

## WARNING CARPET POWER STRETCHER SAFETY

Any piece of equipment can be dangerous if not operated properly. **YOU** are responsible for the safe operation of this equipment. The operator must carefully read and follow any warnings, safety signs and instructions provided with or located on the equipment. Do not remove, defeat, deface or render inoperable any of the safety devices or warnings on this equipment. If any safety devices or warnings have been removed, defeated, defaced or rendered inoperable, **DO NOT USE THIS EQUIPMENT!!!**

**DANGER!** The retractable gripper pins are extremely sharp.

**APPLICATION:** Used to stretch carpet over pins on tackless strip. To stretch carpet eliminating wrinkles, buckles and bulges, making a smooth firm installation of wall-to-wall carpet.

**SAFETY:** Keep children away from stretcher head as the gripper pins can cause serious wounds.

Power stretcher kits are heavy (80 to 120lbs.) and care should be used when lifting and lowering as not to cause injury.

**⚠️WARNING:** This product contains Chromium from steel products which are known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to [www.P65warnings.ca.gov](http://www.P65warnings.ca.gov)

If the person receiving this handout will not be the user of the equipment, forward these instructions to the operator. If there is any doubt as to the operation or safety of the equipment, **DO NOT USE!!! CALL A TOOL SHED IMMEDIATELY!!!**  
**FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS COULD RESULT IN INJURY OR DEATH**

## USING YOUR JUNIOR POWER STRETCHER

### ASSEMBLY ON THE JOB

- A. Place the Power Head 4 inches from the starting wall at the prescribed angle for the kind of carpet you are installing. (See figure 1.) See stretch pattern diagrams on pages 4-6 for general rules, but always follow the carpet manufacturer's recommendations.
- B. Attach the Auto-Lok Tube first in line with the Power Head, and then add Extension Tube Sections until you reach the wall. The shorter Transfer Tube Section can be used in places where Extension Tubes are too long. It can also be used together with the other tubes when maximum length (23' 2") is needed. Be sure to maintain the proper angle as you extend the tubes.

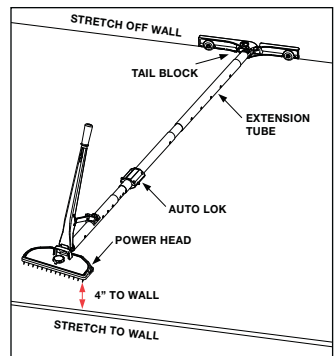


Figure 1

- C. Extra Extension Tubes can get you the extra 4' 8" you'll need on big jobs. These are available through your Crain distributor (Order No. 502).
- D. Finally, attach Tail Block and place against the stretch-off wall. The wheels lift it over most existing base shoe, protecting it from damage. (See figures 12 & 13.)

## ABOUT THE POWER HEAD

- A. First, adjust the pin depth, so that the pins penetrate into, but not through, the carpet's backing. The model No. 499/500 stretcher has a dial knob on top of the power head to adjust pin depth. Turn clockwise for greater pin depth penetration, or counter-clockwise for reduced penetration.
- B. Press down on the power stretcher handle to stretch carpet to the wall.
- C. You can lock the stretcher at any point by pushing the locking button forward to the position marked "LOCK". The handle also locks at the bottom of its downward movement. To release the lock, pull the button back to the position marked "UNLOCK". When lock is on, or when releasing lock, **DO NOT LIFT THE POWER HANDLE. DAMAGE TO STRETCHER MAY RESULT.** (See figure 2.)
- D. Dimples on the head mate with knee kickers, when sideways stretching is required.

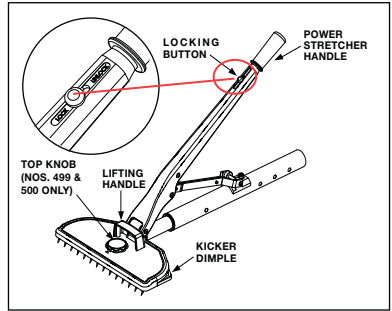


Figure 2

## ABOUT THE AUTO-LOK TUBE

- A. The Auto-Lok Tube allows small adjustments to the length of the tubes quickly and easily. Simply push back on tubes to extend. Press in on the two buttons and pull back on the tubes to shorten. (See figure 7.)

