

# FALCON FRIGHTKITES™ BY FALCON CROP PROTECTION

## Installation Instructions

for the Falcon 22ft, 28ft, and 36ft fiberglass pole mount with the Falcon Flexipost Flight Extender & 20ft and 42ft aluminum poles



View Our Installation Video On YouTube: https://youtu.be/RvBFsF9MaWs

## Soaring Above the Rest

Falcon FrightKites™ by Falcon Crop Protection soar high in the sky, silently patrolling almost any location where pest birds are present. Not only are FrightKites effective, they're also easy to install and launch. These step-by-step instructions will walk you through the process. Please note: improper installation of the Falcon FrightKite could lead to damage of the kite, damage to surrounding property, and injury to people and animals. If you do not feel comfortable undertaking this installation, please call a contractor to help with these instructions.

#### PACKAGE CONTENTS

- 1 x telescoping fiberglass pole (22ft, 28ft, or 36ft) OR set of aluminum poles (20ft or 42ft)
- 1 x Falcon FrightKite
- 1 x flight line with end connectors
- 1 x solid rod (Flexipost Flight Extender **for fiberglass pole only**) and rubber grommet with hole in the center

#### ASSEMBLY - FIBERGLASS POLE

#### Step 1

Remove the rubber end plug from the top end of the telescoping fiberglass pole. (The bottom end of the flight pole has a chrome ring and has a rubber grommet inside.) When opened, you'll notice a sticker that says, "Open This End." (Fig. 1)



Fig. 1

#### Step 2

Extend each section until fully extended. (Fig. 2) Secure each section into place by giving them a strong, firm twist to fully tighten the joint.



Fig. 2



Remove the rubber end cap from the other end of the telescoping pole. (Fig. 3) This will expose the reenforcing ring.



Fig. 3

#### Step 4

Check that the rubber grommet is inserted up to the shoulder. (Fig. 4) If you have difficulty, use a mild soap and water mixture to lubricate. You may also use a standard lubricant, but please do so sparingly.

If you are securing the Flexipost to a steel vine support post or similar post, we recommend placing a 3/4-inch steel washer over the end of the grommet as you start Step 5. This will act as a "roll cage" of sorts for the grommet, reducing wear and tear on the rubber (Fig. 7a)



Fig. 4

#### Step 5

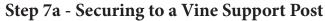
Push the <u>blunt end</u> of the Flexipost Flight Extender through the hole in the rubber grommet. (Fig. 5) If you have difficulty, you may lubricate the rubber grommet as described in Step 4 above. Insert the Flexipost Flight Extender until there are 2 feet (24 inches) remaining outside of the pole. Ensure that the sharp end of the post is outside the pole.



Fig. 5



Attach the flight line to the top of the post. (Fig. 6) Adjust the length of the flight line so that when the pole is attached in the vineyard, the tail of the kite is no less than 2 feet (24 inches) above the highest protruding objects. Objects include fences, posts, vines, and any other structure that may come into contact with the Falcon FrightKite. This clearance will reduce the risk of the tail of the Falcon snagging on obstructions during normal flight or during high winds when the fiberglass pole is most likely to bend.



Attach the Flexipost Flight Extender to any vine support post in the vineyard using zip ties or hose clamps. (Fig. 7) For most applications, 14.5-inch heavy duty zip ties will be sufficient. We recommend protecting the Flexipost with rubber hose or foam where it makes contact with the steel post to extend the life of the rod.

For locations other than a vineyard, you may attach the Flexipost Flight Extender to a fence post or other solid structure.

#### Step 7b - Portable; Use An Umbrella Base

Insert the Flexipost into the umbrella base. For additional protection against abrasion, we recommend inserting a piece of black insulating rubber into the base post before inserting the rod. (Fig. 7b)

Please note that this method is less secure than that described in Step 7a. To reduce the risk of the base falling over and/or the Flexipost being pulled from the base in higher winds, we recommend weighing down the base with three sandbags and tying the Flexipost to the base with a length of cord (which acts similar to a surfboard leash).



