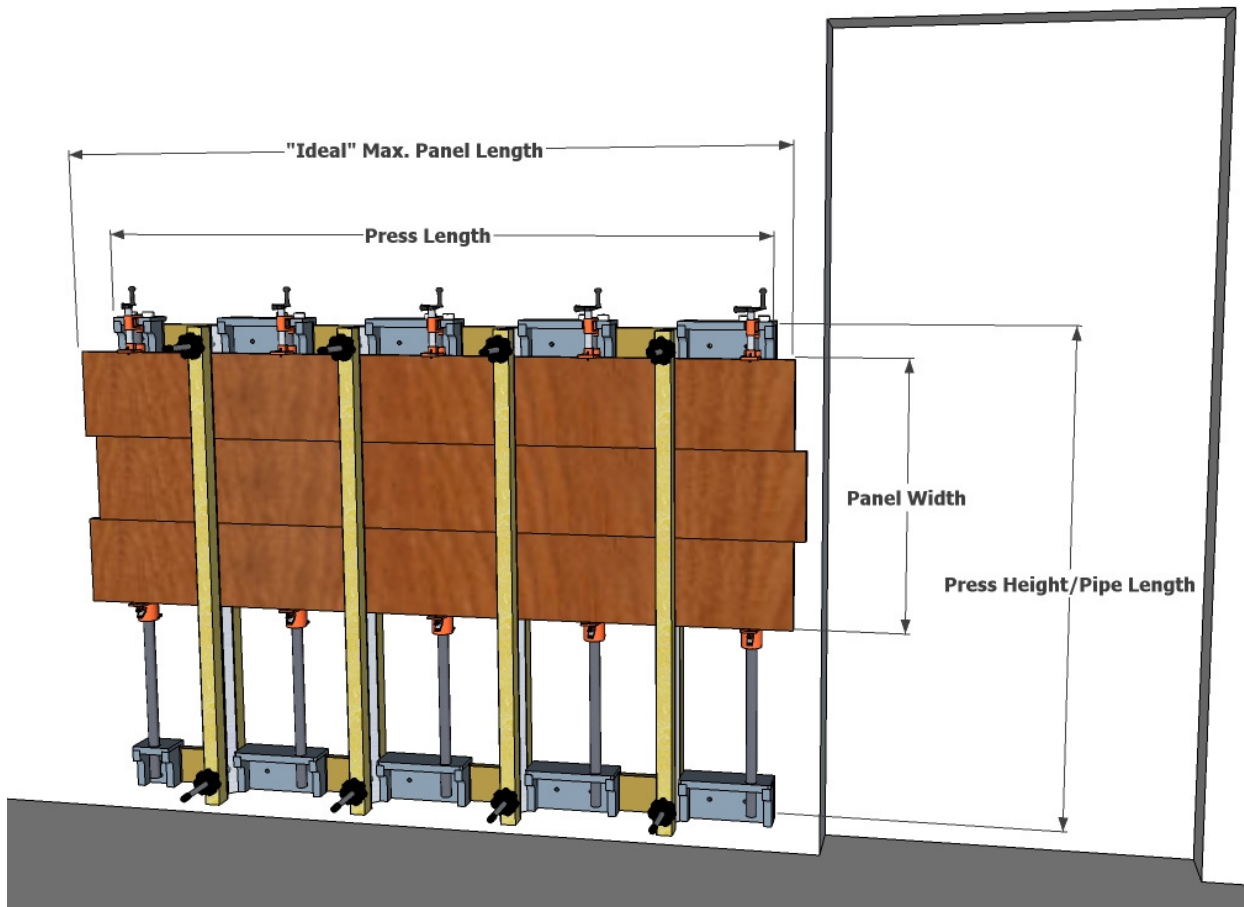


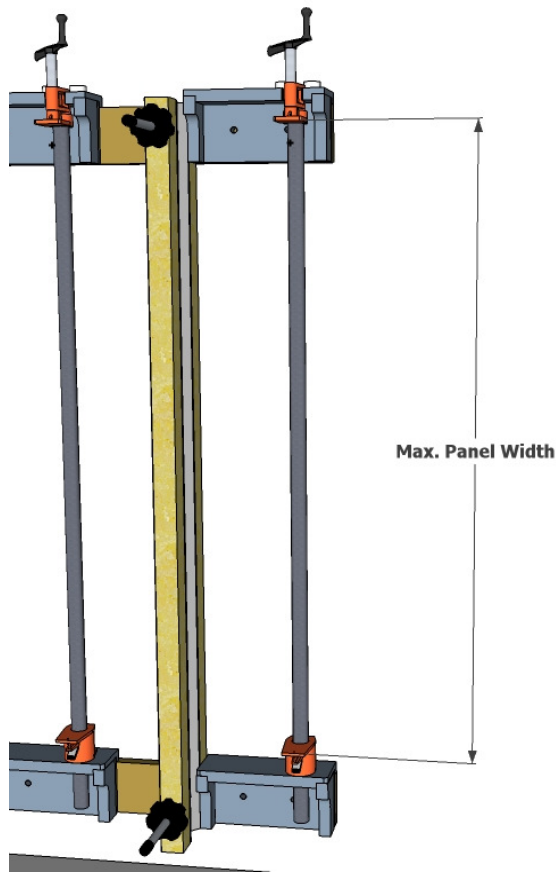
## Introduction

The Clamping Press described in the July/August issue of Woodworker's Journal uses five (5) 48" long pipe clamps. At that scale, panel widths up to 40" can be accommodated and panel lengths up to about 6' are considered the ideal maximum. (As a practical matter, however, panel length is not limited by the Press length, because extra long boards can simply over-hang the Press during glue-up.)

If you will be laminating panels wider than 40" or over 72" in length on a regular basis, then consider increasing the width and/or length of you Press. Conversely, if your routine panel sizes are much smaller or there are space constraints, the Press dimensions can be reduced.

Follow these suggestions to customize the scale of your Clamping Press. At the end of these instructions, several sample rescaled Press versions are illustrated.





**Changing Maximum Panel Width**

Consider the maximum panel width you want to laminate in the Press, and then add 8". This dimension will be the new Press Height, and also dictate the length of pipes needed for your pipe clamps.

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Press Height/Pipe Length} &= \text{Widest Panel} + 8'' \\ &= 40'' + 8'' \\ &= 48'' \end{aligned}$$

To take advantage of pre-cut pipe and Aluminum angle products available in most home centers, consider rounding-up/-down the Press Height/Pipe Length to 24", 36", 48", etc.

**Changing "Ideal" Maximum Panel Length**

As mentioned earlier, there really is not a practical limitation on panel length for any size Press. However, in an ideal scenario, boards in the panel will not overhang the Press by more than about 4-6". Therefore, consider the maximum panel length

you want to make, and then refer to the chart below to determine the recommended Press length.

