



# The ARTristic Tripod-Mounted Easel

User Manual



# Congratulations on the purchase of your New Tripod-Mounted ARTristic Easel.

## “TRADITION”

You are about to experience a new freedom when you paint. This groundbreaking easel design is in part, the result of the collaboration, input and requests by hundreds of artist just like you. All had problems when painting with their traditional easels, problems and barriers that until now have never been fully addressed. Tradition is an integral part of society. But every so often some traditions need to be modified to make way for new ideas that will improve the lives of those they serve. This is how new traditions are established and they are of no less importance than those of the past. When you use this easel you will become an integral part of a new tradition. Thank you.

Tony Barber: Artist/Author/Designer of the ARTristic Easel



While originally designed to hold canvas stretchers, the *new* ARTristic Easel has many more uses and capabilities. Whether you paint with:

- oil,
- acrylic,
- water color, or
- pastel,

whether you use a:

- brush,
- pencil,
- spray can,
- airbrush, or
- your fingers,

whether you prefer a:

- stretched canvas,
- drawing board,
- canvas board,
- scraperboard,
- white board, or
- blackboard



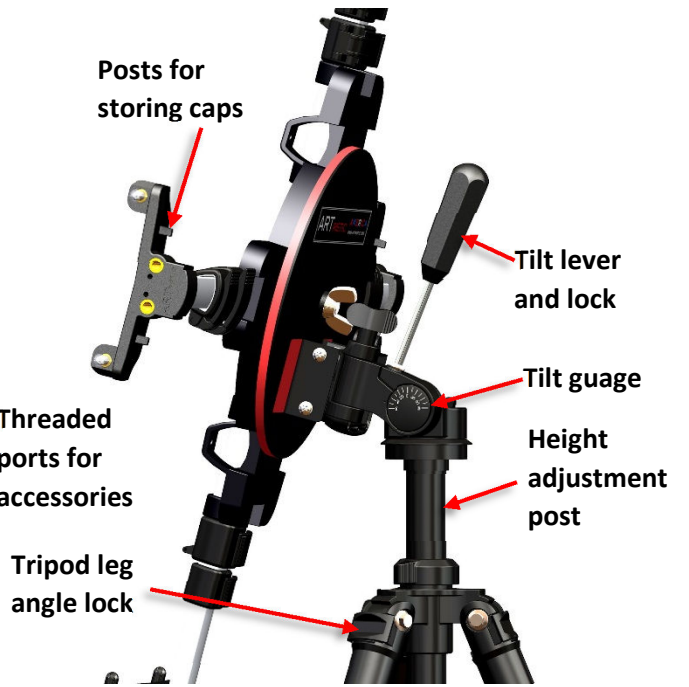
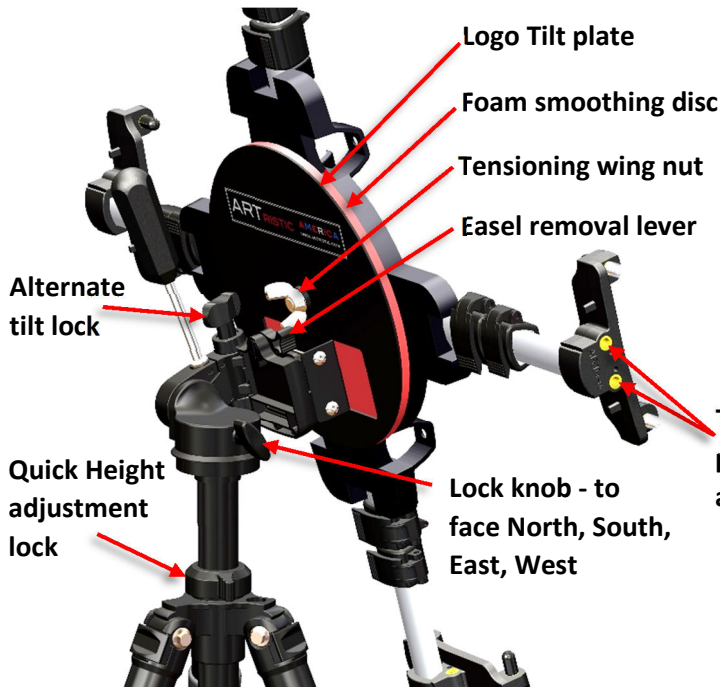
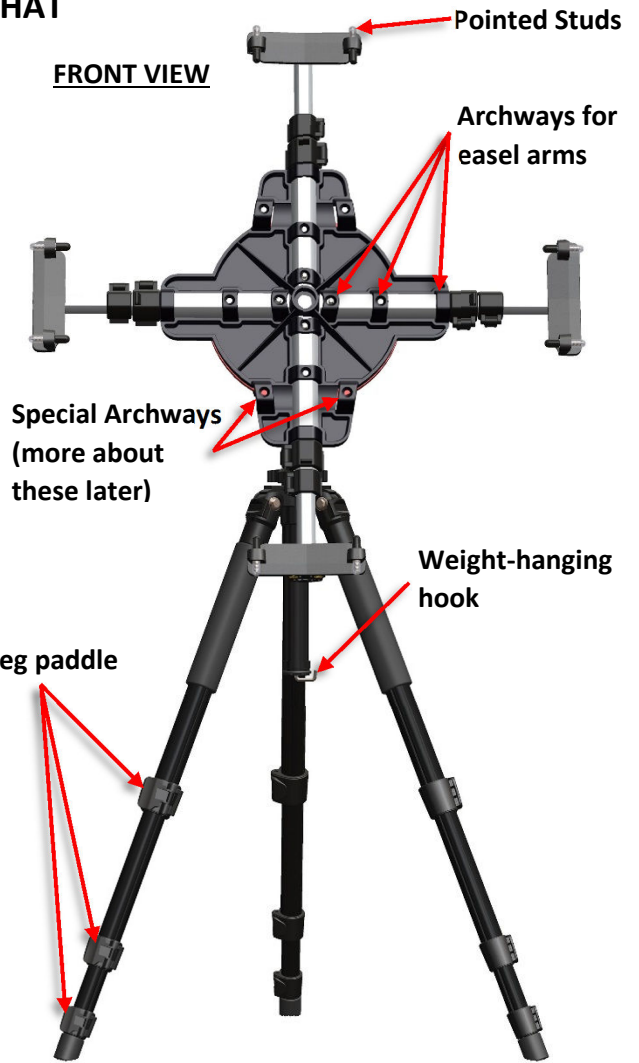
Use double sided tape or Velcro to fix a place mat to the ARTristic Easel's tilt plate to create an adjustable table.

...the ARTristic Easel makes it easier, more enjoyable and far more versatile. But that's not all. It also has uses and applications for:

- computer users (who prefer to stand at their keyboards for health reasons),
- public speakers (as a portable and adjustable lectern),
- instructors (adjustable blackboard),
- seminar presenters (rotating white board)
- art galleries with limited wall space (after all, the ARTristic Easel is unobtrusive and elegant),
- speed painters (who want to put a different spin on their creations),
- the handicapped (who can bring their paintings to them),
- convention booth designers (who might throw a cloth over it to create a portable display stand).

