

# CPR- 3000

## CLOSE PROXIMITY RECOVERY SYSTEM

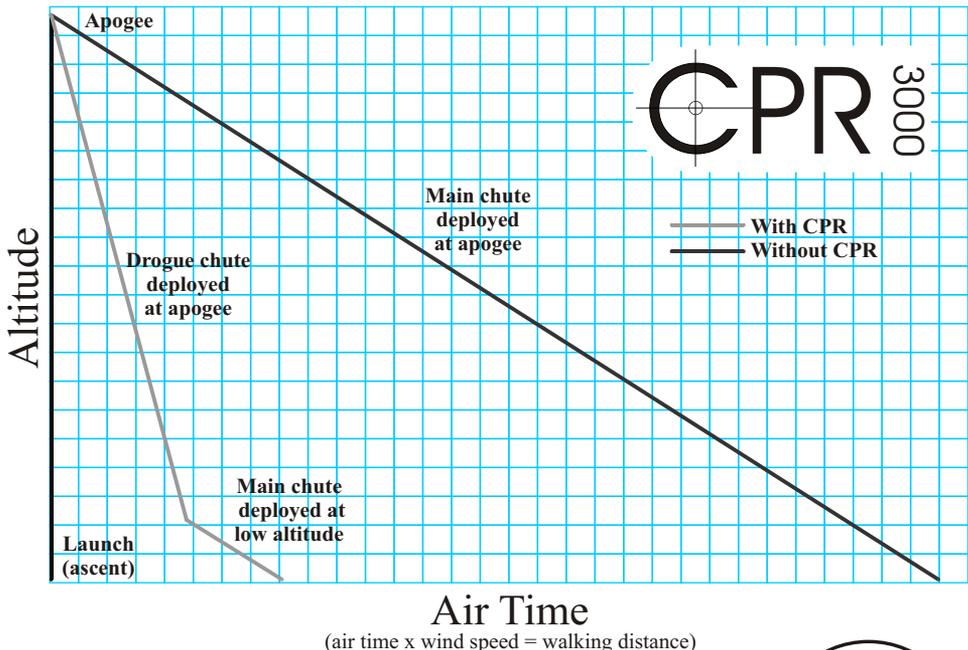
Tired of the long walks associated with recovering high altitude rockets? So were we! That's why we developed the Close Proximity Recovery System (CPR). CPR uses a special altimeter that fires two charges (sold separately) to first eject a small drogue chute at the rocket's apogee allowing for a fast yet controlled descent. Seconds before touchdown, the system deploys a second, much larger chute for a soft landing. This technique greatly reduces wind drift during descent allowing the rocket to land much closer to the original launch location. In addition, the altimeter will provide a readout of the peak altitude attained by your rocket.

The CPR-3000 is the third generation of the system we pioneered in the mid 90's. This latest version is many times stronger, simpler in design, and much easier to use.

The CPR-3000 System contains nearly everything you need\* to convert your existing rocket or as an enhancement to your own design.

\*Altimeter, epoxy, ejection powder, and additional airframes (if required) not included.

### CPR. If you don't use it now, you may need it later.



Air Time  
(air time x wind speed = walking distance)

Please read and understand all instructions before building!



# Basic Construction FAQ

The major parts involved in each step are shown shaded at the beginning of that step. Areas where epoxy should be applied are shown as well.

## PREP & ASSEMBLY

Read and understand the instruction steps fully before you begin the step.

ALWAYS sand the parts to be bonded with 100-120 grit sandpaper.

We strongly recommend you dry-fit (assemble without gluing) all parts in each step BEFORE epoxying them together. Sand or adjust fit as needed before gluing.

Most epoxies work fine. Use 5 or 15 minute depending on how quickly you feel you can complete the step. Use longer set-time epoxy if you're unsure.

Be sure to follow the "Do's & Don'ts" sheet provided with QT tubing.

## FINAL FITTING/PREPARATIONS FOR FLIGHT

The piston should be a smooth slip-fit in the airframe; this is critical. Sand the piston as needed so it can be easily inserted, and pulled out with just a gentle tug on the shock cord. Keep sandpaper in your range box in case you need to adjust the fit the first few times at the field to deal with differing temperature and humidity.

Couplers should also be sanded to allow easy separation of the rocket.

If the coupler or nosecone is too loose, use masking tape to build it up to a good fit. If the nosecone is too tight, sand the ribs on the shoulder until it fits well. The parts fit properly if the rocket can be held upside down and gently shaken with nothing moving or coming apart.

Ejections will leave a black, gritty residue inside the airframe. Occasionally wipe the tube interior with a damp cloth wrapped around a dowel or broomstick; allow to dry.

A complete flight prep check list is provided on the back of this booklet.

See our website FAQ for information about thrust rings and motor retention. Motor recommendation information is available on our website on the Specs Page.

For our complete FAQ, see the FAQ Page on our website at [www.publicmissiles.com](http://www.publicmissiles.com).

## CPR-3000 parts list:

Aluminum Threaded Airframe Coupler

Aluminum Threaded Sleeve

Fore Altimeter Mount

Aft Altimeter Mount

(2) Charge Cylinder Holders

(2) Charge Cylinder Canisters

(4) Vinyl Charge Canister Caps

Slotted Altimeter Mounting Tube 1.5" x 7" long

Mounting Tube 1.5" x 4" long

Coupler Tube 1.5" x 2" long

Airframe Coupler (dia. varies) x 1-7/8" long

Airframe Coupler Tube (size varies)

O-ring for Airframe Coupler (size varies)

(1) Small O-ring 1-1/2" dia.

(1) Small O-ring 1-3/8" dia.

(2) Standard Centering Rings (size varies)

(2) Notched Centering Rings (size varies)

(2) Piston Systems including:

Piston Body (tube)

Piston Plate

D-ring

Piston Strap (red or black)

Strap for fin unit (16" long)

D-ring (for strap above)

Slotted Bulk Plate (size varies)

(4) Small Socket Head Screws

Allen Wrench

Safety Switch

Safety Switch Stand-off (CPR-3000-2.1 only)

Safety Switch Wire

(2) Safety Switch Mounting Screws

Drogue Parachute (or Streamer)

Drogue Shock Cord (Tubular Nylon)

(2) Kwik-Links

Instruction manual (this one)

