# **RODENT BREEDING RACK ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS** GETTING ORGANIZED

### Video: Rodent Breeding Rack Assembly <a href="https://youtu.be/BNHrcx7tqFM">https://youtu.be/BNHrcx7tqFM</a>

These instructions will take you through the steps in building any of the Rodent Breeding Rack models. The minor differences between the types will be described as they come up in the assembly steps.

### **BASIC TIPS AND ADVICE**

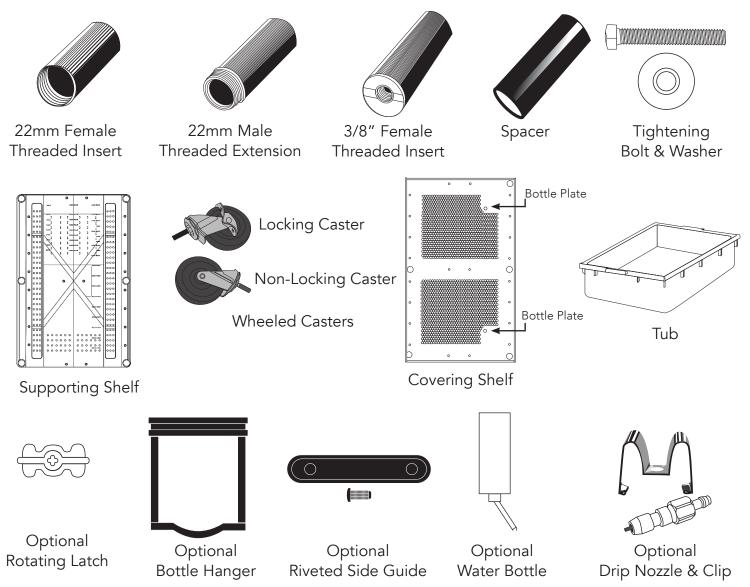
- Thoroughly read through instructions before starting.
- Make sure you have all of your packages. The Fed-Ex Ground label on your packages with say how many boxes were shipped with your order. It is not unusual for boxes to arrive separately, sometimes a few hours apart, and sometimes a day or two apart.
- The packing slip will list all the parts that have been shipped with your order and the numbers of each that you should have received. Unpack the boxes and make an inventory of the parts using the packing list. Each system with have the same parts, but the sizes and numbers of those parts might be different.
- Complete the assembly steps in the order that they are presented.
- Don't be alarmed if you have leftover hardware when you are done.
- If your unit has top spacers, they are smaller than the regular spacers and will be used close to the end of assembly.

### TOOLS NEEDED

• 9/16" Wrench or Small Crescent Wrench

### RODENT BREEDING RACK LIST OF PARTS

Below is a list of parts for our entire rack system. Your unit may not have all of the parts shown below. Please refer to your packing list to see the parts and quantities that are included with your order. Please note that the vertical riser poles and spacers shown below are small cross sections of the actual parts you will receive. The actual poles are much longer in length.



#### STEP 1:Bottom Supporting Shelf, Vertical Riser Poles & Casters

- Set a tub on the ground bottom up and lay a supporting shelf (black plastic) on top of it, flat side up.
- If the rack has 12 riser pole sections, locate 6 sections of equal length with a 3/8" female insert on one end and a 2mm female insert on the other end. If the rack has 6 riser poles, both ends of the poles should have a 3/8" female insert.
- Insert one riser pole into each of the six riser pole holes in the edges of the supporting shelf sitting on the tub with the 3/8" female threaded insert facing down.
- Thread the bolt of a wheeled caster into each of the 3/8" female threaded inserts on the bottom of each of the riser poles standing in the shelf. Decide which corners of the rack will be on the front and insert the locking casters into those poles. *Illustration 1*

### STEP 2: Spacers, Covering Shelves & More Supporting Shelves

- Look at the spacers. If the rack will hold v35 or v70 tubs all of the spacers that will go between all the shelves will be 5.375" long. If the rack will hold v35s tubs, the spacers that will go above a supporting shelf (plastic) will be 3.5" long, and the spacers above a covering shelf (steel) will be 5.375" long.
- There may also be six top spacers that are a different length than the rest of the spacers. Set those top spacers aside.
- Install one spacer on each of the riser poles and slide it down to rest on top of the installed supporting shelf. *Illustration 2*
- Look at the covering shelf, hold it with the flanges on the edges pointing up, and locate the solid metal bottle plates on the corners of the hex grid. On a v70 rack, that bottle plate can be on the left or the right side of the tub, depending upon which end of the shelf you place at the front of the rack (the side with the locking casters). On a v35 or v35S rack the bottle plates should be oriented to the front of the rack (unless you are using a drip nozzle system and do not need a bottle plate).
- Install a stainless-steel covering shelf with the flanges on the edges pointing up onto the six riser poles and slide it down onto the top of the installed spacers. *Illustration 2*
- Install another set of spacers onto the top of the covering shelf and follow with another plastic supporting shelf with the flat side facing up. *Illustration 2*
- Repeat the process of adding spacers and shelves in the sequence (from bottom to top) of supporting shelf -> spacer -> covering shelf -> spacer -> supporting shelf etc... until there is no more room on the riser poles. *Illustration 2*