Fig. 6



Fig. 7a



Fig. 7b



#### Step 7c - Free-Standing (No Base or Post)

For low-lying crops, ponds, and similar situations, the Flexipost Flight Extender's sharpened end (Fig. 7c) can be inserted directly into the ground using a soft hammer. We recommend a depth of 2 feet for hard earth and more for soft earth. Once the Flexipost is in place, attach the pole as described in Step 5. Please note that this method is less secure and should only be used during light winds.



Fig. 7c

#### ASSEMBLY - ALUMINUM POLES

#### Step 1a

Find a large area to set up your pole (either 20ft or 42ft) and lay out the pieces side by side from the largest diameter to the smallest. (Fig. 1a) The thinnest pole section will have an eye at its top to secure your flight line.



Fig. 1a

#### Step 1b

Each pole except the largest has a swaged end to make it easier to fit together. This smaller end is a darker color to make it immediately identifiable. (Fig. 1b)

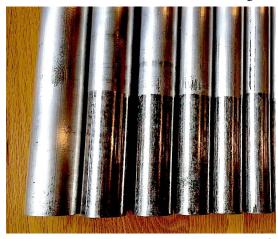


Fig. 1b



Begin assembling the pole by inserting the secondlargest pole at the swaged end into the largest. Then, repeat this process with the next-largest section down the line until the whole pole is assembled. (Fig. 2)



Fig. 2

#### Step 3

Adjust the length of the flight line so that when the pole is attached in the vineyard, the tail of the kite is no less than 2 feet (24 inches) above the highest protruding objects. Objects include fences, posts, vines, and any other structure that may come into contact with the Falcon FrightKite. This clearance will reduce the risk of the tail of the Falcon snagging on obstructions during normal flight or during high winds when the aluminum pole is most likely to bend.

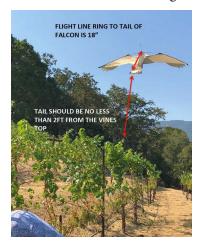


Fig. 3

#### Step 4

Attach the flight line to the top of your pole through the eye at the top. (Fig. 4 - please note that this is image is of the fiberglass pole, so it looks slightly different than the mount on the top of your aluminum pole.)



Fig. 4



If possible, install your flight poles at a slight angle so that in no wind or very low wind the kite will not wrap the flight line around the pole.

#### Step 5a - 42ft Pole

You will need to attach the 42ft aluminum pole to a solid post in the vineyard. Usually the base of the pole sits in a small 2-3" deep hole you dig in the ground for stability and then is firmly attached to the field post with zip ties or clamps.

With one person placing a foot on the base of the post, walk the pole upright and fix securely using hose clamps or heavy duty zip ties to the post. Allow a very slight movement so the pole can be rotated to untwist the flight line if it ever becomes wrapped around.



Fig. 5a

#### Step 5b - 20ft Pole

Attach the pole to your T-post or other secure post in the vineyard using a suitable heavy duty zip tie. (Fig. 5b) If your post has a wider circumference, then put two zip ties together or use a larger tie. All you need is about 2ft of aluminum pole at the lower end to attach to the T-post.



Fig. 5b



## Safety Instructions

The Falcon FrightKite<sup>™</sup> is not suitable for use in high winds or storms. It should be removed from its attachment and stored out of weather under these conditions to prevent damage to the Falcon FrightKite and surrounding property.

- This is not a toy and should not be used by children
- Obey all local laws relevant to flying kites in the area
- Do not leave the kite or pole up when there are electrical storms as the pole may conduct lightning
- Do not fly near power lines or other obstacles
- Take into account changes of wind direction to ensure enough clearance with surrounding obstacles
- Do not use near aircraft landing strips or areas where crop dusters fly
- Do not fly within 5 miles of an airfield without air traffic control knowledge and approval
- Take care or wear gloves when handling the flight line as it can cut, especially during windy conditions
- Maximum length of an aluminum pole manageable by one individual with good physical strength is limited to 30 feet. This is due to the nature of relative weight of the far end of the pole at distance. Two people should install and handle poles of over 30 feet in length.

For questions about installation, safety, or anything else about the Falcon FrightKite, please contact us by visiting:

FalconCropProtection.com/store/pc/contact.asp

Version 3.0 - June 2021 **Falcon FrightKite**™ is a Registered Trademark of Falcon Crop Protection.

©2017 Falcon Crop Protection