CPR-3000 Logo Decal

### Other items you will need:

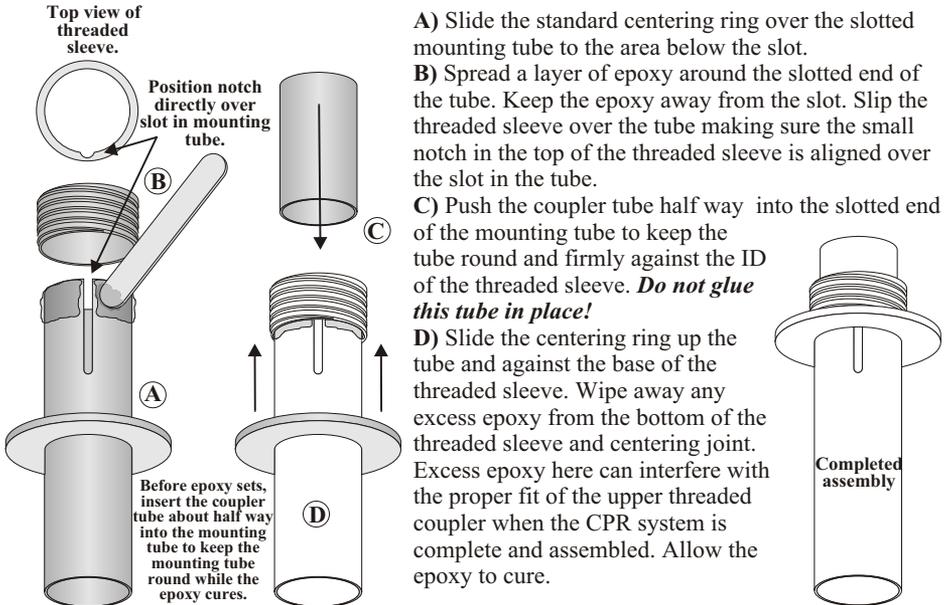
One set of epoxy  
One sheet of 120 sandpaper  
Ruler and pencil

X-Acto knife  
Popsicle stick for applying epoxy  
Wooden stick  
Masking tape

**Please read and understand all instructions before continuing!  
All surfaces to be bonded must be scuffed with 120 grit sandpaper.**

### Step 1

**Important note:**  
This step must be completed without interruption before the epoxy sets.

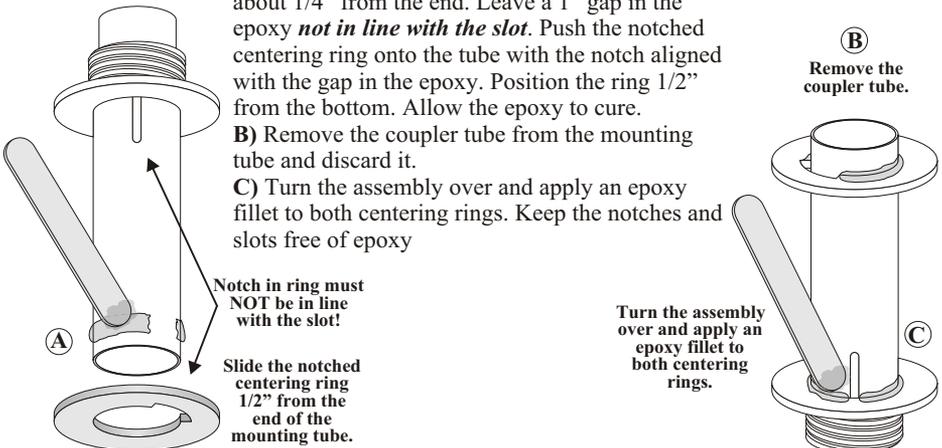


### Step 2

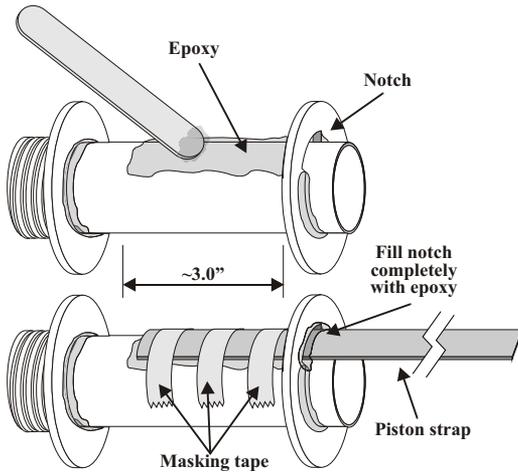
**A)** Spread a layer of epoxy around the circumference of the opposite end of the tube about 1/4" from the end. Leave a 1" gap in the epoxy **not in line with the slot**. Push the notched centering ring onto the tube with the notch aligned with the gap in the epoxy. Position the ring 1/2" from the bottom. Allow the epoxy to cure.

**B)** Remove the coupler tube from the mounting tube and discard it.

**C)** Turn the assembly over and apply an epoxy fillet to both centering rings. Keep the notches and slots free of epoxy



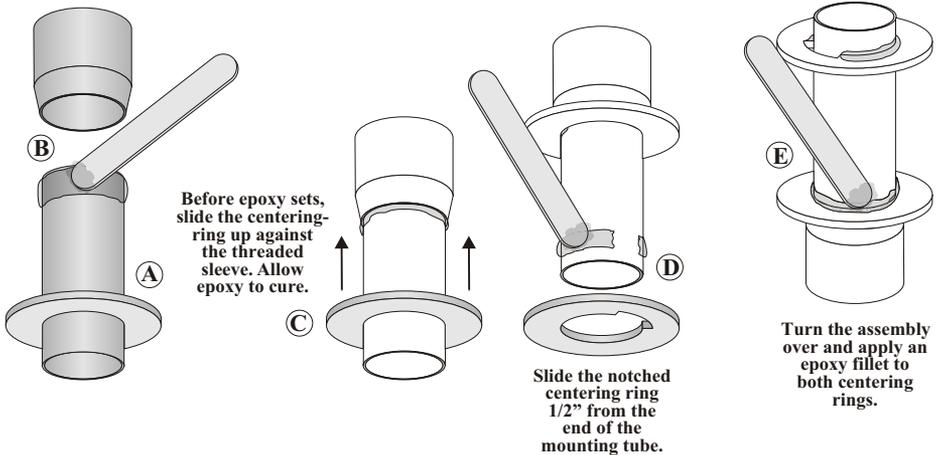
### Step 3



Spread a layer of epoxy about 1" wide and 4" long on the mounting tube just below the notch in the centering ring. Slip one end of the piston strap (the widest strap in the kit) through the notch in the centering ring. Pull through about 3" of this strap through the notch and press it firmly into the epoxy on the side of the mounting tube. Hold the strap in place against the tube with masking tape until the epoxy cures. Remove the masking tape. **Fill the entire centering ring notch with epoxy.** Stuff the free end of the strap into the tube to keep it out of the way for the next step.

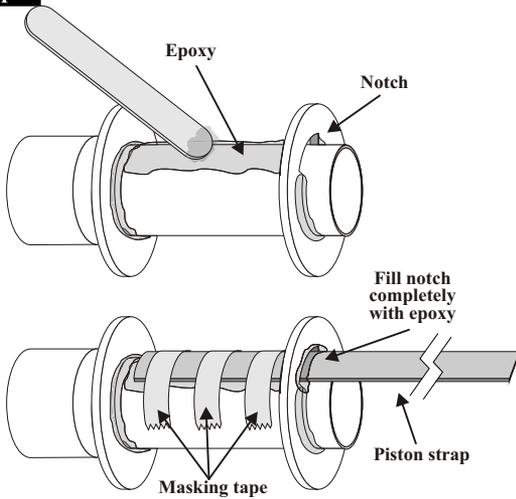
### Step 4

- Slide the standard centering ring over the 4" long mounting tube.
- Spread a layer of epoxy around one end of the tube. Slip the threaded airframe coupler over the tube. Make sure the threaded coupler is fully seated on the tube.
- Slide the centering ring up the tube and against the base of the threaded airframe coupler. Allow the epoxy to cure.



