

Leapin' Bass Float Tube Rod Holders

Parts needed:

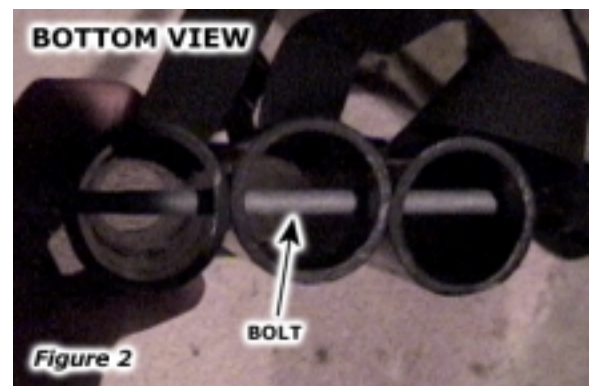
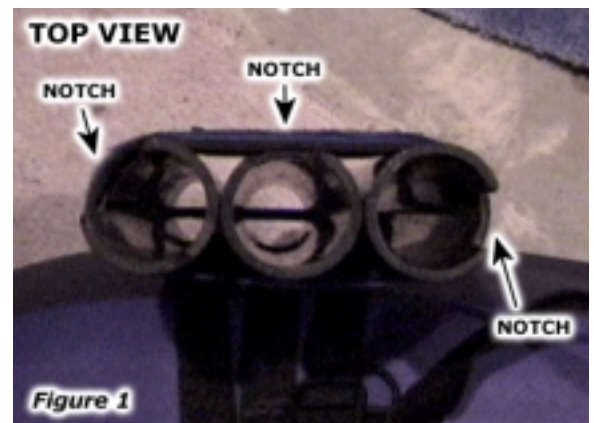
- 36 inches of 1/8" inch thick PVC pipe with a 1.5" diameter
- 6 inch x 1/4" Bolt
- 3/16" Lock Washer
- 3/16" Locking Nut
- 24" Velcro Rod Wrap
- 3 Straps long enough to wrap around float tube when fully inflated

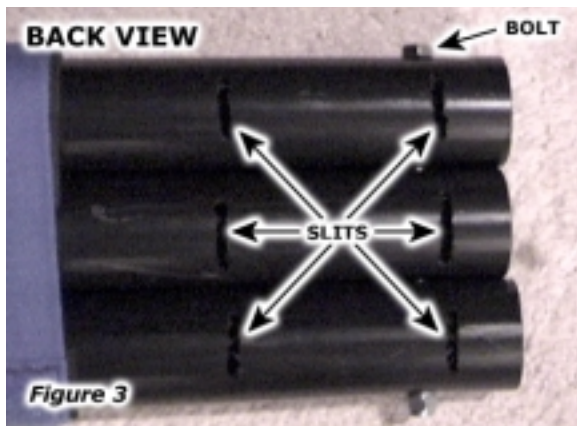
Tools Needed:

- Power Drill
- 1/4" drill bit (long enough to drill through 6 inches)
- 1/8" drill bit
- Saws (I use a hacksaw and a coping saw)
- Pliers
- Wrenches to fit Bolt and Lock Washer

Directions:

- 1) Cut the PVC pipe into three 12 inch pieces.
- 2) If you want you can cut small notches out of the tops of the pipes. I do this to keep the rods from spinning around (works very well with spinning rods). To make the notches I cut two slits (1/2 - 3/4" apart) from the top of the pipe down then break it off with pliers. See *Figure 1*
- 3) Sand or file down all the rough spots on the PVC resulting from the cuts.
- 4) Line all of the pipe up side by side (you may want to strap them together). Using the 1/4 inch long bit drill directly through all of the pipes about 1.5 inches from the bottom. If you made the notches mentioned above make sure they are where you want them. If you look at the rod holders from the top with the outside facing up I have my notches at: Back Pipe - 10 O'clock, Middle Pipe - 12 O'clock, Front Pipe - 3 O'clock. See *Figures 1 & 2*
- 5) Slip the bolt through the hole, put the lock washer and locking nut on the end and tighten just slightly. See *Figures 2 & 3*
- 6) Wrap the Rod Wrap around the pipes about an inch or so from the top.
- 7) On the back side of the pipes drill a 1/8" hole about an inch from the bottom of each pipe, then drill another one directly 4 inches above the first.
- 8) Use the drill to make each of these holes into slits just wide enough for your straps to fit into. I usually drill another hole about 1/4 inch to the side of the center hole and the push the drill sideways until it cuts through the PVC into the original hole. I repeat this on either side of the slit until it is wide enough. See *Figure 3*
- 9) Run each strap into the top notch and out the bottom notch. If you have problems getting the strap out the bottom notch you may need to temporarily remove the bolt. See *Figure 4*
- 10) After all the straps are in place tighten the bolt and strap them to your float tube. See *Figure 5*





Notes:

- You have to use 3 pipes to make the set of rod holders stable. Even if you are only going to use one or two of the holders.
- The best types of float tubes for these holders are ones where the backrest is not attached to the side pockets (such as the lower end Caddis') or where there is a pocket that can be unzipped (such as the Caddis Proline). This is where the straps wrap around the float tube.