



# Highland Cattle Crate

Model 337g

Hoof Trimming Attachments

Model 339g-880

**Instruction Manual  
& Operating Guide**



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## Safety Notes and Warnings

- Ensure the operator in charge of the Highland Cattle Crate is an experienced stock person who can maintain a high standard of animal welfare.
- Ensure that there is sufficient space in the area designated for the crate to allow the operator to work safely and efficiently.
- The adjoining Race and Penning to the crate should be of sufficient build for the safety of both animals and operators.
- Open one side door at a time.
- Always make sure the area in front of the yoke doors is clear when animals are entering and exiting the crate.



# Introduction and Intended Use

The Ritchie Highland Cattle Crate was designed for, and intended to be used by, the agricultural industry purely for the handling of Highland Cattle. The Crate is designed to give maximum safety and to minimise stress in both the animal and the operator.

**The crate should only be used by an experienced stock person, who can maintain a high standard of animal welfare.**

## Main Features

- Easy adjustable neck yoke widths, which allows easy handling of calves to bulls.
- Complete access to both sides of the animal.
- Ratchet type rump bar operation.
- Pedal release operation
- Complete with rear gate and aluminium 5 bar tread-plate floor.
- Hot Dipped Galvanised finish

**Deviations from the intended use should not take place without the notice and approval of David Ritchie (Implements) Ltd.**

## Specifications

	<b>337g</b>
External Length .....	1.95m
External width .....	1.54m
Internal width .....	0.70m
External height .....	2.06m
Internal height .....	1.90m
Weight (Galvanised) .....	350 kgs



## Preparation for Use



Fig 1

## Setting Up:-

To move the crate by loader or forklift, place the forklift tines either below the floor or below the top horizontal members from the side of the crate to lift and move taking care the crate does not slide when travelling over rough terrain. Alternatively use the optional 3 point lifting frame No 337g-700, (page 11).

Select a level site where the handling is to be carried out. Position the crate on firm and level ground and ensure that there is

sufficient area all around to operate the crate safely and efficiently.

Remove the rump bar from its transit position.

Hurdles can be added to form a race-way into the Highland Cattle Crate by attaching to the hurdle lugs provided, Fig 1.

The Ritchie Access Cubicle can also be added, see page 11.



## Yoke Doors

Adjust the width of the yoke doors whilst in the closed position to suit the size of cattle to be handled.

*To adjust:-*

Release the door hinge pin, Fig 2, and move the door to an alternative set of holes. Adjust both doors equally. Ensure that the yoke width will not be too tight on the neck of the animal as this may reduce the blood supply to the head and result in animal collapse.

## Neck Restraint

The neck restraint can also be adjusted by releasing the height adjustment pins on both sides of the frame, Fig 3, and sliding the restraint upwards or downwards to a new position.



Fig 2



Fig 3

## Operating the Highland Cattle Crate

Before admitting an animal to the crate - release the locking bar, Fig 4, lift lower catch and raise the neck restraint into the presentation position. i.e. fully upright. The upper catch is self engaging and will hold the restraint in position.

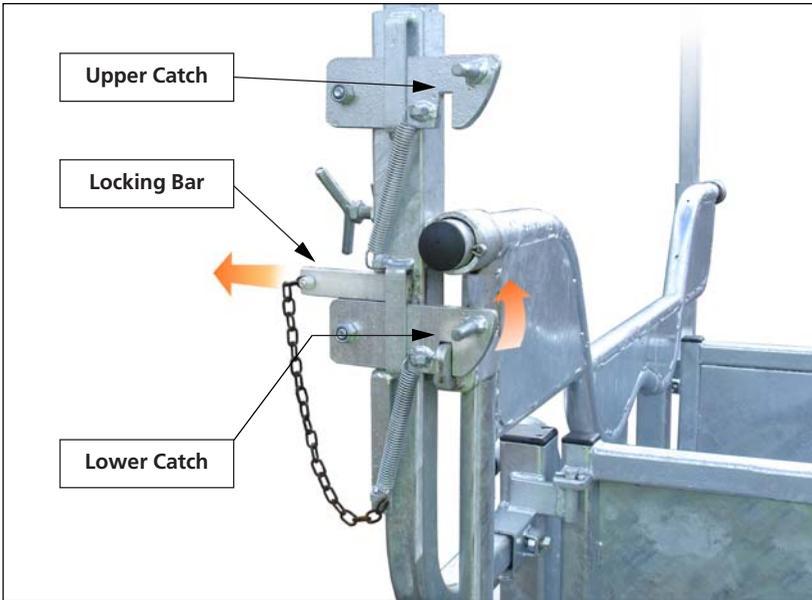


Fig 4

Once the animal has been herded into the crate - locate the rump bar or close the rear gate (whichever preferred). The rump bar can be used to help force a reluctant animal forward in the crate.

