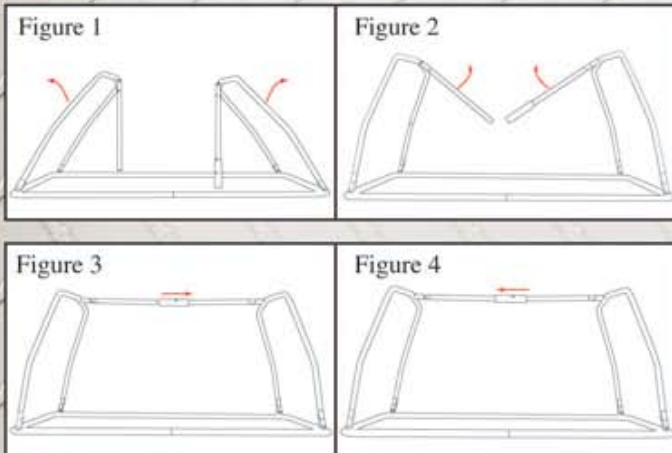


## SETTING UP & BREAKING DOWN THE GFDB™

1. Detach the four (4) Barrel Snuggers from the elastic loops.
2. Remove both Top Frame Support Bars from the Velcro tabs.
3. Raise the front and rear Frame Supports as shown in Figure 1.
4. Reach through the Access Panel and grasp the Sliding Handle with one hand and the Rear Top Frame Support Bar with the other.
5. Lift both support bars to the center of the blind and push outward on both so the Front and Rear Frame Supports stand up. See Figure 2.
6. Pull back on the Sliding Handle and bring both Support Bars up to the point the Rear Support Bar can be inserted into the Sliding Handle. See Figure 3.
7. Release the Sliding Handle to lock the Top Frame Support as shown in Figure 4.
8. Secure the Access Panel by attaching the Velcro fasteners, and the blind is set up and ready to use!

To break down the blind simply reverse the steps above. Both Top Frame Support Bars should be secured to the floor with the Velcro tabs, and all four Barrel Snuggers should be secured by the elastic loops to reduce the chance of parts being bent or broken.

For easy illustration, the drawings show the frame without the cover.



## USING THE GFDB™

### “MUDDING” THE COVER

It is very important to “mud” the cover to reduce sheen of the new fabric. Mix a bucket of dirt and warm water and smear the mud into the grain of the fabric and CamoStraps. Be sure to mud the inside panels of the doors as well. Sun dry for several hours and sweep off the residue with a broom. The cover will have matte finish.

### STUBBLING & BRUSHING THE COVER

Effectively stubbling the Ground Force Dog Blind is vital to hunting success. Weave naturally sun-bleached stubble through the CamoStraps and cover the blind as completely as possible making sure to stubble the inside of the front door panels as well.

### DOOR FLAPS

There are two door flaps at the front and two at the rear allowing your dog to enter from either end. Each set of door flaps can be set at three different positions: 1) open, 2) semi-open and 3) closed. For open and semi-open positions, attach the Velcro Door Tab on the bottom front inside corner of each door panel to the corresponding Velcro tabs on the cover. Velcro tabs on the rear door panels allow you to close them to prevent your dog from entering from the rear if you choose.

## CLEANING & CARE OF THE GFDB™

### CLEANING

The interior fabric and floor can be wiped clean with a damp rag, and the exterior cover can be sprayed clean with a water hose. Do not use soap, solvents or other cleaning compounds to clean the cover as residue can reflect UV light causing birds to flare in low light conditions. Remember to mud the cover after cleaning.



### LUBRICATING THE MOVING PARTS

The spring inside the Sliding Handle is powder coated for long life, but it should be lubricated as needed by applying several drops of standard 3-in-1 oil inside the slot in the support bar and sliding the handle back and forth several times to spread the oil evenly. Also apply several drops around the inside of the Sliding Handle and slide it back and forth several times to spread it evenly. Finally, apply 1-2 drops of oil to each of the six (6) axle bolts to assure that they move freely when setting up and breaking down the blind.

### PREVENTING MOLD & MILDEW

If any of the blind's fabric is wet when it is folded, it must be opened and allowed to dry naturally as soon as possible. This will prevent mold and mildew and will add many years of life to the blind.

### LONG-TERM STORAGE

Store the blind in a dry place and out of direct sunlight during the off-season. We recommend sealing the blind in a plastic bag and storing it in a place that is inaccessible to rodents and out of reach of children. Make sure that the cover is completely dry before sealing it in a plastic bag.