- Spread a layer of epoxy around the circumference of the opposite end of the tube about 1/4" from the end. Leave a 1" gap in the epoxy. Push the notched centering ring onto the tube with the notch aligned with the gap in the epoxy. Position the ring 1/2" from the bottom. Allow the epoxy to cure.
- Turn the assembly over and apply an epoxy fillet to both centering rings. Keep the notch free of epoxy.

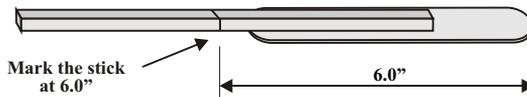
## Step 5



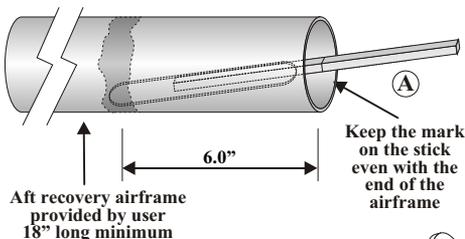
Spread a layer of epoxy about 1" wide on the mounting tube just below the notch in the centering ring. Slip one end of the piston strap (the widest strap in the kit) through the notch in the centering ring. Pull through about 4" of this strap through the notch and press it firmly into the epoxy on the side of the mounting tube. Hold the strap in place against the tube with masking tape until the epoxy cures. Remove the masking tape. **Fill the entire centering ring notch with epoxy.** Stuff the free end of the strap into the tube to keep it out of the way for the next step.

## Step 6

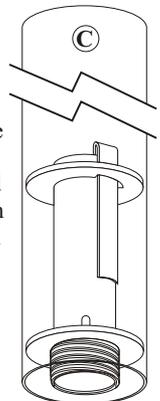
You will need a long stick or dowel for applying epoxy in this step. Just below is a drawing of one good method for creating an extended epoxy applicator. Simply epoxy a dowel or stick to a tongue depressor or popsicle stick.



**A)** Make a mark on the stick at 6.0" so you can tell how deep the stick is in the airframe when spreading the epoxy. Using your extended epoxy applicator, spread a bead of epoxy around the inside circumference of the airframe 6.0" from the bottom of the airframe.



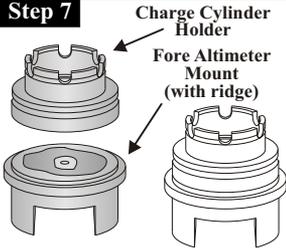
**B)** Push the altimeter mounting tube assembly about 2" into the aft recovery airframe. Spread another bead around the inside circumference about 1/2" from the end of the airframe. You can push the assembly from one side to the other to make it easier to reach with the epoxy applicator.



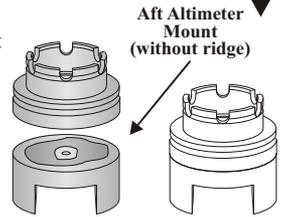
**C)** Holding the aft recovery airframe upright (vertical), push the altimeter mounting tube assembly the rest of the way into the airframe until the bottom of the threaded sleeve is flush with the bottom of the airframe. Keep the assembly vertical until the epoxy cures.

↑  
Threaded sleeve flush with airframe

### Step 7

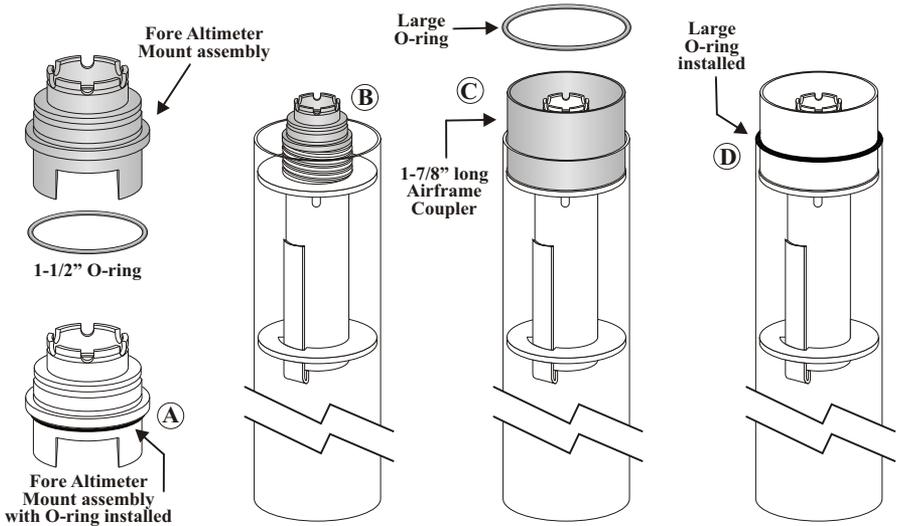


Epoxy one of the Charge Cylinder Holders to the fore altimeter mount and the other to the aft altimeter mount. Make sure the mounts and Holders are centered with one another as closely as possible. Prevent epoxy from filling the holes in the center of each piece.



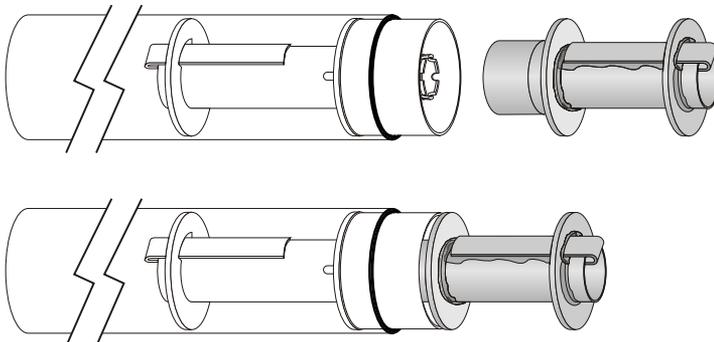
### Step 8

- A) Roll the 1-1/2" O-ring onto the fore altimeter mount as shown.
- B) Place the fore altimeter mount assembly into the altimeter mounting tube.
- C) Slip the 1-7/8" long airframe coupler into position.
- D) Roll the largest of the O-rings over the coupler down to the airframe.



