

Complete Guide to Building a 12-Foot Elevated Platform Stand



- Step by Step Instructions
- Materials List
- CAD Drawings
- Photos

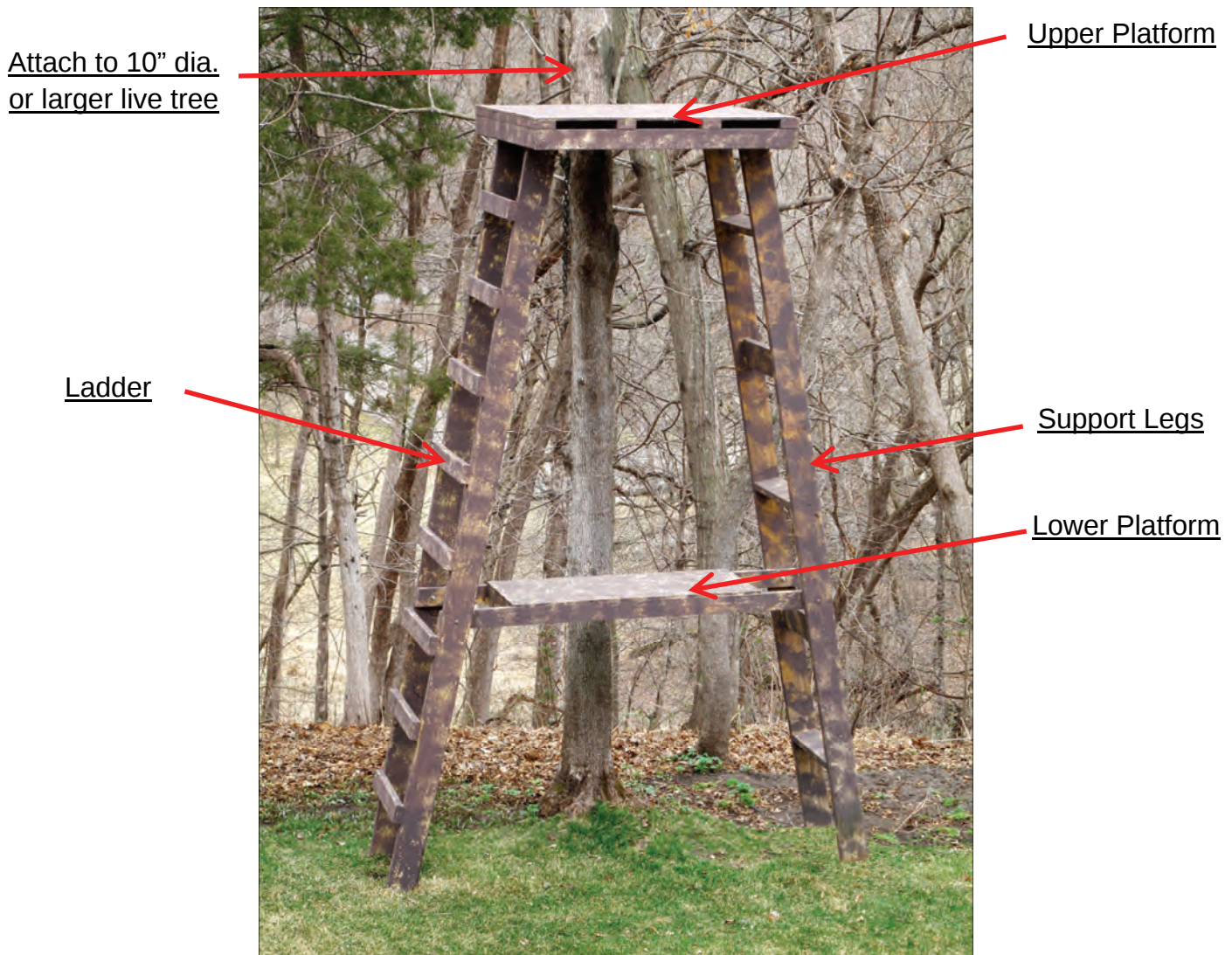
Contents

	Page
Introduction	3
Materials and Tools Required	4
Step 1 - Building the Upper Platform	5
Drawing 1 - Upper Platform Detail	6
Drawing 2 - Upper Platform Section View	7
Step 2 - Building the Lower Platform	8
Drawing 3 - Lower Platform Detail	9
Step 3 - Building the Ladder	10
Drawing 4 - Ladder Detail	11
Step 4 - Building the Support Legs	12
Drawing 5 - Support Legs Detail	13
Step 5 - Attach the Ladder to the Upper Platform	14
Step 6 - Attach the Support Legs to the Upper Platform	15
Step 7 - Attach the Lower Platform to the Ladder and Support Legs	16
Drawing 6 - Stand Front View	17
Drawing 7 - Stand Left Side View	18
Drawing 8 - Stand Right Side View	19
Step 6 - Install the Stand on a Tree.....	20

Introduction

The ComfortQuest Hunting Blind fits on any 4' x 4' platform. If you don't already have a platform or stand you can build one using the following drawings and instructions. This manual provides detailed step-by-step instructions, drawings and photos for constructing and assembling a 4 x 4' Platform and 12' Wood Stand. The stand is designed to be attached to a **live** tree that is **10 inches in diameter or larger**. It can be used with the ComfortQuest Fabric Blind and Aluminum Frame.

For best results, it is important that all instructions are followed carefully and all steps are completed accurately. It is assumed that assemblers using this manual have basic woodworking skills and are familiar with the tools outlined below. Failure to follow these instructions carefully may result in an unsafe hunting stand that could cause injury or death.



