1531 Fort Add On

**!!IMPORTANT-PLEASE READ!!**

This “Add-On” kit will require you to deviate from the main instruction manual. Please follow the outline below so that you will know what steps to be aware of in the main manual. Get a yellow highlighter and use it to highlight the items below in your main assembly manual.

**Wood Roof section of main manual:**

The wood roof requires you to fasten the roof supports to a Roof Peak Support (triangle). Proceed as normal. Be aware that in Step 2 of the Fort Add on instructions you will be removing the Roof Peak Support from the roof supports at the rear of the play set so that it may be used with the Fort Add On roof supports.

*Do not install the Plastic Sunburst on the rear roof supports of the play set.* Wait until you begin installing the Fort Add On and those instructions will show you when this piece is to be installed.

**Rear Railing section of main manual:**

The rear railing is called the Rear Top Panel board in the main manual (for most play sets this board is installed around step 6 of the main manual). This board is replaced by the Rear Panel Support in Step 2A of the Fort Add On instructions.

If there are any accessories installed on the Rear Top Panel Board or Rear Center Post then those items should be left off until the Fort Add On is installed. (Example: Steering Wheel, Telescope, etcetera.)

**Panel Slats section of main manual:**

The two panel slats at the front of the play set may be installed. The panel slat arrangement in the main manual should not be followed on the sides or in the rear. Follow Step 10 or 10A in the Fort Add On instructions. For some play sets slight deviations will need to be made. We will review those deviations below.

**Does your playset have a Tire Swing?** If “yes” then go to Step 10 in the Fort Add On instructions. Highlight the right most 5/4 x 6 x 28-1/4’ panel slat in the view at the bottom of that page. Leave that panel slat off since the end of the Tire Swing will be located in that area. Slide the small slat against the tire swing beam after it is installed.

**Does your playset have an Extreme Tube Slide on the right side?** If “yes” then proceed as shown in the main manual and install the two 33” tall slats next to the Tube Slide. There will not be any “infill” slats between the 33” tall slats for the play sets with the Tube Slide. So skip the “Rock Wall Side picture” in Step 10A of the “Fort Add On” instructions. Proceed as shown in Step 10A of the Fort Add On instructions for the slats at the “rear” and the “swing beam side”.

**Does your play set have a Ladder on the rear?** If “yes” then use Step 10A in the Fort Add On instructions. If “no” then use Step 10 in the Fort Add On instructions.
FORT ADD ON KIT

Note: Plastic Sunburst shown comes with your playset. This item is not included with the 1531 kit.

Model: 1531

(BOXES: 1531 wood box, 1531, Hardware box & 2 Windows

REV: 3.1.2016
Some playsets have a Ladder, Rock Wall or Ramp here. If any of these items are here then this kit has extra slats to fill up the sides of this opening.

Some playsets have a Tire Swing Beam attached here. For those playsets the panel slat steps in this manual outline how to arrange the panel slats around where the Tire Swing Beam is attached.

Some playsets have a Tube Slide here along with a rear mounted Ladder. If the playset has a Tube Slide here then this kit does not have extra slats to fill up the spaces between the existing slats.
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PLEASE READ OWNER’S MANUAL CAREFULLY
BEFORE STARTING ASSEMBLY!
General Info to Review Before Installation

• Depending on your experience, assembly of the playset can take as little as 6 hours up to 24 hours, depending on size, after inventory of parts; therefore, we recommend you set aside a full two days for assembly.

• Identify all of the parts for your play set. Empty each box and lay out boards so you can see each part. Your instruction book will have detailed drawings that will make it easy for you to recognize individual parts. Keep all hardware and metal parts separate from wooden pieces.

• After everything is laid out, check carefully to ensure all parts are present. Make sure there are no broken boards.

• Find an area to sort your hardware. It is best to open the hardware on a solid surface so that you do not lose any pieces in the grass. This will save time and familiarize you with all the different pieces in the hardware bag.

• Important note: Wood has some natural defects such as knots, surface cracks, etc… We reject parts that are structurally defective. We use a high quality lumber in our structures; however, you should inspect each part for splinters or rough spots and sand them smooth to prevent injury.

• After familiarizing yourself with all of the components, read all instructions thoroughly. Reading instructions after you have studied the parts will help you understand the installation process, and help to eliminate unnecessary mistakes.

• Pay close attention to the diameter and length of each bolt and screw.

• Never tighten hardware completely at first. It helps to have some adjustment for bolt alignment while you are attaching parts together. After everything is square, tighten each joint.

• After the main unit is assembled it is critical that the floor is level and square. If the main frame is not level, the walls and floor will be out of square.