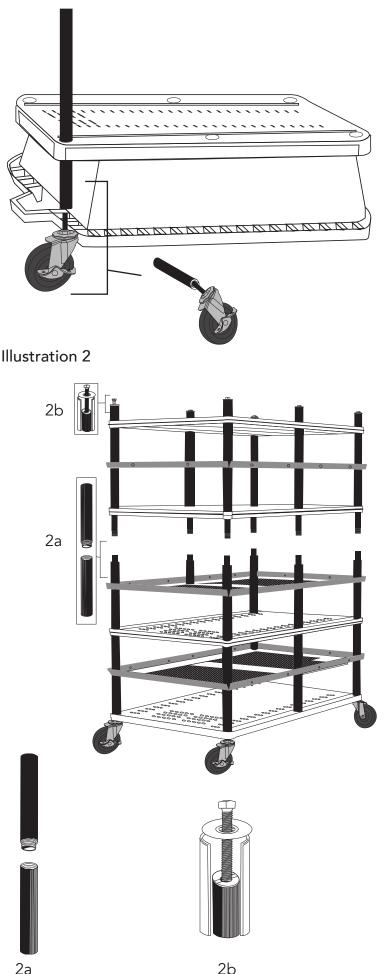
#### STEP 3: Upper Riser Poles & Remaining Shelves/Spacers

- If your rack has a single set of six riser poles, skip Step 3 and go to Step 4.
- Install the remaining riser poles by threading the 22mm male threaded Insert into the 22mm female threaded Insert at the top of the installed riser poles. *Illustration 2a*
- Repeat the process of adding spacers and shelves in the sequence (from bottom to top) of supporting shelf -> spacer -> covering shelf -> spacer until there is no more room on the riser poles. There will be a plastic supporting shelf at the top of the rack. *Illustration 2*

## STEP 4: Top Spacers & Tightening the Rack

- If there is a small section of riser pole extending above the top shelf of the rack there will be a set of top spacers to install at the top of the poles.
- Place a washer around a tightening bolt and then thread the





bolt into the 3/8" female threaded Insert in the top of a riser pole. If there is a top spacer the washer will rest on the top of that spacer. If there is not a top spacer the washer will rest on the top of the shelf. *Illustration 2b* 

• Use a 9/16" wrench or crescent wrench to tighten the bolts into the tops of the riser poles until it is hard to rotate a spacer between shelves with your hand.

### **OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES**

#### Water Bottle Hanger

The water bottle hanger has parallel channels that will slide onto the bracket on the front edge of a supporting shelf so that the hanger section is above the covering shelf below. After inserting a tub under the covering shelf, insert a water bottle nozzle-first through the bottle hanger, slip the nozzle through the hole in the water bottle plate area of the covering shelf and let the back end of the bottle rest in the bottom of the hanger. *Illustration 3* 

### Drip Nozzle & Drip Nozzle Clip

A centralized watering system can be installed using the drip nozzle and clip. Insert the back end of a drip nozzle through the center hole in the clip so that the tip of the nozzle extends between the arms of the clip. Attach the water hose from the reservoir to the nipple on the back of the nozzle. Insert the tip of the drip nozzle through an opening in the hex grid, squeeze the arms of the clip together until the ends of arms can enter the hex openings adjacent to the tip of the nozzle, and then release the arms of the clip so that the bends at the ends of the clip arms enclose the steel sides of the hex opening. *Illustration 4* 

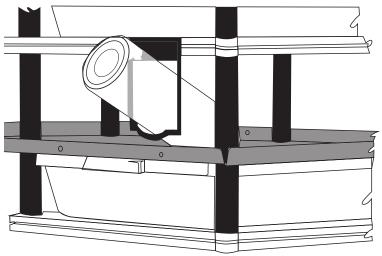
### 6" or 14" Riveted Side Guide

V35 and V35S racks get three 6" Riveted Side Guides per level (one outside of each tub and one between them). V70 racks get two 14" Riveted Side Guides per level (one on each side of the tub). Push two rivets through the holes in the guide from the channeled side of the guide (only two rivets per guide are needed). The barbed ends of the rivets will extend out of the flat side of the guide. Install the guide by pushing the exposed rivet ends through the pre-drilled holes in the covering shelf. *Illustration 5* 

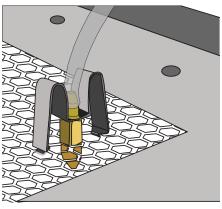
### Tub Latch

The tub latch will prevent a tub from being pulled or pushed out of the front or back end of the rack. Install the latches in the pre-drilled holes in the flanges of the covering shelves. One latch per tub on the front and/or back of the shelf is all that is needed. If you are using latches on the back of the shelf, install the latch so that it extends below the edges of the shelf and tighten the nut and bolt to the point where it is difficult to turn the latch. Install and tighten the front latch so that it can be turned but will not change position due to gravity. Rotate the latch above the edge of the shelf to insert or remove the tub. *Illustration*  $\boldsymbol{6}$ 

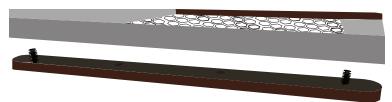
Illustration 3



### Illustration 4



### Illustration 5



### Illustration 6