Completed 12' Stand

Materials and Tools Required

Purchase the following materials:

Quan	Size	Item
12	2 x 4 x 8'	Treated Wood (for platforms and ladder)
5	2 x 6 x 12'	Treated Wood (for ladder and support legs)
1	4' x 4' x 1/2"	Treated Plywood (for upper platform)
1	2' x 4' x 1/2"	Treated Plywood (for lower platform)
4	6" x 1/2"	Hex Bolts w/flat washers & lock nuts
4	4" x 3/8"	Carriage Bolts w/ flat washers and hex lock nuts
84	3 1/2" x #8	Premium Coated Deck Screws
36	2 1/2" x #8	Premium Coated Deck Screws
2	6 1/2" x 1/2"	Eye Bolts w/ Flat Washers, Lock Washers and hex nuts
1	48" x 1"	Log Chain
2	5/16"	Chain Quick links
2	PL200 or PL400 (or equal)	Tube of Construction Adhesive

Make sure you have the following tools available:

- Circular Saw (or Miter Saw)
- Drill Driver
- Drill Bits
- # 2 Square Drive Bit
- Carpenters Square
- Adjustable Square
- Caulking Gun
- Hammer
- Set of Open End Wrenches
- Socket Set
- Carpenters Pencil
- Angle Measurer (Optional)
- Hand Saw
- Stapler

STEP 1 - Build the Upper Platform

- A. Cut the lumber to the following sizes. Refer to Drawings 1 & 2 on the next two pages for details.

#	Lengths	Item	Purpose
2	48"	Treated 2 x 4	Frame End Pieces
2	45"	Treated 2 x 4	Frame Cross Pieces
4	45"	Treated 2 x 4	Frame Cross Pieces
4	48"	Treated 2 x 4	Deck Support Pieces
1	4' x 4'	½" Treated Plywood	Platform Decking

- B. Assemble the lumber as shown in Drawings 1 & 2. Refer to the Notes section of the drawings for assembly instructions. The completed UPPER PLATFORM should look like the photos below.



Completed Upper Platform Frame



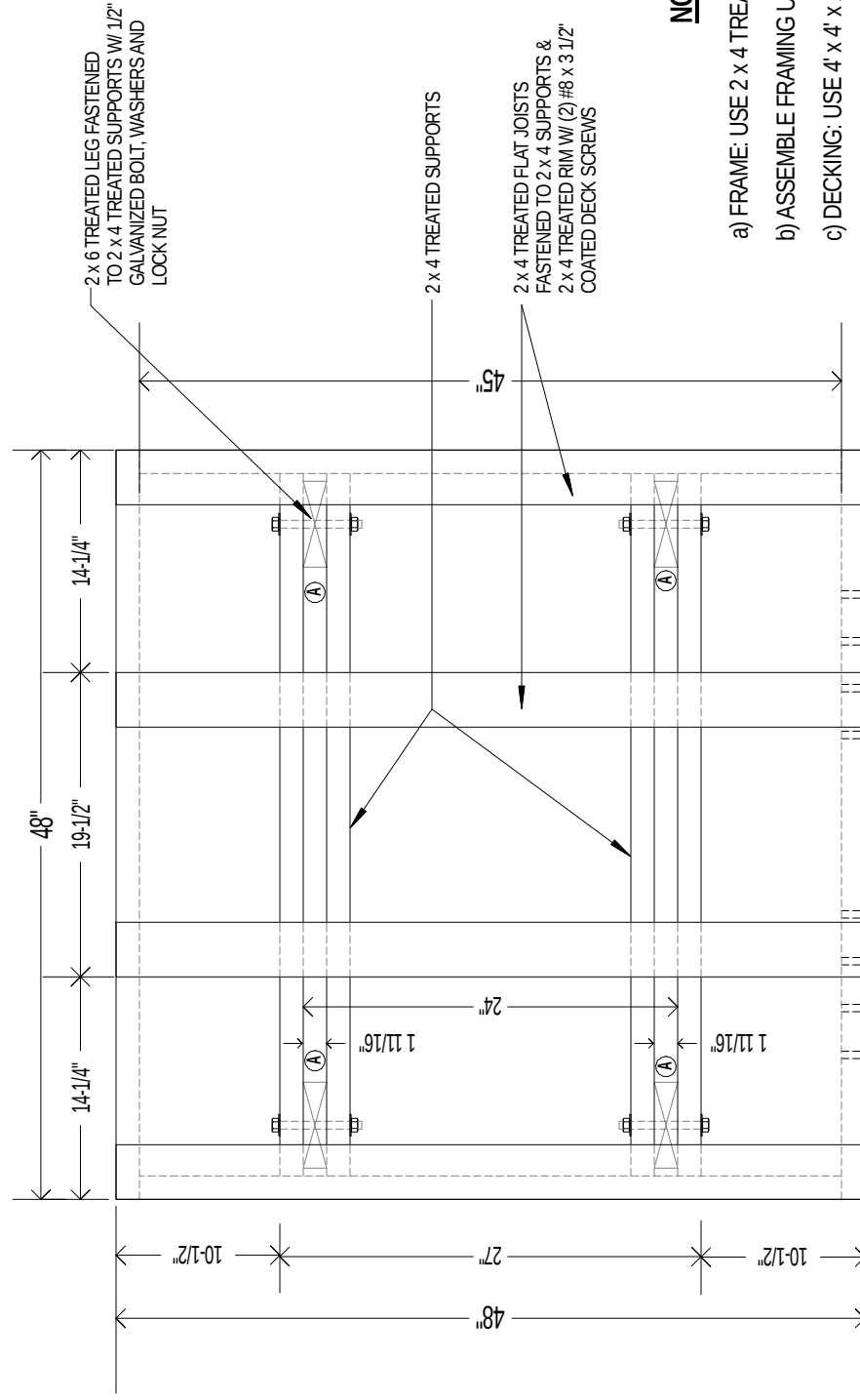
Completed Upper Platform - Top View



Upper Platform - Installed on 12' Stand



Completed Upper Platform - Bottom View



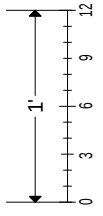
Bottom View

5 1/2" Treated 2 X 4
wrapped w/ two layers of landscape felt
(Attach to frame using (4) #6 x 2 1/2" coated deck screws)

