**Billboard Sized Banner Drop** 

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## **Billboard Sized Banner Drop**

Performing this action can be divided into two parts that require extensive preparation: Creation and Deployment



Illustration 1: Banner drop in Missouri. 46' by 14'



Illustration 2: Rough banner specification

- Glue should be 'Liquid Nails'
- Outside banner edges ٠
  - The outside banner edges have 3 layers of tape on the outside edges
    - This protects the edges and ensures that there are no rips
- Merging banners together

Banner Creation (46' by 14')

- As can be seen in Illustration 1, there are 8 drop cloths in total.
  - 4 form the top half and 4 form the bottom half.
- Drop cloths used are too thick to utilize staples, so instead the drop cloths are bonded utilizing a glue gun.
  - A significant overlap is used when merging banners, typically a foot.
    - When combining drop cloths, you lose a good amount of width and height due to overlap.
  - After bonding, three layers of tape should be placed over the seams.
- Top Grommets
  - Calculating the minimum and location of top grommets is important. These grommets help ensure that the bonded banners seams does not break by relieving pressure on the seams.
    - In particular, you want the grommets near the seams / weak points.
    - In the previous version, 6 feet of rope is used
      - Evenly Sapced
  - A good amount of rope to buy is 100 feet, this should fulfill all rope needs.
  - Rope
    - The holes for the rope grommets should be 8 inches to a foot down.
    - 4 feet of rope for the middle grommets.
    - 5 feet of rope for the grommets on the corners.
    - A simple knot tied twice is used.
- Bottom Waterbottle Grommets
  - Calculating the number and location of the bottom grommets is important. Too many bottom grommets, the banner rips when deployed. Too little, and the wind will blow the banner.
  - These water bottles differ from typical water bottles.
    - These waterbottles are first drained of  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the water and twisted in the middle section.
      - In this way, rope can be tied to the bottle in the most effective way possible.
    - The waterbottles are also spray painted black to enhance the banner's appearance
  - $\circ$  2 feet of rope should be allocated for waterbottles

## **Banner Deployment**

A high degree of preparation is necessary. Prepare for the unexpected.

- Personnel
  - More members are recommended, but the first banner drop had 4 members
    - 2 climbers
    - 1 at the base of the billboard
    - 1 on overwatch issuing commands
- Climbing
  - Telescopic ladder
    - Need to be drilled on how to climb these, do not want a rookie to perform
      - Can practice many times on an extension ladder