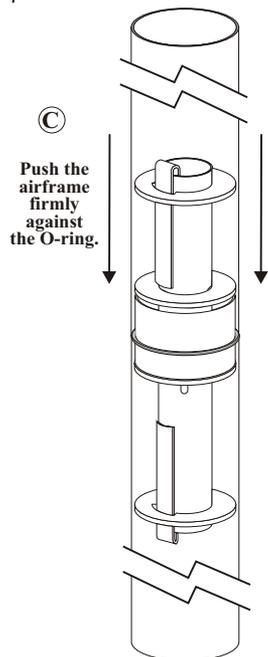
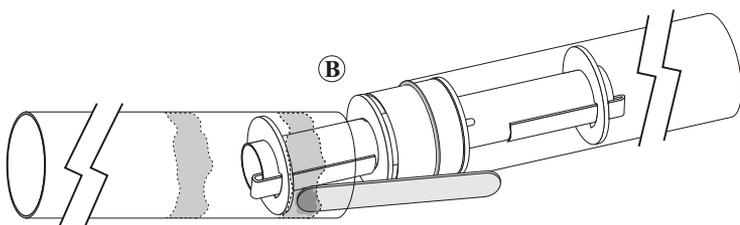
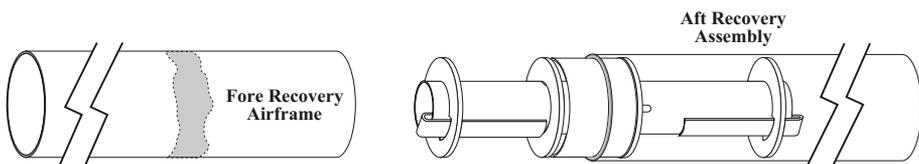
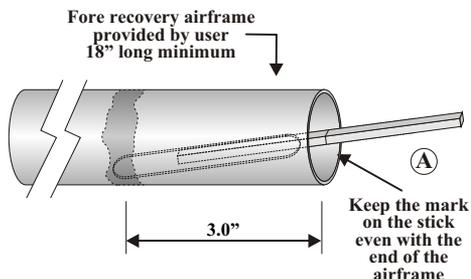
### Step 9

Thread the threaded airframe coupler assembly onto the altimeter mounting tube assembly just until you feel the resistance of the threaded airframe coupler contacting the fore altimeter mount. Do not tighten at this time.



## Step 10

**A)** Make a mark on the stick at 3.0" so you can tell how deep the stick is in the airframe when spreading the epoxy. Using your extended epoxy applicator, spread a bead of epoxy around the inside circumference of the airframe 3.0" from the bottom of the airframe.

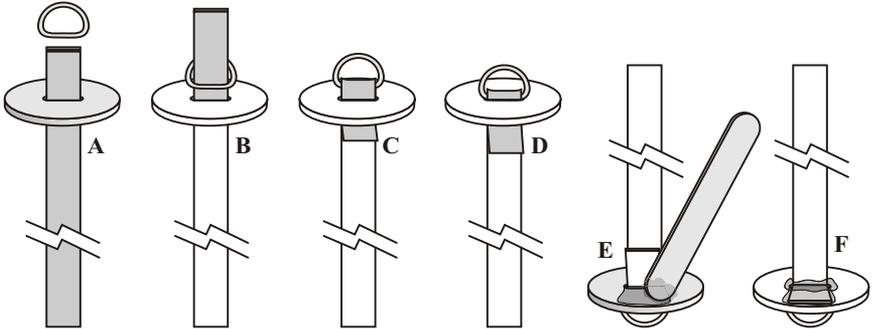


**B)** Push the altimeter mounting tube assembly about 2" into the aft recovery airframe. Spread another bead around the inside circumference about 1" from the end of the airframe. You can push the assembly from one side to the other to make it easier to reach with the epoxy applicator.

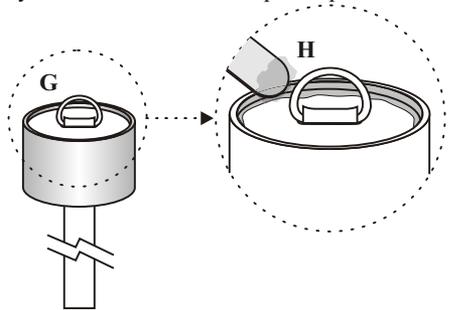
**C)** Holding the aft recovery airframe upright (vertical), push the fore recovery airframe the rest of the way over the assembly until the airframe is in full contact with the exterior O-ring. Give it a little extra push to assure full contact. Do not turn either airframe to tighten or loosen the threads. Keep the assembly vertical until the epoxy cures. Unscrew the two airframes. The airframe coupler may have bonded to the fore airframe. If it has, that's fine. If not, it can remain loose and does not need to be bonded.

## Step 11

**NOTE:** In this step you will be using the free end of the straps that you mounted to the fore and aft recovery assemblies.



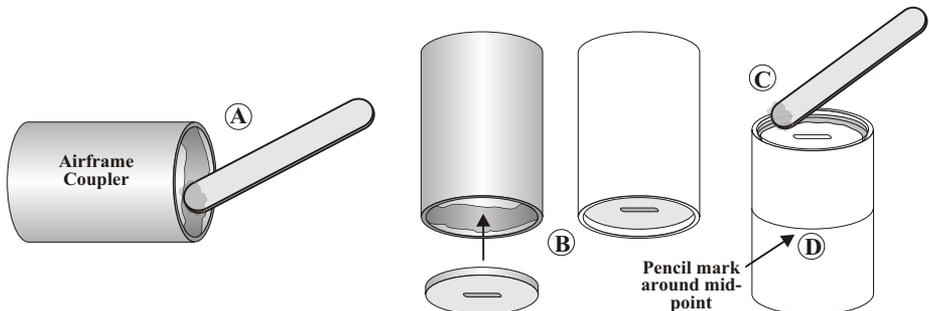
- A)** Pull the free end of the strap through the slot in the piston bulk plate.
- B)** Slip the metal "D" ring over the strap.
- C)** Feed the strap back through the slot.
- D)** Pull on the strap until the "D" ring is wedged at the slot.
- E)** Flip the assembly over. Spread a layer of epoxy on the underside of the piston plate as shown. Fold the short end of the strap flat against the piston plate and press it into the epoxy. You can use a clamp to hold the strap in the epoxy while it sets.
- F)** When the epoxy has cured, pull the strap until the "D" ring is wedged tight at the slot. Apply epoxy to the strap at the "D" ring.
- G)** Epoxy the piston plate inside the piston body 1/8" from the top.
- H)** Apply an epoxy fillet to both sides of the piston plate.



**Repeat this entire step to assemble the other piston**

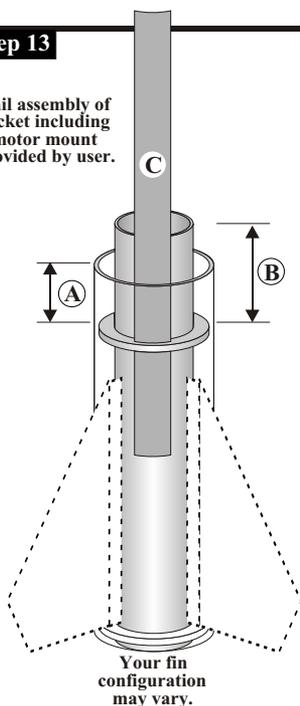
## Step 12

- A)** Spread a bead of epoxy around the inside circumference of one end of the coupler tube.
- B)** Press the slotted bulk plate into the coupler about 1/4" past the end. Allow the epoxy to cure.
- C)** Flip the assembly over and add an epoxy fillet to the other side of the bulk plate.
- D)** Draw a pencil mark around the mid-point of the coupler tube.