NOTES

- a) FRAME: USE 2 x 4 TREATED LUMBER
- b) ASSEMBLE FRAMING USING #8 x 3 1/2" COATED DECK SCREWS
- c) DECKING: USE 4' x 4' x 1/2" TREATED PLYWOOD
- d) ATTACH PLYWOOD DECK AND TREATED FLAT JOISTS USING #8 x 3 1/2" COATED DECK SCREWS
- e) USE PLT CONSTRUCTION ADHESIVE ON ALL JOINTS INCLUDING PLYWOOD DECK
- f) SLOTS FOR 2 x 6 LADDER AND 2 x 6 SUPPORT LEGS (A) MUST BE SIZED TO ACCOMMODATE ENDS OF 2 x 6's WRAPPED WITH ONE LAYER OF LANDSCAPE FELT. (THE FELT WILL HELP PREVENT SQUEAKS)

SCALE



DRAWING TITLE

Upper Platform Framing Plan

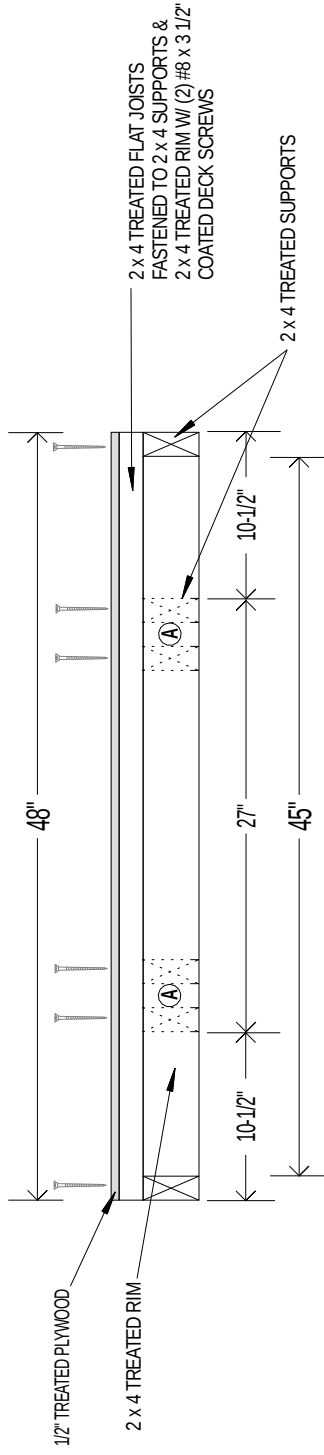
BY

REVISION

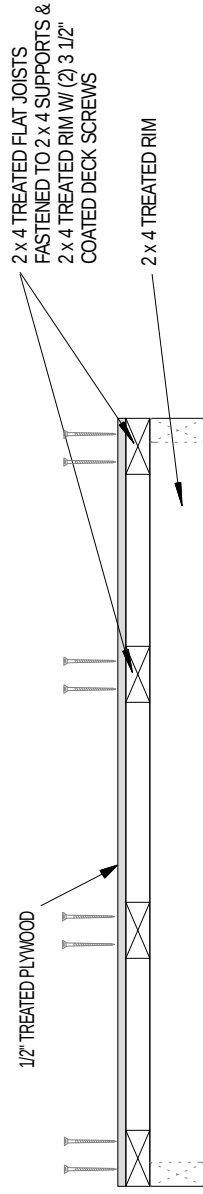
10/30/09

DATE

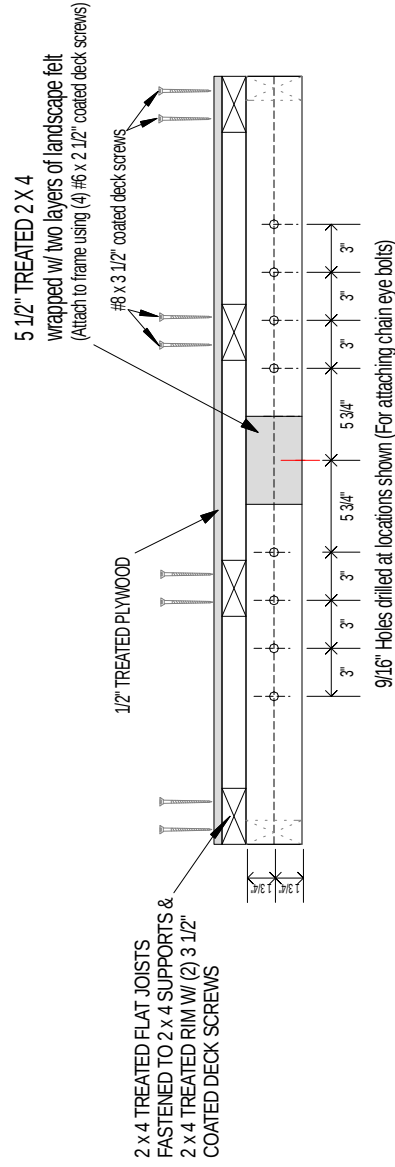
04/24/08



Left & Right Side - Section View



Front Side - Section View



Rear Section View



NOTES

- FRAME: USE 2 x 4 TREATED LUMBER
- ASSEMBLE FRAMING USING #8 x 3 1/2" COATED DECK SCREWS
- DECKING: USE 4' x 4' x 1/2" TREATED PLYWOOD
- ATTACH PLYWOOD DECK AND TREATED FLAT JOISTS USING #8 x 3 1/2" COATED DECK SCREWS
- USE PLT CONSTRUCTION ADHESIVE ON ALL JOINTS INCLUDING PLYWOOD DECK
- SLOTS FOR 2 x 6 LADDER AND 2 x 6 SUPPORT LEGS (A) MUST BE SIZED TO ACCOMMODATE ENDS OF 2 x 6'S WRAPPED WITH ONE LAYER OF LANDSCAPE FELT. (THE FELT WILL HELP PREVENT SQUEAKS)



