## ShadeTree® Canopy Systems Assembly Instructions

Using **ShadeTree**<sup>®</sup> **Aluminum Overhead Strip-Tracks** supported by a wood support structure erected on site.

# Strip Track



#### Dear Customer:

Thank you for purchasing our **ShadeTree**<sup>•</sup> **Canopy System**. We trust these assembly instructions will be satisfactory for your installation. If you have any questions, please feel free to call 1-800-894-3801.

And here's a special offer we'd like to make to you: Send us a photo of your new ShadeTree<sup>®</sup> installation and we will send you **\$50** if we use your photo in our advertising materials. Before and after pictures will receive an additional \$50. A deck or patio that is nicely furnished helps us communicate to prospective customers how nice a ShadeTree<sup>®</sup> patio can be.

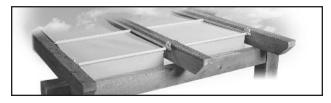
We hope you enjoy your new ShadeTree<sup>®</sup> patio canopies.

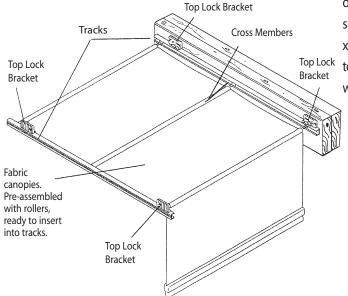
Sincerely,

Colin LeVeque, President

ShadeTree Systems, LLC.

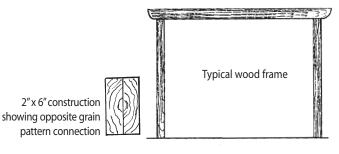






#### **Canopies between wood beams**

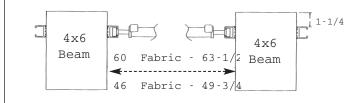
These instructions assume the one-sided tracks will be attached to the inner sides of  $4^{\prime\prime}x6^{\prime\prime}$  wood beams that are supported by a wood frame constructed on site. There are two options for mounting the Strip Track: either a **surface mount** or a **recessed mount**. It is recommended that the vertical posts of the wood support frame be constructed of at least  $4^{\prime\prime}x6^{\prime\prime}$  lumber. You can also use two  $2^{\prime\prime}x6^{\prime\prime}$  beams screwed together with the grain pattern running oppoiste directions to decrease the chance of twisting. Construction of beams and vertical posts with  $2^{\prime\prime}x4^{\prime\prime}$  or  $4^{\prime\prime}x4^{\prime\prime}$  lumber is discouraged.



#### **Measurements for Beam Placement**

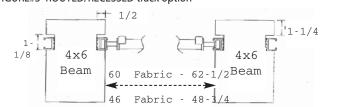
For **surface-mounting**, spacing between beams should be **63-1/2" for 60"** fabric or **49-3/4" for 46"** fabric. See Fig. 2.

FIGURE#2 SURFACE-MOUNTED track option

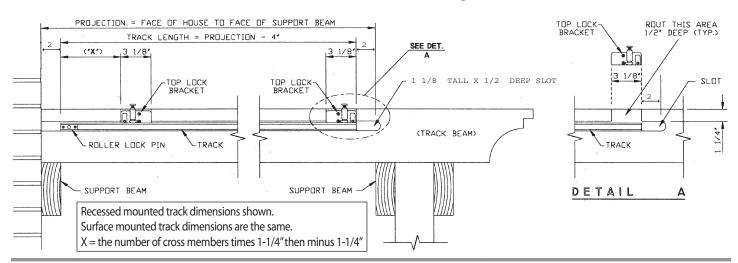


For **routed/recessed mounting**, spacing between beams should be **62-1/2" for 60"** fabric or **48-3/4" for 46"** fabric. See Fig. 3.

FIGURE#3 ROUTED/RECESSED track option



#### **Measurements for Track Length**



#### **Tools required:**

Flat head screwdriver
hand drill
Phillips drill bit
1/8" drill bit
pencil

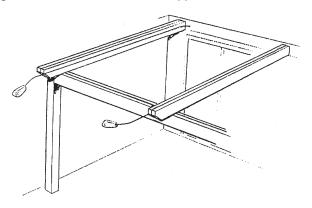
6. bubble-type level 7. tape measure 8. hacksaw/miter saw 9. 8' ladder 10. Chalk line

If you are doing **recessed** mounting, you will also need a router and a bit.

#### Step 1 Mark track position

#### **SURFACE Mounting:**

Snap chalk line along beam that is **1-1/4" down** from the top edge of the beam. Do the same on opposite side.



#### **RECESSED Mounting:**

Rout a **1-1/8" wide by 1/2" recessed** channel that is **1-1/4" down** from the top edge of the beam for the tracks. Be sure to rout all the way to the end of the beam closest to your house. You will need the full space of the channel to insert the canopies.

Once you have routed the channel for the tracks, you must also rout the areas where the *Top Lock Brackets* are to be positioned. Each *Top Lock Bracket* must be routed a minimum of **3-1/8" wide by 1/2" deep/recessed**.