Welcome to the 'revolution.'

# WHAT'S WHAT



## WHAT'S INCLUDED



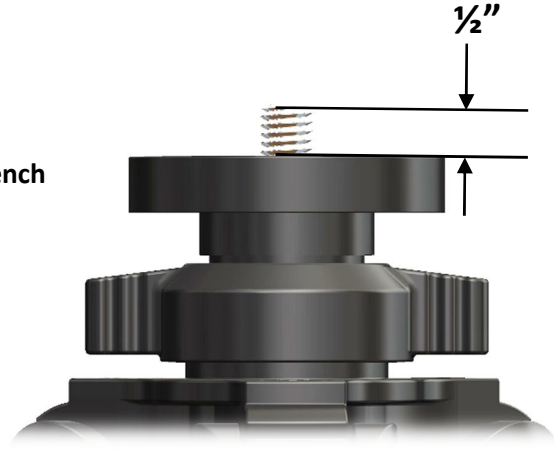
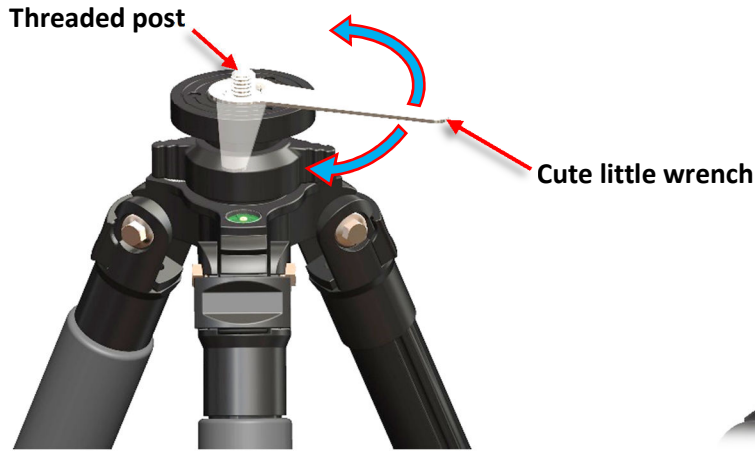
## FIRST THINGS FIRST - IMPORTANT

When you receive your Easel, or as you use it, you may find that the joint between the green and the red components of your tripod is loose. (Okay, they're not *really* red and green) **Don't panic, there's nothing wrong with your tripod.** Your Easel's tripod is designed to come apart as shown. This allows for the future attachment of different "Tripod Heads," other tripod legs, or other soon-to-be-available, special enhancements.





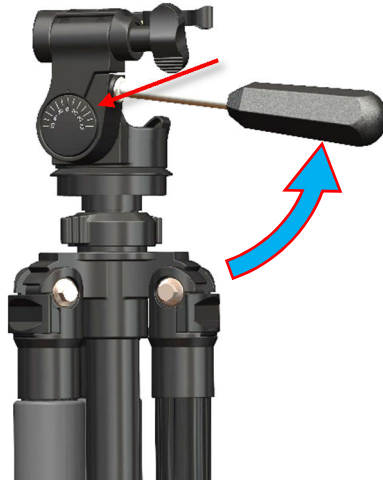
Use that cute little wrench mentioned above to tighten the retaining nut on the main tripod's threaded post if necessary, but make sure it extends  $\sim\frac{1}{2}$ " above the plate as shown. Then screw the tripod head back on as tight as you can.



**TILT FUNCTION:**



Untighten



Tilt



Tighten

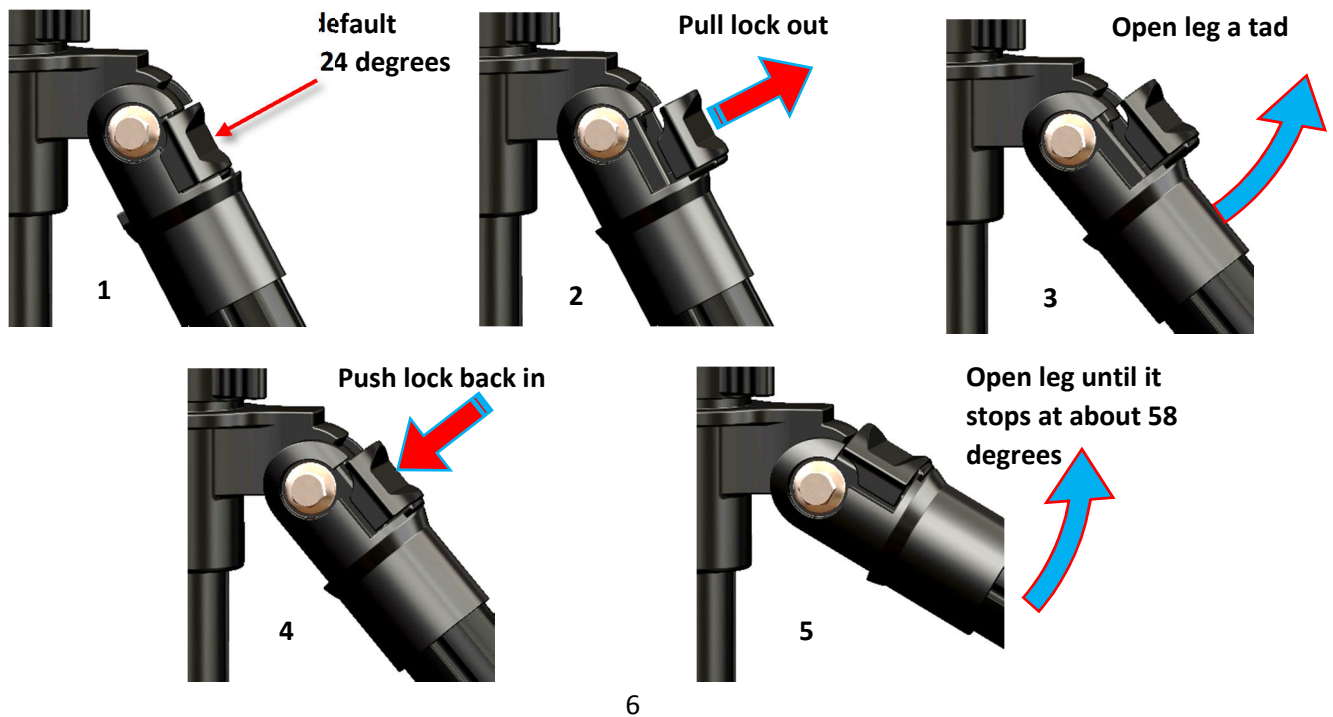
**TRIPOD BASICS**

Tilting your artwork from horizontal to vertical and anywhere in between is simple and intuitive. There's even a graduated dial to reference the tilt angle that you like, if you like. Don't be afraid to crank that tilt lever really tight to secure your chosen tilt angle. We'll show you another method for tilting your artwork on page 8.