• After you complete installation, make sure every bolt, screw, and nut is tight, and every board is secure. Wood will expand and contract with the seasons.

• Place the set on level ground, not less than 6 feet from any structure or obstruction such as a fence, garage, house, overhanging branches, laundry lines, or electrical wires.
This page is a list of definitions and explanations used throughout our instructions to aid you in the assembly of your play set.

**Offset Holes** - Throughout the installation procedures we will refer to parts with offset holes. This refers to the orientation of the holes on the board. An offset hole is one that is closer to one side than it is the other or in other words, it is not centered on the board. In the procedures you will be instructed to attach the boards with the holes offset up or with the holes offset down. This refers to which side of the board the hole/holes should be closer to. Offset holes up= hole/holes will be closer to the top of the board. Offset holes down= hole/holes will be closer to the bottom of the board. Note: some parts do not have offset holes, but instead the holes are on center. Therefore there will not be any reference on how to offset these parts.

**EXAMPLE OF OFFSET HOLES UP**

**EXAMPLE OF OFFSET HOLES DOWN**

**Counter-sunk holes** - Many of the parts that will be used have counter-sunk holes. A counter-sunk hole is one that surrounds one side of a through hole, but does not extend through the wood it's self. When using a counter-sunk hole the bolt will be inserted through the through hole and either the head of the bolt and washer or nut and washer will occupy the counter sunk hole.

**Lag Screws** - Lag screws are used in the construction of our play sets to enhance the structural integrity of the unit. There will not be predrilled holes in the post for lag screw installation. Lag screws are self-tapping, though if you are using a manual socket wrench it may be advantageous to pre-drill a hole first. Instructions for this are provided on a separate page in the front of the manual. Be sure to tighten the lags completely when driving them in by hand. Power tools such as a heavy duty impact driver or large power drill should have enough torque to drive in the lag screws, but make sure not to over tighten as this can cause the threads to "strip out" in the post.
BOARD IDENTIFICATION

1. On the end of each board there should be a small white tag that is stapled into place.

2. This white identification tag displays the thickness, width, length and an abbreviated description of the part.

Example: a tag reads "2-4-3600-BPB"

- The 2 is the thickness of the board. "Nominal Lumber" at a home center will measure 1-1/2" for the thickness. We "remill" that lumber to 1-3/8" thick.

- The 4 is the width of the board. "Nominal Lumber" at a home center will measure 3-1/2" for the width. We "remill" that lumber to 3-3/8" wide.
  Note: sometimes the width will be smaller than 3-3/8" because:
  A) We need the width of the part to fit into a certain area of the play set.
  B) We need the designation to be simple.

- The 3600 is the length of the board. It means the board is 36 inches long. If the code were 3625 then the board is 36-1/4" in length.

- The "BPB" abbreviation stands for "Bottom Panel Board". The wood part bill of materials in the instructions has a description which will match the abbreviation closely.

- In the event that there is no tag on a wood part measure the part then:
  A) Use the measurements and compare them to the wood list at the front of the instructions to identify it.
  B) Look at the holes on the wood part and compare them to the pictures in the wood list.
  C) Look to see if the holes are centered or if they are offset up or offset down.

This should help you identify any parts that have missing tags. In the event that you cannot identify a board please email us for assistance.
PRE-DRILL LAG SCREW DIRECTIONS

Pre-drilling holes for lag screws will make it easier to drive the screws in by hand. “Jobber” length drill bits are available in sizes that are longer than standard drill bits and those are ideal for the job. When using the drill bit you will have to “spot” drill the post and then remove the board you are attaching to finish drilling the hole.

Pay attention to the DIAMETER of the lag screw you are installing. Your playset may come with two different diameter lag screws. Each diameter will require a different size drill bit. When installing lag screws DO NOT OVERTIGHTEN.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAG SCREW DIAMETER</th>
<th>DRILL BIT SIZE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/16” DIAMETER</td>
<td>9/64”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/8” DIAMETER</td>
<td>11/64”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Example: 3/8” diameter x 3-1/2” lag screw

This would be like the 2 x 4 board installation shown below. Place the board into position. Spot Drill through the holes in the 2 x 4 board into the corner posts with an 11/64” drill bit. Remove the 2 x 4 board. Continue to drill the holes to a total depth of 2-5/16” as shown at the right. Install the 2 x 4 board.

Example 5/16” diameter x 3-1/2” lag screw

This would be like the 2 x 4 board installation shown below. Place the board into position. Spot Drill through the holes in the 2 x 4 board into the corner posts with an 9/64” drill bit. Remove the 2 x 4 board. Continue to drill the holes to a total depth of 2-5/16” as shown at the right. Install the 2 x 4 board.

