

SNAPCRANE MODE GUIDE

COMPACT MODE (FRONT PIVOT HOLE)

*SECTIONS USED: FRONT AND PIVOT SECTIONS ONLY
USE CABLE 4*

CAMERA CAPACITY: UP TO 50LBS.
UNIT WEIGHT: 35.75 LBS.
FOLDED LENGTH: 55"
OVERALL LENGTH: 7'3"
DISTANCE FROM TRIPOD TO CAMERA: 5'8"
VERTICAL MOVEMENT / MAX HEIGHT: 8' / 9'9"

MID-SIZE MODE (REAR PIVOT HOLE)

*SECTIONS USED: FRONT, PIVOT, AND TAIL SECTIONS ONLY
USE CABLE 3*

CAMERA CAPACITY: UP TO 50LBS
UNIT WEIGHT: 45.9 LBS.
FOLDED LENGTH: 55"
OVERALL LENGTH: 9'3"
DISTANCE FROM TRIPOD TO CAMERA: 6'6"
VERTICAL MOVEMENT / MAX HEIGHT: 9' / 10'9"

SNAPCRANE-12 MODE (REAR PIVOT HOLE)

*SECTIONS USED: FRONT, EXTENSION SECTION 1, PIVOT & TAIL SECTIONS
USE CABLE 2 AND EXT. CABLE 1*

CAMERA CAPACITY: UP TO 30LBS. IN UNDERSLUNG POSITION
UNIT WEIGHT: 58.45 LBS.
FOLDED LENGTH: 55"
OVERALL LENGTH: 13'10"
DISTANCE FROM TRIPOD TO CAMERA: 11'
VERTICAL MOVEMENT / MAX HEIGHT: 12'6" / 14'3"

SNAPCRANE-16 MODE (REAR / FRONT PIVOT HOLE)

*SECTIONS USED: FRONT, EXTENSION 1 & 2, PIVOT & TAIL SECTIONS -
TIP: USE FRONT PIVOT HOLE TO REDUCE COUNTERWEIGHT NEEDED
USE CABLE 1 (REAR PIVOT HOLE) OR 1A (FRONT PIVOT HOLE), EXT. CABLE
1 AND EXT. CABLE 2*

CAMERA CAPACITY: UP TO 30LBS. IN UNDERSLUNG POSITION
UNIT WEIGHT: 74.3 LBS.
FOLDED LENGTH: 55"
OVERALL LENGTH: 18'4"
DISTANCE FROM TRIPOD TO CAMERA: 15'6"/14'8" (REAR/FRONT PIV. HOLE)
VERTICAL MOVEMENT & MAX HEIGHT: 16'6"/15'10" & 18'3"/17'7"

*NOTE: VERTICAL MOVEMENT IS MEASURED TO SNAPCRANE CAMERA PLATFORM,
WHILE "MAX HEIGHT" IS MEASURED TO OVERSLUNG MC100 HEAD PLATFORM.*

* CHANGE BLACK CABLES FOR DIFFERENT CRANE LENGTHS *
ONE HARDWARE SET SUPPLIED FOR ALL 5 BLACK CABLE LENGTHS -
ADD/REMOVE HARDWARE: PULL THE QUICK RELEASE PINS AND REMOVE
THE HARDWARE FROM THE CABLE, THEN ATTACH TO THE APPROPRIATE-
LENGTH CABLE.

VZ-SNAPCRANE-9 PROFESSIONAL MODULAR CAMERA CRANE INSTRUCTION MANUAL

PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTION MANUAL THOROUGHLY BEFORE OPERATING YOUR CRANE SYSTEM FOR THE FIRST TIME TO AVOID INJURY OR DAMAGE TO THE UNIT.