## EXTEND AND SPREAD LEGS:

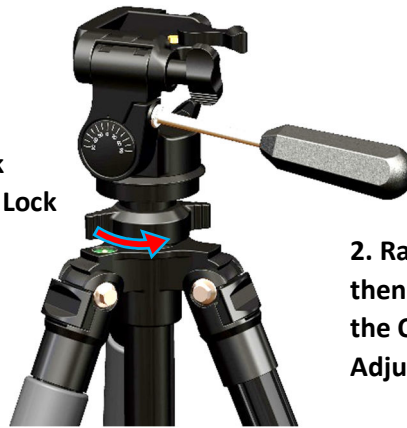


Paddle Clamps make extending and contracting the legs a walk in the park. If you want all three legs to be the same length, then adjust the leg lengths *before* spreading the legs. The legs can be spread to any angle. **The legs are designed to be stiff, so don't be timid.** Additionally, they can be "locked" at three preset angles - 23, 58 and 75 degrees.

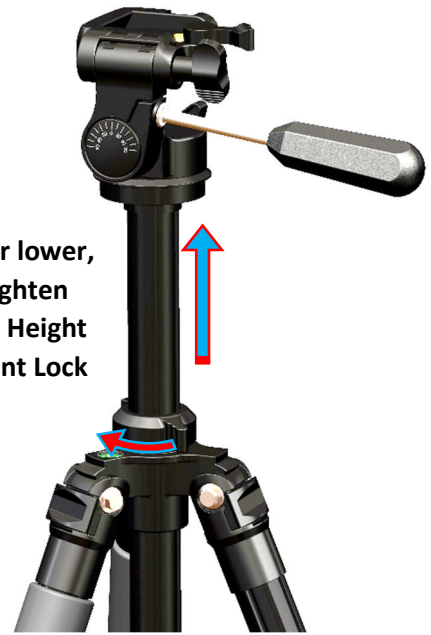


**QUICK HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT:**

1. Loosen the Quick Height Adjustment Lock



2. Raise or lower, then re-tighten the Quick Height Adjustment Lock



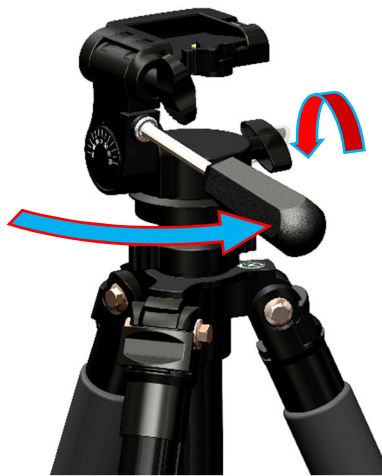
**ALWAYS MAKE SURE THE HEIGHT ADJUSTMENT LOCK IS SECURELY TIGHTENED**

**FACE ANY DIRECTION:**



1. Loosen the Compass Heading Knob.

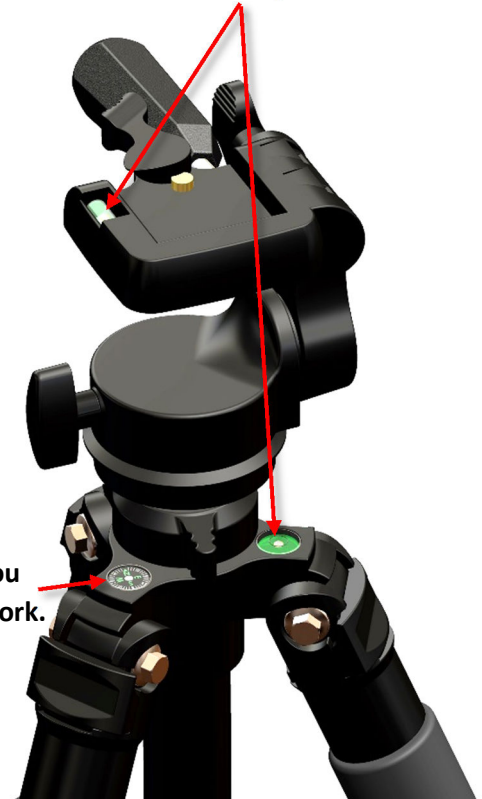
**AVOID OVER-TIGHTENING THE COMPASS HEADING KNOB BECAUSE THAT COULD INADVERTANTLY RESULT IN LOOSENING THE WHOLE TRIPOD HEAD, WHEREUPON YOU MIGHT HAVE TO USE THAT CUTE LITTLE WRENCH AGAIN TO TIGHTEN IT BACK UP**



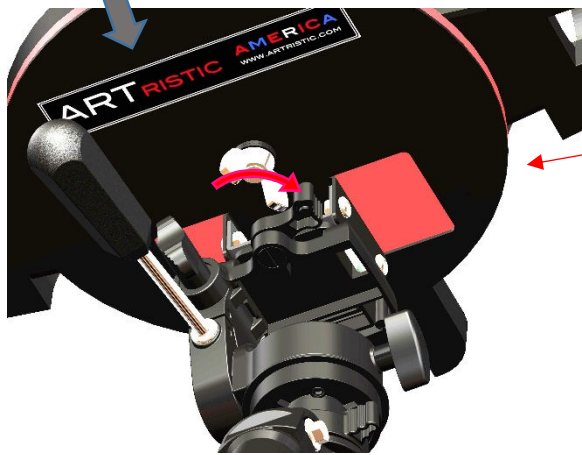
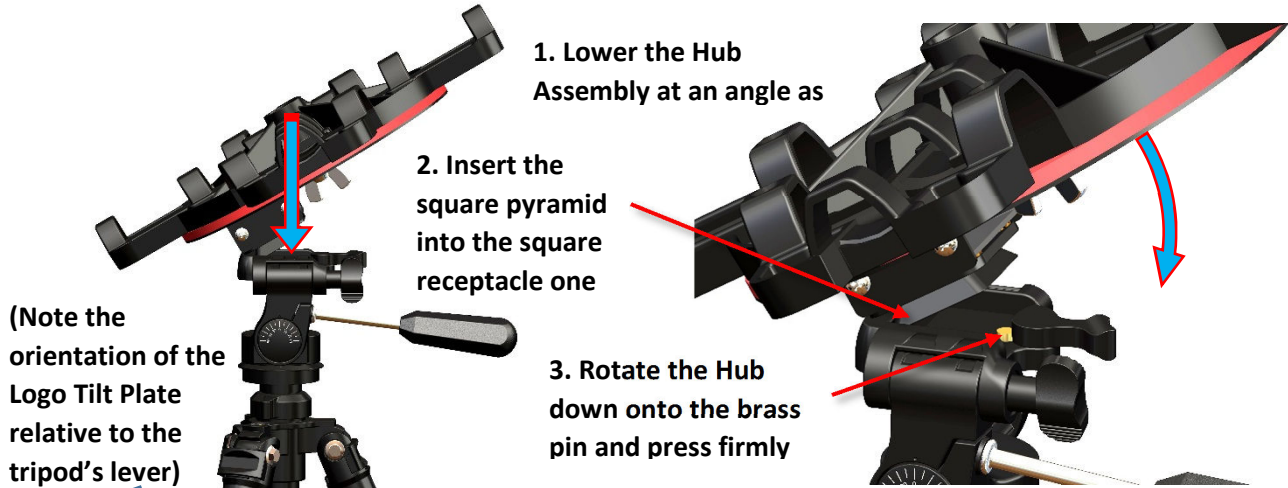
2. Rotate to face North, South, East, or West, then re-tighten

And there's even a compass... in case you get lost in your artwork.