## Step 13

Tail assembly of rocket including motor mount provided by user.



Your fin configuration may vary.

### Important notes on preparing the fin unit:

When building or modifying your tail assembly for the CPR-3000 system, keep the following three points in mind.

Whether you are cutting the airframe of an existing PML rocket or are scratch-building, the distance (A), from the top of the uppermost centering ring to the top of the airframe should be **at least one half the length** of the coupler that you just assembled.

The distance (B), from the top of the uppermost centering ring to the top of the motor tube must be **at least 3/4" less** than the overall length of the same coupler. In most rockets, the motor tube barely extends beyond the uppermost centering ring and will end up below the top of the airframe. This is fine.

If you are retro-fitting an existing PML rocket kit, the piston strap (C) should already be mounted to the motor tube. Cut the strap so that it extends about 10" beyond the airframe for easy installation of the coupler that follows. If you are scratch-building your tail assembly, use the 16" strap provided with this kit.

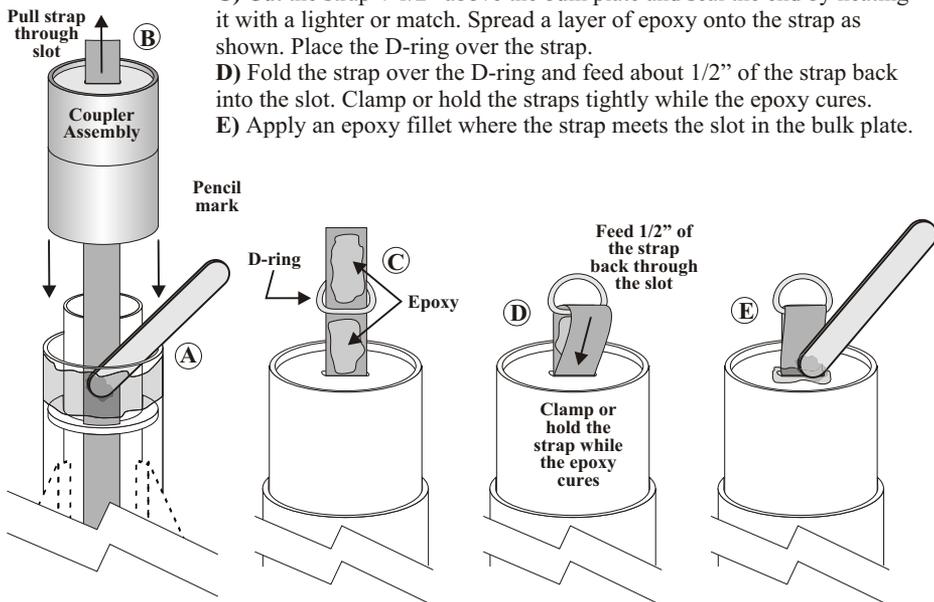
**A)** Spread a layer of epoxy around the inside circumference of the airframe above the uppermost centering ring.

**B)** Slip the end of the strap through the slot in the bulk plate of the coupler assembly. Slowly and with a twisting motion, push the coupler into the airframe up to the pencil mark. Pull up on the strap to make sure it is not bunched up inside the coupler.

**C)** Cut the strap 4-1/2" above the bulk plate and seal the end by heating it with a lighter or match. Spread a layer of epoxy onto the strap as shown. Place the D-ring over the strap.

**D)** Fold the strap over the D-ring and feed about 1/2" of the strap back into the slot. Clamp or hold the straps tightly while the epoxy cures.

**E)** Apply an epoxy fillet where the strap meets the slot in the bulk plate.

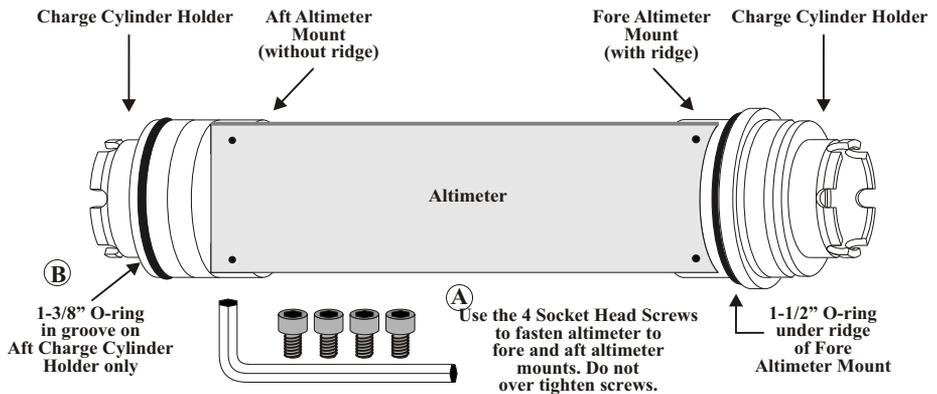


## Step 14

The Fore and Aft Altimeter Mounts used in the CPR-3000 system are designed around the PML Co-Pilot Altimeter and the Transolve P6 Altimeter. Mounts for the Transolve P5 and ALTS-25 are available as optional items through PML. Other units may work as well with slight modifications to the mounts. Modifications may require relocating the mounting holes and grinding away material for clearances. Be careful not to weaken the mounts. Consult the altimeter manufacturer for their recommendations.

A) Mount the altimeter to the fore and aft altimeter mounts using the 4 Socket Head Screws and wrench supplied with this kit. Do not over-tighten the screws to prevent stripping the mounts.

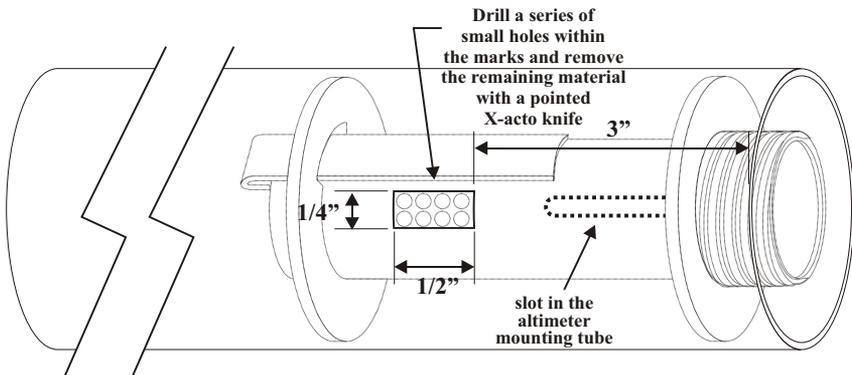
B) Install the smallest (1-3/8") O-ring in the groove of the Aft Charge Cylinder Holder. The second smallest (1-1/2") O-ring should already be installed against the ridge of the Fore Altimeter Mount from a previous step.