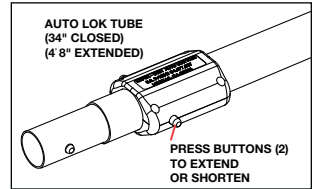


Figure 7

## ABOUT THE TUBE SECTIONS

- A. Button to button, each Extension Tube Section extends a total of 4' 8", and the Transfer Tube Section extends 16", allowing the tubes to extend 23' 2" with the Auto-Lok fully extended. (See figure 8.)
- B. Always keep the tubes in a straight track whenever you apply power. Your stretcher tubes are produced from hi-yield resistant steel, but they can be bent if they are allowed to bow under extreme pressure. Keeping the tubes in a straight track will prevent this type of damage from occurring.

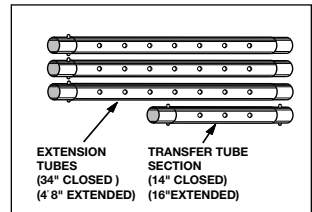


Figure 8

## ABOUT THE FOLDING TAIL BLOCK (if included)

- A. For normal stretching, the tail block should stay flat against the wall, and the tube should pivot freely to permit angle stretching. Remove the lock pin, extend the legs into a flat orientation and insert the pin into the back hole marked "WALLS". (See figure 9.)

**WARNING:** The tail block is 20" long, and spans common 16" wall centers. Be certain at least two wall studs support the tail block, or damage to walls may result. Use a longer wood block to support the wall when necessary.

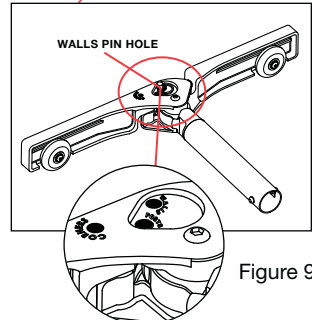


Figure 9

B. For stretching off corners (or square posts), the tail block must be folded to a 90° angle, but the tube still needs to swivel freely. Remove the lock pin, fold the legs to a 90° angle, and reinsert the lock pin into the back left hole marked "CORNERS". (See figure 10.)

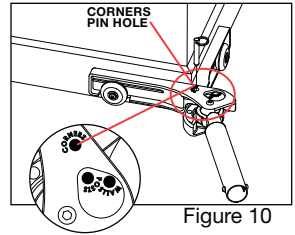


Figure 10

C. For stretching off round posts, the tail block must be folded at a 135° angle, but the tube needs to be locked and not swivel. Remove the lock pin, fold the legs to a 135° angle and align the notch in the back of the pivot. Reinsert the lock pin into the front hole marked "POSTS". (See figure 11.)

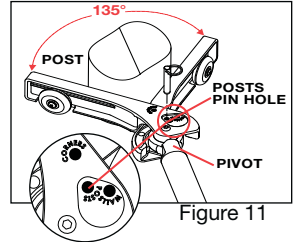


Figure 11

D. With the wheels down, the tail block clears most existing base shoe. (See figure 12.)

E. Turning the tail block over to its flat side prevents rolling and helps the tail block stay put. (See figure 13.)

F. The white non-skid surface prevents walls from being scratched or scuffed.

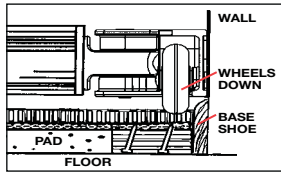


Figure 12

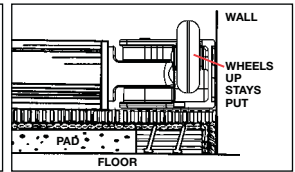


Figure 13

## STRETCHING CARPET

Follow the carpet manufacturer's recommendations for the method and amount of stretch to be used. When recommendations are not available, general guidelines are provided in the stretch pattern diagrams (see pages 4-6). Tufted carpet with jute secondary back should be stretched "drum tight." Tufted carpet with synthetic secondary back should be stretched 1 to 1½% in width and length.

Some woven carpet, such as velvet, does not stretch in length, while other woven carpet, such as Axminster, has no stretch in width. Where there is no stretch, the carpet should be power stretched "snug" in these directions.

The Carpet and Rug Institute Standards Booklets #104 and #105 state that "the use of power stretchers is mandatory" on all stretch-in jobs using tackless strip.<sup>1</sup>

## MAINTENANCE AND CARE

A. Always store all the stretcher parts properly in their protective case. Store the stretcher case in a dry place.

B. Your stretcher tubes are plated to prevent rust. Frequently cleaning and lubricating them pays off with longer useful life and ease of adjustment.

