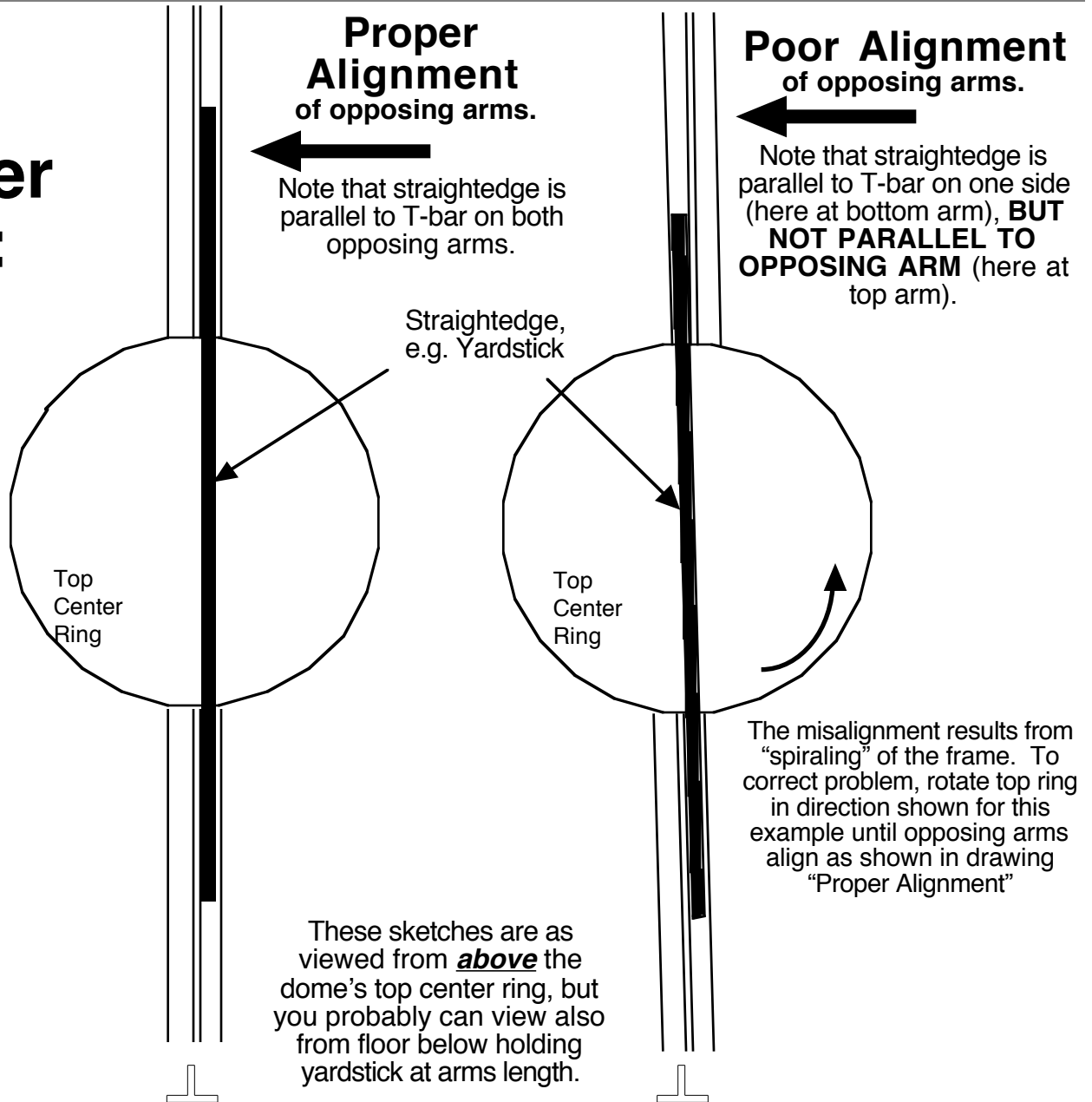


Example for Proper Dome Frame Alignment

At Top Center Ring:

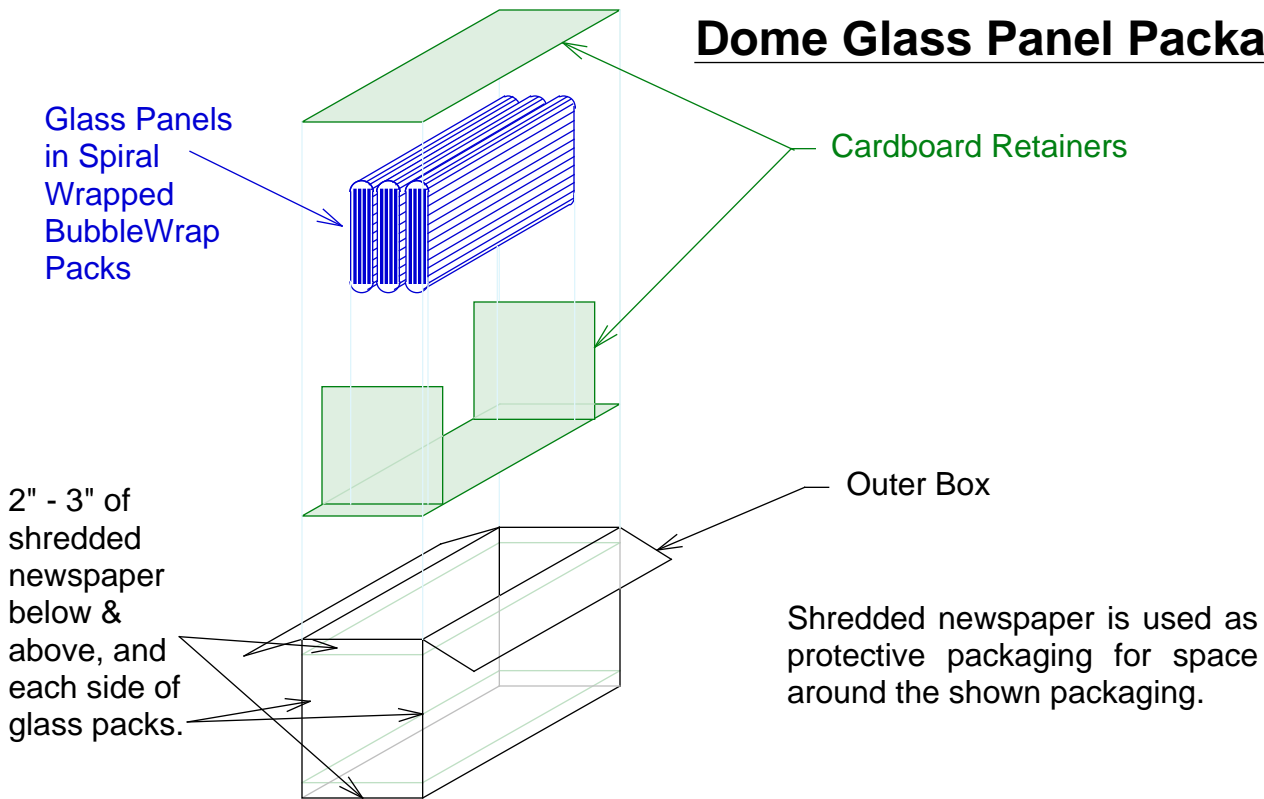


Before installing your glass panels, you should first verify the frame's alignment. THIS IS IMPORTANT because the glass panels will not fit properly if the frame is assembled without proper alignment. The arms must visibly line up with opposite arms as shown above.

From beneath the frame you can verify this by using a yardstick at arms length, aligning the yardstick along an arm on one side, then without moving yardstick, noting whether opposite arm also aligns to the yardstick.

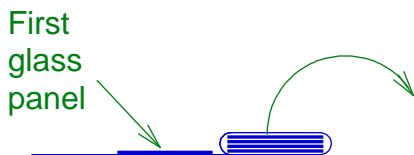
An easier way is to use a DIGITAL CAMERA to take a picture of the dome when DIRECTLY UNDER THE FRAME looking up. Then print the picture and use a ruler to draw a line on printed picture along one arm, and extending that line across center to opposite side. You can also import camera image into a draw program and draw straight line across one arm and extend to other side of dome. Does the arm on opposite side align to the extended line? If so, you are ready to install your glass panels.