Each Tripod has not one, but two levels so you can work on hills without falling over



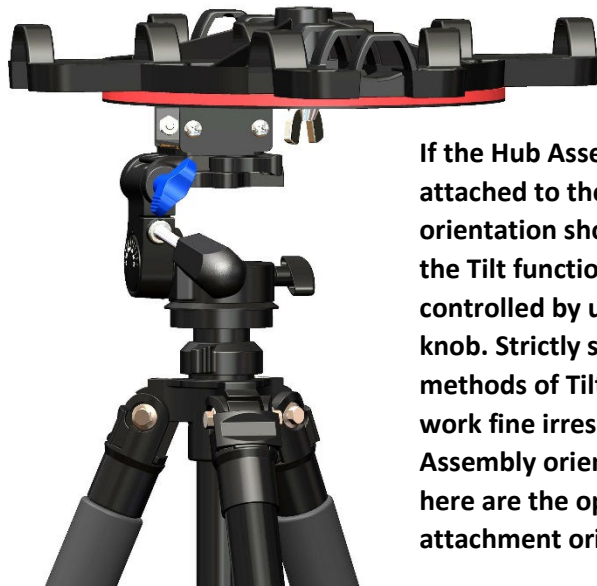
**ATTACH HUB AND DISC ASSEMBLY:**



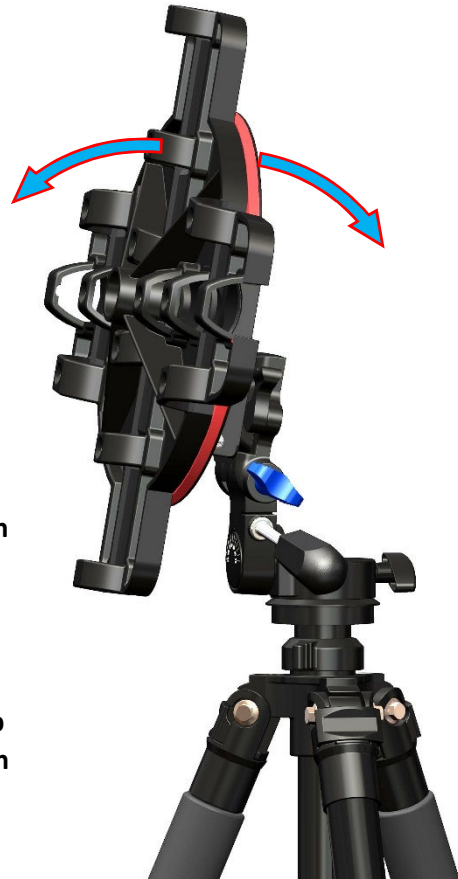
As the brass pin is depressed, the locking lever will snap to the locked position. Once there, give it a firm helping hand to make sure it's snug

To Remove the Hub Assembly, pull the lever back *while* lifting the logo side of the disc.

Remember we said there was an alternate option for the Tilt Function?



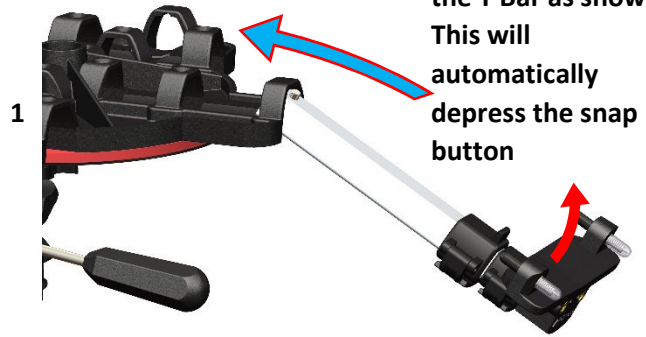
If the Hub Assembly is attached to the tripod in the orientation shown here, then the Tilt function can be controlled by using the blue knob. Strictly speaking, both methods of Tilt control will work fine irrespective of Hub Assembly orientation. Shown here are the optimal attachment orientations.



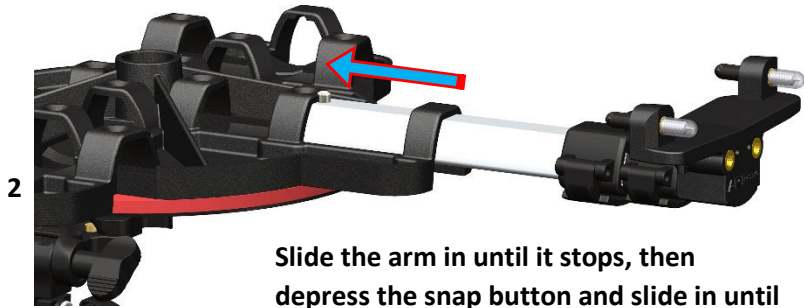


## EASEL BASICS

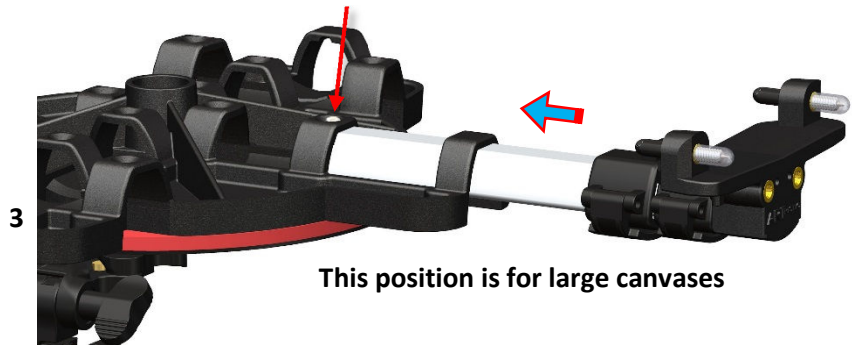
### ARM INSERTION:



Insert the arm at this angle then raise the T Bar as shown. This will automatically depress the snap button