## Step 15

In order to properly install the safety switch, you will need to cut a 1/2" x 1/4" opening into the airframe as indicated in the drawing below. **This switch opening must be aligned with the slot in the internal altimeter mounting tube.** First mark out the perimeter of the opening on the airframe, then drill a series of small holes within the marks, starting near the corners, and removing the remaining material with a pointed X-Acto knife. Test fit the switch into the hole to assure a good fit.

**Drill a 1/8" hole in the airframe opposite of the safety switch and 5" from the top of the airframe. This hole is for venting the altimeter to the atmosphere.**



## Step 16

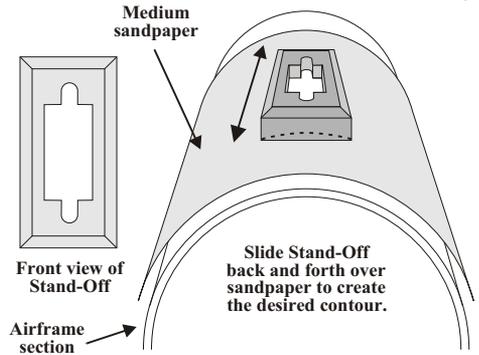
### Note:

*This step is only required for the CPR-3000-2.1 kit. The Switch Stand-Off mentioned in this step is not needed and not provided with larger CPR-3000 kits. For all other kits, skip to the next step.*

The switch Stand-Off is necessary to create the clearance needed between the altimeter mounting tube and the exterior of the 2.1" airframe for the lugs and wires on the back of the switch. The backside of the stand-off must be contoured to properly fit the 2.1" airframe you are using.

Simply drape a piece of medium sandpaper over the airframe and hold it in place with one hand. Holding the stand-off with your other hand, move the stand-off back and forth along the sandpaper until the back of the stand-off has the desired contour.

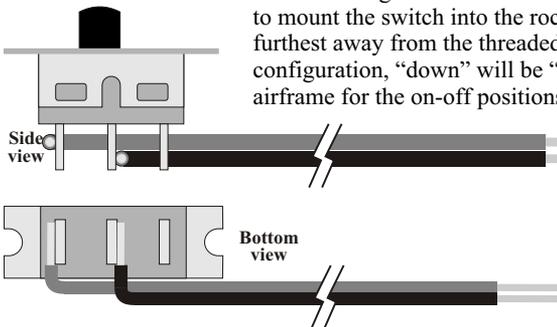
Use CA (super glue) to glue the stand-off over the switch hole you created in the previous step.



## Step 17

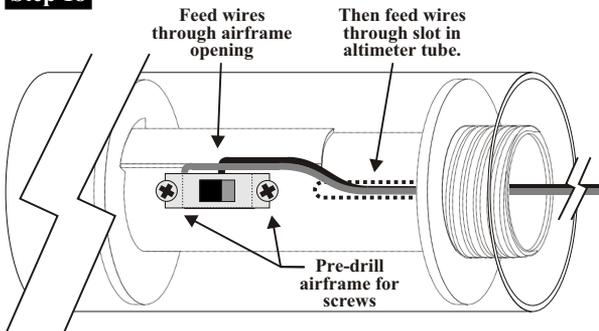
Solder one safety switch wire to the center terminal of the switch and the other wire to one of the outside terminals of the switch. Since space between the altimeter tube and the airframe is limited, solder the wires to the terminals from the side as shown in the bottom view below.

Polarity does not matter in this application. This switch has two positions; ON-ON, meaning the switch is able to make connections in both positions. Since you are using only two wires (center terminal and one end terminal), the switch position toward the unwired terminal is "off". Moving the switch toward the wired terminal is "on". Be sure to mount the switch into the rocket with the two wired terminals furthest away from the threaded sleeve end of the airframe. In this configuration, "down" will be "on" and "up" will be "off". Mark the airframe for the on-off positions.



Strip about 1/4" of the insulation from the two wires and "tin" the exposed wires with a bit of solder to stiffen them. These wires will be attached to the power terminals of the altimeter.

## Step 18



Feed the wire ends into the airframe opening, then through the slot in the altimeter tube and finally out through the end of the altimeter tube. Set the switch into the airframe hole (or stand-off), pre-drill the airframe for the mounting screws, and install the screws. Mark the airframe near the switch for the on-off positions.

## Flight Prep

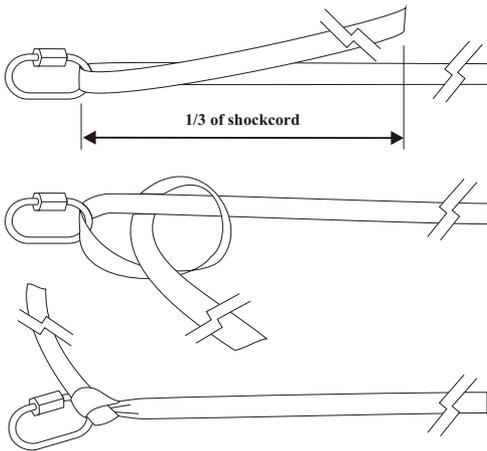
Congratulations! You have completed the assembly process of the CPR-3000 system and the modification to your existing tail section.

The remainder of this booklet is designed to show you how to prep your CPR-3000 based rocket for flight. Please follow the instructions in the order they are written.

When prepping and packing the parachutes, refer to the chute instructions that are packed with each chute.

Instructions for using your particular altimeter, as well as connecting charges and safety switches should have been included with your altimeter. If these instructions are missing or vague, consult your altimeter manufacturer before proceeding.

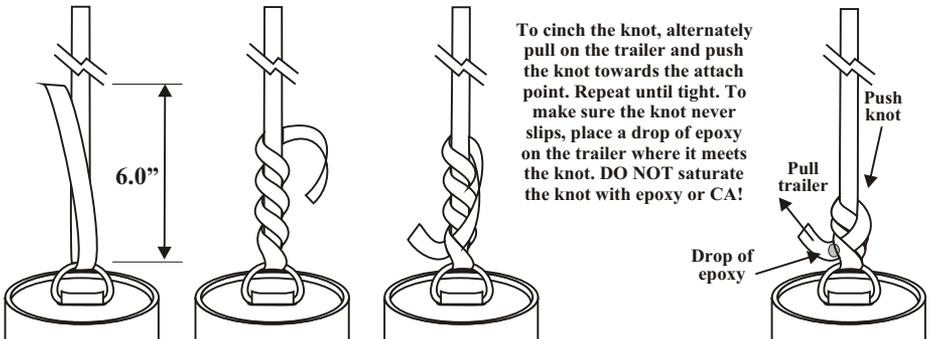
### Step A



Thread the shock cord through the Kwik-Link and tie it using the knot illustrated on the left. Note that the Kwik-Link should be attached to the shock cord at about the 1/3 point of the shock cord.