Dome Glass Panel Packaging



How to Unpack Your Dome's Glass Panels

- 1) Place each spiral wrapped glass pack on a FLAT SURFACE such as a table.
- 2) While the pack is laying flat on table, cut the BROWN sealing tape on the bubble-wrap pack to allow you to "unroll" the pack.
- 3) Carefully unroll first layer to expose first glass panel.



- 4) Remove first glass panel, then unroll pack as shown to expose next glass panel.
- 5) Repeat steps 3) and 4) until all glass panels are removed.

IF YOU NEED TO STORE THE UNWRAPPED GLASS PANELS BEFORE INSTALLING IN THE DOME FRAME, STORE THE PANELS VERTICALLY -- e.g. LEANING SLIGHTLY AGAINST A WALL.

DO NOT STACK PANELS HORIZONTALLY AS THE WEIGHT OF MORE THAN 3 PANELS CAN BREAK GLASS PANEL ON BOTTOM OF STACK.

Sierra Stained Glass Studios

Domes

PATENTED, U.S. PATENT OFFICE, Patent No. 5,130,915

Offices: 1153 Yale Ave Modesto CA 95350 209-448-0350 FAX: 209-529-0632 e-Mail: sierradomes@pacbell.net
www.sierradomes.com The Dome™ is our 4' octagonal frame; SupraDomes™ are larger frames, 5' - 12' (12-, 16-, or 24-sided)

SPECIAL NOTES FOR INSTALLING GLASS PANELS IN DOME FRAME

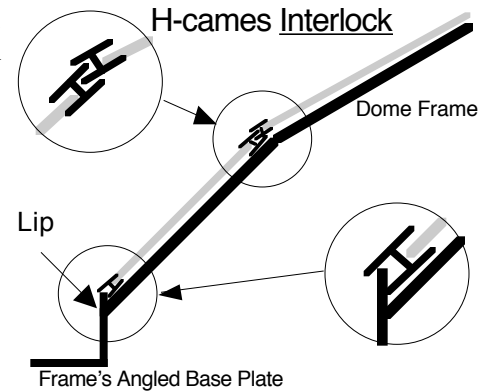
In general, your dome frame has three different sized trapezoidal glass panels, and optionally, a polygonal panel for the top center. If your frame is 8-sided, you have 8 of each trapezoidal size; for 12-sided frames, you have 12 of each trapezoidal size, etc. H-cames shown are on perimeter of glass panels.

Before installation, verify frame's alignment -- see Alignment page.

To install the glass panels:

First install the panel that fits into the center top plate (if applicable).

Next, for each section, install the bottom (largest) panel, being certain that the H-channel at the base rests atop the frame's Base Angle Plate. Be sure that the entire length of the H-channel at the bottom of this largest panel is resting **on** the frame's Base Angle Plate, and not just leaning **against** the frame. (You may have to lift the center of the bottom of the panel to rest **on** the frame's lip.) This is important to prevent sagging of the panels over time. (See drawing.)



Then install the 2nd tier for all sections, being certain to interlock the first & second panels' H-channels. Lastly, install the 3rd tier for all sections, again being certain that its base H-channel interlocks into the panel below. The top of the final tier rests against the top plate. (You may have to slide some panels to the left or right so that borders in a lower panel properly align with those in the panel above.) If gaps showing light exist, first check to be sure the frame is assembled and aligned properly (the tabs on the arms should be *under* the metal center top plate, and the brackets at the base of the arms should be *behind* the angled base plates.) Also, you need to center the glass panels so that the edges are evenly spaced when setting in the frame.

To remove the glass panels:

If the glass panels need to be removed at a later time for cleaning or changing of light bulbs, **ALWAYS FIRST REMOVE THE TOP TIER (SMALLEST PANEL), AND PROCEED DOWN THE TIERS.** Care should be taken to avoid leaning or pulling on the frame.

CAUTION: REMOVAL OF THE BOTTOM (LARGEST) PANEL FIRST WILL CAUSE THE UPPER PANELS TO SLIDE DOWN AND FALL OUT!!!

Some notes about lighting your stained glass dome [for 4' dome; use as guideline for larger sizes]:

If your dome is installed under a skylight, you may still want to have some lighting above for night. If your dome is back lighted with a sheet rocked light box, you may want to consider more than one type of lighting for different moods. We like to install both low wattage incandescent lights that can be controlled with a dimmer switch for various moods, *and* fluorescent lights for full night lighting. Four 27 watt General Electric Compact fluorescent bulbs (one in each upper corner facing downward from the top of the sheetrocked lightbox) provide the same light as four 100 watt incandescents. And, a single 40 watt incandescent in the center can be dimmed for a pleasant moon-like glow for use as a night light.

