MULTIPLE-SECTION PORTABLE BARBECUE PIT

Barbecuing chickens for large groups is fairly easy when a multiple-section portable barbecue pit is used. It is prefabricated in sections, permitting fast and easy assembly and disassembly. The unit is easily transported and stored. Any number of eight-foot long sections can be interconnected, depending on the number of chickens to be barbecued.
The basic unit is 48 inches wide and 96 inches long. Each eight-foot section can accommodate 120 to 150 chicken halves at one time. Each section consists of two sides, two ends, and four 20-inch rods.

The side and end sections are made of welded pipe to which 26-gauge or heavier sheet metal is attached. Pipe hinges welded to the ends of all sections accept connecting rods. This provides easy and fast assembly.

The original design uses soil as the floor of the grill. The addition of three optional leg assemblies and a metal bottom for each section elevates the floor of the pit and prevents damage to ground covering. During assembly, the leg guides are fitted over the uprights of the leg assemblies. The crossbars of the assemblies provide support for the metal pit floor. The floor consists of heavy sheet metal attached to a framework of \( \frac{1}{2} \)-inch pipe. The floor framework has outside dimensions of 94½ x 46½ inches and has a cross-brace at the midpoint of its length. The sheet metal is attached to the framework by welding or sheet metal screws.

Three 32 x 48 inch wire grills are used to cover each pit section. An additional grill is required when turning the chicken halves. The 8-inch extensions on each corner of the grill are used as handles. A midline brace extending length-wise provides middle support for the mesh grill surface. Mesh wire is attached to the grill framework using hog rings or wire. A substitute expanded metal surface can be attached to the grill framework by welding.

The pit can be extended to any length by adding two side sections and three grills for each section. If connecting two or more sections together, the use of leg assemblies is recommended. The leg assemblies prevent the tendency of sides to bow in or out.

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