### Step B

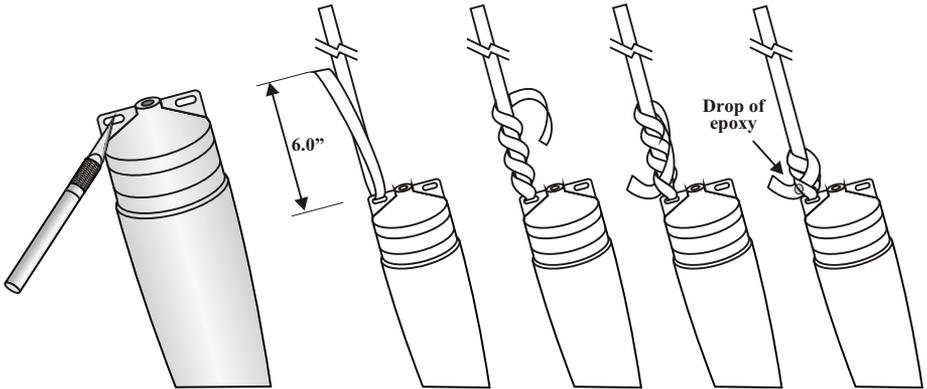
Thread the long end (the 2/3 section) of the shock cord through the "D" ring and tie it using the knot illustrated below. Alternatively, you can tie the shock cord to a "kwik-link" and then attach the "kwik-link" to the "D" ring. Use the same knot to attach the other end of the shock cord to the eye bolt on the payload section.



To cinch the knot, alternately pull on the trailer and push the knot towards the attach point. Repeat until tight. To make sure the knot never slips, place a drop of epoxy on the trailer where it meets the knot. **DO NOT** saturate the knot with epoxy or CA!

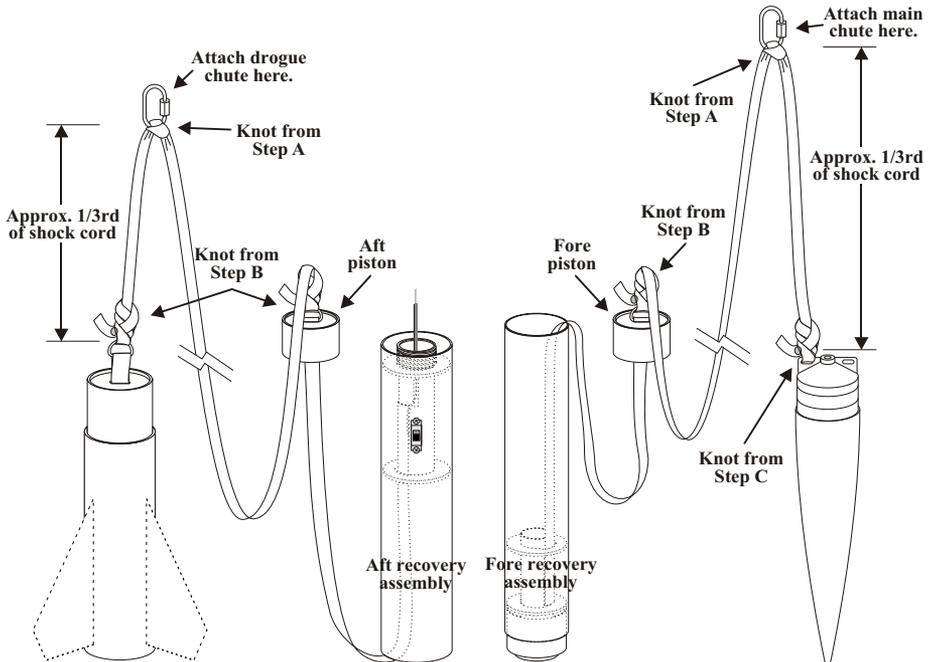
### Step C

Using a sharp pointed knife, remove the flash from the eyelet at the base of the nosecone. If necessary, you can enlarge the eyelet by using the knife to extend the opening toward the nosecone body (not toward the edges as this will weaken the eyelet). Thread the shock cord through the eyelet and tie it to the nosecone using the knot illustrated below. Add a drop of epoxy to the trailer at the knot to make sure the knot never slips. **DO NOT** saturate the knot with epoxy or CA. Alternatively, you can tie the shock cord to a “kwik-link” and then attach the “kwik-link” to the nosecone eyelet.



### Step D

Below is a diagram illustrating the various shock cord and parachute attachment points. The user is to provide the shock cord and parachute for the fore recovery system as well as the nosecone.

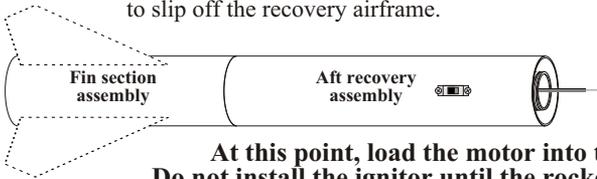


## Step E

Push the Fore Piston into the Fore Recovery Airframe as far as it will go without forcing it. Pack the main chute as directed in the parachute packing instructions. Fit the nosecone to the Fore Recovery airframe. The nosecone should fit **tight** (you should be able to lift the entire assembled rocket by the nosecone without it slipping off). Apply masking tape to the nosecone shoulder to make the fit tighter if necessary. Double-check this fit once the rocket is fully assembled.



Push the Aft Piston into the Aft Recovery Airframe as far as it will go without forcing it. Pack the drogue chute as directed in the parachute (or streamer) packing instructions. Fit the fin unit to the Aft Recovery Airframe. The fin unit should fit **snug**, but not tight. Lift this assembly by the Aft Recovery Airframe and shake lightly. The fin unit should just begin to slip off the recovery airframe.



**At this point, load the motor into the rocket.  
Do not install the ignitor until the rocket is on the pad.**

## Step F

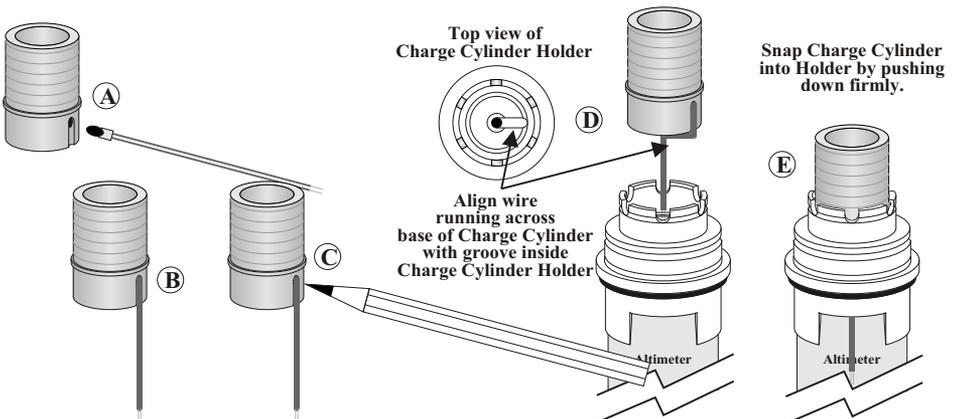
# Be safe...