DRAWING TITLE		Upper Platform - Section Views	
BY	REVISION	10/30/09	DATE
			04/24/08

STEP 2 - Build the Lower Platform

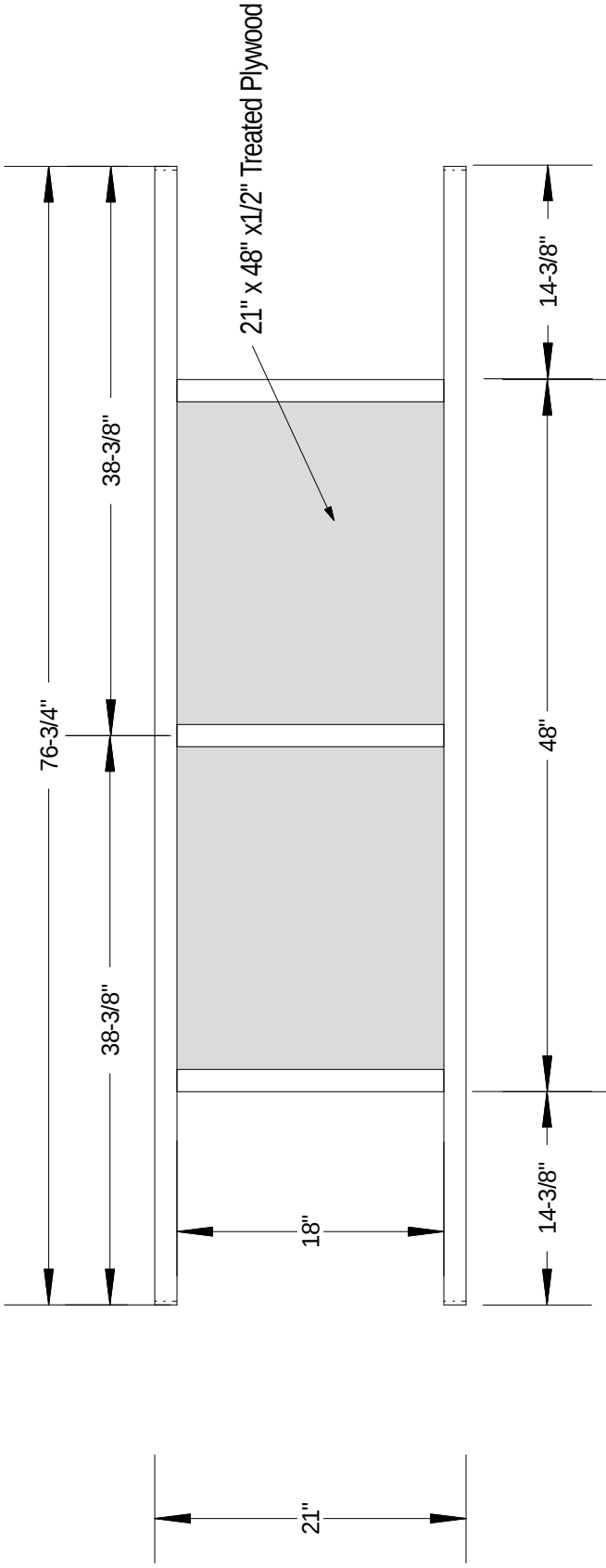
A. Cut the lumber to the following sizes. Refer to Drawing 3 on the next page for details.

#	Lengths	Item	Purpose
2	76 3/4"	Treated 2 x 4	Frame Side Pieces
3	18"	Treated 2 x 4	Frame Cross Braces
1	21" x 48"	½" Treated Plywood	Lower Platform Decking

B. Assemble the lumber as shown in Drawing 3 on the next page. Refer to the Notes section of the drawing for assembly instructions. The completed LOWER PLATFORM should look like the photos below.

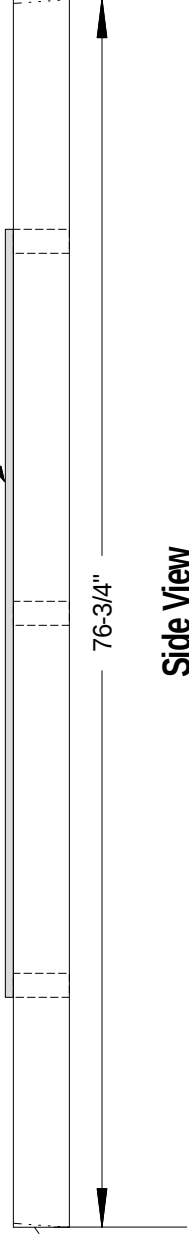


Lower Platform - Installed on 12' Stand

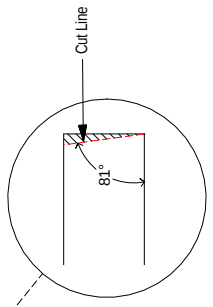


Bottom View

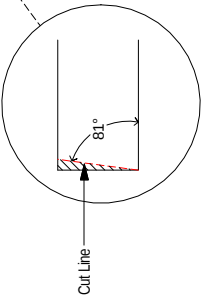
21" x 48" x 1/2" Treated Plywood



Side View



Angle Cut Detail
(Right End)



Angle Cut Detail
(Left End)

NOTES

- a) FRAME: USE 2 x 4 TREATED LUMBER
- b) DECKING: USE 21" x 48" x 1/2" TREATED PLYWOOD
- c) ASSEMBLE FRAMING USING #8 x 3 1/2" COATED DECK SCREWS
- d) ATTACH PLYWOOD DECK TO 2 x 4 FRAME USING #8 x 3 1/2" COATED DECK SCREWS
- e) USE PLT CONSTRUCTION ADHESIVE ON ALL JOINTS INCLUDING PLYWOOD DECKING



Lower Platform Detail

DRAWING TITLE	REVISION	DATE
Lower Platform Detail	10/28/09	01/06/09
BY		

STEP 3 - Build the Ladder

A. Cut the lumber to the following sizes. Refer to Drawing 4 on the next page for details.

#	Lengths	Item	Purpose
2	12' (144")	Treated 2 x 6	Ladder Side Rails
8	24"	Treated 2 x 4	Ladder Rungs

B. Assemble the lumber as shown in Drawing 4 on the next page. Refer to the Notes section of the drawing for assembly instructions. The completed LADDER should look like the photos below.