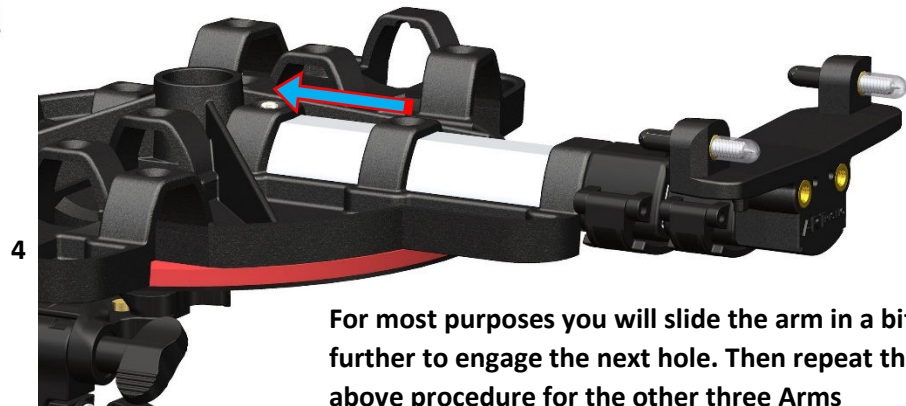
Slide the arm in until it stops, then depress the snap button and slide in until the snap button pops into the archway hole. Now the arm is locked.



This position is for large canvases



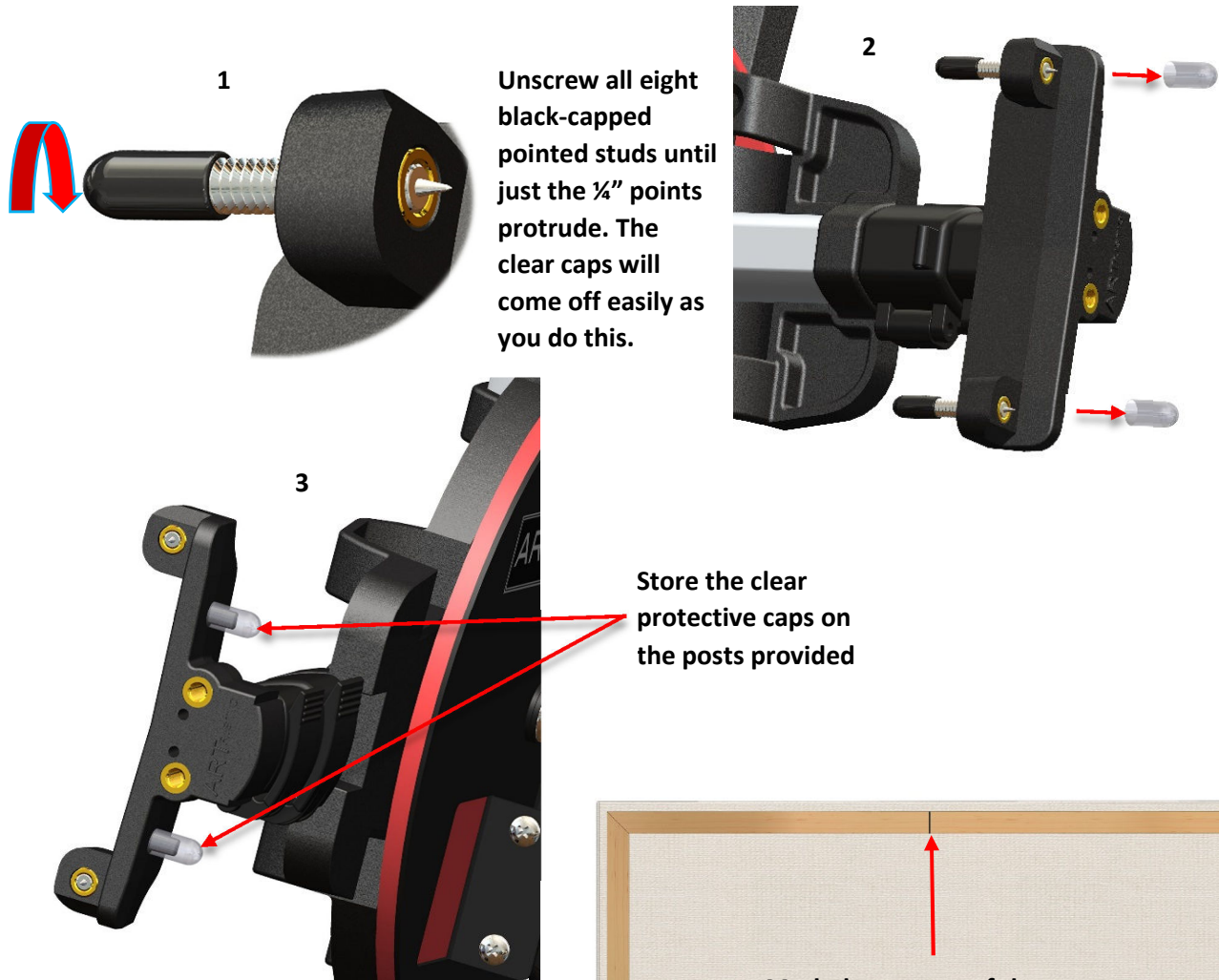
When all four arms are installed, your easel should look like this



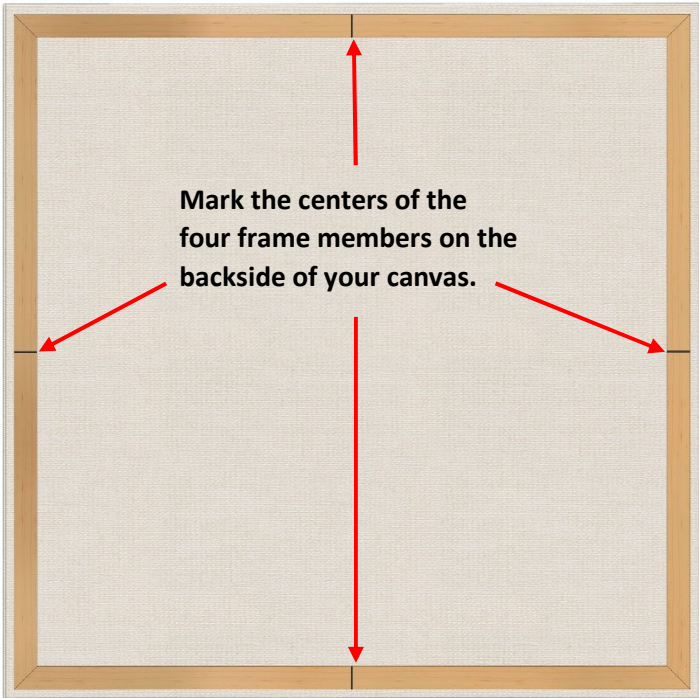
For most purposes you will slide the arm in a bit further to engage the next hole. Then repeat the above procedure for the other three Arms