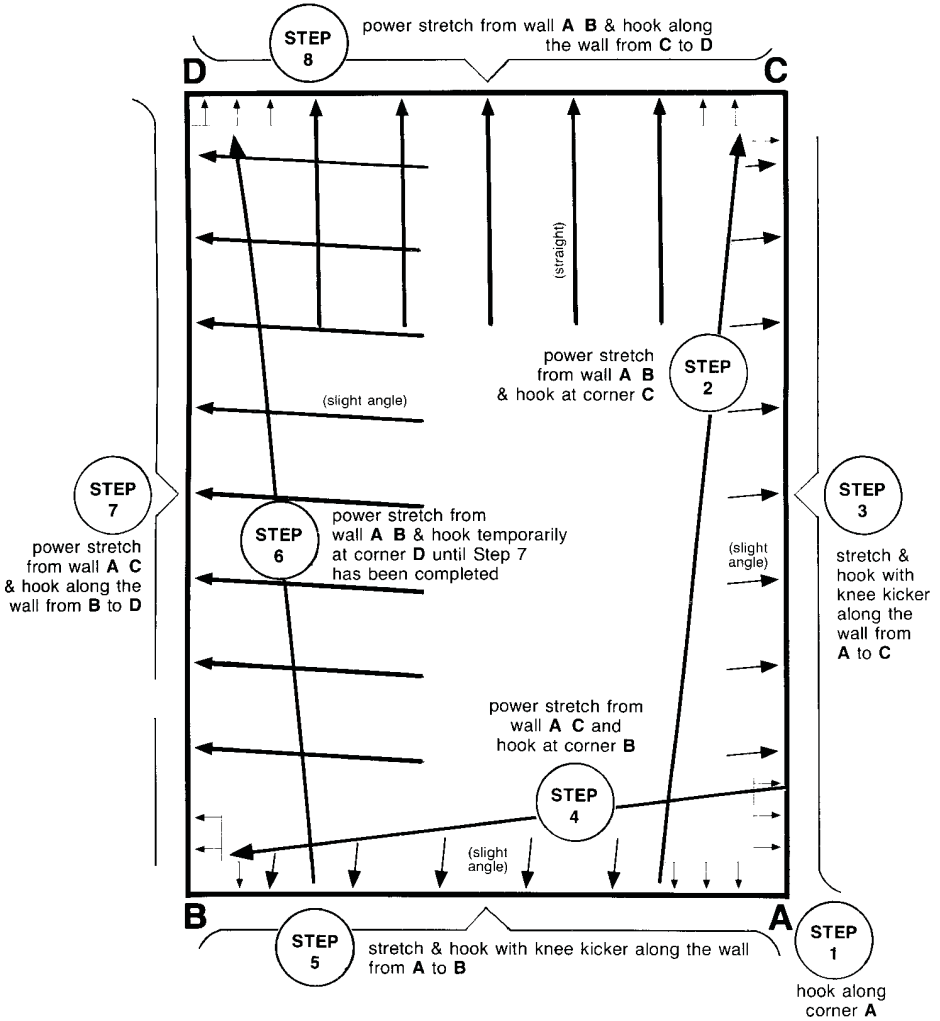
C. Periodically lubricate all moving parts on the power head and Auto-Lok Tube for improved performance and longer useful life.

D. Replace all worn or broken parts as soon as possible. Your authorized Crain distributor can provide all the genuine Crain repair parts you should require.

<sup>1</sup> The Carpet and Rug Institute Standard Industry Reference Guide for Installation of Residential Floor Covering Materials (CRI 104), and Standard Industry Reference Guide for Installation of Commercial Floor Covering Materials (CRI 105) (Carpet and Rug Institute: 1993), p. 17 (CRI 104), and p. 30 (CRI 105).

