

PACK 335

Popsicle Stick Bridge Building Competition

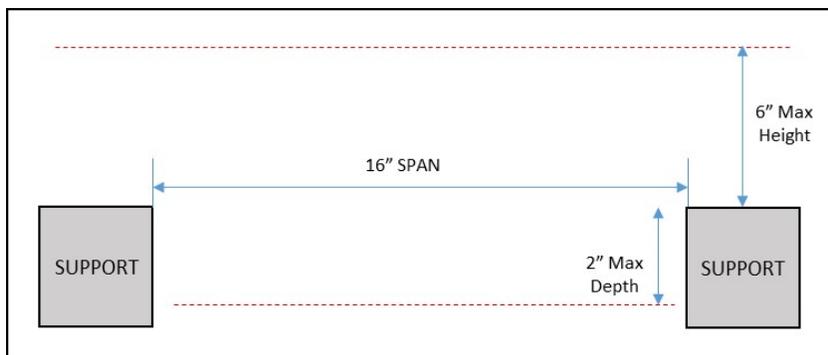


Task:

- Build a bridge out of the popsicle sticks and glue in your kit.
- The bridge must span a 16" gap for a pinewood derby car.
- The goal is to support as much weight as possible in the middle.
- Additional awards are available for design and decoration.

Rules for Building:

- Build your bridge.
 - Use the 100 popsicle sticks provided in the kit.
 - You can cut, notch or sand the sticks however you like.
 - Use the glue provided in the kit. You cannot use extra glue or other glue.
 - You cannot soak your sticks in anything but water. You cannot apply anything else to the bridge other than the glue provided. You cannot use extra glue or different glue. You cannot use any materials that didn't come in your kit. **Basically – no cheating!**
- Bridge Dimensions:
 - The bridge must span a 16" gap.
 - The bridge cannot be taller than 6", droop down more than 2" or be more than 6" wide.
 - It must also provide a 3.5"x3.5" "road" through the bridge where a pinewood derby car could drive (road surface optional)
 - The bridge must allow a 2"x1" space at the middle for the loading bar to be placed.
 - The loading bar goes across the bridge.
- Once built, you are allowed to decorate your bridge with pencil, marker and crayon.
 - No paint, varnish, shellac, polyurethane or anything else that might strengthen the bridge. Again – no cheating!

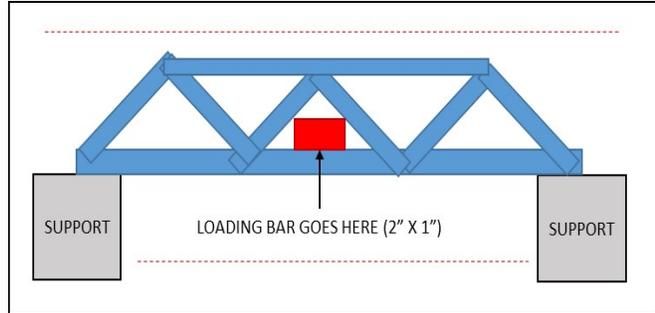


Design and Decoration Awards: Before we crush the bridges, the judges will select a few winners...

- **Realistic Design** - The most realistic bridge from each rank will receive an award. (Note: you'll need some kind of road surface for this one)
- **Patriotic** – The most patriotically decorated bridge from each rank will receive an award.
- **Most Aesthetically Pleasing** – A subjective category looking for a combination of creative design and decoration which pleases the judges most.

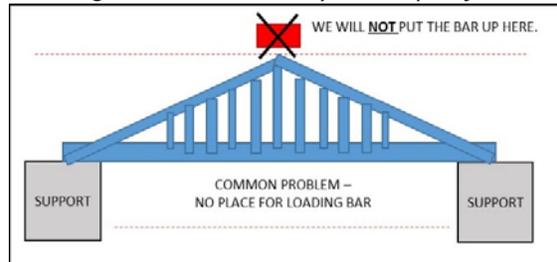
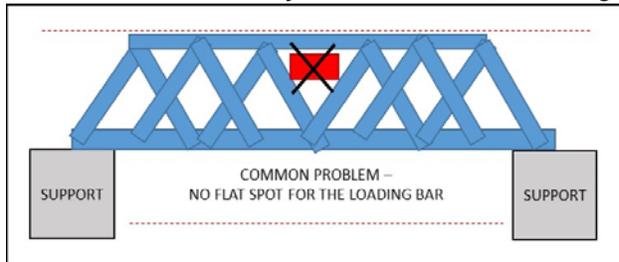
Rules for Crushing:

- We will place your bridge on the bridge crusher. The gap is 16". We recommend you aim for 18-20" long to ensure a secure footing on either end.
- A loading bar will be put through the middle of your bridge at "road" height.
- **You must leave a gap for this loading bar to fit through!**
- Our experienced team of experts will then apply weight with our hydraulic crusher until your bridge yields. The breaking point will be recorded.
- The bridge that holds the most weight before it breaks wins!



F.A.Q.

- I really like my bridge. Does it have to get crushed?
 - *Yes, every bridge will be crushed!*
- How much weight have bridges held in the past?
 - *Every year we see bridges which hold in excess of 200lb.*
- What if the loading bar can't fit?
 - *We'll do our best to help fit it in, perhaps making minor modifications to your bridge. If it cannot fit at "road" level, the bridge will still get crushed but may be disqualified.*



- What if my bridge is too tall/wide/short?
 - *On crushing day, bridges will be checked for dimensions and total weight.*
 - *Note: Minor, unintentional infractions may be overlooked, at the discretion of the judge.*
 - *Bridges which grossly ignore the rules may be disqualified.*
- What if the glue is still wet?
 - *We'll still crush it, but history has shown it won't do well. We recommend you finish building 3 days before the competition to allow the glue to fully cure. It may also take two or three days to put it all together, so plan ahead. (This is why we give the kits out a few weeks ahead of time.)*
 - *Building tip - binder clips are great to hold the sticks in place while they dry!*
- Can my mom and dad help me?
 - *Cub Scouts is a family activity and parental involvement is crucial. However, as our scouts get older, they should be able to do more for themselves. This is their project!*
 - *All scouts should come up with the concept for their bridge. All scouts should help in the gluing and assembly of the bridge.*
 - *Bears should do at least half of the gluing and assembly of the bridge.*
 - *Webelos should do almost all of the gluing and assembly of the bridge, having parents help with the parts which need extra hands.*

Good Luck!