Example 3/8” diameter x 5” lag screw

This would be like the 4 x 4 board installation shown below. Place the board into position. Spot drill through the holes in the 4 x 4 board into the corner posts with an 11/64” drill bit. Remove the 4 x 4 board. Continue to drill the holes to a total depth of 2-13/16” as shown at the right. Install the 4 x 4 board.
REQUIRED TOOL LIST:
___ Standard or Cordless Drill w/ Phillips Bit (#2 square bit provided)
___ Drill Bits 1/8”, 3/8”, 9/64”
___ ½” Wrench and Socket
___ ½” Deep Well Socket
___ Level
___ Tape Measure
___ Extension Cord (if using standard drill)
___ Hammer
___ Pencil

KIT CONTENTS

Swings, Slides, Accessories:
___ (Qty ) Description
___ (2) Plastic Dormer Window 07-0029-G

Hardware:
see following pages

Wood Components:
see following pages
#8 X 1-1/4" WOOD SCREW
QTY: 32

#8 X 1-1/2" WOOD SCREW
QTY: 92

#8 X 2" WOOD SCREW
QTY: 18

#8 X 2-1/2" WOOD SCREW
QTY: 8

#8 X 3" WOOD SCREW
QTY: 2

5/16" WASHER
QTY: 2

5/16" X 3-1/2" LAG SCREW
QTY: 2

Use the ruler to the right to measure your bolts and screws. Picture views shown above are 1:1 scale and can be used to match bolt and screw sizes.
USE THE RULER TO THE RIGHT TO MEASURE YOUR BOLTS AND SCREWS. PICTURE VIEWS SHOWN ABOVE ARE 1:1 SCALE AND CAN BE USED TO MATCH BOLT AND SCREW SIZES.

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HARDWARE
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#8 X 2" WOOD SCREW
QTY: 2

5/16" WASHER
QTY: 2

5/16" X 4-1/2" HEX BOLT
QTY: 2

5/16" X 2" WOOD SCREW
QTY: 48
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<td>1 X 3 X 14.06&quot; WALL PANEL BOARD 1-3-1406-WPB</td>
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<td>1 X 5 X 6.88&quot; ROOF PEAK 1-5-0688-RP</td>
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<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Picture" /></td>
<td>2 X 3 X 35.70&quot; SUN SUPPORT 2-3-3570-SS</td>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image4.png" alt="Picture" /></td>
<td>2 X 4 X 51.13&quot; ROOF SUPPORT LEFT 2-4-5113-RSL</td>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Picture" /></td>
<td>2 X 6 X 70.00&quot; REAR PANEL SUPPORT</td>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Picture" /></td>
<td>1 X 6 X 28-1/4&quot; PANEL SLAT</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Picture" /></td>
<td>4 X 10 X 43.50&quot; ROOF PANEL LEFT ASSEMBLY</td>
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<tr>
<td><img src="image4.png" alt="Picture" /></td>
<td>4 X 10 X 43.50&quot; ROOF PANEL RIGHT ASSEMBLY</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>![HARDWARE BOXES](1525, 1531)</td>
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<tr>
<td><img src="1" alt="HARDWARE BOXES" /></td>
<td>HARDWARE BOXES</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STEP 1: ASSEMBLING THE ROOF PANELS

1: FIND THE 2 X 4 X 51.13" ROOF SUPPORT LEFT AND THE 4 X 10 X 43.50" ROOF PANEL LEFT ASSEMBLY. MOUNT THE ROOF PANEL LEFT ON TOP OF THE ROOF SUPPORT LEFT.

2: MAKE SURE THE ANGLED ENDS ARE FLUSH, AND THE BATTEN BOTTOM IS TIGHT AGAINST THE INSIDE FACE OF THE ROOF SUPPORT.

3: ATTACH USING #8 X 1-1/2" WOOD SCREWS THROUGH THE PRE-DRILLED HOLES INTO THE ROOF SUPPORT.

4: FIND THE 2 X 4 X 51.13" ROOF SUPPORT RIGHT AND THE 4 X 10 X 43.50" ROOF PANEL RIGHT ASSEMBLY. REPEAT SUB STEP 1 - 3 FOR THE ROOF SECTION RIGHT.
STEP 2: ROOF PEAK SUPPORT

1: FIND ONE 5/4 X 6 X 10" ROOF PEAK SUPPORT FROM THE 1503 BOX. LAY THE ROOF SECTION LEFT AND THE ROOF SECTION RIGHT ON A FLAT SURFACE. ALIGN THE ANGLED ENDS FLUSH WITH ONE ANOTHER.