The *Top Lock Bracket* that is furthest from the house (the extended position) should be 2" from the end of the beam.

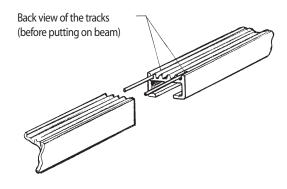
The position of the *Top Lock Bracket* that is closest to the house (the retracted position) is determined by a calculation that multiplies the number of *Cross Members* (the white aluminum tubes on the canopies) times 1-1/4," then minus 1-1/4." (Example: 6 *Cross Members* times 1-1/4." = 7-1/2."; thus 7-1/2." minus 1-1/4." = 6-1/4." from the end of the track)

#### Step 1 Attach Track to Beam

If you are surface mounting, line the top of the assembled tracks to the chalk line you made in Step 1 and begin fastening the first track onto the beam with 1" screws. If you are recessed mounting, install the track in the bottom of the channel you routed out. Screw the track in using the screws provided but do not fully tighten.

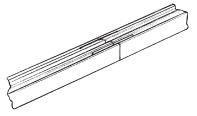
#### Step 2 Insert Track Pins

Place two strip track pins (provided with system) into the two **middle slots** located on back side of track (between the track and the beam). Insert halfway into track. These pins aide in locating track next to each other and are necessary for track/canopy performance. Tighten the screws holding the track to the beam.



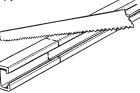
#### Step 3 Assemble & Attach Additioanl Tracks to Beams

Adjoin additional strip track onto the pins. Repeat Step 1 until you have installed enough tracks to achieve your desired length/projection.



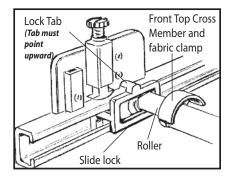
#### Step 4 Shortening the Track Length

Strip tracks are supplied in lengths slightly over 8. The last section of track must be cut to fit the length of canopies/projection length ordered. You can cut the track using a hacksaw or miter saw. Overall strip track length must be 2" shorter than the projection length that was ordered to allow for feeding canopy into tracks. Ensure that the cut is square.



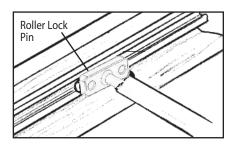
#### Step 5 Installing the Canopies

You can now insert the canopies, starting at the end of the tracks closest to the house. Insert the *Rollers* of the front *Cross Member* first. The front *Cross Member* is the one that has a *Slide Lock* on the roller at each end. **When inserting, ensure the lock tab is pointing up as shown here.** Be sure the canopy is oriented so the *Fabric Clamp* is facing up as shown. Continue inserting the remaining *Rollers* until the entire canopy is up. Install the remaining canopies using the same procedure.



#### Step 6 Locking the End of the Canopy

A *Roller Lock Pin* is provided to hold the *Cross Member* nearest the house in a fixed position. Insert the *Roller Lock Pin* in the track flush with the end of the track. Once in place, it can be secured with the set screws. The *Roller Lock Pin* will hold the last *Cross Member* firmly in place. Repeat on each track. (On masonry houses, it is recommended to leave a few inches between the canopy and the house to prevent scuffing of the canvas during windy weather).



#### Step 7 Installing the Top Lock Brackets

Place a *Top Lock Bracket* on the top of the track. *Top Lock Brackets* should be flush with the end of the track for the extended postion.

The position of the *Top Lock Bracket* that is closest to the house (the retracted position) is determined by a calculation that multiplies the number of *Cross Members* (the white aluminum tubes on the canopies) times 1-1/4," then minus 1-1/4." (Example: 6 *Cross Members* times 1-1/4," then minus 1-1/4." (Example: 6 *Cross Members* times 1-1/4," = 7-1/2," thus 7-1/2," minus 1-1/4," = 6-1/4," from the end of the track). Make sure the *Top Lock Brackets* are completely pushed down on the track before attaching with screws provided.

Test the snap-in *Top Lock Bracket* and tighten or loosen the adjusting screws as required for the desired tension. Turn the adjust screw clockwise for greater tension; turn counter clockwise for less tension. Repeat this step on each track.

**NOTE:** The locking system is designed to release the canopies in high winds to protect the canopies. The adjusting screws can be used to adjust the tension. Do not over-tighten as this could increase the chance for canopy damage in high winds and void your warranty.





Top Lock Bracket (retracted postion)

(extended postion)

**Note:** Top Lock Bracket should face away from the house for the retracted position and to the house for the extended position.

#### Step 8 Shortening Canopy Length (optional)

Lay the canopy on a flat clean surface. The extra fabric length should be removed from the back end of the canopy. This is the end opposite the handle. Remove the *Roller Sleeve* assemblies at both ends of the back canopy *Cross Member*. To do this, first fully extend the *Roller*, then push down on the locking tab and pull *Roller Sleeve* outward (Fig. 2A).

Remove the *Fabric Clamp*. To do this, insert a flat head screw driver between the canopy fabric and the *Fabric Clamp*. Pry upward to release the *Fabric Clamp* (Fig. 2B).