When the animal is in position - release the top catch and lower the neck restraint to the working position securing it with the locking bar.

A halter may be used to restrain the animal's head using the halter tie points provided, Fig 1.

A side door may now be opened to offer access to the side of the animal for treatment.

**Note:** For safety reasons open only one side door at a time.



Fig 5

## Releasing an animal

When ready to release an animal - raise the neck restraint and lock in the upright position.

Operate the gate release pedal from the side of the crate **only** as shown, Fig 5 - by depressing to release the front gates allowing the animal to exit.



# Maintenance



## Lubrication

Oil **WEEKLY** when in use as indicated - Fig 6.

- Door Hinges
- Gate Release Pedal
- Neck Restraint Bushes

Fig 6



## Optional Equipment



### No 337G-500 Sheeted Hurdle

2000mm long x 1300mm high, All welded construction. Clad in 2mm steel plate with safe edges formed all round.



### No 337G-400 Access Cubicle

900mm long x 820mm wide x 1300mm high. Provides easy access to the rear of the cattle handling crate. Creates a secure area for the operator.



### No 337G-700 Lifting Frame

Robustly designed for ease of handling the Ritchie Highland Cattle Crate. The simple 3 point linkage attachment allows transportation of the cattle crate from either side and eliminates obstruction caused by traditionally located brackets.



### No 337G-600 Race Joiner

915mm wide x 1180mm high. Secures the race hurdles at the correct centres. Allows tapering at the base of the hurdles. (Ideal for younger stock).

## Optional Equipment (continued)

### 800mm Load bars suitable for mounting under Ritchie Highland Cattle Crate No. 337G

- Mounting plates are provided to attach 800mm load bars
- Reinforced Cables to prevent damage.
- Rubber feet to provide shock dispersal.
- Fully water resistant.
- Live Capacity 2000kg (4000lbs).
- Total Loading 3000kg (6600lbs).



### Weigh head options available:-

- Choice of 3 Tru-Test & 1 Shearweigh Indicators manufactured to ISO9001 quality standard
- JR5000 • ID5000 • XR5000 • SHEARWEIGH

Total protection against dust and water immersion to IP67



# Hoof Trimming Attachments No. 339g-880

## Fitting of Rear Winch



Fig 7

Position the rear winch assembly on top of the rear cross member of the Cattle Crate as shown, Fig 7 & 8, and secure in place using the 'U bolt' and clamp bracket provided.

Locate the wheel onto the end of the winch assembly shaft and secure with the bolt & nut provided. Rotate and check for freedom of movement, Fig 8.

Slide the plain end of the rear strap through the loop provided on the winch and turn the wheel allowing the web to wrap around itself and 'lift', Fig 9. To release, turn the wheel to take pressure off the ratchet and pull the release lever on the winch assembly to lower. Use the short strap with rings at each end, Fig 10, to position around the 'hock' to lift the leg.

