

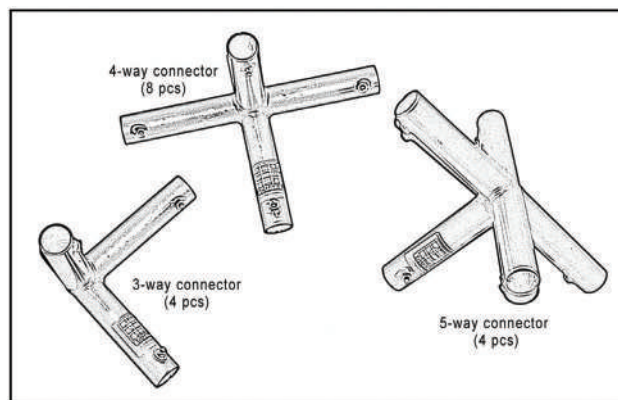
9 Square in the Air® Deluxe Game Kit Activity Guide



Parts/Assembly

Game Components

| Description | # per kit |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 3-way Connectors | 4 |
| 4-way Connectors | 8 |
| 5-way Connectors | 4 |
| Vertical Legs | 16 |
| Cross bars | 24 |
| Game Ball | 1 |
| Disassembly tools | 3 |
| Instructions | 1 |



Assembled Game

When you've finished assembling the game, it will look like Figure 1. Each playing square is 6 ft², so the size of the game is 18 feet².



Figure 1
(Assembled Game Set up)

Set-up Instructions

Before You Begin

In each step, you'll need to secure the PVC pipe into the metal connectors.

Here's how to lock the pipe into the connectors

1. On the PVC pipe, depress the metal button with your thumb while inserting the pipe into the connector. Make sure the pipe is lined up properly with the connector. (If the pipe is crooked, it will not slide in easily.)
2. Align the metal button on the PVC with the small hole inside the connector, and make sure the button locks into the hole.

Step 1: Adjust the Height of the Legs

- 1.1 Choose your desired playing height and adjust the legs accordingly. To adjust the legs, depress the metal push-button and adjust the legs to the desired playing height by extending the 1" PVC pole from the larger 1.25 inch pole. (For players 6th grade and older, 7 feet is the recommended height.)
- 1.2 Attach the steel connectors to each of the 16 legs, inserting the PVC into the connector opening with the sticker. The push button in the PVC will snap into the small hole in the metal connector. (Figure 2)
(**Helpful Hint:** As you're doing this, it's important to line up the PVC properly with the connector. It should slide in easily. If it's tight, change the angle of the pipe until it slides easily into the connector.)

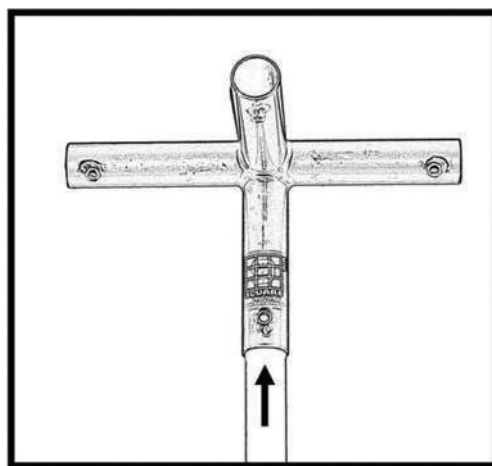


Figure 2

(4-way connector with leg installed)

Step 2: Prepare the 5-way Connectors

*From this step forward, three people are recommended for game assembly.
Work in an open area with plenty of space (at least 22 ft x 22 ft)*

- 2.1 Gather the 4 legs with the 5-way connectors, and 4 of the cross bars.
- 2.2 Insert 2 cross bars into 2 of the 5-way connectors, forming a 90 degree angle, as pictured in Figure 3. Tighten thumb screws as needed. Leave the 2 remaining legs with 5-way connectors as is. (Figure 4)