**From this point on, wear safety glasses while prepping your altimeter for flight!**

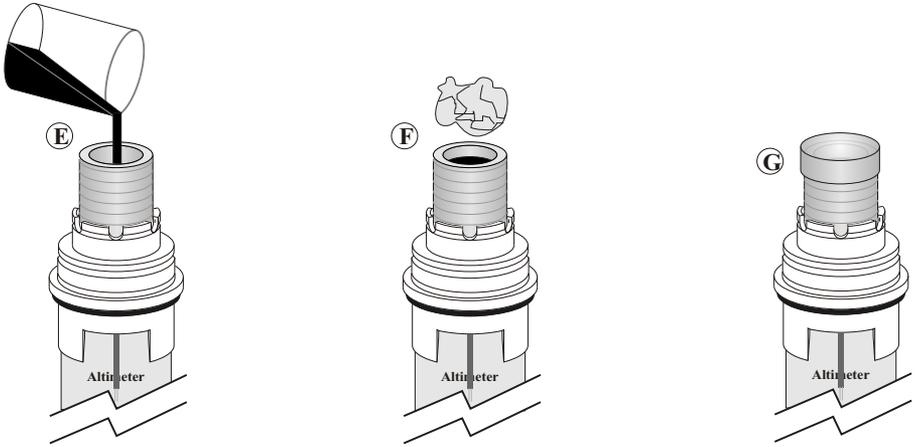
**NOTE:** Charge Cylinders for use with flash bulbs are available as an option through PML.

- A)** The electric match is inserted into this hole and is held horizontal and centered by the internal geometry of the Charge Cylinder.
- B)** The lead is then bent over toward the bottom of the cylinder following the groove.
- C)** Push a small wad of tissue into the hole using a pointed object. This will seal the hole and keep the black powder from leaking out.
- D)** The lead is then threaded into the hole in the bottom center of the Holder and finally through the altimeter mount.
- E)** Push down to snap the Charge Cylinder into the Holder.

This routing method creates a labyrinth that the gasses cannot follow to the altimeter bay. Follow the instructions supplied with your altimeter for connecting the electric match to the altimeter.



- E) Determine the correct amount of FFFFg Black Powder to use for proper ejection using the chart below. Measure-out the Black Powder and pour it into the Charge Cylinder.  
 F) Fill the remainder of the Charge Cylinder with a crumpled piece of flame-proof wadding to keep the Black Powder from moving about.  
 G) Place the orange vinyl cap over the Charge Cylinder.



**Repeat this step for prepping the Aft Charge Cylinder:**

The chart below is intended as a guide for determining the proper amount of ejection powder used with various diameter CPR-3000 rockets using a piston ejection system and an 18" fore or aft recovery airframe.

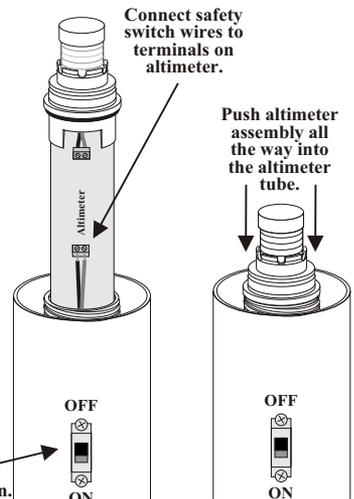
2.1" dia.	0.2 to 0.3 grams
2.5" dia.	0.3 to 0.4 grams
3.0" dia.	0.4 to 0.5 grams
3.9" dia.	0.5 to 0.6 grams

### Step G

"Lubricate" the inside of the altimeter tube using Talcum Powder. This will allow the O-ring on the aft Charge Cylinder Holder to travel smoothly within the tube. Move the Safety Switch wires into the groove at the top of the Threaded Sleeve. This will allow the Aft Charge Cylinder Holder and Aft Altimeter Mount to slip into the Altimeter Tube. Double check that the electric matches are connected to the proper terminals.

**Make absolutely sure the Safety Switch is in the OFF position!** Begin slipping the altimeter assembly into the Altimeter Tube (aft end first), but stop while the safety switch terminals on the altimeter are still exposed. Attach the Safety Switch wires to the terminals on the altimeter. Continue to push the altimeter assembly into the Altimeter Tube (make sure the safety switch wires are not binding on anything) until the O-ring on the Fore Altimeter Mount is in contact with the Threaded Sleeve.

Make sure switch is in "OFF" position.



## Step H

Screw the Fore section of the rocket to the Aft section. Once contact is made between the Fore and Aft sections, give the airframes a little extra turn to snug everything up.

Place the rocket on the launch pad. Install the ignitor into the motor and attach the ignitor leads to the launch controller. Check the launch controller for continuity. Keeping your head away from the rocket, set the safety switch to the "ON" position. Listen (or look for) the altimeter tones or lights to assure the unit is armed and functioning properly. The rocket is now ready for launch.

### CPR-3000 system check list:

#### At the flight prep area...

Make sure all shock cords and parachutes are attached correctly.

Pack the aft recovery system.

Slip the fin section into the aft recovery section.

Pack the Fore recovery system.

Fit the nosecone onto the fore recovery section.

Inspect the 1/8" vent hole opposite the safety switch. Make sure it has no burrs and is free of obstructions.

Install the motor into the rocket.

Insert a fresh battery into the altimeter.

Make sure both O-rings are in place.

Load and connect both ejection charges.

Set the external safety switch to the "OFF" position.

Partially insert altimeter assembly into the altimeter tube.

Connect the safety switch wires to the altimeter.

Finish installing the altimeter assembly into the altimeter tube.

Make sure the large O-ring is in place around the airframe coupler

Screw the fore recovery section to the aft recovery section.

Check nosecone for tight fit (you should be able to lift the entire rocket by the nosecone without it slipping off).

#### At the launch pad...

Place the rocket on the launch rod.

Install the ignitor into the motor.

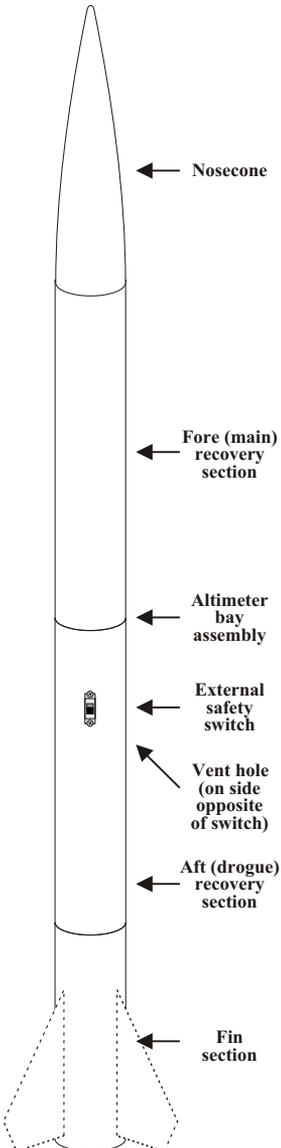
Connect ignitor to the launch controller.

Check for continuity.

Set the altimeter safety switch to the "ON" position.

Listen (or look for) the altimeter tones or lights to assure the unit is armed and functioning properly.

*The rocket is now ready for launch.*



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