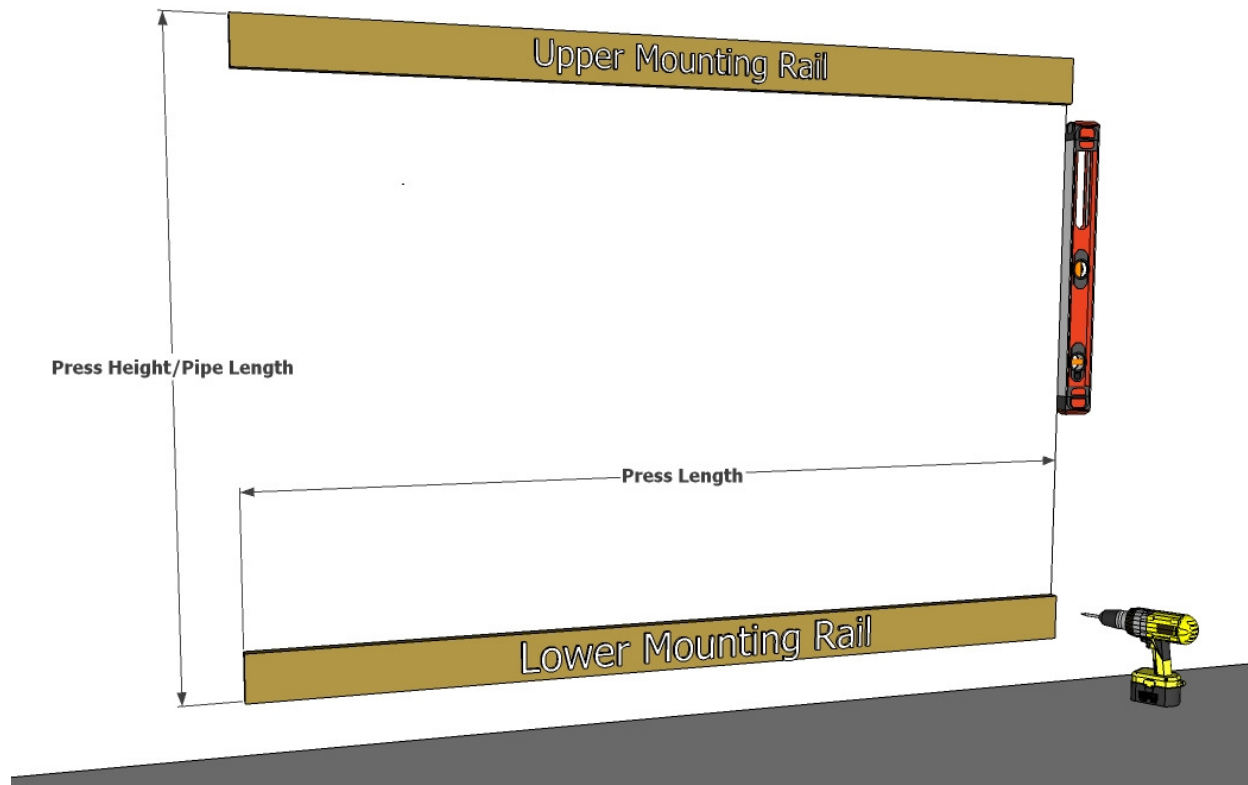
Number of Clamps	"Ideal" Max. Panel Length	Press Length	# of Full Size Bracket Sets	# of Mini Bracket Sets	# of Platens/ Press Bars
3	~48"	33¼"	2	1	2
4	~60"	48¼"	3	1	3
5	~72"	63¼"	4	1	4
6	~90"	78¼"	5	1	5
7	~108"	93¼"	6	1	6
8	~120"	108¼"	7	1	7

Keep in mind that for each clamp added (removed), you must add (remove) one Full-Size Bracket set and one Platen/Press Bar set.

*NOTE: The recommended Press Lengths above are based on 15" on-center spacing between pipe clamps, and likewise 15" on-center spacing between platens and Bracket sets. As you might expect, these dimensions are also scalable, but will require adjusting width dimensions of the Bracket sets, which is beyond the scope of these instructions. Feel free to contact the author directly at ([jshackelford@dickinson-wright.com](mailto:jshackelford@dickinson-wright.com)) for any questions about rescaling the "on-center" spacing criteria.*