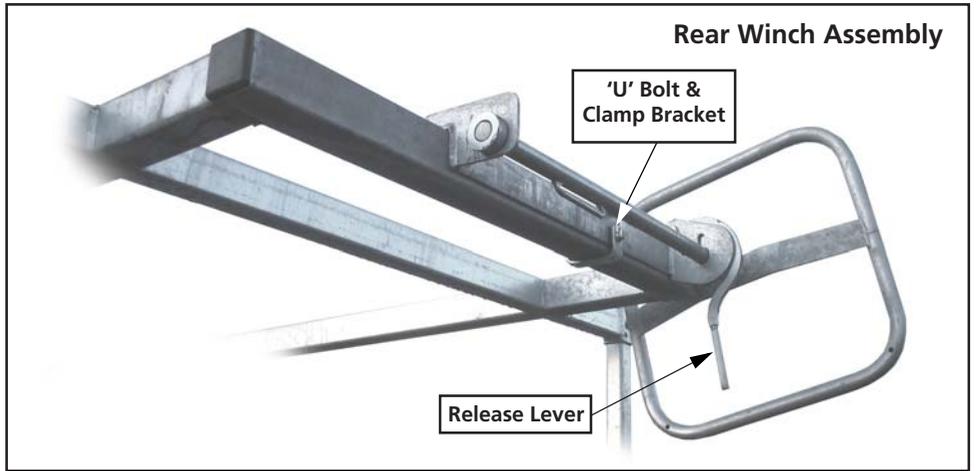


Fig 8



Fig 9



Fig 10



## Positioning of the Belly Harness & Front Strap

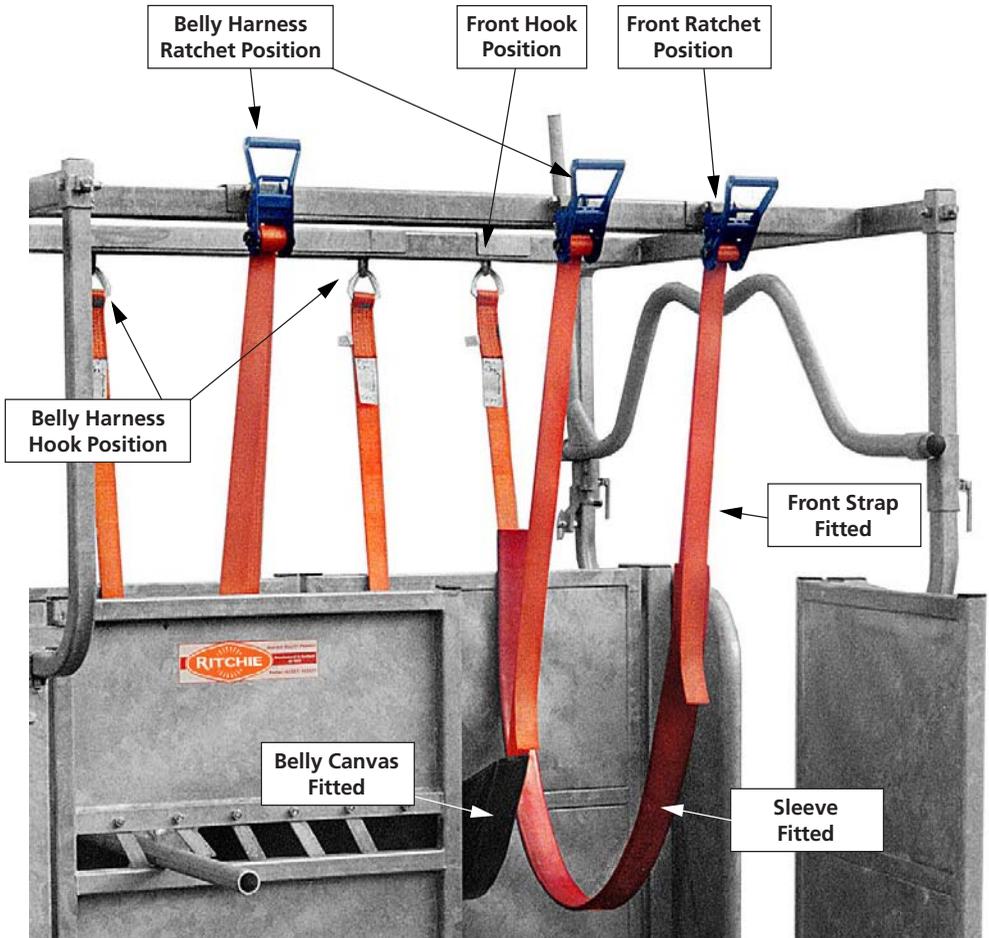


Fig 11

Drop channels with open hooks on preferred side of the Crate as shown, Fig 11, and attach the straps using the open rings.

Position the channels carrying the ratchets on the opposite side as shown, Fig 11, feed the belly canvas onto the two straps and feed the ends through the ratchet buckles.

For the front strap, ensure the sleeve is fitted before feeding the end through the front

ratchet buckle.

When entering an animal into the crate, remove the harness and front strap by lifting off the open rings and pulling the harness and front strap through to the opposite side of the crate.

The rear channels carrying the Belly harness can be moved 'front and rearwards' to suit each individual animal.

