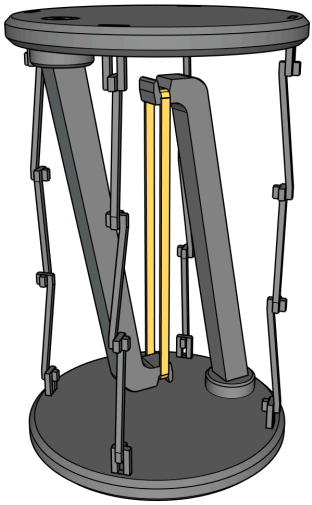
Tensegrity Display Stand

Assembly Instructions



tensegrity (noun)
ten-SEG-ri-tee

> A structure of “tensional integrity” in which two or more compression members are held in position by a continuous network of tension members.
>
> “Islands of compression in a sea of tension”

Welcome

Thank you for purchasing the Tensegrity Display Stand and supporting a small maker workshop.

This little platform is a hands-on demonstration of tensegrity – part sculpture, part engineering curiosity, and part puzzle. When assembled, it creates a “floating” display surface with a gentle, springy give that makes people do a double-take. It can support about 500 grams of weight with the two provided rubber-bands.

You now own a desk piece that’s genuinely fun to build, satisfying to take apart, and surprisingly strong for its size. Let’s get it assembled.

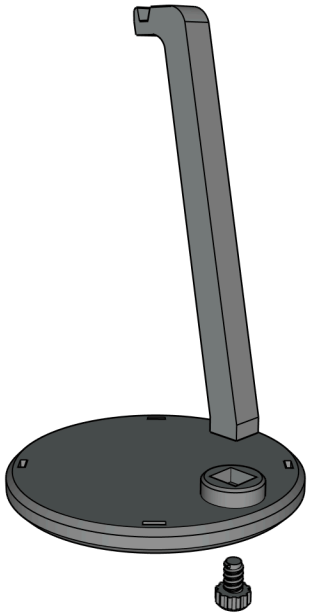
Assembly

Carefully remove all components from the zip bag. Small parts are easy to lose.

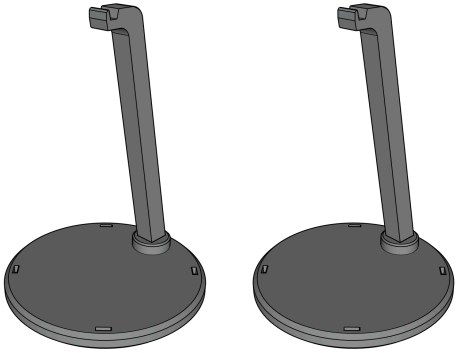
Note: Extra parts are included in case one goes missing.

Step 1 — Assemble the Bases and Arms

Attach one arm to each base using the provided screw. The hook on the arm should be centered over the base.

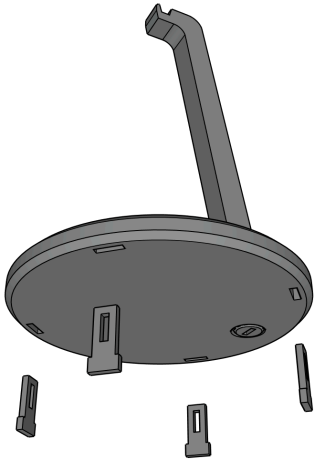


Use the included mini screwdriver to seat the screw. Do not overtighten—snug is enough. When finished, you should have two identical base-and-arm assemblies.



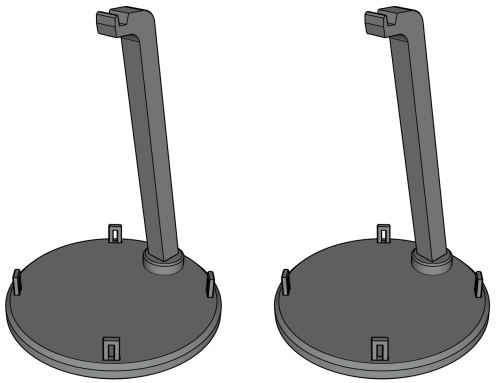
Step 2 — Install the Eyelet Pins

Locate 8 Eyelet Pins and press them into the bases.



