Sample Catapult—for information only

Catapult

The Project

Each patrol is divided into two four-man teams. One team will assemble the trestle and the other team the side braces.

Notes on Trestle Assembly

Be sure that each patrol follows the diagram carefully. Make sure that all lashings are *tight*. Wrap working end around a sturdy stick and pull each lashing tight. Lash the diagonal braces high enough on the legs so as not to interface with the function of the thrower.

Notes on Side Braces

Be sure to square lash *butt* ends. Be sure to frap square lashing to facilitate twists of spars.

Set-Up

Raise the trestle when ready. Transom and ledger should be parallel to the ground.

One team should now lash the side braces to the trestle while the other begins assembly of the thrower.

Lash lower trestle side braces to *outside* of trestle legs first. Tilt the trestle back about 15 to 20 degrees from vertical. Lash the upper trestle side braces making sure trestle legs are parallel when viewed from the side.

After the side braces are lashed into place, the tie piece should be force-wedged into position according to the diagram.

Notes on the Thrower

Note which spars are lashed to the top side and underside of the arms.

NOTE: Before lashing cross pieces on thrower arms, place the pivot crosspiece into position on the trestle assembly. *Mark the pivot crosspiece so there will be 1 inch of clearance between the thrower arm and the trestle leg on each side*. There must be enough clearance so that the thrower arms do not hang up between the trestle legs.

After the crosspieces have been lashed to the thrower arms, one team can prepare the basket while the other lashes the counterbalance into position.

Notes on the Basket

If the basket is too deep, the object to be thrown will hang up in the pocket formed. If it is too tight, the object will roll off as the basket is raised.

After the thrower assembly is finished, raise it into position on the trestle assembly according to the diagram.

Rigging

One team should now loose-lash the pivot crosspiece into position while the other attaches the two pulleys, shown on the diagram, to the ledger. Two lines are now run from the counterbalance through the pulleys to the rear of the catapult.

Designed by Carl Nelson, Hurst, Texas, for the Philmont National Junior Leader Training Camp.

For more information write to: Boy Scout Division, Boy Scouts of America, 1325 Walnut Hill Lane, Irving, TX 75038-3096.

Keys to Success

- Make all lashings proper and tight.
- Follow all directions and dimensions.

Parts List

Quantity	Part	Size
2	A	5" diameter x 10' long
1	B	4" diameter x 7' long
1	C	4" diameter x 5' long
2	D	4" diameter x 11' long
2	E	3" diameter x 10½' long
1	F	3" diameter x 5' long
*2	G	3" diameter x 12' long
1	H	3" diameter x 6' long
2	I	3" diameter x 6' long
1	J	2" diameter x 3' long
1	K	2" diameter x 2½' long
1	L	18" diameter x 2' long (Approximate length. Cut to balance.)
2	M	2" diameter x 6' long

*Must be green hardwood and at least 2" diameter at the tip.