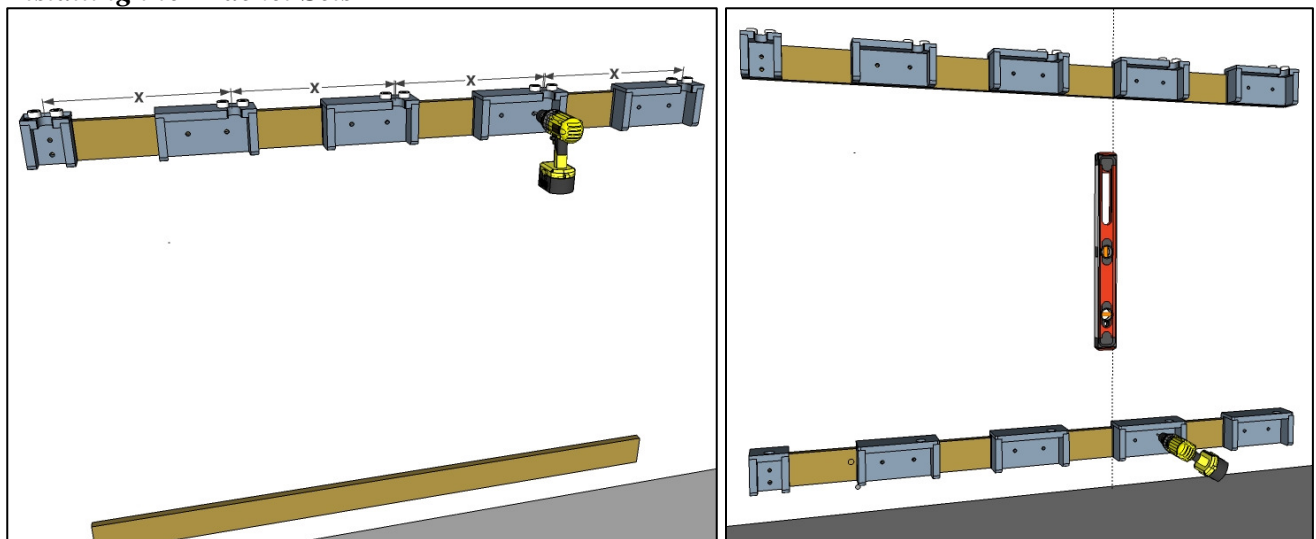
***Cut and Hang Mounting Rails***

Cut the upper and lower mounting rails to the Press Length.



Attach the rails to the wall as described in the main article. Align and level the upper rail directly over the lower rail so that the distance between the bottom edge of the lower rail and the top edge of the upper rail equals the Press Height.

***Installing the Bracket Sets***



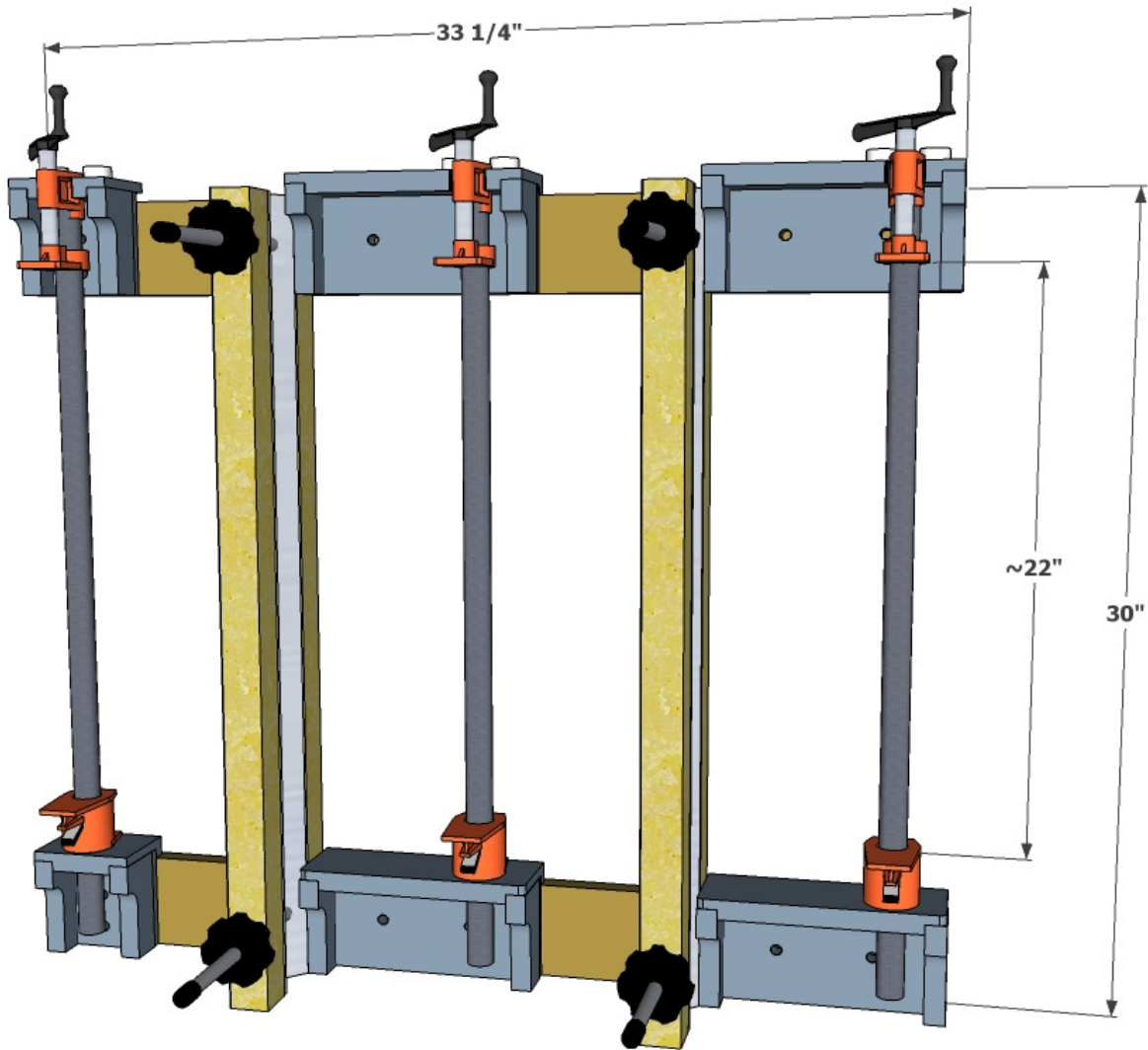
Arrange the Bracket Sets along the mounting rails so that all of the U-shaped cut-outs for the clamp heads are equally spaced apart.