Completed Ladder



Ladder - Installed on 12' Stand

STEP 4 - Build the Support Legs

A. Cut the lumber to the following sizes. Refer to Drawing 5 on the next page for details.

#	Lengths	Item	Purpose
2	12' (144")	Treated 2 x 6	Support Legs - Side Rails
5	21"	Treated 2 x 6	Support Legs - Cross Braces

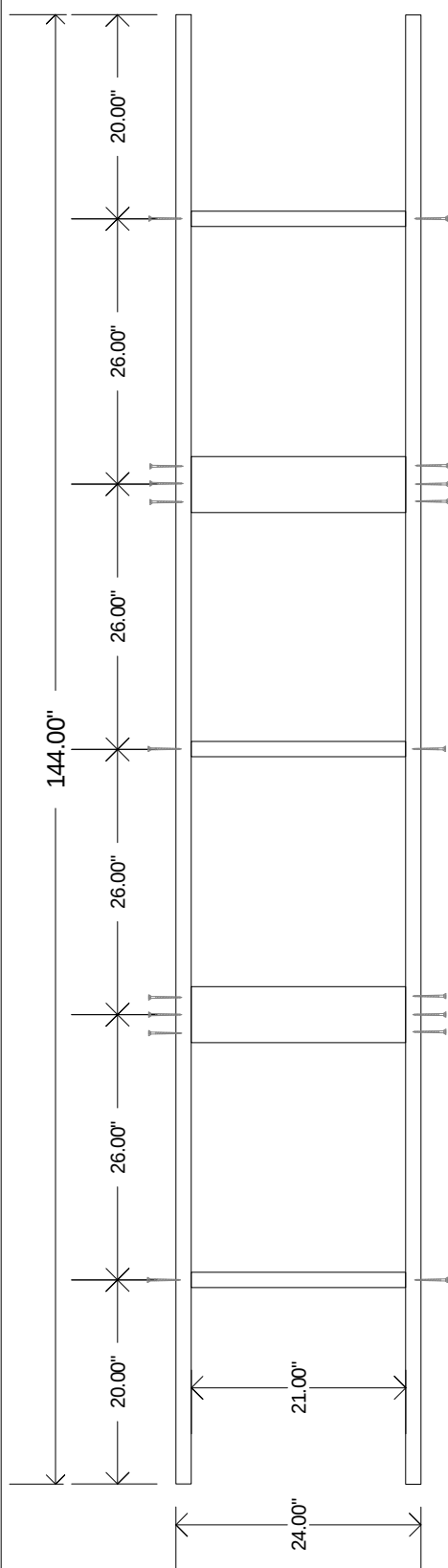
B. Assemble the lumber as shown in Drawing 5 on the next page. Refer to the Notes section of the drawing for assembly instructions. The completed SUPPORT LEGS should look like the photos below.



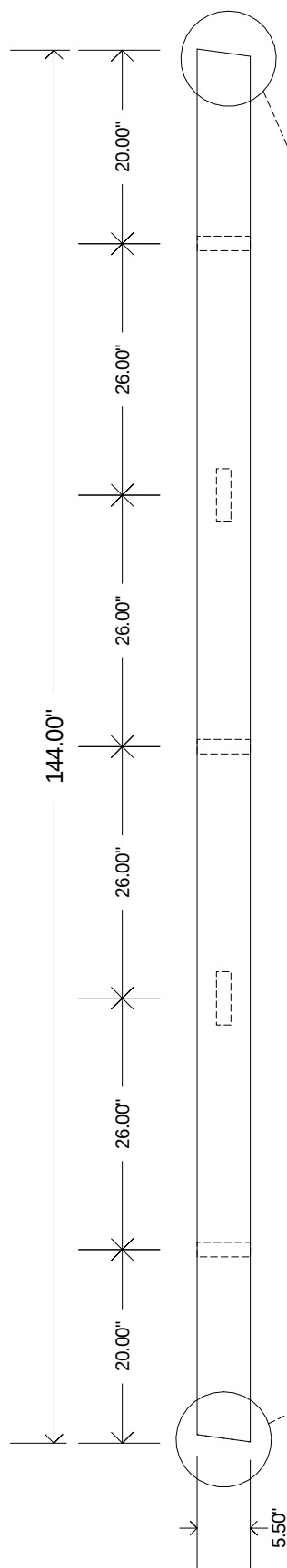
Completed Support Legs



Support Legs - Installed on 12' Stand



Top View

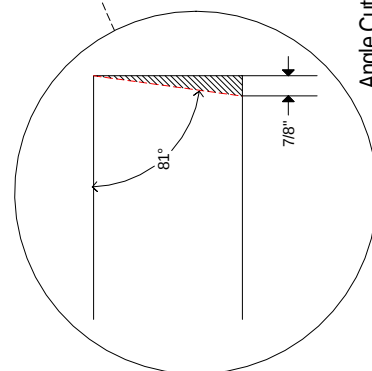
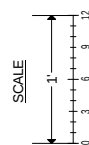


