

**EASEL
MARK**



The Morello

The Morello

Assembly Instructions

The only tool you will need is a common #2 Phillips screwdriver. Drive all screws only into the pre-drilled holes. Make sure they are snug but do not overtighten!

1. Assemble the main body.



Place the mast on your work surface face down so that the kickstand latch is on top and the serial number is visible.

Place the 24" lower cross brace below the serial number at the bottom of the mast. Six pre-drilled holes should be visible in the brace. Make sure the beveled ends angle inward toward the top of the mast.

Place the 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ " upper cross brace at the middle of the mast (between the long slots). Six pre-drilled holes should be visible in the brace. Make sure the beveled ends angle inward toward the top of the mast.

Place the two front legs under the cross braces as shown. There is a left leg and a right leg, so make sure the rubber feet are at the bottom and that the bottoms of the legs will be parallel to the floor when the easel is standing. If they aren't parallel, switch the legs.

Put a large flathead screw through each large countersunk (recessed) hole in the two cross braces, and screw the cross braces to the mast and legs.



Detail of lower cross brace assembly. When the screws are properly tightened, the heads should be just below the surface.



Detail of upper cross brace assembly. When the screws are properly tightened, the heads should be just below the surface.

2. Attach the kickstand to the main body.



Place the kickstand assembly at the top of the easel as shown. Using two small screws, attach the free end of the hinge to the pre-drilled holes in the upper cross brace.

The kickstand features a hasp and hook (not shown in photo) that, when engaged, lock the kickstand in the open position.

3. Attach the kickstand strut to the lower cross brace.



Swing the fully extended kickstand down from the top of the easel so that the free end of the kickstand strut is positioned just above the lower cross brace as shown. Using two small screws, attach the free end of the hinge to the pre-drilled holes in the lower cross brace.

If you have attached the kickstand correctly, it will stow without binding.

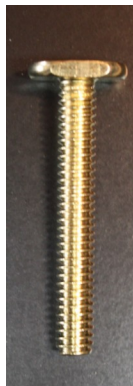
To stow or extend the kickstand, follow the instructions on the Features and Instructions page. It's easy when you know the trick!

Your easel is now ready to stand upright on its own. Be sure the kickstand is fully extended, and that the hasp and hook are engaged.

4. Attach the upper clamp.



Insert one of the T-bolts through the back of the upper slot in the mast, turning the head until it fits into the shallow groove. Push the hole in the upper clamp over the bolt, making sure the pin at the bottom of the clamp sits in the slot in the mast. Screw one of the wood knobs onto the T-bolt to secure the clamp. Don't overtighten the knob. Finger tight is just right.



The head of a T-bolt has two flat sides so that when it is inserted into its slot, it will not spin when you turn the knob.

5. Attach the tray.



Insert the remaining T-bolt through the back of the lower slot in the mast, turning the head until it fits into the shallow groove. Push the hole in the 30" tray over the bolt, making sure the pin behind the tray sits in the slot in the mast. Do not overtighten the knob.

**You have finished assembling
The Morello.**

**Don't forget to read the
Features and Instructions sheet below.**



The Morello

Features and Instructions

My name is Mark, and I personally designed and built your easel. I named it The Morello to honor an exceptional artist, fellow teacher, and good friend of mine, Jeff Morello (1947-2019), who encouraged me in this pursuit and designed my logo. Your easel bears his signature.

Your easel weighs only about 10 pounds because it is made of select pine. I recommend a maximum tray load of no more than 20 lbs. for safety.

You can use your easel outdoors, but it is not weatherproof. It should not be left outdoors for long periods, particularly during inclement weather. The wood will darken slightly over time.

The back edge of the tray is slightly raised above its mounting frame. This feature helps hold the canvas against the mast.

The upper clamp is beveled at 5 degrees so that it will hold even thin frames securely against the mast. You may remove the upper clamp if you wish to paint or display a taller canvas.

To adjust the height of the upper clamp or tray, loosen the wooden knob until the clamp/tray moves freely. Position the clamp/tray as desired, then tighten the knob. Do not overtighten. Remember, "finger tight is just right."

To open the stowed kickstand, hold the mast with one hand. With the other hand, wrap thumb and forefinger around the kickstand at the top of the latch body, grasp the knob, lift, and hold it up. Tilt the easel backward so that the kickstand falls away from the mast into your hand. Don't let it drop on its own. Extend the kickstand fully and engage the hasp with hook to lock it in place.

To stow the kickstand, first disengage the hasp with hook. Next, stand at either side of the easel. Hold the mast with one hand. With the other hand, grasp the lower portion of the kickstand. Pull the kickstand outward while lifting it, then push upward and toward the mast. When your thumb and forefinger reach the knob above the latch body, grasp it and lift. Press the kickstand firmly against the easel and release the knob to let the locking pin drop into the slot in the kickstand strut. The latch knob must be lifted before the kickstand can be pushed into the closed position. Do not attempt to "slam" the kickstand closed like a car door. Doing so will damage your easel.

If you ever need to replace a screw, hinge, or the hasp, they should be available at any good hardware store. The rubber feet are the only specialty item on your easel. If you need to replace them, contact me at the email address below.

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