THE DURABLE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SNAPCRANE MAKES IT AN EXCELLENT LONG-TERM INVESTMENT, BUT ITS PRECISION DESIGN ALSO MEANS THAT YOU MUST EXERCISE CARE IN THE STORAGE, TRANSPORT, AND OPERATION OF THE UNIT TO ENSURE OPTIMAL LONG-TERM PERFORMANCE. ALWAYS EXERCISE CAUTION WHEN OPERATING THE SNAPCRANE TO AVOID COLLISIONS WITH PEOPLE, OBJECTS, AND POWER LINES. DO NOT OPERATE IN WINDY CONDITIONS. ***DOLLY IS FOR SETUP, NOT FOR FREELY ROLLING THE LOADED CRANE AROUND.***

Grayed-out areas apply only to SnapCrane-12 & 16



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SNAPCRANE-9 PARTS LIST

CRANE ARM SECTIONS

- 1) TAIL SECTION (SHORT) W/ SLIDING COUNTERWEIGHT
- 2) PIVOT SECTION W/ HALF-MOON SHAPED BRAKE PLATE
- 3) FRONT SECTION (SHORT) W/ “VARIZOOM” LOGO

SUPPORT SECTIONS

- 4) CAMERA PLATFORM
- 5) PAN/TILT BASE
- 6) TRIPOD
- 7) DOLLY

CABLES (INDIVIDUALLY LABELED)

- 8) CABLE 3 (BLACK) W/ HARDWARE BOTH ENDS
- 9) CABLE 4 (BLACK)

OTHER PARTS

- 10) WEIGHT BAR (24” STAINLESS)
- 11) PLATE ADAPTER (ROUND, DOMED)
- 12) BRAIDED SLEEVING (FOR VIDEO/POWER CABLES)

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SLIDE THE WEIGHT BAR THROUGH THE HOLE AT THE BACK OF THE CRANE. USE THE THUMBSCREW TO LOCK THE BAR'S POSITION. RUN ALL VIDEO AND REMOTE CABLES AND LOOSEN THE TILT BRAKE. GRADUALLY ADD WEIGHT TO BARELY FLOAT THE CRANE. USING THE AID OF A HELPER OR STAND, MOUNT YOUR REMOTE HEAD AND CAMERA SECURELY.

WHEN ATTACHING A REMOTE HEAD USE THE DUAL-PURPOSE PLATE ADAPTER TO WORK WITH EITHER 100MM HALF-BALL MOUNTS OR A FLAT-BASE MOUNT. THE MOST COMMON METHOD OF ATTACHMENT IS UNDERSLUNG (SHOWN RIGHT). THE REMOTE HEAD CAN ALSO BE OVERSLUNG BY REVERSING THE PLATE ATTACHMENT.



TIGHTEN THE RED CABLE TURNBUCKLES UNTIL THE CRANE IS STRAIGHT. TIGHTEN THE BLACK CABLE TURNBUCKLE UNTIL THE CAMERA PLATFORM IS LEVEL. CONTINUE WEIGHTING THE BAR GRADUALLY UNTIL THE CRANE IS NEARLY BALANCED, AND THEN ADD YOUR REMOTE CONTROLS. USE THE MICRO-ADJUST COUNTERWEIGHT TO FINE TUNE THE BALANCE. THE SNAPCRANE SHOULD FLOAT IN POSITION, I.E., IT SHOULD RISE AND FALL WITH MINIMAL EFFORT.

****** WARNING: THE DOLLY IS INTENDED FOR INITIAL SETUP ON COMPLETELY FLAT, SMOOTH, LEVEL SURFACES – NOT FOR FREE ROLLING OF THE LOADED CRANE. TOO MANY UNKNOWN FACTORS COULD CREATE INSTABILITY AND POTENTIALLY LEAD TO COLLISIONS AND/OR TOPPLING– SEVERE SAFETY HAZARDS. FOR THIS REASON, WE DO NOT RECOMMEND ROLLING THE LOADED CRANE AROUND, ESPECIALLY OUTDOORS.***

PAGE 4

PULL BOTH T-HANDLE PINS OUT BY PRESSING IN ON THE BLUE BUTTON AND PULLING OUT ON THE T-HANDLE. LET THE PINS HANG BY THEIR LANYARDS.