## Fitting the Front Hoof Blocks

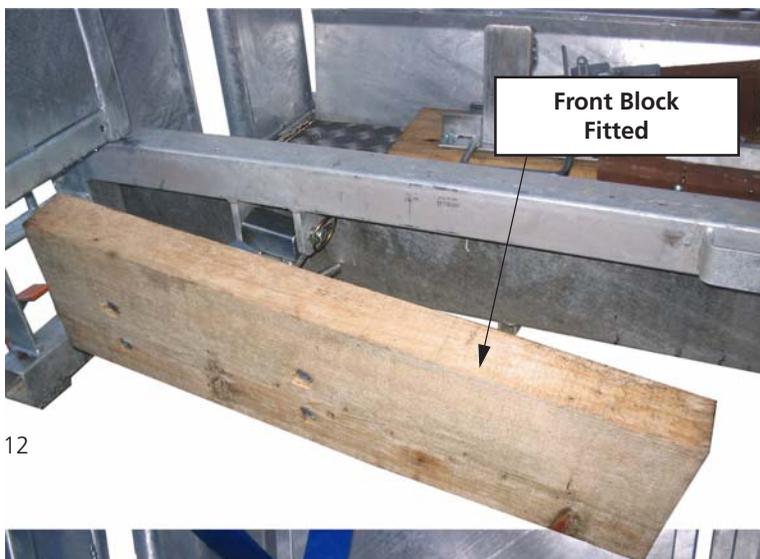


Fig 12

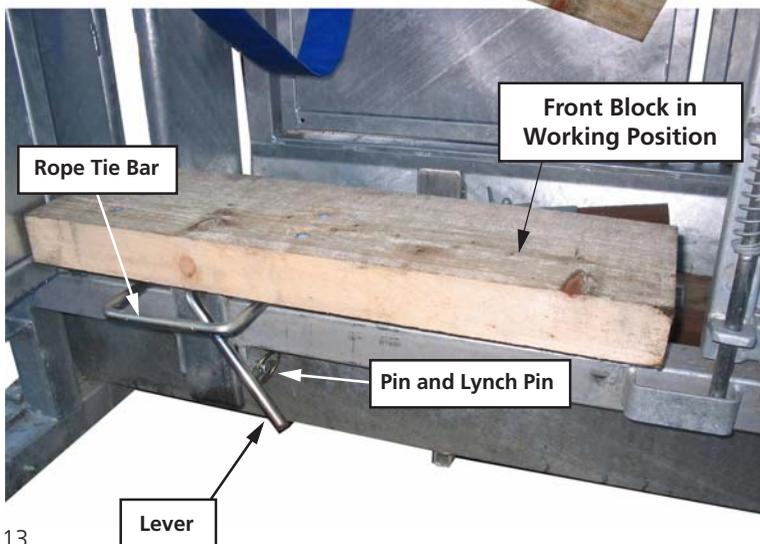


Fig 13

Attach the left and right hoof block assemblies using the pin and lynch pin provided.

To operate the hoof block, the side door of the crate must be opened to allow access, and the block can then be pivoted upwards and locked into position using the lever incorporated, Fig 13.

A rope tie bar is provided to assist tying the leg securely.

When the hoof blocks are not being used, the block assembly can be pivoted through 90 degrees, Fig 12, which allows the side doors of the crate to be opened.

# Component Parts



**Bracket**  
Part No. 338G/16



**Bracket**  
Part No. 338G/33



**Handle Assembly**  
Part No. 339G/515

**Clamp Plate**  
Part No. 339G/513



**Clamp**  
Part No. 339G/518



**Winch Assembly**  
Part No. 339G/516

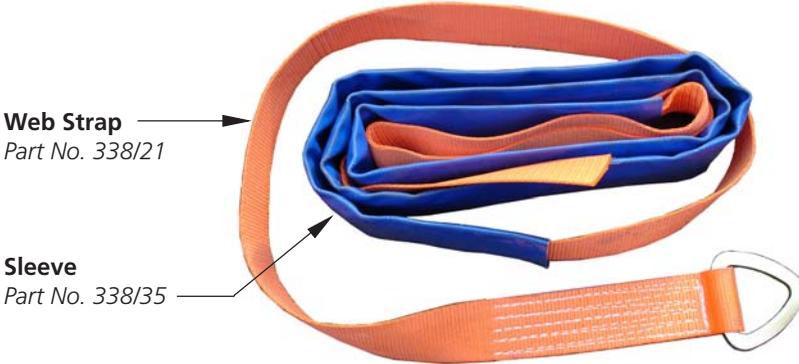




**Bracket / Ratchet Assembly**  
*Part No. 338G/26*



**Bracket / Ratchet Assembly**  
*Part No. 338G/34*



**Web Strap**  
*Part No. 338/21*

**Sleeve**  
*Part No. 338/35*



**Belt Looped**  
*Part No. 339G/519*

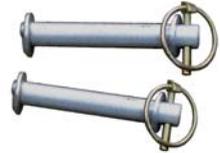


**Belt Hooked**  
*Part No. 339G/520*





**Wood Block Support**  
Part No. 338G/24



**Attachment Pins**  
Part No. 338G/18 (x2)



**Wood Block Support**  
Part No. 338G/25

**Web Strap**  
Part No. 338G/21 (x2)



**Belly Canvas**  
Part No. 338G/22





*the perfect partner*

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