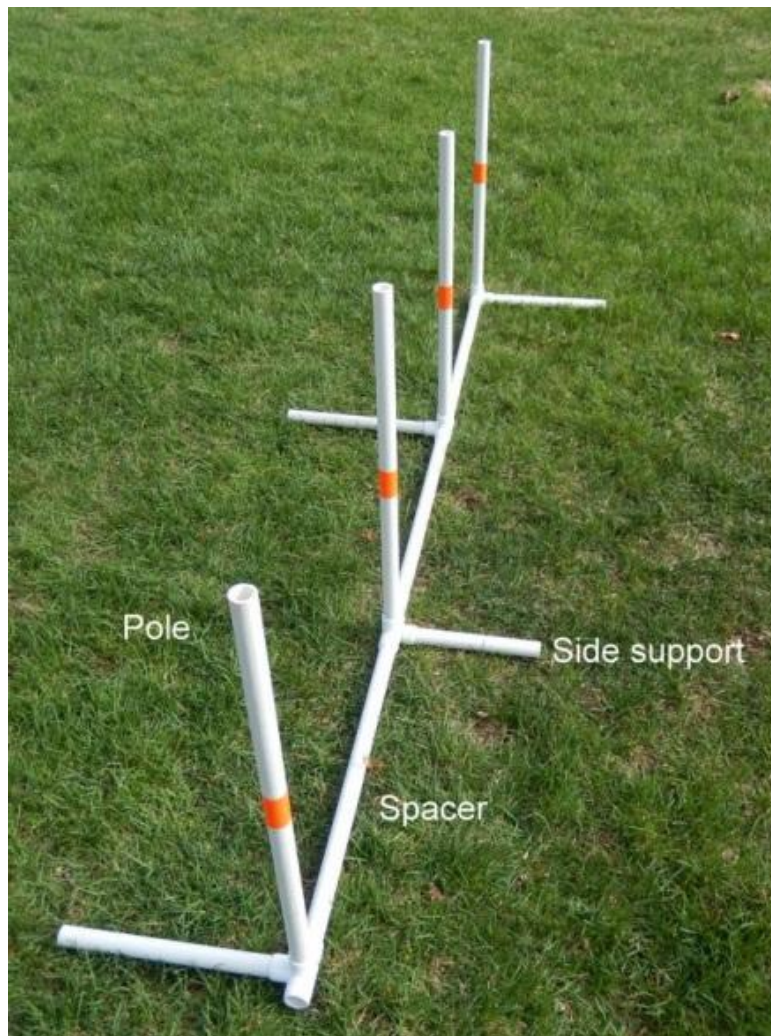

Weave Poles – Free Standing – 12 poles – for \$50!

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This weave pole design uses furniture grade fittings and commercial grade PVC pipe. The resulting poles can be configured as (2) sets of six, (3) sets of 4, or even as 2 pole sections for the 2x2 training technique.

Notes: The fittings are Furniture Grade PVC. You will not be able to find them at your local big box store. They can be ordered from The Greenhouse Megastore www.greenhousemegastore.com. At this time, they offer a combination of reasonable prices and reasonable shipping – but there are other suppliers out there if you care to shop.

The PVC pipe (in 10' lengths) is commercial grade Schedule 40 PVC and can be found at any big box hardware store. Make sure it is Schedule 40. There is a thinner, lighter weight grade, but it breaks more easily.

Items to be Purchased

Item	Looks like:	Qty	Cost (ea)	Total
3/4" Furniture Grade PVC 4-Way Fittings		12	\$2.13	\$26
3/4" x 10 ft PVC pipe	Buy at any local big box store	8	1.85	\$15
Shipping for fittings:				\$9
Total:				\$50

Cutting:

For the base:

Cut PVC pipe into the following pieces:

Side supports: (12) pieces 10" long

For the Spacers between each pole:

(11) pieces cut just a fraction under 24". Why the fraction? The distance between the center lines of the poles should be 24"... however, the fittings themselves will take up a bit of space. This space varies depending on the manufacturer of the fittings. The length of these sections will have to be adjusted to get the final 24" spacing. For the fittings I had, 22-3/4" gave me a center to center distance of 24". So do the math before cutting, and test the resulting center to center distance before cutting all the spacers.

Note: 24" center to center of the poles has become the standard for all venues except TDAA (Teacup Dogs Agility Association).

For the vertical poles you have a choice.

Regulation height is 36". However for training purposes, shorter poles are more convenient, especially if you have a small or medium size dog. For a dog less than 20" at the withers, consider 24" tall weave poles. *Suggestion: My dog is 17" at the withers and I wanted to work with short weave poles. Once I determined the length for the spacers in the step above, I cut the weave poles to the same length... that way the poles and the spacers were interchangeable (all were 22-3/4").*

Joining the pieces together

Three options:

Option 1) Let the friction of the fittings hold them together

Pros – this allows you to easily change configuration from sets of 3, to sets of 4, full set of 12, or 2x2.

Cons – you will occasionally need to force them together again

Option 2) Screws – connect pieces with #6 by ½” flat head sheet metal screws

Pros – will keep the parts together. Allows for easy repairs

Cons – a little more work up front

Option 3) PVC cement – look for the type that dries clear. Most PVC cement dries bright blue... this is meet building inspection codes... but looks ugly on agility equipment.

Pros – permanent

Cons - can get messy. Cannot be repaired easily. If anything breaks, that piece and adjoining pieces have to be cut out and replaced. BIG CON – configurations cannot be changed.

Recommendation: I am using Option 1 for now, as I am train in my basement as well as my yard and it is easier to move the poles when you can disconnect the pieces quickly. When I settle on the configuration I use most, I will use screws to connect at least some of the pieces.