PIVOT SECTION

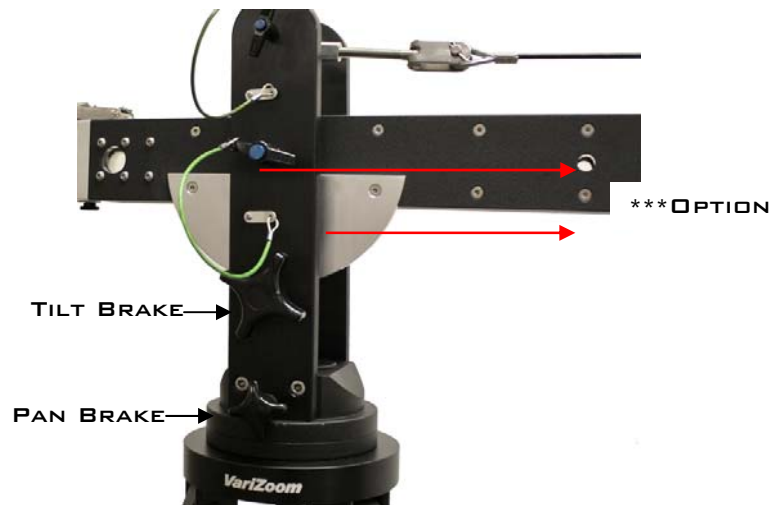
THE PIVOT SECTION IS THE SUB-SECTION THAT ATTACHES TO THE PAN/TILT BASE.

TO INSTALL THE PIVOT SECTION OF THE CRANE, SLIDE IT INTO PLACE BETWEEN THE ARMS OF THE BASE, ALIGNING THE PIVOT HOLES.

IMPORTANT! MAKE SURE THE BRAKE KNOB AND BRAKE PLATE (HALF-MOON) ARE ON THE SAME SIDE SO THE BRAKE PLATE WILL SLIDE INTO THE CLAMPING MECHANISM.

******OPTION:*** IF YOU WANT TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF COUNTERWEIGHT NEEDED IN SNAPCRANE-16 MODE, YOU CAN SHIFT THE BRAKE PLATE FORWARD SO YOU CAN USE THE FRONT PIVOT HOLE - THIS WILL MINIMIZE THE AMOUNT OF COUNTERWEIGHT NEEDED AT THE BACK OF THE CRANE.

ALIGN THE HOLE ON THE PIVOT SECTION WITH THE HOLE RIGHT ABOVE THE BRAKE KNOB ON THE BASE. WHILE DEPRESSING THE BUTTON, SLIDE THE THICKER T-HANDLE PIN ALL THE WAY THROUGH THE BASE AND PIVOT SECTION.

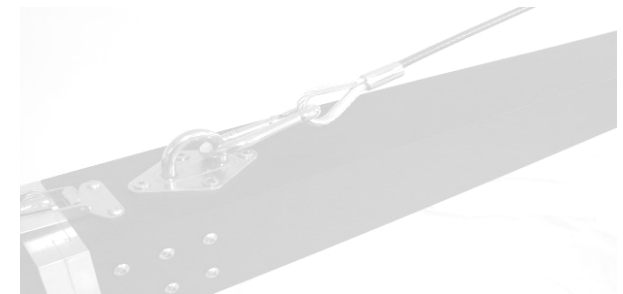


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Grayed-out areas apply only to SnapCrane-12 & 16
CABLE INSTRUCTIONS (CONT.)

NEXT, PLACE THE CABLE OVER THE CABLE GUIDE AND SECURE THE OTHER END TO THE LATCH POINT AT THE FRONT OF THE EXTENSION SECTION 1.

NOTE! YOU MAY NEED TO RELEASE SOME SLACK BY LOOSENING UP THE TURNBUCKLE.



FOR THE SNAPCRANE-12, SKIP TO THE MIDDLE OF PAGE 10 ('CAMERA LEVELING CABLES'). FOR SNAPCRANE-16, CONTINUE:

SNAPCRANE-16 - ADD EXT. CABLE 2

EXT. CABLE 1 SHOULD ALREADY BE ATTACHED, AS INSTRUCTED ABOVE. NOW YOU WILL HAVE TO ADD EXT. CABLE 2.

Grayed-out areas apply only to SnapCrane-12 & 16

CABLE INSTRUCTIONS (CONT.)

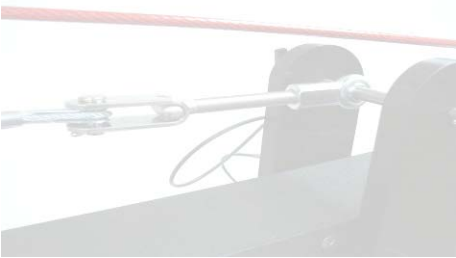
EXT. CABLE 2 – CLIP THE END WITH THE TURNBUCKLE TO THE LATCH POINT CLOSEST TO THE FRONT OF THE CRANE. PLACE THE CABLE OVER THE CABLE GUIDE AND SECURE THE SIMPLER END TO THE LATCH POINT IT CAN REACH CLOSEST TO THE REAR OF THE CRANE.