## TUFTED

Amount of stretch as per the carpet manufacturer's recommendation.  
 In absence of carpet manufacturer's recommendation, use diagram below: <sup>2</sup>



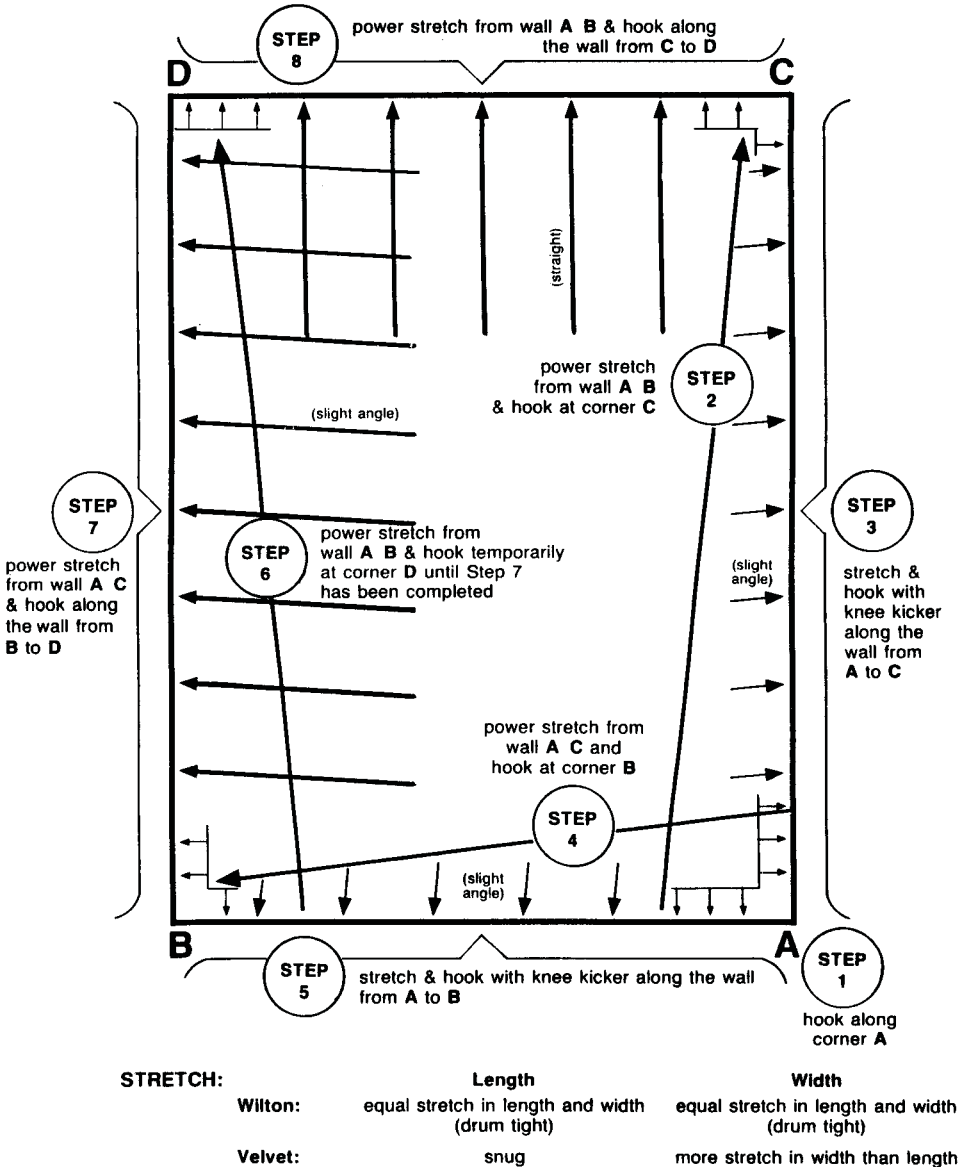
**STRETCH:**

	Length	Width
<b>Jute Secondary Backing:</b>	"drum tight"	"drum tight"
<b>Synthetic Secondary Backing:</b>	1% - 1½%	1% - 1½%

<sup>2</sup>The Carpet and Rug Institute Standard Industry ~Reference Guide for Installation of Residential Floor Covering Materials (CRI 104) and Standard Industry Reference Guide for Installation of Commercial Floor Covering Materials (CRI 105) (Carpet and Rug Institute: 1993) p. 27 (CRI 104) and p. 51 (CRI 105).