**Examples**

Following are sample rescaled Press dimensions for 3-, 4-, 6-, 7- and 8-clamp Presses using various length pipes.

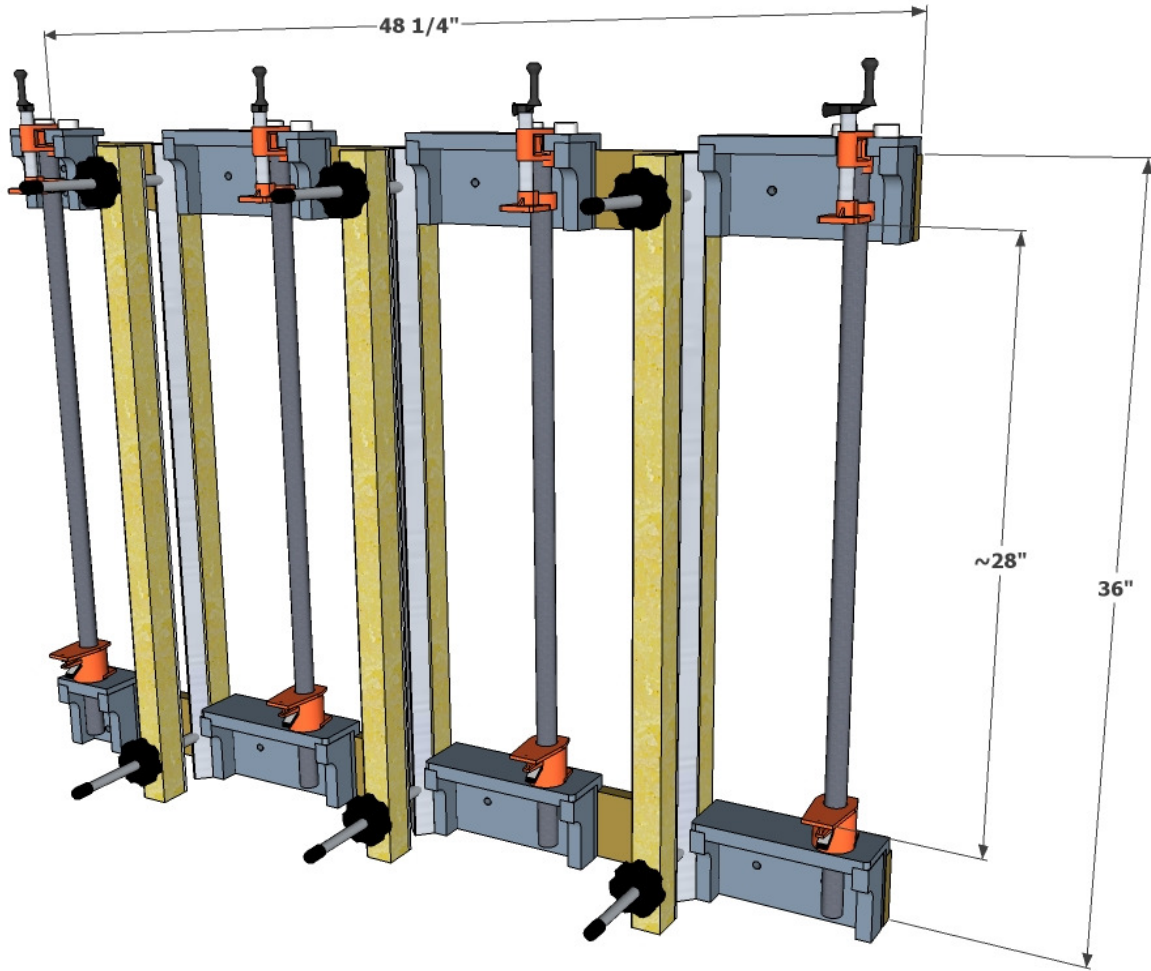
**Example: 3-Clamp Version (shown with 30" long pipes)**