Side View

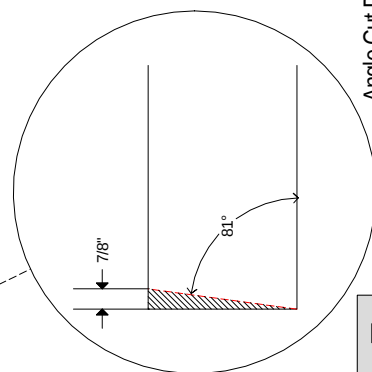
- NOTES**
- SUPPORT LEG SIDE RAILS, USE 2 x 6 TREATED LUMBER
 - SUPPORT LEG CROSS BRACES, USE 2 x 6 TREATED LUMBER
 - USE PLT CONSTRUCTION ADHESIVE ON ALL JOINTS
 - ATTACH CROSS BRACES TO SIDE RAILS USING #8 x 3 1/2" COATED DECK SCREWS
 - USE (8) 3 1/2" DECK SCREWS PER CROSS BRACE (4 ON EACH END)



Support Leg Detail		
BY	REVISION	DATE
	10/28/09	01/06/09



Angle Cut Detail
(Bottom End)



Angle Cut Detail
(Top End)

Drawing 5

STEP 5 - Attach the Ladder to the Upper Platform

- A. Using an adjustable square, match the angle at the top end of the Ladder side rail and lock the square. This is the angle that you cut previously (ref Drawing 4). This angle will be used later. **(Photo 1)**
- B. Wrap both upper ends of the 2 x 6 Ladder side rails with a layer of landscape felt and staple it in place. (this will prevent squeaks later when the stand is finished). **(Photo 2)**
- C. Attach the Ladder to the Upper Platform by inserting the 2 x 6 Ladder ends into the slots in the upper platform. **(Photo 3)**. Make sure the 2 x 6 side rails are seated firmly against the outer 2 x 4 of the platform frame.
- D. Check the angle (using the adjustable square from (A) above). Also check to make sure the 2 x 6 is tight against the 2 x 4 on the side of the platform. **(Photo 3)**.
- E. Drill a 1/2" hole through the 2 x 4's of the platform and the 2 x 6 of the Ladder. **(Photo 4)** Perform this same step for both sides of the Ladder.
- F. Install a 1/2" Hex Bolt with flat washer into the 1/2" hole **(Photo 5)** and install a flat washer, hex lock nut on both bolts. Tighten the nuts securely. **(Photo 6)**

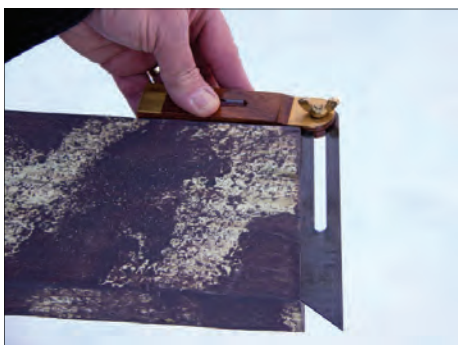


Photo 1 - Measure the angle



Photo 2 - Install Landscape Felt



Photo 3 - Check the angle



Photo 4 - Drill 1/2" Holes



Photo 5 - Install 1/2" Hex Bolt with Flat Washer



Photo 6 - Install 1/2" Flat Washer, Lock Washer and Hex Nut. Tighten securely.

STEP 6 - Attach the Support Legs to the Upper Platform

- A. The Support Legs are attached to the other side of the upper platform using the same procedure that you used to attach the Ladder to the Upper Platform.
- B. Using an adjustable square, match the angle at the top end of the Support Leg side rail and lock the square. (this angle will be used later). (**Photo 1**)
- C. Wrap both upper ends of the 2 x 6 Support Leg side rails with a layer of landscape felt and staple it in place. (this will prevent squeaks later when the stand is finished). (**Photo 2**)
- D. Attach the Support Legs to the Upper Platform by inserting the 2 x 6 support leg ends into the slots in the upper platform. (**Photo 3**).
- E. Check the angle (using the adjustable square from (A) above). Also check to make sure the 2 x 6 is tight against the 2 x 4 on the side of the platform. (**Photo 3**).
- F. Drill a 1/2" hole through the 2 x 4's of the platform and the 2 x 6 of the Support Leg. (**Photo 4**) Perform this same step for both ends of the ladder.
- G. Install a 1/2" Hex Bolt with flat washer into the 1/2" hole (**Photo 5**) and install a flat washer and hex lock nut on both bolts. Tighten the nuts securely. (**Photo 6**)

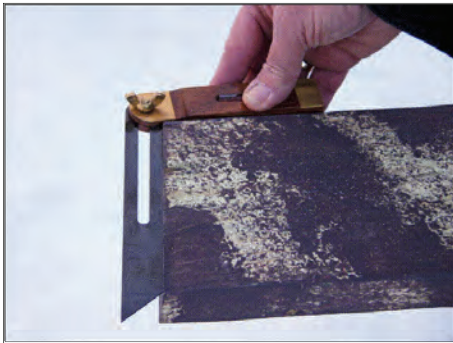


Photo 1 - Measure the angle



Photo 2 - Install Landscape Felt



Photo 3 - Check the angle



Photo 4 - Drill 1/2" Holes



Photo 5 - Install 1/2" Hex Bolt with Flat Washer



Photo 5 - Install Flat Washer, Lock Washer and Hex Nut. Tighten securely.

Step 7 - Attach the Lower Platform to the Ladder and Support Leg

- A. The lower platform 2 x 4 frame is bolted to the Ladder and Support Leg using 3/8" x 4" carriage bolts. The top edge of the lower platform should approximately 54" from the bottom of the Ladder and Support Leg. (**Photo 1**) See Drawing 6,7,8 on the next 3 pages for additional detail. The Lower Platform will provide structural strength for the stand and also provide a convenient platform to stand on when attaching the stand to a tree, installing bungee cords on the ComfortQuest Blind, etc. Also refer to **Drawing 6,7 & 8** on the following pages for additional help.
- B. Staple (4) pieces of landscape felt on the lower platform cross braces (where they intersect with the side rail 2 x 6's of the ladder and support leg). (this will prevent squeaks later when the stand is finished (**Photo 2**).
- C. You should have already attached the Ladder and Support Leg to the Upper Platform and this assembly should be laying on the ground (**Photo 3**).
- D. Slide the Lower Platform frame between the side rails of the Ladder and Support Leg. The top of the Lower Platform should be positioned about 54" from the bottom end of both the Ladder and Support Legs (**Photo 1**). It is important that this distance is the same on both ends of the Lower Platform so that it will be level when the stand is installed on a tree. (see **Photo 3**) Also refer to **Drawing 5** for more detail.
- E. Drill 3/8" holes through the ladder side rails and lower platform 2 x 4. Install a 3/8" carriage bolt, flat washer and hex lock nut. Tighten the hex lock nuts securely. (**Photo 4**)

