

## The Hurley-Byrd Free Standing Covered Deer Feeder Assembly

Here is a photo of your completed feeder. Note the placement of the carriage bolts and their direction. Example: the bolts holding the trough to the uprights have the heads on the inside of the trough. This is to protect your deer from licking the sharper edges of the threads.



**Assembly:** First things first. Assemble the foot/leg/diagonal supports. The two bolts attaching the diagonals to the feet are 2 1/2" in length and the single bolt supporting the diagonals to the lower trough leg and roof support leg is 4". Insert the trough leg's tenon into the foot's mortise. There is a large brass screw that goes through the base of the foot and into the leg's tenon. **DO NOT INSTALL THIS YET.** Arrange the diagonal supports so they overlap one another as noted in the photo. Install the carriage bolts through the foot and the diagonals. Install washers and nuts but do not tighten. Install a 4" bolt through the leg and diagonal supports. Now install the large brass screw and just tighten to pull the assembly together. Complete both leg assemblies.



Now is the time to attach the trough. Using the 4" bolts, slide them through the trough and then through the trough support legs. Add a washer and nut to hold the assembly together loosely. You now have the base portion of the feeder together and in good weather it can be used just like this with the roof assembly in storage.

**Assemble the roof.** Set the semi assembled roof on a flat and secure surface. Align the remaining roof board to the trusses of the roof assembly and using the remaining brass screws, secure the roof board to the roof trusses. They only need to be snug. Over tightening will pull the screws through the roof board. Snug is perfect.



### **Attaching the roof to the trough base:**

Locate the roof support legs. They are the long legs with many holes. The end of the leg with all the holes is the bottom. The holes allow you to adjust the roof's height. We recommend you start with the lowest height. If you find your deer (larger bucks typically) have issues getting to the feed, raise the roof just enough to accommodate the deer. The lower the roof, the better it will protect the trough's contents.



The 4" bolt that secures the diagonal supports to the trough leg is the lower attaching point for the roof leg. The trough to trough leg bolts are the upper supporting bolts. See photo. It shows the roof leg in its middle height setting. Set both roof support legs at the same height. If you plan on removing the roof or making many adjustments, install the diagonal support to trough leg bolts so their heads are located on the inside of the assembly. This will allow for easier installation and removal of the roof legs.

Once the roof legs are installed. Double check that all bolts and bolt holes are filled and each bolt has a washer and wing nut attached. Now is the time to make sure everything is square and the roof legs align with one another. Once you are confident of this, strongly tighten every wing nut. This will make for a very rigid feeder base.

Installing the roof. Now that the roof assembly is assembled and the base feeder with its roof legs attached is complete, adding the roof is very simple. Gather the last four carriage bolts. They are 3 1/2" in length and are installed from the ends inward. Hold the roof on top of the roof legs with the roof trusses to the inside of the roof legs. Slide the bolts through the roof legs and trusses. Add washers and wing nuts. Stand back and look at the roof. Adjust it slightly so it sits square to the trough. Once you are satisfied the roof is square, strongly tighten the wing nuts. You are now ready to feed your deer. Over the next few weeks as the feeder settles into its new home, check to make sure the wing nuts are still tight. Once you are confident of the feeder's placement in your yard, spike the feeder to the ground with the landscaping spikes.

Please keep in mind, this feeder is not perfect protection from the weather. It is designed to give basic feed protection and help keep regular rain and falling snow from settling on your feed offering. The trough has water drain holes in its base. These must be kept open to allow any gathered rain or melting snow from accumulating in the feeder. Poke the holes open regularly, a small stick found on the ground often times works perfectly.

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