From the back end of the canopy, measure the same distance that was taken off the track length. Make a mark at this distance on both outside edges of the fabric (Fig. 2C).

Place the Bottom Cross Member (aluminum) underneath the canopy, centering it on the two marks. Position the Bottom Cross Member so the punched square holes at the ends are facing downward. Holding the Bottom Cross Member in this position, reassemble the Fabric Clamp by snapping the Fabric Clamp in place at both ends and pressing down, working toward the center (Fig. 2D).

Insert the *Roller Sleeve* assemblies back into the *Bottom Cross Member*, ensuring that the locking tab engages the corresponding punched square hole in the *Bottom Cross Member* (Fig. 2E).

Measure the canopies to ensure the desired length is correct before trimming off excess canopy material. Remove the canopies and place on a flat, clean surface. To remove the excess canopy material, use the edge of the *Fabric Clamp* as a guide when cutting with a sharp utility knife (Fig. 2F).













#### Step 9 Adjusting Handle Height (optional)

Each canopy has the handle overhang approximately 18" from the tracks. This drop handle is for opening and closing the canopies, but it is also important for catching the wind to cause the wind-release mechanism to activate. Therefore, we encourage you NOT to shorten it. However, if you must have less than an 18" overhang, follow the instructions below for shortening the handle height.

- 1. Remove the screws in the handle and open the handle the entire width.
- 2. Cut the fabric to the desired length.
- 3. Carefully close the handle and re-insert the screws provided do not overtighten.
- 4. Reinstall the top caps in the end of the handle.

## Strip Track

#### Care and cleaning of your ShadeTree® Canopies

- 1. ShadeTree<sup>®</sup> tracks should be cleaned regularly to keep debris and dirt from accumulating and interfering with the rollers. Simply use a mild detergent with a small soft brush, such as a toothbrush, and gently wipe or brush along the inside of the tracks. To maintain a smoothly operating system, apply a paste car wax such as Kit<sup>™</sup> or Turtlewax<sup>™</sup> to the roller tracks. Allow the wax to dry then wipe off with a clean, soft cloth. Note: Do NOT use oil or any wet lubricant, such as WD-40, on the tracks as it would attract more dirt. For ultimate performance, use ShadeTree<sup>®</sup> EasyRider Track Lubricant.
- 2. Fabric should be cleaned regularly before substances such as dirt, roof particles, etc., are allowed to accumulate on and become embedded in the fabric. The fabric can be cleaned without being removed from the cross members. Simply brush off any loose dirt, roof particles, etc.; hose down and clean with a mild natural soap in lukewarm water (no more than 100° F.) Rinse thoroughly to remove soap. DO NOT USE DETERGENTS! For ultimate performance, use ShadeTree<sup>®</sup> Canopy Cleaner Mold & Mildew Stain Remover.
- 3. For stubborn stains soak the fabric for approximately 20 minutes in a solution of no more than 1/4 cup (2 oz.) natural soap per gallon of water at approximately 100° F. Rinse thoroughly in cold water to remove all of the soap. Note: Excessive soaking in bleach can deteriorate sewing threads. This method of cleaning may remove part of the water repellency and the fabric should receive an application of an air-curing water-repellent treatment, such as APCO, UNISEAL, SUNSEAL or similar products, if water repellency is a factor. For ultimate performance, use **ShadeTree**° **Canopy Cleaner Mold & Mildew Stain Remover** and **ShadeTree**° **Water Repellent**.
- 4. When washing or cleaning, DO NOT SUBJECT TO EXCESSIVE HEAT as the fabric will shrink. DO NOT STEAM PRESS OR DRY IN ELECTRIC OR GAS DRYERS, but allow to air dry.
- 5. In cases where canopies are taken down & stored, they should be cleaned and allowed to air dry, before being stored in a dry, well ventilated area.

## How to **remove** ShadeTree<sup>®</sup> Canopies for **end-of season storage:**

1. Remove the **Top Lock Brackets** at the "retracted" end of each track (see step 9.)



2 Remove the **Roller Lock Pin** which holds the last Cross Member in a fixed position (see step 8.)



- 3. Then simply roll the **Cross Members** out of the "retracted" end of the track. The tracks can remain up year-round.
- 4. **If a canopy is dirty** and requires washing before storage, simply spread the canopy on a driveway or other flat surface. Wash, using a broom and bucket of warm water and a mild soap, such as lvory Snow.

Be sure to rinse well by hosing with a clear water. Allow to air-dry completely in the sun before rolling canopies up for storage. **(Do not store wet canopies!)** 

#### Here's a chance to earn **\$50**!

We regularly use pictures in our advertising materials. If you send us reproducible pictures of your new ShadeTree<sup>®</sup> canopy installation, and we use them in any of our advertising, we will send you \$50. Interesting before-and-after pictures will receive an additional \$50. Of course, attractive landscaping and patio furniture will be a factor in selecting pictures to be used. Architects, builders and installers will receive credit mentions in the advertising.