In most cases, try to keep the bulbs at least 8" to 10" away from the glass panels so you don't have "hot spots" showing in the stained glass. Also, be cautious about bulb wattages and bulb placement so as not to create any fire danger. For example, don't try to control 500 watts of lighting with a dimmer control rated for only 300 watts. (You shouldn't need, nor use, more than 300 watts anyway since four 27 watt compact fluorescent bulbs put out a lot of light in a light box that is painted with *flat* white paint!) If you install the electrical wiring yourself, always follow the building codes in your area.

DISCLAIMER: Selection of Sierra Stained Glass products to conform to all local applicable laws, ordinances, building codes, and safety requirements is the sole responsibility of the architect, house/building owner and/or contractor. Proper installation of our products is the responsibility of the customer. Sierra Stained Glass Studios has no responsibility in these regards.

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Sierra Stained Glass Studios

Domes

PATENTED, U.S. PATENT OFFICE, Patent No. 5,130,915

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SOME NOTES ON INSTALLING GLASS PANELS

- 1) Before installing panels in frames, **BE SURE FRAME IS ALIGNED PROPERLY.** Arm opposite any arm must align in a straight line. Instructions show how to check with digital camera photo taken directly below center of dome frame. Also be sure that ALL the tongues on the arms (at top center plate junction) are attached to top center plate so they are on the BOTTOM, or BELOW the actual top plate. So installers connect these backwards (i.e. connect on top side of top center plate), thinking you should not see the tongues -- not so. Tongues should be visible on bottom side of top center plate. If not connected this way, a gap will show when panel #3 (top tier, smallest trapezoids) installed.
- 2) **SPACE ABOVE DOME FRAME MUST BE SEALED** with NO holes or vents to attic above. Otherwise panels can blow out of windy day if door or window suddenly opened. (Panels are held in place by gravity and wind gusts can dislodge panels if space ABOVE dome not sealed. **See *!CAUTION!* page.**
- 3) Unpack your glass panels as per unpacking instructions so panels don't drop out of bubble wrap. If you need to store, store panels VERTICALLY, leaning against wall (with 1" space at bottom from wall to 1st panel so they are at slight angle.)
- 4) First place in frame the top center panels which lay flat. Then, place the largest panels (Panel #1) into frame. Then middle panels (Panel #2). And last, the smallest panels on 3rd tier (Panel #3). The panel #3's will lean against frame to seal out light.

PANELS SHOULD ALL BE INSTALLED SO THAT THE ROUGH TEXTURE SIDE OF THE RIPPLE GLASS ALL FACE DOWN. This will show the interesting texture of the ripple glass when light behind glass is off. This also will make the other glasses have their smooth side facing down. (If some up and some down, it will be noticed.)

Be sure your installers **NEVER LEAN ON or HOLD ONTO FRAME.** Doing so might cause frame to gyrate like jello and glass panels could fall out. Your installers should not attempt to install glass panels unless they are fully & safely supported by other ladders or scaffolding.

- 5) **FOR FRAMES OVER 8' ONLY:** Glass panels for 9', 10', 11', and 12' domes must be installed from BELOW - these frames are too large to install from above if frame is in a ceiling room because it would be dangerous to lean over to install panels.
- 6) **FOR TOP CENTER GLASS PANEL WHEN SPLIT IN TWO PARTS ONLY:** IF we made your top center glass panel in two parts to go around chain of hanging chandelier hung from structure above, one special caution: Because the panel is split, for best positioning, the hanging chandelier chain should have the decorative cap on chain that covers hole in merged glass panels AS CLOSE TO THE LEVEL OF GLASS PANELS, BUT NOT TOUCHING. Position that decorative cap or medallion so it is between 1/2" at minimum and 1" at maximum distance the actual merged glass panels. This will provide a degree of safety to keep glass from sagging over time. (Split top center glass plates are not as strong as when made as single panel. We could have added rebar to top side, but then it would have shown shadow on glass, which would have been uneven line.)

Sounds complicated, but it's not as long as each step is followed.