



# Hoop Kit

## CONSTRUCTION GUIDE



# Hoop Kit - Introduction

## Thank you for purchasing a Hoop Kit from Northern Polytunnels / NP Structures.

We have been designing and developing horticultural structures for both the home grower and commercial farmer for over 40 years. Our structures were first sold in the 1970's and were developed as a cheaper alternative to the glasshouse.

Although the basic design of a polytunnel has never changed, the materials and techniques have. At NP we NEVER compromise on quality. We will only use the best materials available from the steel framework to the polythene.

So when buying for us, you can rest assured, you are buying into a little piece of history and a whole lot of knowledge.

By incorporating our polytunnel technology with our special raised bed fittings, we have found a way to create a cover system for the raised beds. By using high quality aluminium, the hoops fit together easily and securely, and combining a hoop kit with your raised bed, you can create a mini Polytunnel environment that can be used and removed when ever its needed.

### The benefits of using a Raised Bed Hoop Kit include:

**Wind / Rain protection:** Every area of the country suffers from the occasional rainy spell, but why should your plants suffer? By using a 'Hoop Kit' you can create sheltered area for your plants without having to move and disturb them.

**Frost Damage:** Certain plants need too be protected against the cold. With a 'Hoop Kit' you can create a shelter against the frost creating the best chance for your plants too thrive.

**Insect Protection:** The hoop kits come with two options, polythene covers and shade netting. Shade netting provides a uniform cover throughout your raised bed and also provides full cover against insects, birds etc.

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## Please take the time to carefully read through this guide before beginning construction of your Hoop Kit.

Our Mini Polytunnel should only take an hour or so to construct, but before you begin, read through the guide and use the checklist supplied to check you have everything you need.

**WARNING**

Please take extra care when;

- Using sharp tools
- Working with power tools
- Lifting heavy objects.

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## Step 1

Gather the correct tools and ensure you have all of the items on the checklist below.

### Construction Checklist

#### The Hoop- kit contains;

##### Steel Lengths

- **4ft wide hoops**  
Our hoops will come in two sections. One half will have a plain end and the other will have a swaged end.
- **Ridge tube**  
This is a straight tube 4ft long (25mm diameter).

##### Bolts & Fittings

- **E 25 Fittings. Two 25mm collars attached together at 90 degrees.**  
These fittings are for attaching the Ridge to the Hoops and are placed at the top of the hoop.
- **Hoop kit Insert Brackets**  
These are inserted into the raised bed fitting to enable the hoop to be attached.
- **Screw in Eyes**  
These eyes are screwed into the wood of the raised bed to tie the string which secures the polythene.
- **25mm ridge tube plugs**  
These are inserted into the ends of the ridge tube
- **Polyester Cord**  
Used to secure the polythene.
- **37cm Cable Ties**  
Used to secure the end of the polythene.
- **1.5" Wood screws**  
This are only needed if you are NOT using a NP Polytunnels raised bed.  
These will enable you to screw the hoop kit insert brackets to the side of our existing raised bed.

##### Polythene

2.75m wide polythene sheet

#### Tools you will need (not included in the kit)

Flat head screw driver  
Sharp stanley knife  
Power drill and 11mm drill bit

## Step 2

Insert the bracket into the raised bed brackets.

- Insert the hoop kit brackets into the raised bed brackets as shown.



Image shows the hoop bracket being inserted into the raised bed bracket



Image shows how the bracket should look once inserted

- Repeat this step for all of the brackets

**Please note** : If you are using you existing raised bed and it is NOT a raised bed by Northern Polytunnels, then you will need to screw these brackets to the top of your raised bed. Use the 1.5" Wood Screws as supplied

## Step 3

Slide on the E Fitting and then join the 2 pieces of hoop together. Then slot the hoops onto the brackets

- Our hoops come in 2 pieces. Slide the E bracket on to the hoop.
- Join the two pieces of the hoop together and tighten the E bracket to secure.
- Slot the completed hoop onto the hoop kit brackets which were inserted into the raised bed.



- Repeat this step for all of the hoop and brackets



## Step 4

Slide the ridge tube through the E Fittings and tighten to secure in place

- Slide the ridge tube through the E fittings and tighten the bolts to secure in place.



- Once the ridge tube has been attached and secured, insert the ridge tube plugs into the ends.

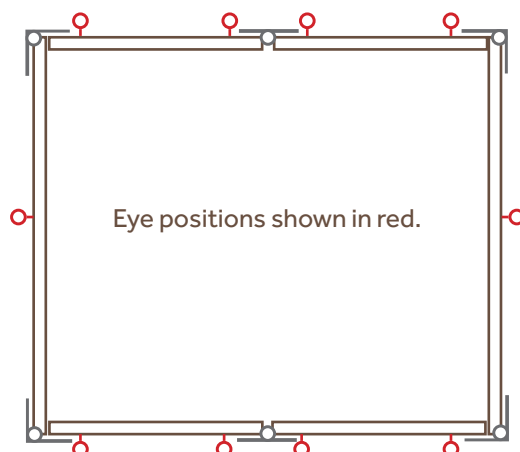
## Step 5

Screw in the eyes ready to secure the cover.

- Screw in the eyes. These eyes are used to secure the string which will be used to secure your polythene.



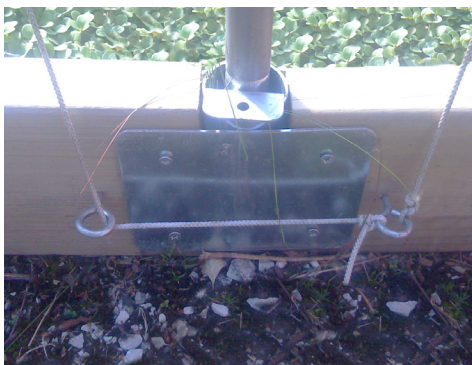
- Repeat this step for all of the eyes in the positions shown below and above.



## Step 6

Attach the polythene cover and secure with the string

- Place the polythene sheet over the hoop frame, ensuring the sides overlap the timber base and there is enough at the ends to cover the timber.
- Next use the string to wrap up and over the polythene and thread through the eyes to secure.



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## Step 7

Gather the ends of the polythene and secure with the cable tie.

- Gather both ends of the polythene and secure with the cable ties. This can be held in place by threading some of the string through the cable tie and securing with the eye.



- Repeat this step for both ends.

END