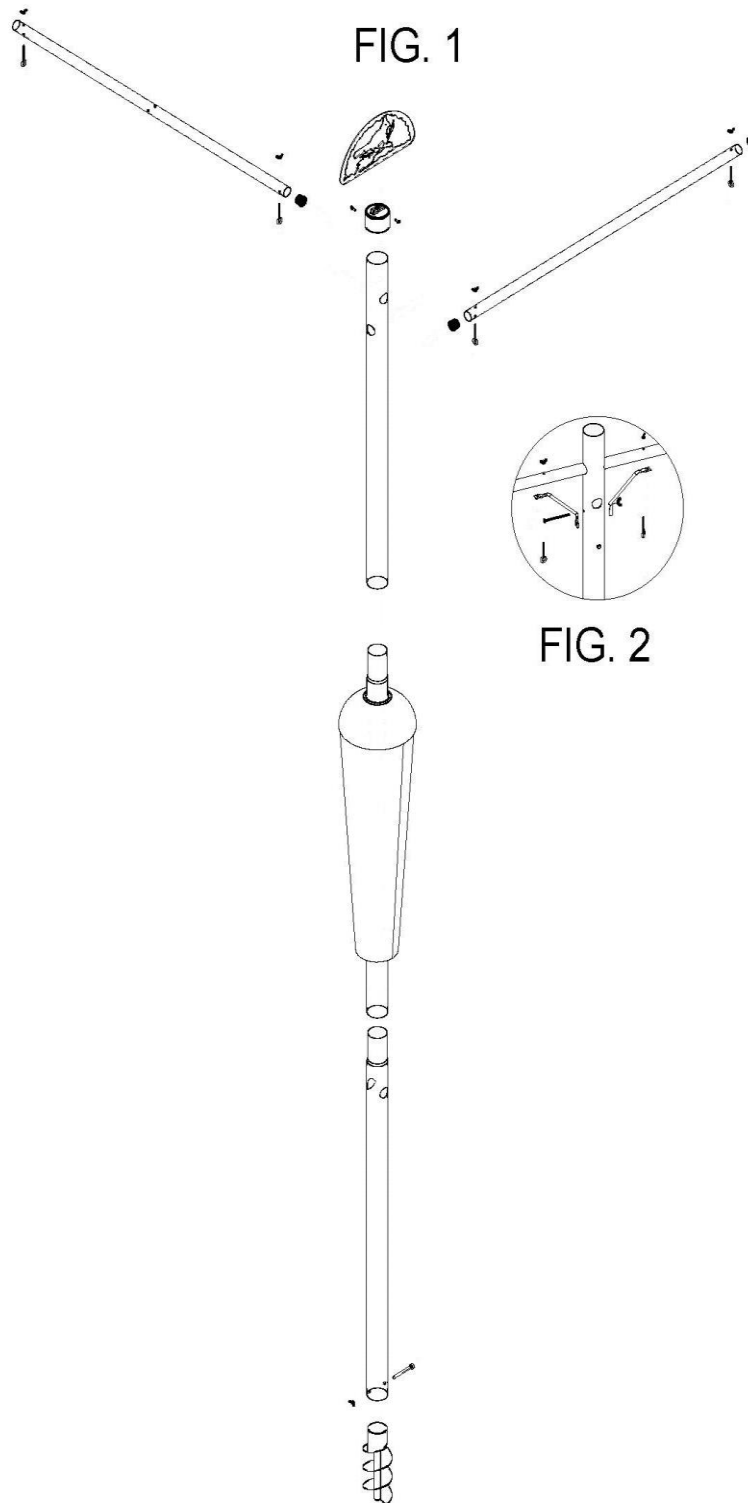
*** At regular intervals, CHECK AND TIGHTEN (IF NECESSARY) ALL SCREWS AND ATTACHMENTS.**

- If spring(s) becomes unattached for any reason, carefully remove 3 screws (with Phillips-head screw driver) and remove shroud cover. Re-attach spring(s) to proper attachments and reattach shroud cover.

NOTE: When inserting horizontal bars, lubricate the rubber grommets with water. Hang objects of approximately equal weight on both ends of the horizontal bars. This will place less stress on the bars and brackets.

Note: This unit is made of galvanized steel and is very rust resistant. However, check unit periodically for rust. If any should appear, remove the rust with steel wool and spray with flat black Rust-Oleum spray paint.

CARE INSTRUCTIONS- To clean, wipe with a wet cotton cloth. Do not tamper with the stainless steel springs on the underside of the shroud.



LIMITED WARRANTY- If this product is damaged when purchased, return it immediately to the establishment where it was purchased. The stainless steel springs are guaranteed for one year not to rust, corrode, or deform (under normal use). If this occurs, refer to warranty terms.

1-Year Limited Warranty- TERMS: 1. Return complete unit and proof of purchase to establishment where it was purchased. Said establishment will replace the Squirrel Stopper unit or contact Squirrel Stopper LLC. for replacement springs.

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Website: www.squirrelstopper.com
 See our website for other garden and landscape products, and contact information.