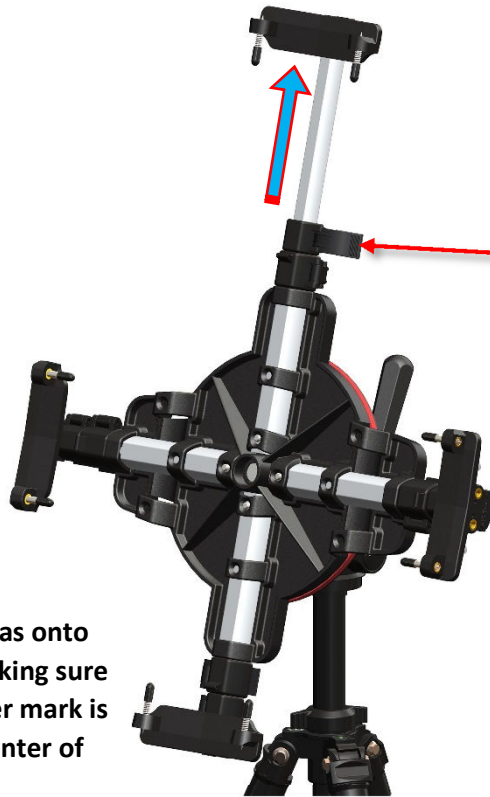
## ATTACHING YOUR STRETCHED CANVAS/FRAME TO YOUR EASEL:

The ARTristic Easel will hold painting or drawing surfaces in two basic ways; using outwardly directed pressure or inwardly directed pressure. First, we will be illustrating the use of outwardly directed pressure, which is used primarily for canvas-type surfaces that are stretched over wooden frames.



Some canvases may have one or more cross supports. All will work well with the ARTristic Easel.

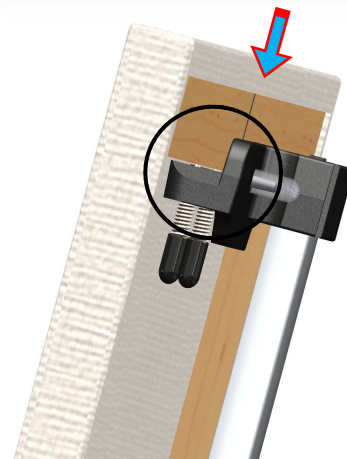
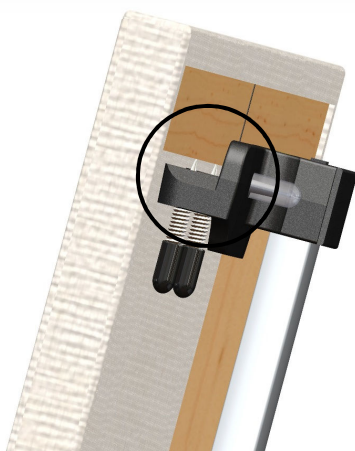
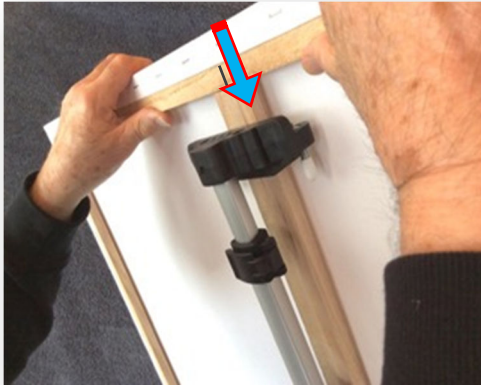


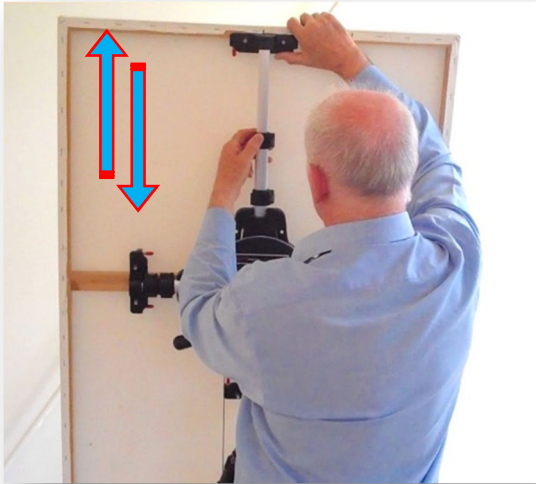


1. Orient the Easel as shown. It's easier to attach your canvas if the easel is leaning back slightly. Unlock one of the two **Adjustment Clamps** on the topmost arm and extend the arm upward (how much depends on the size of your canvas).

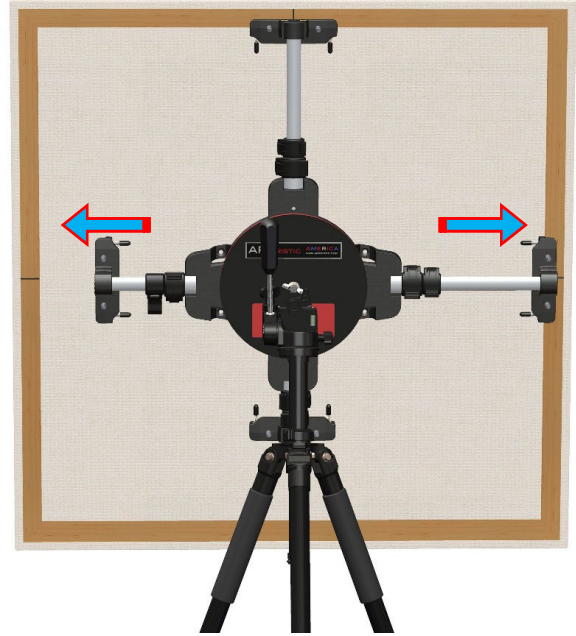
2. Lower the canvas onto the T-Bar pins making sure your easel's center mark is in line with the center of the T-Bar

3. Squeeze the canvas's frame onto the pins so the pins embed themselves into the wood





**4. Grab the canvas and T-Bar, loosen the clamp, and raise or lower the entire canvas until your side marks line up with the left and right T-Bars, then re-tighten**