Number of Clamps	"Ideal" Max. Panel Length	Press Length	# of Full Size Bracket Sets	# of Mini Bracket Sets	# of Platens/ Press Bars
3	~48"	33 1/4"	2	1	2



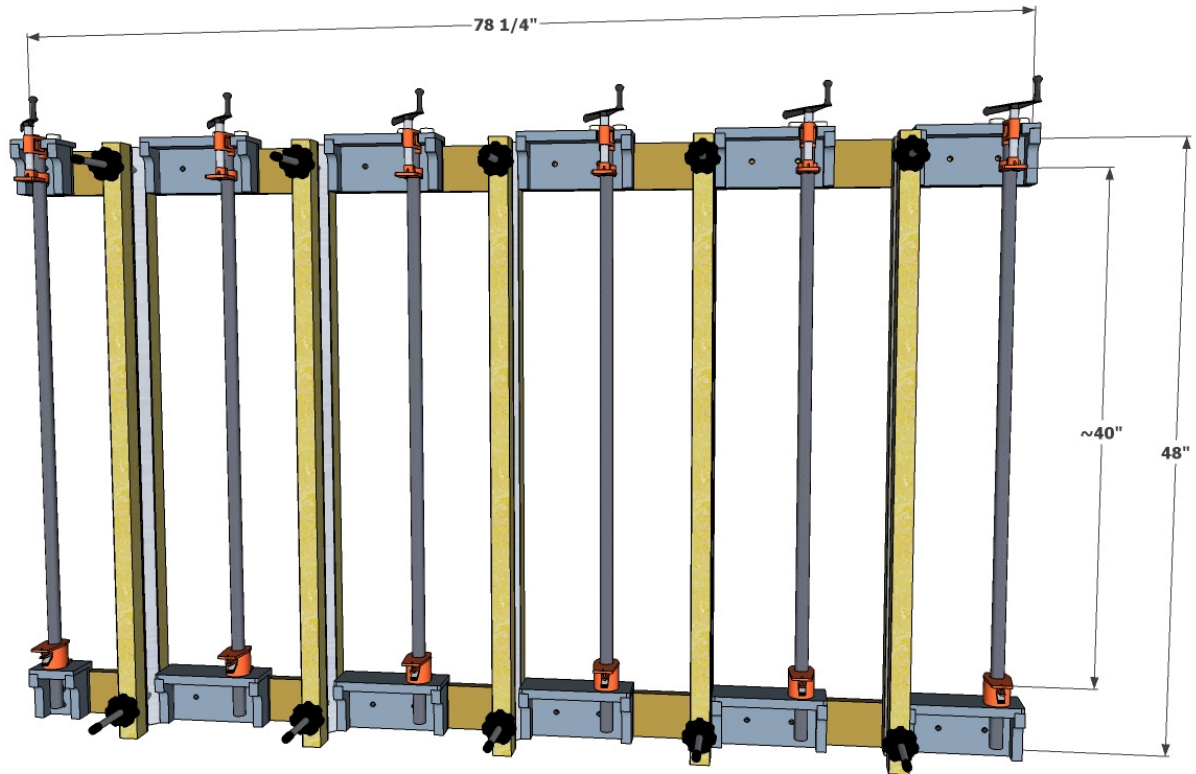
Example: 4-Clamp Version (shown with 36" long pipes)

