



**PRACTICAL NOTES FOR SETTING UP A  
GETHSEMANE GARMENTS EXHIBITION**



*Westhill Endowment  
The Lodge Westhill  
South Drive  
Selly Oak  
Birmingham B29 6WE*

*Tel. no.: 0121-472 8000  
Email: [westhilltrust@btconnect.com](mailto:westhilltrust@btconnect.com)  
Website: [www.westhillendowment.org](http://www.westhillendowment.org)*

## PRACTICAL MATTERS INCLUDING HEALTH AND SAFETY

The following notes are given to help set up a complex resource and bring out ideas. We are never prescriptive about exhibitions, the people on the spot and working around the resources can best determine how to organise them effectively.

There are some practical considerations, including safety matters, that must be taken into account.

1. You will find it easier and more practical for two people to unpack and set out the garments.
2. Always put the frame on its side for assembly and re-packing.
3. Always ensure that the bolts on the crossbar that secures the legs of the frame are securely fastened.
4. **NEVER** stand inside the frame to place or remove the crossbar.
5. Ensure that any children are kept well away from the frames during assembly or re-packing: ensure that children do not use a clothed frame as a tent or hideaway place.
6. Be careful not to trap fingers in the hinged part of the frame.
7. Do not over-reach: use a stepladder to place garments over the frame.
8. Remember that materials will not slide over each other; they have been designed to stay as placed on the frame.

9. **NEVER** try to move a frame with the outer garments in place: frames with garments on are very heavy and there is a considerable risk of tripping over the trailing ends of materials that extend well past the bottom of the frame.
  
10. If damage occurs please let us know and we can advise how best to repair or replace. Any material that detaches itself should be put in the bag provided in the box (with the Visitors Book and Word Cards) so that we can replace in due course.

### **Setting up an Exhibition**

Ensure you have a team of two people and a step ladder. Follow the step-by-step process set out below and unpack garments only as and when required. Allow up to 1½ to 2 hours for setting up. Know where you are going to store packing materials before your start. Packing materials should be put away as you go as they cause a considerable trip hazard in the exhibition area.

### **Preliminary setting up – Positioning and colour sequence**

- STEP 1: Decide the location of each Garment. This can be done by allowing say a 6 foot/180cms circle for each Garment and allowing say 3 foot/90cms between each circle to allow people to walk easily between the exhibits.
- STEP 2: Lay frames on their side so that you can see the bolts, push cross pieces right home so that bolts align to give a secure fitting  
(see Figure 1).



Figure 1

STEP 3: Put frames upright in final position in the centre of each circle (see Figure 2).



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 3 (velcro detail)

STEP 4: Put shoulder padding on each frame and secure with velcro strips (see Figure 3).

STEP 5: Use ladder to place a coloured foundation garment over each frame: the frame for the White Garment is clearly marked. Materials will not slide over the shoulder pads they must be placed in position (see figure 4).



#### Figure 4

#### Figure 4 (White Garment – Velcro)

STEP 5(a): White Garment only: The split front has Velcro strips that can be attached to each front frame leg allowing part of the 'flap' to be drawn into the frame to give a hollow look.

STEP 6: Final positioning: The preliminary set up is now complete with four frames and their foundation garments giving an initial view of placement and colour. You can now make any positional adjustments BEFORE the garments are put over the frames.



**Positioning the four Frames with their Undergarments  
in their imagined six ft (180 cm) circles and about three ft (90cm) apart**

#### Secondary foundation garments – White and Green only

STEP 7: White Garment: In the main White Garment carrying bag there is white muslin overlay which has to be placed over the white foundation garment with the longer trailing end facing the front. When placed over the shoulders the white muslin is then coaxed inwards to give a hollow or concave appearance. The long trailing end comes out of the frame towards the edge of the circle.

STEP 8: Green Garment: In the main Green Garment carrying bag there is a hand painted dyed muslin overlay which is particularly light and vulnerable. This is designed to be placed over the shoulders with the opening at the back. Make sure that the centre seam of this garment is correctly placed along the centre of the shoulder line. Please ensure that this garment is not stretched or pulled.



**Secondary Foundation Garments – White & Green Only**

Final setting up: Again the advice is to use a ladder

STEP 9: Red Garment (Pain in the World)

This Garment is in two main pieces joined by a yoke at the top and has very long trailing ends. “Divide” the Garment in two and place it over the padded shoulder on the frame and generally centre the yoke over the padding. Gently ease the flowing ‘tails’ down over the stand and let them flow out into the full 6’ circle you have allocated. There are single pieces of fabric that are designed to fall from each shoulder.

The final look of the Garment needs to be ‘teased out’ so that the ‘Pain in the World’ continues to flow out from the bottom of the frame.

STEP 10: Grey/Mauve Garment (Sackcloth Despair)

This Garment opens at the back and when placed over the padded shoulders can be re-secured by hook and eye. Perhaps more than any other Garment time and care is required to 'tease out' the various strands which should again flow down and out wherever possible

STEP 11: Green Garment (Fragile Hope and Renewal)

This Garment opens at the back. Place the Green Garment over the shoulder pads and secure with the hook and eye and press-stud. Tease out the various 'fronds' which will take time and a little patience. Encourage the long ends out across the floor into the full extent of the chosen circle.

STEP 12: White Garment (Life no longer dominated by loss, pain and suffering)

This Garment is the most obvious to fit as it is like an unfinished coat. It is placed over the shoulder padding and carefully secured with a long nail through the gold leather loop (see bag attached to coat hanger). The scarf of nails is finally added over the shoulders and the shortest nails should rest just a fraction above the embroidered words on the chest. There are two 'padded' arms already inserted in the sleeves. These can be unbuttoned from the inside and removed. Some designers like to use a safety pin to pull the sleeves closer into the garment's sides – it is a matter of choice

The overall effect relies on making sure that the foundation garments cave into the frame and that the trailing ends fall out at the bottom and flow away into the chosen circle.

## Last steps

The final settling down and teasing out the various strands of the garments takes a little patience and care. Organisers usually value and enjoy their initial viewing while doing this. The words used on the garments with their Old and New Testament Chapter and Verse numbers are appended as an exhibitor's resource only.



Notes on collecting and returning the Garments (see Appendix A)

NOTES ON COLLECTING AND RETURNING THE GARMENTS

These notes on collecting and returning the Garments were included in your Letter of Arrangement

The frames fold down and can be stacked on to one another. The four frames stacked together need a cubic space of approx 100cm (3ft,3in) high, 146cm (4ft,8in) wide and 60cm (2ft) deep.

The frames are heavy to give stability and should only be carried one at a time.

The Garments are in four white carrying bags that can be laid flat or folded over. You will find it easier to have two people carrying a bag from a vehicle to an exhibition location. Each bag is approximately 80cm (2ft, 6in) wide and 720cm (24ft) long. The four foundation garments are altogether in one bag (red, mauve, grey, green and white). Additionally, there are "fragile" secondary foundation garments in the carrying bags for the Green and White Garments. The 'scarf of nails' is in the White Garment bag.

Packing and unpacking carrying bags can be done on a large table but providing the surface is clean laying the bag out on the floor and then having two people lifting the garment out and moving it into position is by far the easiest way.

One person trying to move a garment will often complicate the twists in the material and have considerable difficulty in avoiding tripping over the long trailing ends.