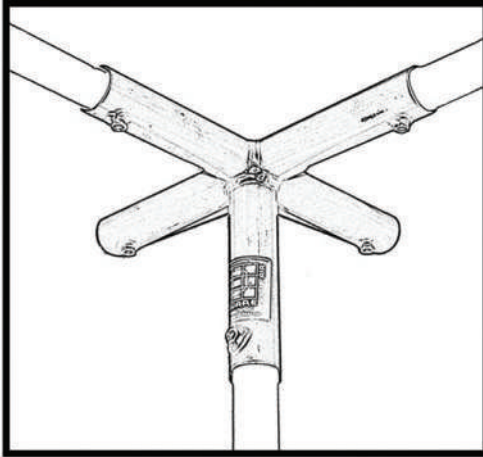


Figure 3

*(5-way connector with cross bars installed)
Made in step 2.2*

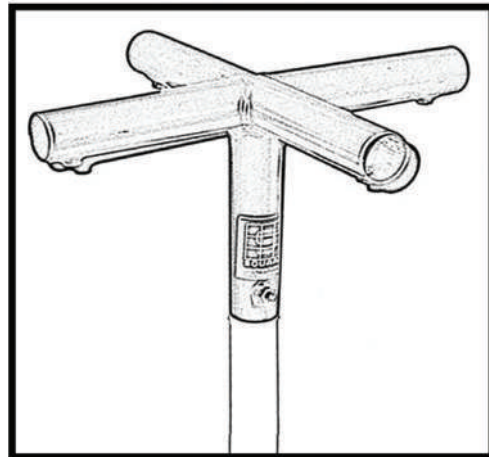


Figure 4

(5-way connector with leg only installed)

Step 3: Build the Center Square

(Hint: This is where three people really helps.)

- 3.1 Have one person pick up a leg / cross bar combination (Figure 3 above), and another person pick up the other leg / cross bar combination (also Figure 3). They should hold the legs vertically, and stand on opposite corners of what will become the center square. (as pictured below)
- 3.2 The third person will pick up a 5-way leg and hold it vertically. (Figure 4 above) Insert the cross bars into the connector. Repeat with the other 5-way leg, and the center square is finished. Pictured below is the construction of the center square.

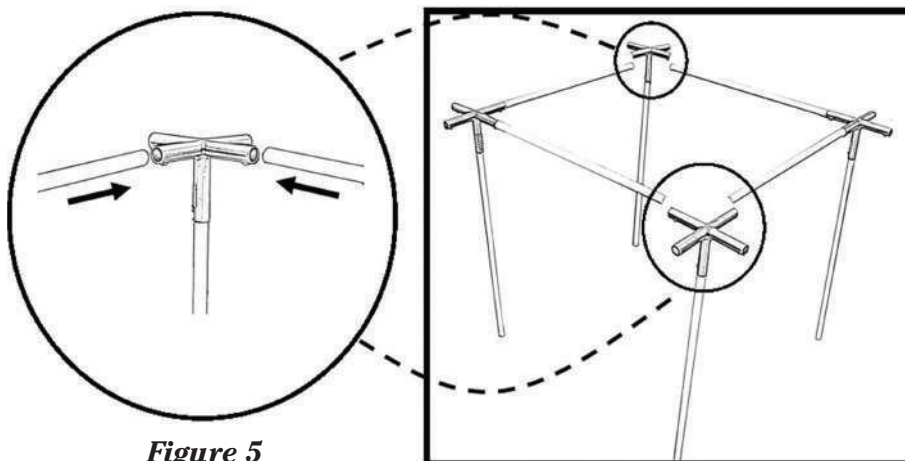


Figure 5

(Assembling the center square)

Step 4: Prepare the 4-way connectors

- 4.1 Lay the 8 legs with the 4-way connectors on the ground, with the 9 Square sticker facing up.
- 4.2 Insert and lock a cross bar into each connector. The PVC should be inserted into the connector opening facing up. (Figure 6)