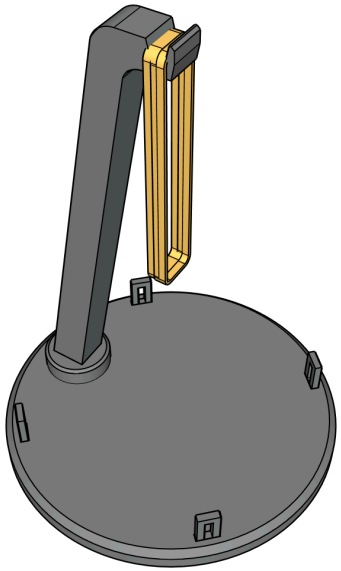
Insert the pins on the side of each base opposite the arm, with the loops protruding upward in the same direction as the arm. Press firmly until each pin seats fully and sits flush with the surface. Install 4 pins per base.

When complete, the two base units should look like this:



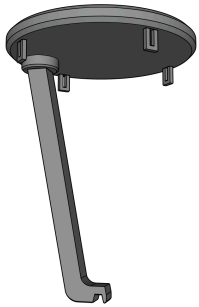
Step 3 — Install the Rubber Bands

Locate the two rubber bands and place them on the hook of one base-and-arm assembly. Stack them one over the other and let them hang freely for now.

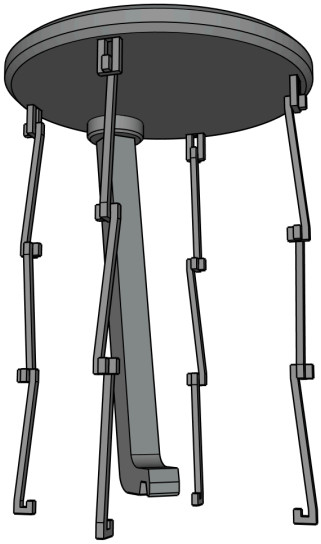


Step 4 — Build the Hanging Chains

Take the other base-and-arm assembly and flip it so the arm is pointing downward.



Now attach three S-hook chain links to each of the four Eyelet Pins on this inverted base to create four hanging chains.

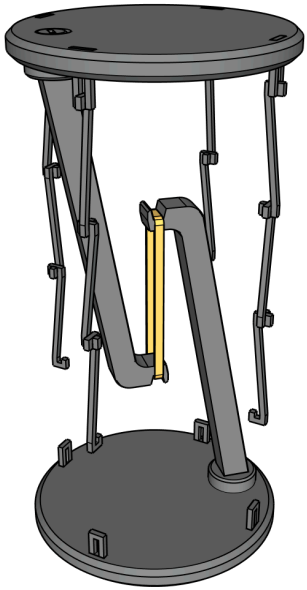


This step takes a steady hand. It’s often easiest to hold the arm while attaching the chain links.

Step 5 — Tension the Stand

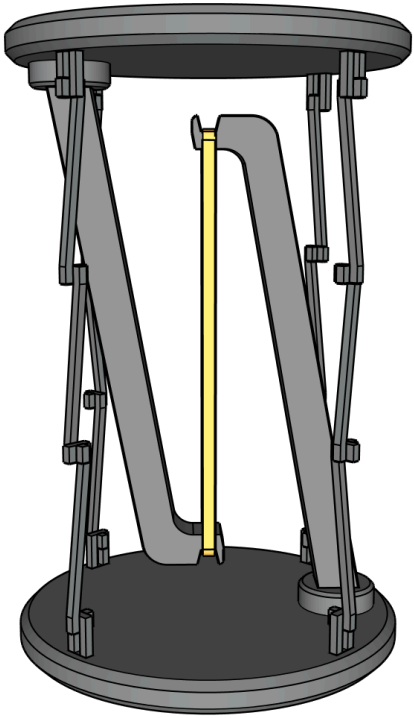
This is the most challenging step.

Hook the arm of the inverted assembly (with the hanging chains) into the bottom of the two rubber bands from Step 3.



Gently press the top base downward to stretch the rubber bands until the ends of the hanging chains reach the Eyelet Pins on the lower base. Carefully hook each chain onto an Eyelet Pin. The chain links can be bumped off easily, so go slowly.

When all four chains are attached, slowly ease off the downward pressure until the chains become taut and the stand settles into its floating position.



Finished

Your Tensegrity Display Stand is now ready to use. It should support up to about 500 grams of weight and is surprisingly sturdy once fully tensioned.

Enjoy!