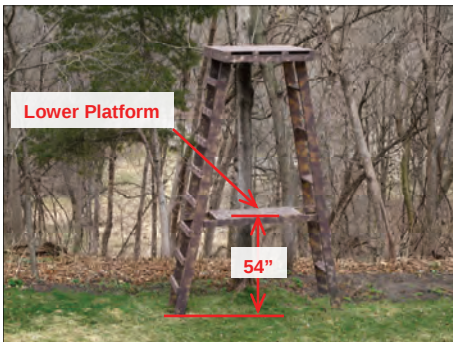


Photo 1 - Location of Lower Platform



Photo 2 - Install Landscape Felt



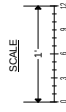
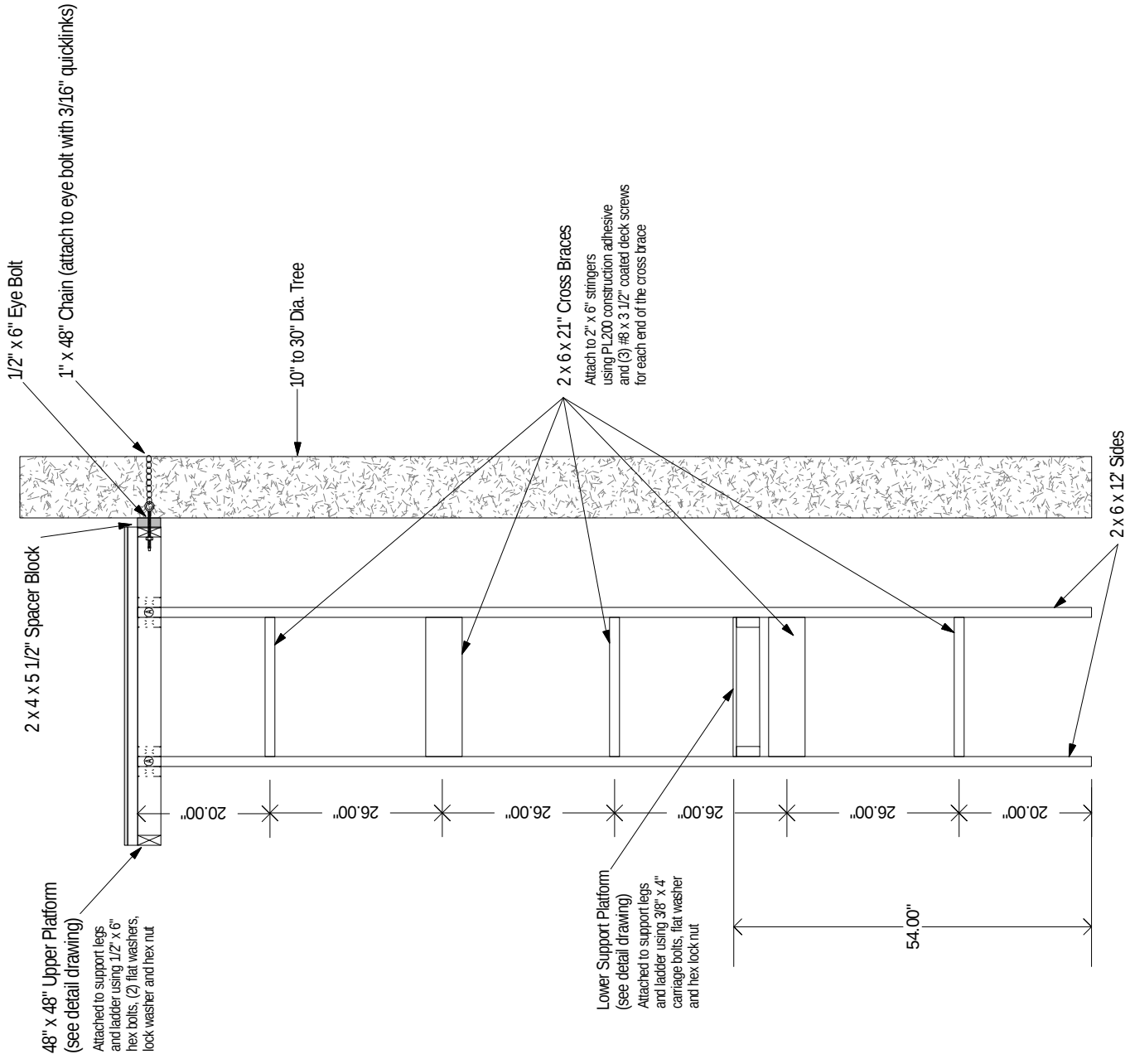
Photo 3 - Position Lower Platform