CAMERA LEVELING CABLES (BLACK CABLES)

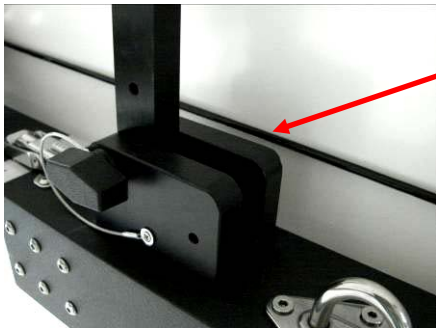
SELECT THE APPROPRIATE BLACK CABLE ACCORDING TO THE MODE GUIDE ON THE BACK PAGE. AT THE CAMERA PLATFORM, SLIDE THE PIN THROUGH THE EYE OF THE TURNBUCKLE ON THE SELECTED CABLE.



RUN THE OTHER END OF THE CABLE TO THE PAN/TILT BASE AND SLIDE THE PIN THROUGH THE CABLE EYE.



NOTE: RED CABLE SHOULD BE ABOVE BLACK CABLE.



MAKE SURE BLACK CABLE IS ON THIS SIDE OF THE CABLE GUIDE

TRIPOD & DOLLY SETUP

BEFORE ASSEMBLING YOUR CRANE, MAKE SURE THE DOLLY IS ON A COMPLETELY FLAT, LEVEL SURFACE. INSERT THE TRIPOD FEET INTO THE DOLLY RECEIVERS.



FOR MAXIMUM STABILITY, EXTEND THE TRIPOD FEET SO THEY SNUGLY FIT TOWARD THE OUTER EDGE OF THE RECEIVERS AND THE SPREADER IS FLATTENED OUT.

PAN/TILT BASE

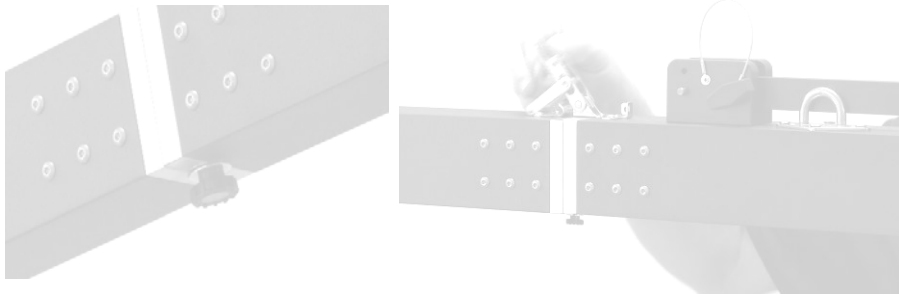
FIRST, YOU WILL NEED TO ATTACH THE BASE UNIT TO THE TRIPOD. UNSCREW THE BASE MOUNTING KNOB AND INSERT THE BASE INTO THE TRIPOD.



RE-ATTACH THE BASE MOUNTING KNOB SECURELY, MAKING SURE THAT THE BASE IS SEATED CORRECTLY. CHECK THE BULL'S-EYE LEVEL AND ADJUST THE TRIPOD LEVELING FEET AS NECESSARY.

POSITION THE DOLLY/TRIPOD *****TO PREVENT TOPPLING, ONLY PUSH AT THE BOTTOM OF THE LEGS WHERE THEY FIT INTO THE DOLLY***** BASED ON THE CRANE CONFIGURATION, YOU CAN ESTIMATE HOW MUCH OF A RADIUS YOU WILL NEED TO OPERATE. REPOSITION THE DOLLY/TRIPOD BASED ON YOUR SITUATION, LINING UP A FORWARD-POINTING TRIPOD LEG WITH THE CRANE'S FORWARD REST/DEFAULT DIRECTION (THIS WILL MAXIMIZE STABILITY). FOR SAFETY, ENGAGE THE DOLLY WHEEL BRAKES BEFORE CONTINUING ASSEMBLY.

