



Hanging your Arena Mirror

Some things to think about before you hang your mirror. . . .

What do you want to see when you are using the mirror/ Side view or straight ahead; you may choose a corner, part of the short side, or the long side near the center of the arena. Is the rider or the horse more important to you? When the mirror is hung it may need to be angled to give the best view when you are mounted. If you are using the mirror outdoors, then think about where the sun is and what time of day you usually ride. The sun's glare can be distracting.

The mirrors need a secure base to hang on and you may need to add boards to give a good base to screw the mirror in to. Plan on having one at the top, two in the middle and one the bottom. A shelf or ledge will be needed at the bottom especially if you will be tilting the mirrors, often the top of the kickboards work well for this.

Your installation will only be as good as the base you are mounting the mirror to, it must be straight and true. Ask all your questions before attempting to hang the mirror.

Commonly asked questions:

Distortion, yes there can be some distortion, when dealing with large panels it is difficult to keep the panels perfectly flat.

Image size: Mirrors do not enlarge what you see. The further you get from a mirror the smaller the image you see.

Because we cannot control the installation and use of the mirrors we cannot accept responsibility for damage or poor performance. Mirrors are not returnable.

We have several customers that have cut the panels in half (cut a 4 x 8 to 4 x 4 for example) to make them easier to handle. Large panels are awkward to handle.

Note: Arena Mirrors weight approximately 1.375 pounds per square foot, glass of a comparable size weight 3.28 pounds per square foot.

Mounting the mirror indoors:

Do not remove the protective film on the mirror front until you are completely done with the mounting project!

Place the mirror panels on a clean flat surface. Drill your holes with the drill bit we provide. Use moderate pressure and medium speed, the drill bit provided is designed to minimize chipping on break through but use caution.

The location of the mounting holes will depend on what you are attaching the mirror to but we suggest spacing the long side holes on 16/20-inch centers. Drill holes in the corners and at approx 16/20-inch intervals along the edges and through the center of the panel, space the holes on the short side at 16/20 inches. Drill at least 1 inch in from the edge. For example on the short side you will have screw holes at the edge and three holes in between.

The mirrors should be mounted using the stainless steel screws and nylon washers we provide.

The holes you have drilled are oversize to the screws.

The plastic must be able to move, do not over tighten the screws when mounting, the washer should still feel loose.

When hanging the mirror together leave at least 1/8-inch gap between panels to allow for expansion.

Note:

Our molder says the use of a spray adhesive for mounting with or without screws can be accomplished. If the mirrors are used in areas subject to temperature and humidity extremes (unheated indoor or outdoor arenas) we do not think this is a suitable method without the use of screws. Email us for additional information on adhesive types.

Outdoor applications:

Freestanding outdoor applications should be mounted with exterior grade plywood or MDF used to prevent blowout. Sturdy posts (6x6 or bigger) installed well into the ground will be needed to prevent blow over. Protection for the face of the mirror and putting a 'roof' over the top edge for protection from the weather is also recommended.

It is best to protect the edges and back from moisture.

Cleaning:

We use a spray wax like Pledge and a soft cotton cloth which picks up the dust and the wax will fill in any tiny surface scratches.

Storage:

Try not to order your Mirror too far in advance, the protective film is held on by static and it will loosen and probably fall off as time passes.

If you have any questions at all on the best mounting in your construction email us at: jumpswest1@aol.com.