2: PLACE THE ROOF PEAK SUPPORT ON TOP OF THE ROOF SUPPORTS, MAKE SURE THE ROOF PEAK SUPPORT TOP EDGES ARE FLUSH AGAINST THE BOTTOM FACE OF THE ROOF SECTION BOTTOM BATTEN. FASTEN USING FOUR #8 X 2" WOOD SCREWS THROUGH THE PRE DRILLED HOLES INTO THE ROOF SUPPORTS.
**STEP 2A: REAR PANEL SUPPORT**

1: PLACE THE 2 X 6 X 70” REAR PANEL SUPPORT ON THE REAR OF THE CORNER POSTS. THE CENTER HOLE IN THE REAR PANEL SUPPORT MUST BE OFFSET DOWN.

2: USE 5/16 X 4-1/2” HEX BOLTS AND 5/16” WASHERS TO ATTACH THE HOLES OF THE REAR PANEL SUPPORT TO THE T-NUTS INSTALLED ON THE CORNER POSTS.


4: FASTEN THE CENTER POST TO THE RAILINGS WITH 5/16” X 2-1/2” HEX BOLTS AND 5/16” WASHERS AT THE TOP.

5: SQUARE THE CENTER POST TO THE DECK AND SECURE THE BOTTOM OF THE CENTER POST TO THE BOTTOM PANEL BOARD WITH #8 X 2-1/2” WOOD SCREWS.
STEP 3: MOUNTING ROOF SECTIONS TO PLAYSET

1: MOUNT THE ROOF SECTION ASSEMBLY TO THE REAR OF THE PLAY SET. SLIDE THE ROOF SECTION UNTIL IT IS Flush UP AGAINST THE BOTTOM OF THE PLAY SET ROOF SUPPORTS, MAKE SURE THERE ARE NO GAPS IN BETWEEN.

2: SECURE THE ROOF SECTION TO THE CORNER POSTS USING TWO 5/16 X 3-1/2" LAG SCREWS AND 5/16" WASHER THROUGH THE COUNTER SUNK HOLES LOCATED ON THE BOTTOM ENDS OF THE ROOF SECTION ASSEMBLY ROOF SUPPORTS.
STEP 4: ROOF PEAK

1: Mount the 1 x 5 x 6.88” roof peak on top of the roof section assembly, flush with the play set roof supports. Fasten using two #8 x 1-1/4” wood screws.
STEP 5: SUN SUPPORT

1: PLACE THE 2 X 3 X 35.70" SUN SUPPORT IN BETWEEN THE ROOF SUPPORTS. FASTEN USING 
#8 X 2-1/2" WOOD SCREWS THROUGH THE PRE-DRILLED HOLES ON EACH END, MAKE SURE 
THERE ARE NO GAPS IN BETWEEN THE SUN SUPPORT AND THE ROOF SUPPORT.
STEP 6: PLASTIC SUNBURST

1: MOUNT THE PLASTIC SUNBURST TO THE ROOF SUPPORTS ON THE ROOF SECTION ASSEMBLY. THE PLASTIC SUNBURST MUST BE AGAINST THE OVERHANGING ROOF BOARDS. FASTEN THE PLASTIC SUNBURST TO THE ROOF SUPPORTS USING TWO #8 X 2-1/2" WOOD SCREWS ON THE TOP AND SIX #8 X 2" WOOD SCREWS ON THE REMAINING HOLES.
STEP 7: WALL PANEL BOARDS

1: MOUNT THE 1 X 4 X 20.25" WALL PANEL BOARD ABOVE THE PLAYSET CENTER POST. THE END WITH TWO PRE-DRILLED HOLES SHOULD BE OFFSET TO THE TOP. MAKE SURE IT IS STRAIGHT VERTICALLY AND FASTEN IT TO THE SUN SUPPORT USING TWO #8 X 1-1/2" WOOD SCREWS.

2: MOUNT ONE 1 X 4 X 20.50" WALL PANEL BOARD ON EACH SIDE OF THE CENTER BOARD PREVIOUSLY INSTALLED. THE BOTTOM END MUST BE 28-1/2" FROM THE TOP OF THE PLAYSET DECK BOARDS. FASTEN IT TO THE SUN SUPPORT AND REAR PANEL SUPPORT USING TWO #8 X 1-1/2" WOOD SCREWS ON EACH END PER BOARD.

3: MOUNT THE 1 X 2 X 9.88" WALL PANEL BOARD HORIZONTALLY ABOVE THE PLAYSET CENTER POST CENTERED BETWEEN THE WALL PANEL BOARDS PREVIOUSLY INSTALLED, FASTEN USING SIX #8 X 1-1/4" WOOD SCREWS.