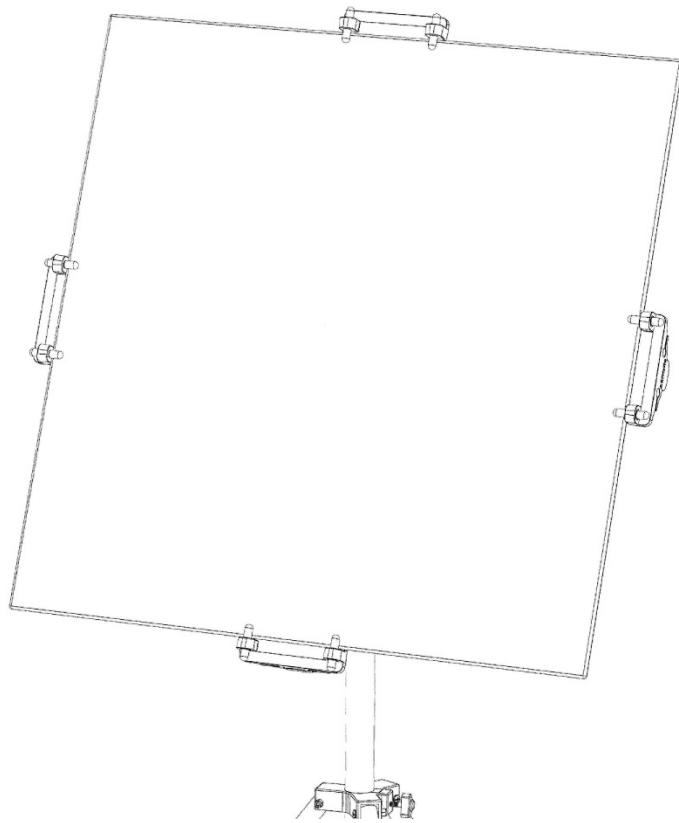
**5. Extend first the side arms and then the bottom arm and squeeze each in turn before locking their clamps**



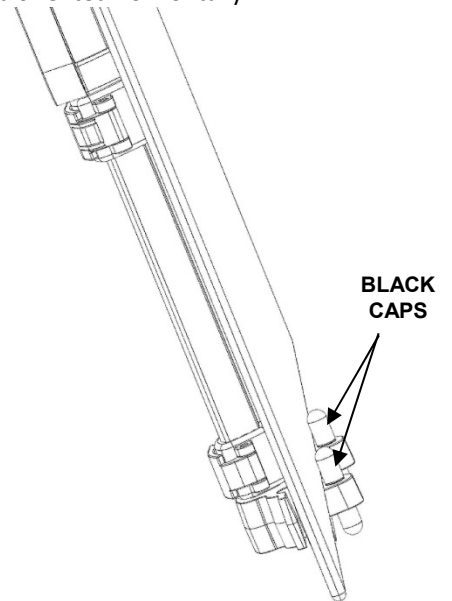
**6. Screw the pointed rods into the wood at all eight positions a turn or two at a time to create holding tension.**

**7. Finally, give your canvas a test spin to make sure your tension is adequate and adjust as necessary**

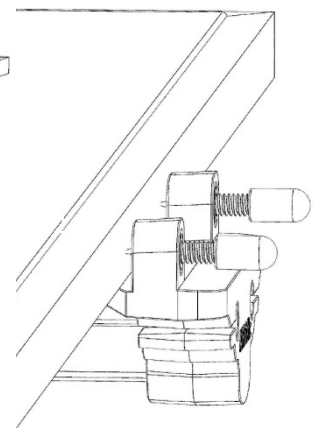
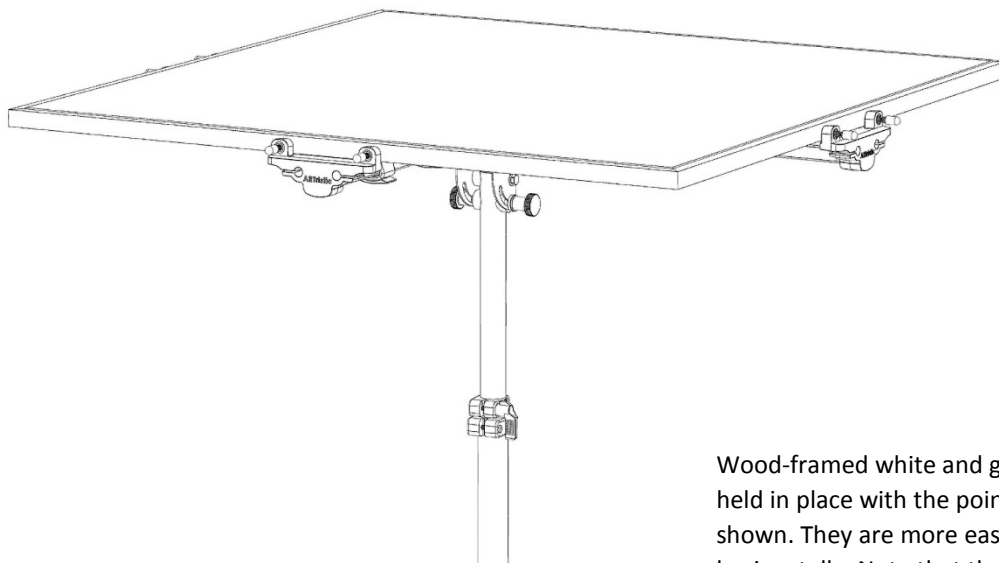
## ATTACHING CANVAS AND DRAWING BOARDS



Canvas boards are held in place by the eight black-capped locking rods as shown. For boards thicker than  $\frac{1}{4}$ " (6mm) you may want to turn the locking rods around and use the pointed ends to hold the board in place. It may be easier to install the canvas boards with the Hub oriented horizontally.



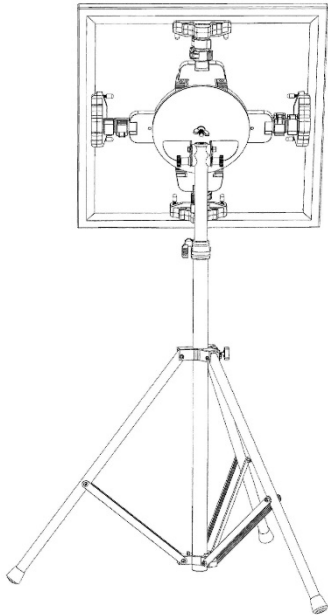
## ATTACHING A WOOD-FRAMED WHITE BOARD



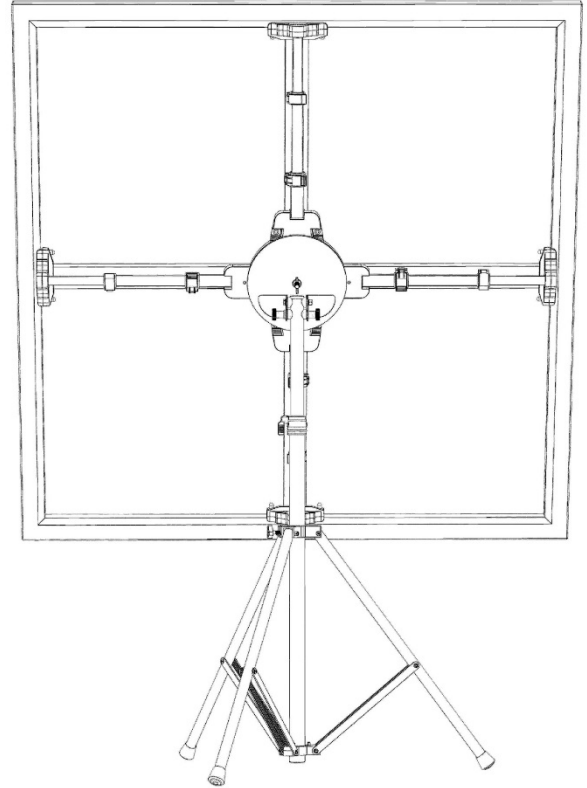
Wood-framed white and green boards are held in place with the pointed locking rods as shown. They are more easily installed horizontally. Note that the pointed locking rods have been removed and reinserted with their points facing toward the easel hub.

