

# Two-Piece Pole Assembly

All poles over 39' 6" in length are comprised of at least two sections. During assembly, the bottom section telescopes into the top section. There are three methods for assembling multi-section poles:

1. Brace the base plate against a non-movable object and push the top section over the bottom with a piece of heavy equipment. Be careful not to overslip, which might damage the material.
2. Use a winch and run a cable through the pole using a block arrangement and pull the sections together.
3. Use come-a-longs and slip the sections together, making sure the slip is straight and consistent.

AASHTO specifies a minimum slip distance equal to 1.5x the diameter of the top section's bottom. This length is marked by a small hole near the bottom of the top section. When assembling multi-section poles, apply continuous pressure until the top of the telescoping shaft completely covers this minimum-slip-distance. Soapy water or a similar mild, non-staining lubricant has been known to facilitate this process.

Even after the poles have been assembled and the minimum slip distance achieved, there may be gaps between the top and bottom sections. This is likely due to minor eccentricity in the formed shape of the pole shafts and is probably not a cause for concern.

After the pole is assembled and ready to set, the balance point should be below the slip joint so no lashing would be required. If the balance point is above the slip joint, lash the sections together by running a roping through the pole and out the hand hole so it can be easily removed after setting the pole.

Please contact us directly with any questions.