Number of Clamps	"Ideal" Max. Panel Length	Press Length	# of Full Size Bracket Sets	# of Mini Bracket Sets	# of Platens/ Press Bars
4	~60"	48 1/4"	3	1	3



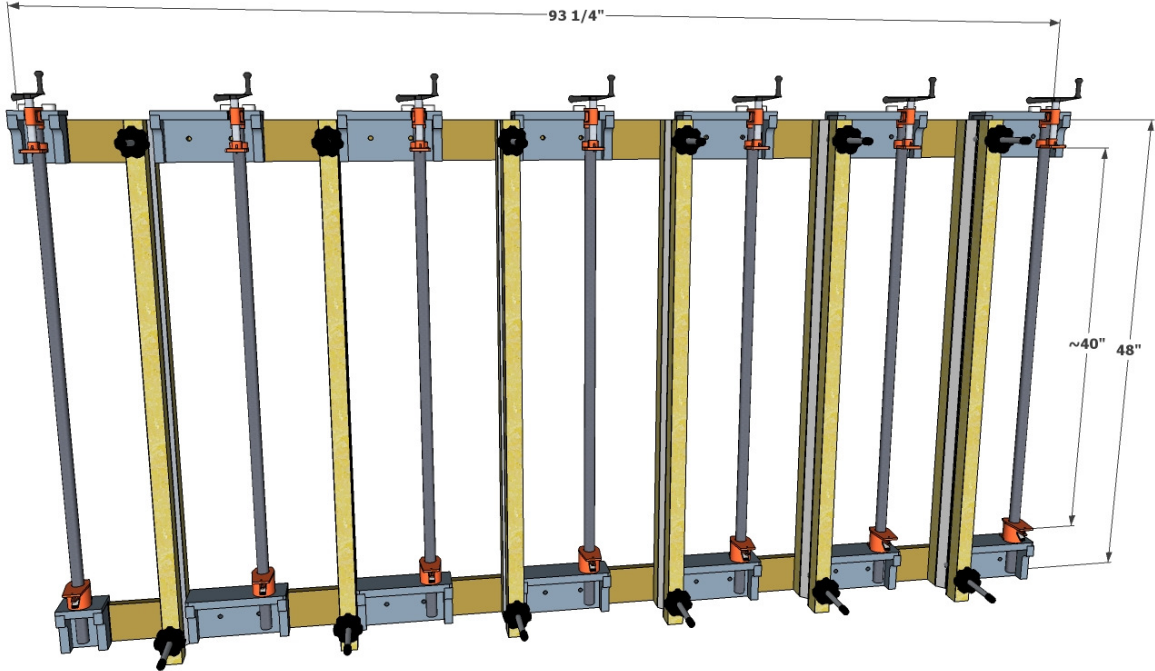
Example: 6-Clamp Version (shown with 48" long pipes)