## WILTON OR VELVET

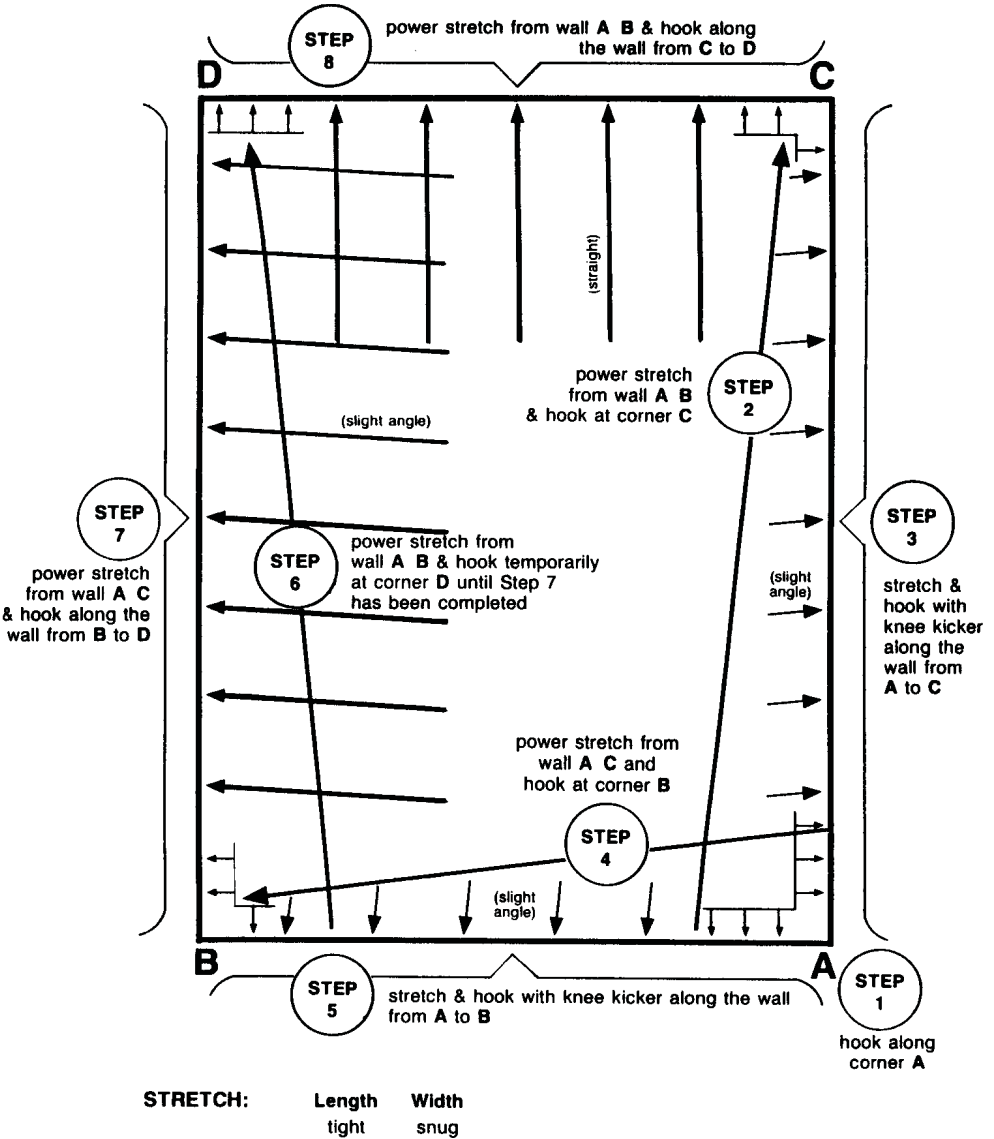
Amount of stretch as per the carpet manufacturer's recommendation. In absence of carpet manufacturer's recommendation, use diagram below: <sup>3</sup>



<sup>3</sup> The Carpet and Rug Institute Standard Industry Reference Guide for Installation of Residential Floor Covering Materials (CRI 104) and Standard Industry Reference Guide for Installation of Commercial Floor Covering Materials (CRI 105) (Carpet and Rug Institute: 1993) p. 28 (CRI 104) and p. 52 (CRI 105).

# AXMINSTER

Amount of stretch as per the carpet manufacturer's recommendation. In absence of carpet manufacturer's recommendation, use diagram below: <sup>4</sup>



<sup>4</sup>The Carpet and Rug Institute Standard Industry Reference Guide for Installation of Residential Floor Covering Materials (CRI 104) and Standard Industry Reference Guide for Installation of Commercial Floor Covering Materials (CRI 105) (Carpet and Rug Institute: 1993) p. 29 (CRI 104) and p. 53 (CRI 105).