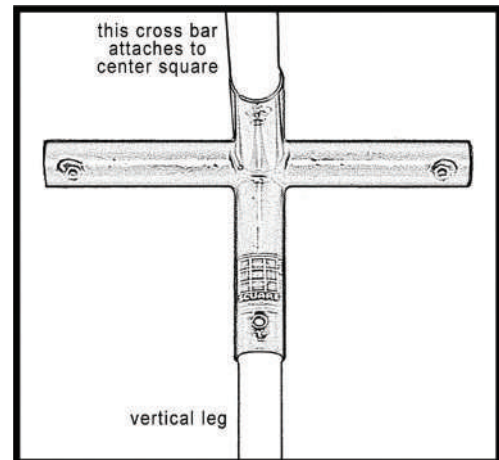


Figure 6

(4-way connector with leg and one cross bar installed)

Step 5: Attach the 4-way Connectors to the Center Square

- 5.1 Add the 4-way leg / cross bar pieces from step 4 to the center square by locking the cross bar into the 5-way connectors on the center square.
- 5.2 Once two 4-way legs are installed on a side, connect them together with one of the remaining cross bars.

Note: The simplest method is to begin on one side of the center square and complete steps 5.1 and 5.2. Once those steps are completed on a side, move to another side, working your way around the center square.

Tip: To help the cross bars slide into the connectors easily when adding the 4-way and 3-way connectors to the game structure, hold the legs slightly off the ground while inserting the cross bars to the game structure. This reduces tension between the connectors and the cross bars.

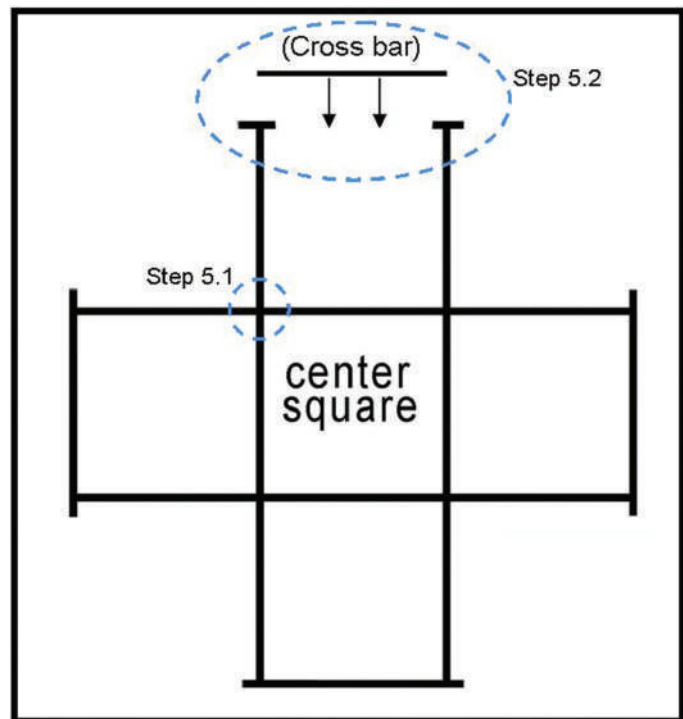


Figure 7

Steps 4 & 5: (top view of center square with 4-way connectors and cross bars being installed.)

Step 6: Prepare the 3-way Connectors

(these are the corner pieces)

- 6.1 Lay the 4 legs with the 3-way connectors on the ground.
- 6.2 Insert and lock the remaining cross bars into both openings of 3-way connectors, as pictured in Figure 8.