4: MOUNT THE 1 X 3 X 11.50" WINDOW TOP/BOTTOM USING THE DIMENSIONS SHOWN IN THE DIAGRAM. MAKE SURE THE PRE-DRILLED HOLES ARE OFFSET UP ON THE TOP BOARDS, AND OFFSET DOWN ON THE BOTTOM BOARDS. FASTEN USING TWO #8 X 1-1/2" WOOD SCREWS PER BOARD.

5: MOUNT THE 1 X 4 X 21.75" WALL PANEL BOARD NEXT TO THE WINDOW TOP/BOTTOM BOARDS, FOLLOW THE DIMENSIONS SHOWN IN THE DIAGRAM. FASTEN IT USING FOUR #8 X 1-1/2" WOOD SCREWS PER BOARD.

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**Diagram:**

- PLAYSET CENTER POST
- 1 X 4 X 20.25" WALL PANEL BOARD (1)
- 1 X 4 X 20.50" WALL PANEL BOARD (2)
- ROOF BATTEN
- ROOF SUPPORT (ROOF SECTION ASSEMBLY)
- 1 X 4 X 21.75" WALL PANEL BOARD (2)
- REAR PANEL SUPPORT
- PLAYSET CENTER POST
- 1 X 3 X 11.50" WINDOW TOP/BOTTOM (4)
- 1 X 2 X 9.88" WALL PANEL BOARD (1)
- PLAYSET DECK BOARDS
- 1 X 2 X 9.88" WALL PANEL BOARD

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STEP 8: REAR PLASTIC WINDOWS

1: Place each plastic window into the rear openings, with the arched section of the window frame at the top.

2: Attach each window with four #8 x 1-1/4" wood screws.
**STEP 9: WALL PANEL BOARDS**

1. **Mount the 1x4x18.25" Wall Panel Board** next to the previously installed panel board, leaving a 1/4" gap between them. Fasten it using four #8 x 1-1/2" wood screws.

2. **Mount the 1x3x14.06" Wall Panel Board** next to the previously wall panel board, leaving a 1/4" gap between them. Fasten it using four #8 x 1-1/2" wood screws. Make sure the holes are centered on each of the boards and fasten it using six #8 x 1-1/4" wood screws.

3. **Mount the 1x4x10.00" Wall Panel Board** next to the previous wall panel board, leaving a 1/4" gap between them. Fasten it to the roof support using two #8 x 1-1/2" wood screws. The bottom end (with no pre-drilled holes) should be resting against the rear panel support.

4. **Mount the 1x2x9.88" Wall Panel Board** horizontally centered on top of the previous wall panel boards. Make sure the holes are centered on each of the boards and fasten it using six #8 x 1-1/4" wood screws.

*Repeat sub-steps 1 to 4 for the other side.*
STEP 10: PANEL SLATS

1: INSTALL THE PANEL SLATS AT EQUAL LENGTHS. SEE DETAIL BELOW FOR MEASUREMENTS.

2: ATTACH THE PANEL SLATS TO THE FORT WITH 2" WOOD SCREWS IN THE PRE-DRILLED HOLES.
**STEP 10A: PANEL SLATS**

**ATTENTION: USE THIS STEP ONLY IF YOUR LADDER IS INSTALLED ON THE REAR OF THE PLAYSET**

1: INSTALL THE PANEL SLATS AT EQUAL LENGTHS. See detail below for measurements.

2: ATTACH THE PANEL SLATS TO THE FORT WITH 2" WOOD SCREWS IN THE PRE-DRILLED HOLES.

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1. 5/4 X 6 X 28-1/4" PANEL SLAT
2. 5/4 X 2-5/8 X 28-1/4" PANEL SLAT
3. 5/4 X 2-5/8 X 28-1/4" PANEL SLAT
4. 5/4 X 6 X 28-1/4" PANEL SLAT

---

**CENTER POST**

**FRONT OF PLAYSET**

**VIEW FROM INSIDE THE PLAYSET.**

**NOTE: SOME BOARDS WERE REMOVED FOR CLARITY.**

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**SWING BEAM SIDE**

**VIEW FROM INSIDE THE PLAYSET.**

**ROCK WALL SIDE**

**VIEW FROM OUTSIDE THE PLAYSET.**

**2 X 4 X 28-9/16" CENTER POST**

**LADDER**

---

**5/4 X 2-5/8 X 28-1/4" PANEL SLAT**

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**5/4 X 6 X 28-1/4" PANEL SLAT**