### REPLACEMENT PARTS

For replacement parts, contact Avery® Customer Service at 800-333-5119 between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm (CST) Monday through Friday. Please refer to the part numbers used in the “Frame Parts” section at the end of the instructions.

## TRAINING YOUR DOG TO USE THE GFDB™

The Ground Force Dog blind was designed to help you finish birds while hunting with your retriever. The 17” profile minimizes shadows and reduces the silhouette effect more than any other dog blind ever produced. For a retriever to perform his job in open field situations, he must be trained in the “Down” command. When taught correctly, this command is learned easily and will help keep your retriever safe while increasing your hunting success.

### PREPARING YOUR DOG TO USE THE GFDB™

For the GFDB™ to provide its maximum effectiveness, your dog must know the “Down” command. There are a number of ways to teach this command, but the most effective method I have found is the “leash method” which requires only a leash (36” minimum length) and a choke chain or pinch collar depending on your dog's personality. I suggest using pinch collars on the stubborn guys! Six to 12 month old pups usually learn the “Down” command quickly but, as always, should be handled with plenty of patience.

1. With the collar and the leash on your dog, hold the leash taught in your right hand at chin level and command your dog to “Sit” at the “Heel” position on your left side.
2. Drop your right hand approximately 12” (close to your beltline) to create slack in the leash.
3. Keep your right hand firm at your beltline and step on the leash in a steady and even motion with your left foot. As you step on the leash, use a quiet but stern tone to give the “Down” command repeatedly as your dog's head is forced down and his body follows. I always suggest training dogs to respond to quiet commands since yelling is not conducive to most hunting situations.
4. Once your dog is “Down,” remove your foot from the leash and kneel beside him encouraging him to stay down with your hands, body language and voice.
5. Repeat this exercise 8-10 times a day over the course of a week to be certain your dog understands what you are asking him to do. A quick refresher course as the season approaches or prior to an upcoming hunt is always a good practice.

### TRAINING YOUR DOG TO HUNT FROM THE GFDB™

Once your retriever has learned the "Down" command, he is ready to learn to hunt from the GFDB. Follow this simple training process:

1. Open the door panels at both ends of the blind.
2. Command your dog to "Sit" in front of the blind.
3. Command him to "Kennel," "Load-Up" or "Place" just as you did when he was learning to enter his crate, jump onto a platform or go for a ride in the truck.
4. Once he is inside the blind, give him the "Down" command.
5. Throw a few marks for him and make it all a game to keep the learning process fun!

### TROUBLESHOOTING!

Q. My dog just won't go in the blind.

A. There are many ways to make your dog more comfortable entering the blind. A treat such as a dog biscuit or a piece of bologna will usually do the trick. Once inside the blind, make him comfortable with this new environment by petting and soothing him while offering him an extra treat or two. He'll get the picture quickly.

Q. I've tried treats, but my dog still won't go into the blind.

A. For a stubborn dog, use the same 36" leash and choke or pinch collar you used to teach the "Down" command. Ask a buddy to stand on the opposite end of the blind and pass the leash to you through the openings. Slowly pull your dog into the blind soothing him and helping him relax every step of the way. Once he is inside the blind, throw him a few marks and make it fun. He will appreciate this new game and will learn quickly to enter the blind if he wants to get the marks.



Q. My dog enters the blind but immediately exits through the opening at the opposite end.

A. To prevent your dog from exiting the blind, attach the Velcro tabs at the bottom of the rear door panels and position the rear of the blind turn around inside the blind to address you, receive a treat or pick up a mark. I have worked with dogs that prefer to slide into the blind from rear, and this is just fine with me. We actually designed the GFDB to provide for this additional speed and convenience as well as offer comfort to big retrievers when entering the blind during those long hunts.

Remember that repetition is the key to success. Your dog will become more comfortable with the GFDB the more he uses it so make sure you give him plenty of opportunities!

Train hard & hunt hard,

Justin Tackett



Justin Tackett & Yella



- 1 Bottom Frame
- 2 Front Frame Support
- 3 Rear Frame Support
- 4 Front Top Frame Support Bar
- 5 Rear Top Frame Support Bar
- 6 Sliding Handle
- 7 Frame Support Hinge (4)
- 8 Axle bolt (6)
- 9 Frame Support Joint (2)



- 1 Barrel Snugger (4)
- 2 Elastic Loop (4)
- 3 Support Bar Tab (2)
- 4 Access Panel
- 5 CamoStraps
- 6 Front Door Panels
- 7 Rear Door Panels
- 8 Door Tab
- 9 Open Position Tab
- 10 Semi-Open Position Tab
- 11 Sport Stand Attachment Tab
- 12 Shoulder Strap