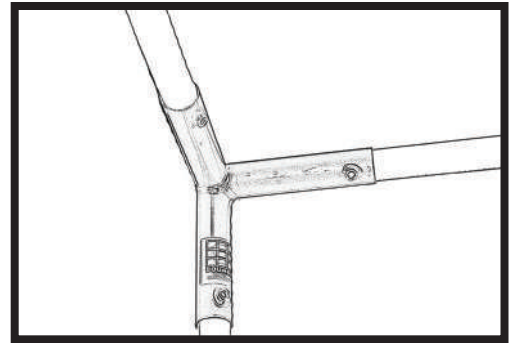


Figure 8

(3-way connector with leg and cross bars installed)

Step 7: Attach the Corner Pieces to the Game Structure

- 7.1 Position each of the 3-way connector legs at the four corners of the game.
- 7.2 Hold the 3-way leg vertically and attach the cross bars you've already inserted into the 3-way connectors to the adjacent 4-way connectors. (Figure 9)
- 7.3 Repeat step 7.2 for the remaining corner pieces.

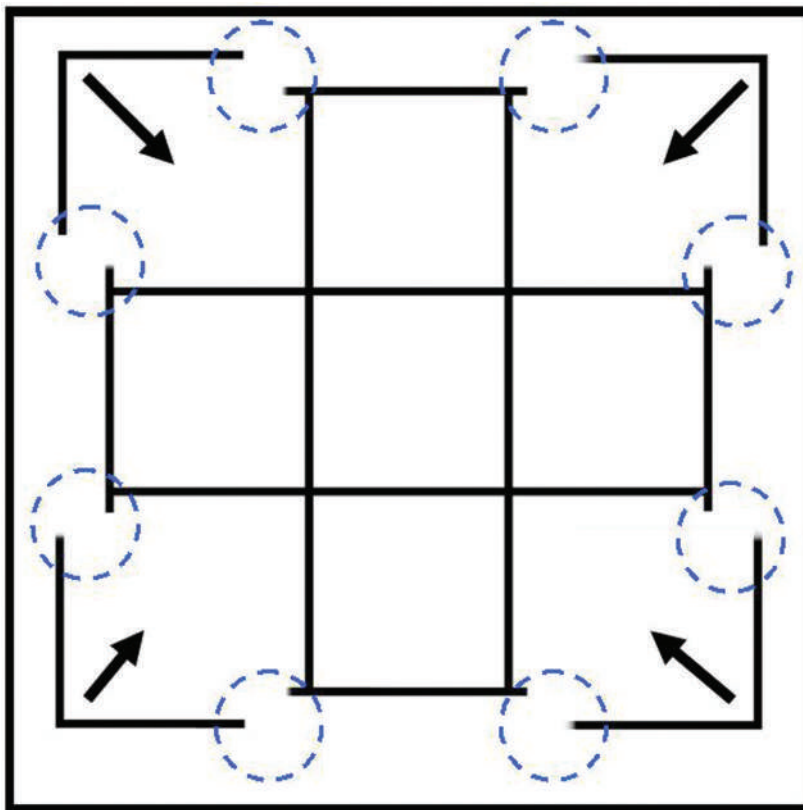
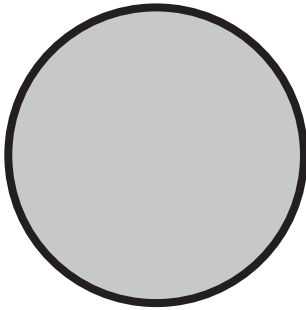


Figure 9

(Attaching corner pieces to game structure)