Grayed-out areas apply only to SnapCrane-12 & 16
EXTENSION SECTION 2 (CONT. PICS)



FRONT SECTION

NEXT, ATTACH THE FRONT SECTION (PRINTED WITH "VARI-ZOOM") TO YOUR CRANE. LOOSEN THE DOVETAIL LOCK SCREW JUST ENOUGH TO ALLOW THE TWO SECTIONS TO ENGAGE.

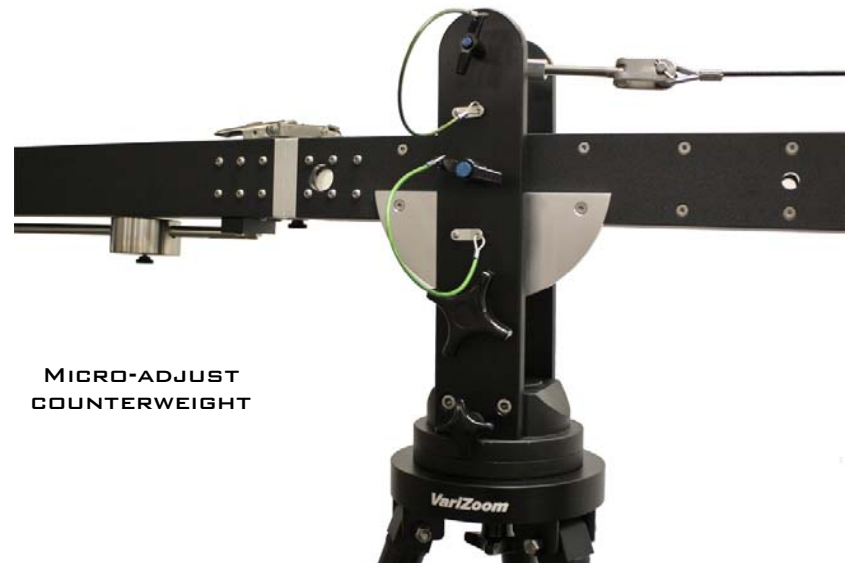
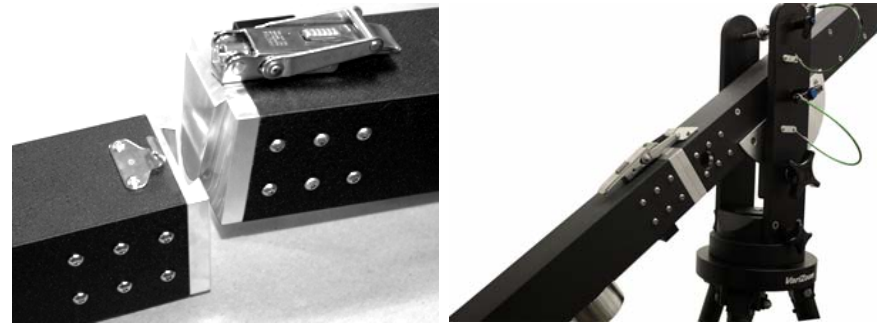
SLIDE THE FRONT SECTION INTO PLACE, TIGHTEN THE DOVETAIL LOCK SCREW, AND ENGAGE THE LATCH. NOW PULL THE PINS OUT OF THE CAMERA PLATFORM AND ATTACH IT TO THE FRONT SECTION. ATTACH IT TO THE FRONT SECTION WITH THE LARGE PIN AND LEAVE THE SMALL PIN HANGING.



TAIL SECTION

IF USING THE CRANE IN 'COMPACT MODE', YOU CAN SKIP THIS SECTION AND PROCEED TO THE MIDDLE OF PAGE 10 ('CAMERA CABLES').

ATTACH THE TAIL SECTION TO THE REAR OF THE PIVOT SECTION. LOOSEN THE DOVETAIL LOCK SCREW JUST ENOUGH TO ALLOW THE TWO SECTIONS TO ENGAGE, TIGHTEN LOCK SCREW, AND ENGAGE THE LATCH.