Number of Clamps	"Ideal" Max. Panel Length	Press Length	# of Full Size Bracket Sets	# of Mini Bracket Sets	# of Platens/ Press Bars
6	~90"	78 1/4"	5	1	5



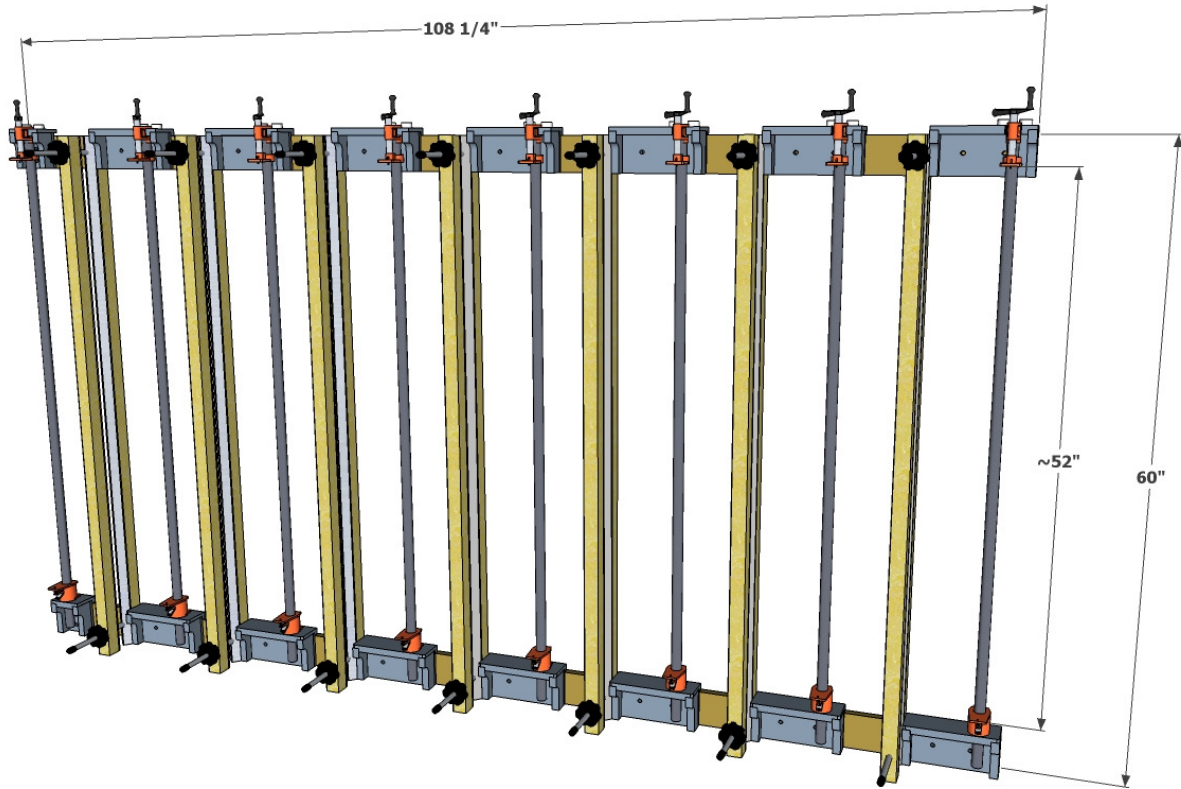
Example: 7-Clamp Version (shown with 48" long pipes)

Number of Clamps	"Ideal" Max. Panel Length	Press Length	# of Full Size Bracket Sets	# of Mini Bracket Sets	# of Platens/ Press Bars
7	~108"	93 1/4"	6	1	6



Example: 8-Clamp Version (shown with 60" long pipes)

Number of Clamps	"Ideal" Max. Panel Length	Press Length	# of Full Size Bracket Sets	# of Mini Bracket Sets	# of Platens/ Press Bars
8	~120"	108 1/4"	7	1	7



\*\*\*[THE END]\*\*\*