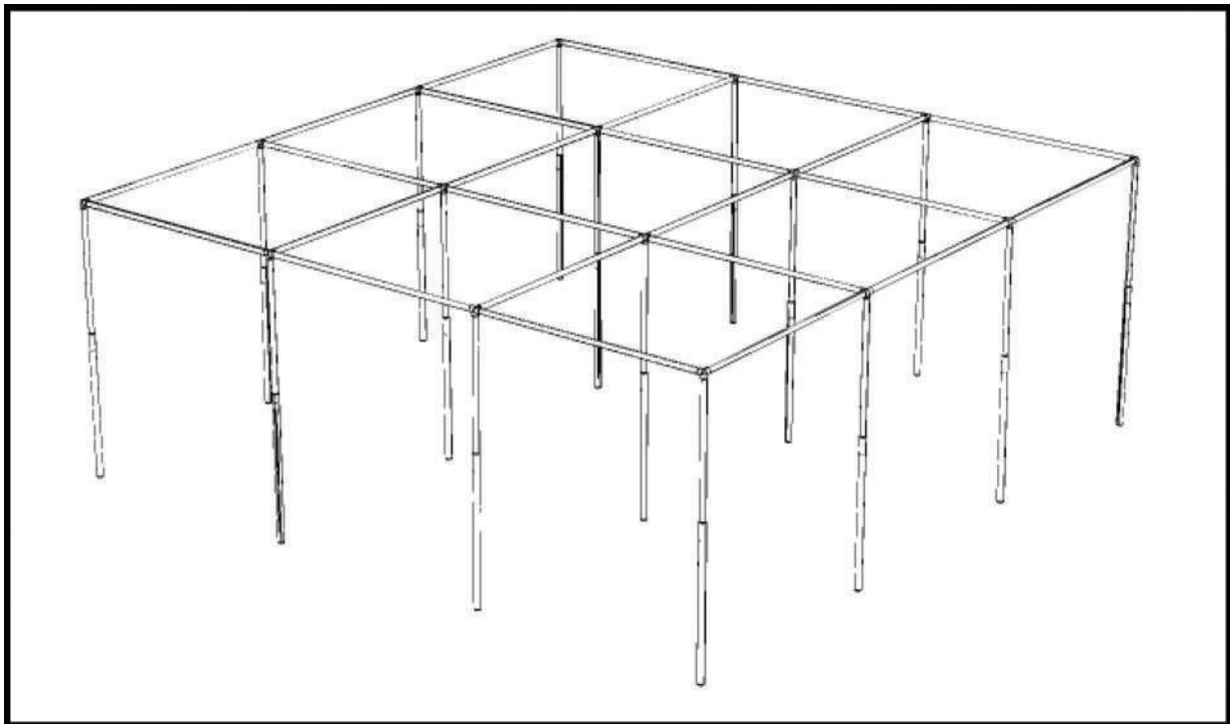
Congratulations! You've set up 9 Square in the Air®!
The game is now complete and ready to play.
Inflate the game ball that came with the game and have fun!



Tip on inflating the ball: The ball will inflate to 15 inches, but the ball will be very tight the first time you inflate it. The ball manufacturer recommends inflating the ball to a comfortable size & pressure, and allowing the material to stretch for a few days. Then inflate the ball to the full 15 inches.

WARNING

1. Absolutely no hanging on game structure. The game will not support players hanging from it.
2. As players move and jump during the game, do not allow players to run or jump into the game structure.
3. Only use the game on a flat, dry, non-slip surface.
4. Game is suitable for indoor or outdoor use, but not approved for use in windy conditions.



Disassembly Instructions

Using the “disassembly tools” provided with your game, insert the small peg on the tool into the hole in the metal connector. This will depress the metal button in the PVC in order to release it from the connector. With your other hand, slightly twist the pipe and slide it out of the connector. (Figure 10)

It is easiest to detach the corner pieces first, then remove the 4-way pieces, and finally take down the center square. Once the cross bars are removed from the connectors, remove the legs from the connectors.

Helpful Hint: As players help take down the game, they may try to insert keys or pens in the connectors to depress the button and remove the pipe. Using keys or pens will depress the buttons too far, and the buttons may become misaligned inside the pipe.