**MICRO-ADJUST
COUNTERWEIGHT**

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Grayed-out areas apply only to SnapCrane-12 & 16
CABLE INSTRUCTIONS

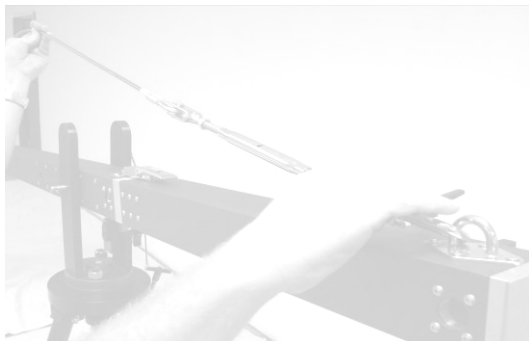
THERE ARE VARIOUS CABLES FOR USE IN THE SNAPCRANE'S DIFFERENT MODES (SEE BACK COVER). FOR 'COMPACT' & 'MID-SIZE' MODES, SKIP TO THE MIDDLE OF PAGE 10 ('CAMERA CABLES'). FOR THE SNAPCRANE-16 & -12, YOU'LL NEED TO USE THE RED 'EXT CABLES' (1 FOR SNAPCRANE-12; 2 FOR SNAPCRANE-16) – SEE BELOW:



PULL THE PIN OUT FROM THE CABLE GUIDE BASEBLOCK. LIFT THE CABLE GUIDE AND INSERT THE PIN TO SECURE.



GRAB "EXT. CABLE 1" AND CLIP THE END WITH TURNBUCKLE TO THE LATCH POINT AT THE REAR OF THE TAIL SECTION.

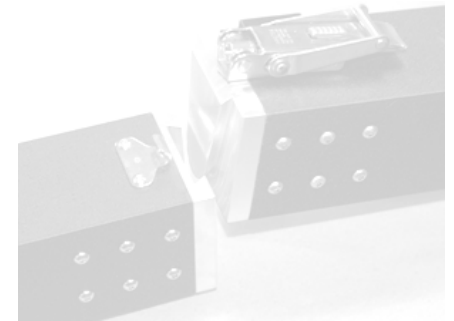


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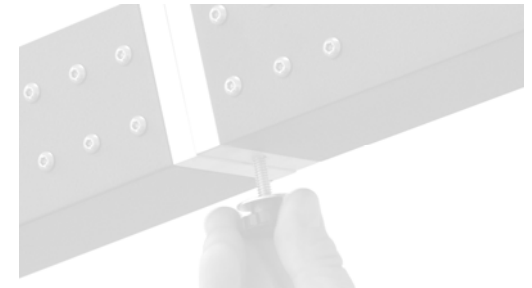
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EXTENSION SECTION 1

IF USING THE CRANE IN THE 2 SHORTEST MODES, YOU CAN SKIP THIS SECTION AND GO TO PAGE 7.

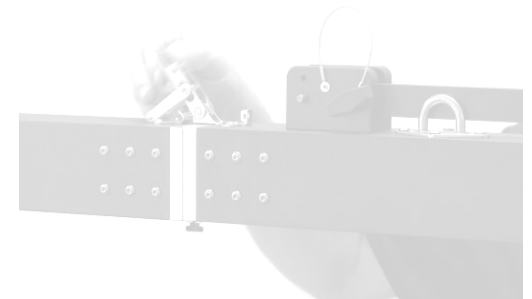
NEXT YOU WILL NEED TO ATTACH EXTENSION SECTION 1 TO THE PIVOT SECTION.



LOOSEN THE DOVETAIL LOCK THUMBSCREW JUST ENOUGH TO ALLOW THE TWO SECTIONS TO ENGAGE.



SLIDE EXTENSION SECTION 1 INTO PLACE, TIGHTEN THE DOVETAIL LOCK SCREW, AND SNAP DOWN THE LOCKING LATCH. (LATCH TENSION IS ADJUSTABLE W/ FLAT SCREWDRIVER)



EXTENSION SECTION 2

THIS SECTION ONLY APPLIES IF YOU PURCHASED THE SNAPCRANE-16 OR ADDED AN EXTENSION TO YOUR SNAPCRANE-12.

LOOSEN THE DOVETAIL LOCK SCREW JUST ENOUGH TO ALLOW THE TWO SECTIONS TO ENGAGE. THEN SLIDE EXTENSION SECTION 2 INTO EXTENSION SECTION 1, TIGHTEN THE LOCK SCREW, AND ENGAGE THE LATCH.