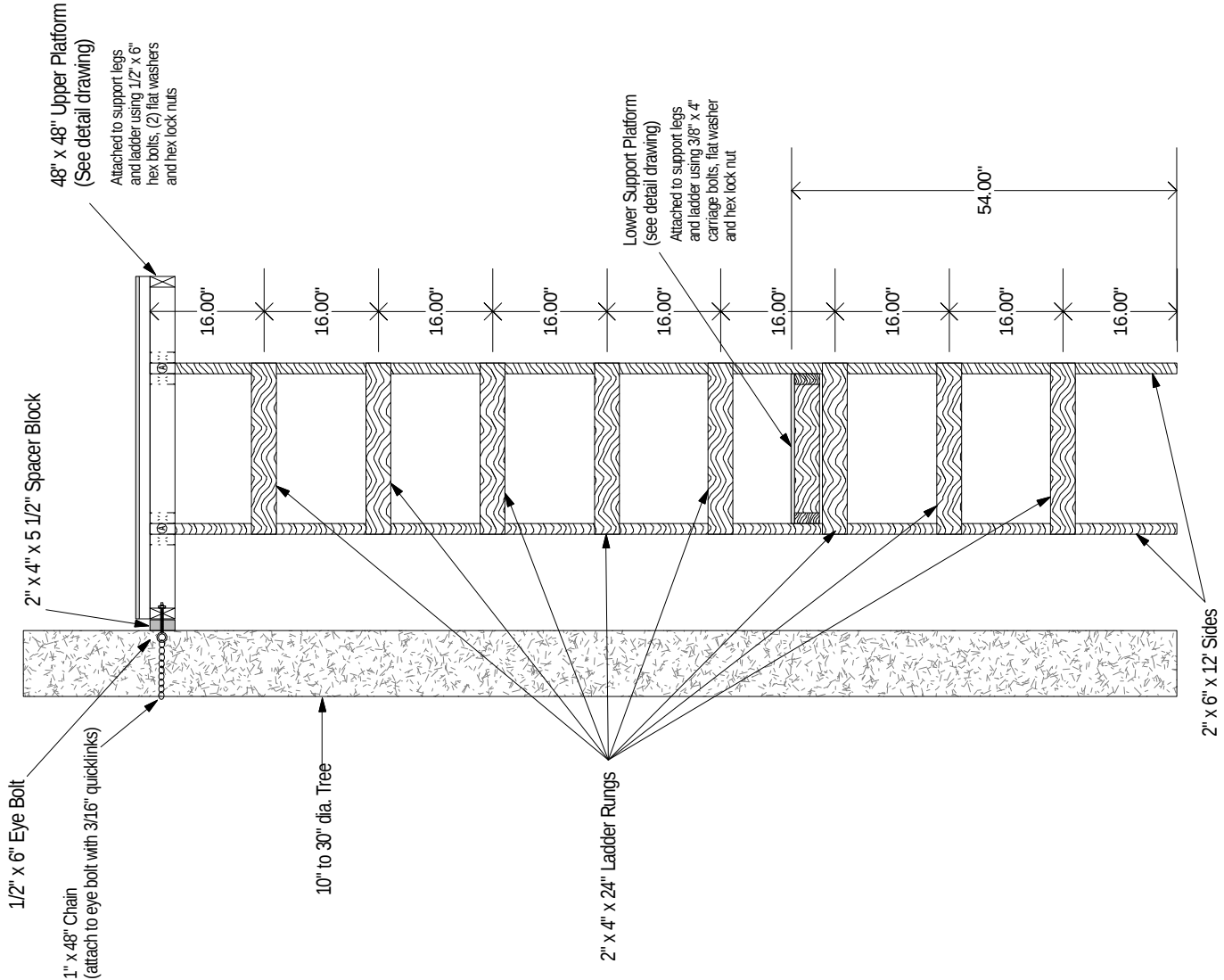
Photo 4 - Drill 3/8" Holes, Install 3/8" Carriage Bolts, Flat Washer, Lock Washers, and Hex Nuts. Tighten securely.



End View of Lower Platform Installed on Stand



DRAWING TITLE		
12' Stand / Left Side View		
SCALE	REVISION	DATE
	04/17/10	04/24/08



DRAWING TITLE		
Stand / Right Side View		
SCALE	REVISION	DATE
	04/17/10	04/24/08

Step 8 - Attach The Completed Stand To A Tree

- A. Position the completed stand laying on the ground with the bottom of the Ladder and Support Leg facing the tree (Photo 1)
- B. With the help of one or two assistants, raise the stand so that the rear side of the platform is leaning against the tree. **(Photo 2)** (the rear side is the side with the (8) 9/16" drilled holes and the 5 1/4" fabric wrapped 2 x4 attached. Position the stand so that the upper and lower platforms are level. (On uneven ground, you will may need to remove some soil from under the ladder or support leg to level the stand). **Temporarily tie ladder and support leg to the tree using a rope or tie down strap to hold the stand in place while you secure it to the tree with the chain and eye bolts.**
- C. Install the two Eye Bolts into the platform holes (Install the bolts in the 9/16" holes that correspond to the diameter of the tree). Install a flat washer and hex lock nut on each bolt but do not tighten the hex nuts yet. Attached the chain to each eye bolts using two 3/16" Chain Quick Links. **(Photo 3)**
- D. Tighten the Hex Nuts on both Eye Bolts until the chain is tight and the stand is secure.



Photo 1 - Position the Stand



Photo 2 - Raise the Stand

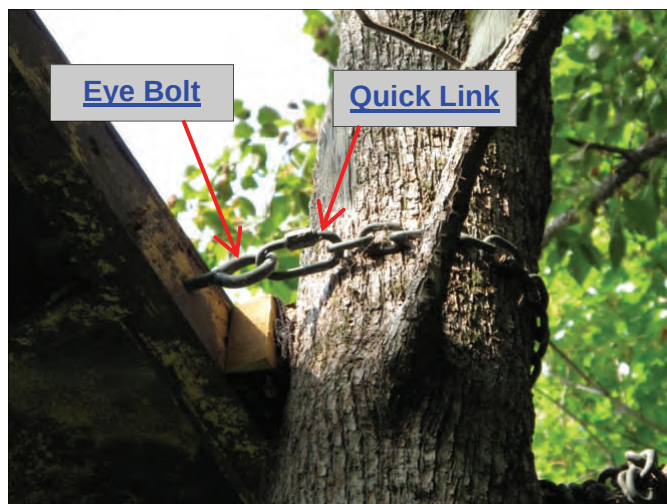


Photo 3 - Install the Chain using Quick Links



Photo 4 - Tighten Hex Nuts