

**ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS - MAST KITS**  
**MODELS MK-8, MK-6 and MK-4**

First, identify which of the thumb operated “**Quik Clamps**” fit on the end of which tubes. You will need to glue the clamps in place and allow time for the adhesive to dry before proceeding in assembly of your mast.

Many glues are satisfactory, because the glue just prevents the clamp from pulling off as you extend the inner tubes upward. In use, the downward pressure of the weight above keeps the clamps firmly in place.

Glues such as “Goop”, silicone sealer, liquid nails, 50/50 epoxy (consistency of syrup... not filler types with putty consistency), and 3M Marine Adhesive Sealant 5200 will all do the job. See gluing discussion at this web address: <http://www.mgs4u.com/fiberglass-tips.htm>

When gluing the **Quik Clamps**, be certain to smear a layer of the adhesive **ON THE OUTSIDE** of the end of the tube being glued... **NOT** on the inside of the quick clamp. The reason is this... when you slide the quick clamp on the end of the tube, you want any excess glue to be pushed **AWAY** from the inside of the fiberglass tube. If you get excess glue inside the fiberglass tube, it will interfere with the easy movement of the fiberglass tubes inside one another.

Allow sufficient time for the adhesive you have chosen to dry before proceeding. Use this period to mark the outside of each tube (except the bottom one) with a contrasting color band **one foot from the bottom of each tube for the model MK-8, 8 inches from the bottom of each tube for the model MK-6, and 6 inches from the bottom of each tube for the model MK-4.** A black magic marker will work nicely on the gray tubes, a white paint band works as a good visual marker on the black tube. This visual marker is to prevent you from accidentally extending the tubes too far, pulling them completely out!

After the **Quik Clamps** are cured, you can then raise the thumb-clamp levers and insert the tubes within one another. You will notice a screw in the clamp. This screw is used to adjust the tension of the clamping mechanism. With a Phillips tip screwdriver, (be certain to use a large enough Phillips screw driver to properly engage the large screw slots. Too small a screw driver may scar the slots and make adjustment difficult.) tighten the screw just to the point before it hinders passage of the inner tube. The screw is **REVERSE THREAD**, so turn **COUNTERCLOCKWISE** to tighten. **TEST** the thumb clamp at that point, and make certain that you have the tension adjusted properly so that you may extend the inner tube, and that when the thumb clamp is in the “down” position, that the inner tube is gripped **FIRMLY**. Try this adjustment a few times until you find the perfect setting. That is all!

See guying instructions, next page!

## Guying Instructions

A tall structure such as our full-length model MK-8 mast **MUST** be guyed. We recommend guying at at least two levels with three direction guys. Rope guys such as the 3/32" OD black double-weave Dacron rope (sold by many dealers, such as "The Wireman") <http://thewireman.com/index.shtml> their stock # 815, work nicely. Easy slip-knot guys may be made with this rope, by making two or three wraps around the tube being guyed, and tying tightly next to the wraps. The tube will still slide inside the wraps, but the wraps will be too tight to allow the rope to slip over the Quik Clamp. If you are not proficient in knot tying, either seek tutoring from someone who is, or use guy-rings of appropriate size.

Guying shorter masts such as our models MK-4 and MK-6 depends on your application, and the item(s) being supported. An adequately spaced, at least two-point clamp arrangement on the bottom section may be sufficient for many light duty applications. When clamping to fiberglass tubes with U-bolts, be careful not to over-tighten to avoid crushing the tube. When in doubt, guy! Err on the side of over-engineering, never under!

Leverage experienced with tall structures will make them impossible to hold at an angle, so keep the structure vertical at all times during assembly and disassembly. Having people on all guy ropes to maintain control during raising or lowering the structure is a **must**. When letting the structure down, be certain to maintain a firm grip on the inner tubes when you **SLOWLY** release tension on the thumb clamp. Gloves (selected for a good grip on the tube surface) will be a **BIG** help.

Thank you for your purchase!

Max-Gain Systems, Inc.  
221 Greencrest Court  
Marietta, GA 30068-3825  
Phone 770-973-6251  
fax 815-461-7730

<http://www.mgs4u.com>

email: [sales@mgs4u.com](mailto:sales@mgs4u.com)