### SIZE OPTIONS (FOUR ARMS)

Minimum inside dimensions:  
(stretched canvas):  
19 inches, 48.5 cm

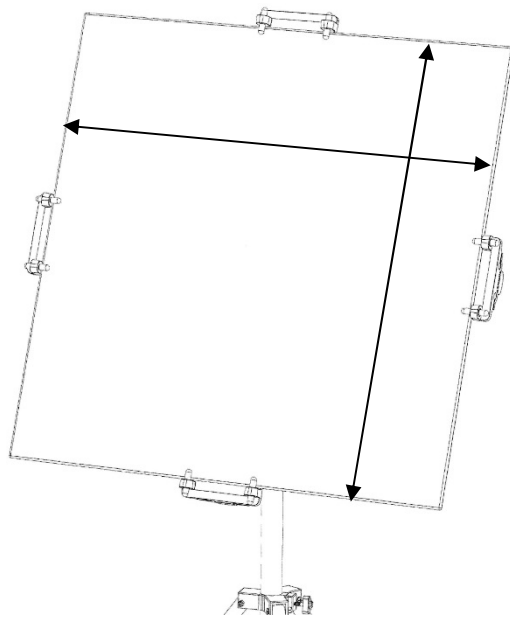
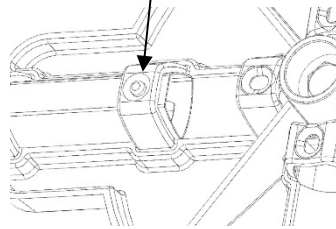


Maximum inside dimensions:  
45 inches, 114 cm  
(see note below)



Note:

To achieve the largest dimension, the snap buttons must be installed into the middle archway as shown.

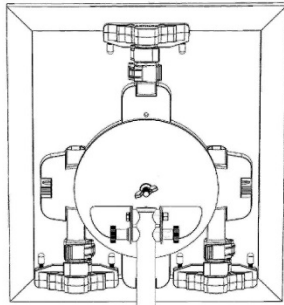


### BOARD SIZES (FOUR ARMS)

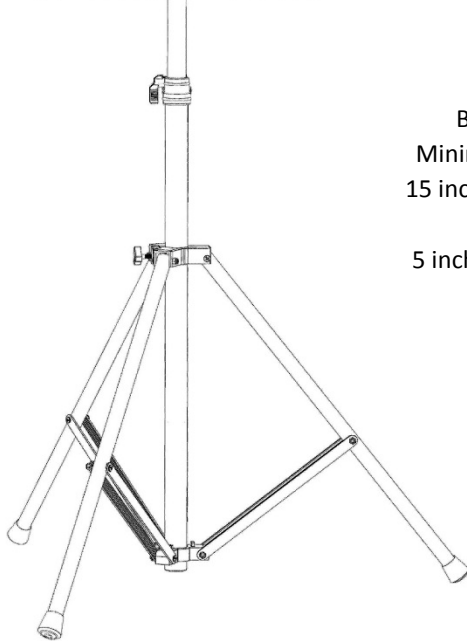
Minimum size:  
18 inches, 46 cm

Maximum size  
44 inches, 112 cm

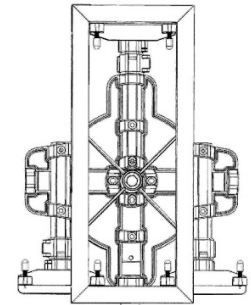
### SMALLER SIZE OPTIONS (THREE ARMS)



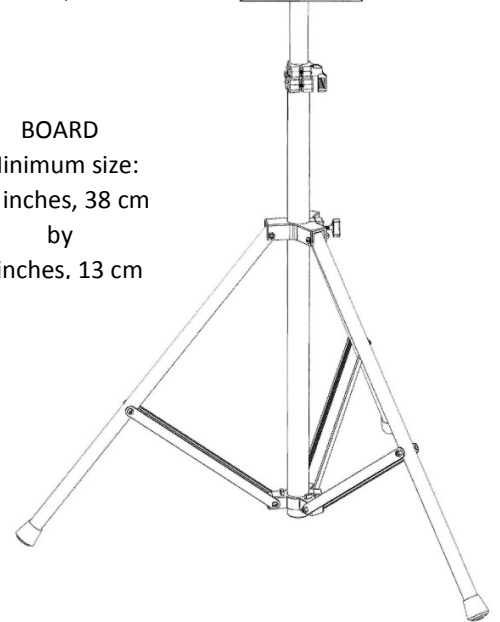
CANVAS  
 Minimum size:  
 16.25 inches, 41 cm  
 by  
 13.75 inches, 35 cm



BOARD  
 Minimum size:  
 15 inches, 38 cm  
 by  
 5 inches, 13 cm

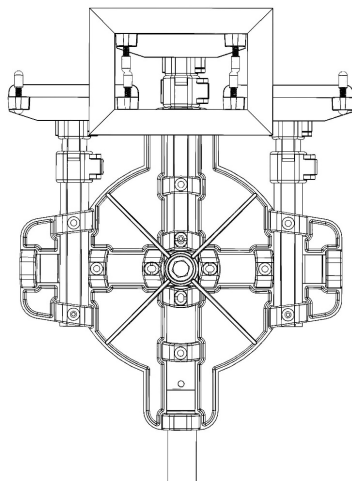


CANVAS  
 Minimum size:  
 16.25 inches, 41 cm  
 by  
 5 inches, 13 cm



BOARD  
 Minimum size:  
 15 inches, 38 cm  
 by  
 5 inches, 13 cm

EVEN SMALLER SIZE OPTIONS



CANVAS  
 Minimum size:  
 3.5 inches, 7.6 cm  
 by  
 5 inches, 13 cm

BOARD  
 Minimum size:  
 2.5 inches, 6.4 cm  
 by  
 5 inches, 13 cm  
 (hint)

For boards this small you may want to turn the pointed locking rods around to face inward.

Enjoy your ARTristic Easel. If you have any questions or suggestions,

we would love to hear them. Contact Carl Surges:

[carl@artristic.com](mailto:carl@artristic.com) or 715 891 3221