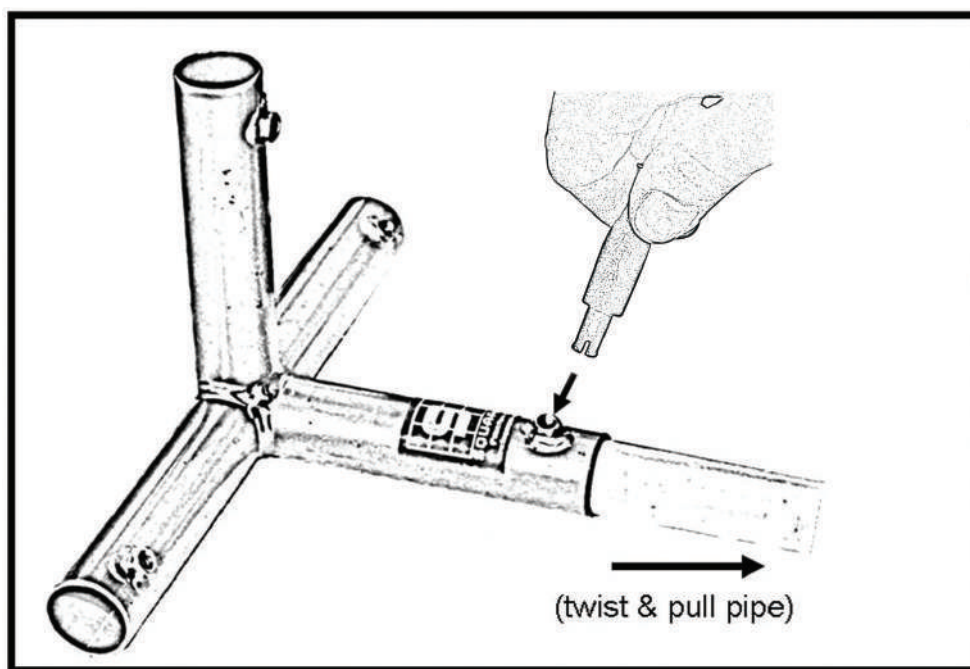


Figure 10
(Removing pipe from connector)



Disassembly Tool

Game Play Instructions

How to play 9 Square in the Air®

Goal: Be the “King” of the game for as long as you can.

1. The “king” serves the ball from the center square to any other square they choose by hitting the ball up and out of the top of the center game square.
2. Players must return the ball to another player’s square.
3. If a player fails to return the ball to another player’s square, that player is out.
4. A double hit results in elimination.
5. During game play, players are not allowed to touch the game structure. Touching the game structure results in elimination.
6. When a player is out, they leave their square and move to the end of the line. The other players advance to fill the square of the player who just got out.

Rotation pattern to the center square:

Line Forms Here



| | | |
|---|-------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 8 | 9 (King) | 4 |
| 7 | 6 | 5 |

The “What ifs”

- Q. What if I hit the ball out of the overall square?**
A. You're out, because you're too strong.
- Q. What if I hit the ball 2 times?**
A. You're out. Only one hit allowed.
- Q. What if I catch/palm the ball, and throw it into another square?**
A. You're out, and should hang your head in shame.
- Q. What if I hit the ball, but it doesn't go over the bars in my square?**
A. You're out. Better luck next time.
- Q. What if I try to block the ball, but it comes back in my square?**
A. Just like in volleyball, you can hit the ball 1 more time.
- Q. What if I try to hit the ball, miss, and it bounces off of my head into another square?**
A. Think of yourself as one lucky duck, and keep playing!.

Tips for Group Leaders

1. Do NOT allow players to hang on the game structure. It is not designed for that purpose. The PVC pipes may break if a player hangs on it.
2. Never allow the king to start the round by serving a “set” for another player to spike. That's just no fun.
3. Consider playing a “no spiking” game. This levels the playing field a bit, and helps to make the game a great community builder.
4. Determining a winner. To decide who wins, count the number of rounds each person is in the king square. Whoever serves the most rounds as king is the winner. Or set a time limit to the game. Whoever is in the king square when the time is up is the winner.



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