

Tools Required

Hand saw



Hand drill



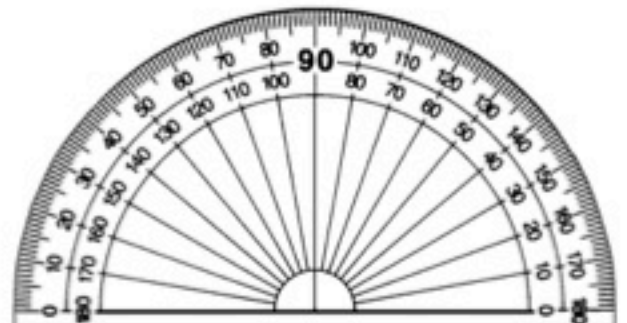
Spanners (various sizes)



File



Protractor

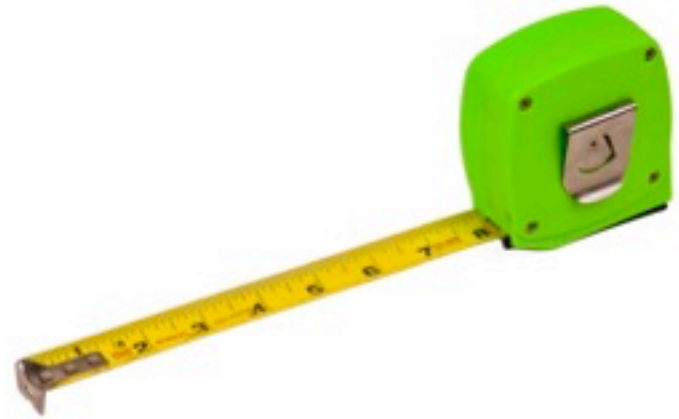


Tools Required

Ruler



Tape measure



Threadlock



Optional Tools

Drill press



Power saw



Bench vice



Callipers



Materials

90mm x 1m PVC pipe x1



12x12x1.4mm Angle Iron (0.5m long) x1



M16 x 60mm hex coupler x1



100mm PVC end cap x1



150mm PVC threaded access coupling x1



Materials

150mm PVC threaded
end cap

x1



150mm PVC end cap

x1



20mm to 15mm PVC
reducer

x1



15mm PVC male
thread adapter

x1



Treadmill motor

x1



Materials

300x300x5mm
plywood

x1



19mm aluminium box
section (500mm long)

x1



15mm x 200mm pipe

x1



15mm pipe flange

x1



31.8x1.2mm steel
tubing (3m long)

x1



Fasteners

Bolts:

M16x100mm

x1

M7x20mm

x4

M5x25mm

X10

M5x35mm

X4

0.5"x1.5"

x4



Nuts:

M16

x1

M7

x4

M5

X14

0.5"

x4



Washers:

M7

x4

M5

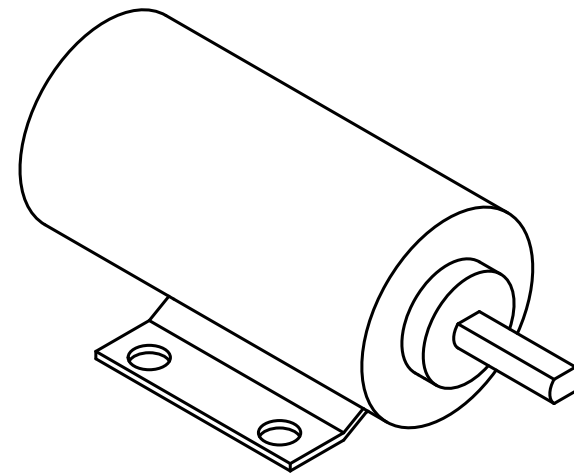
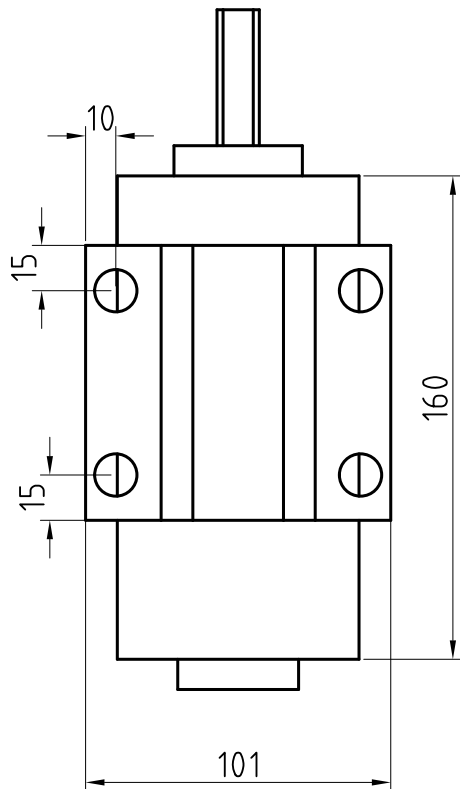
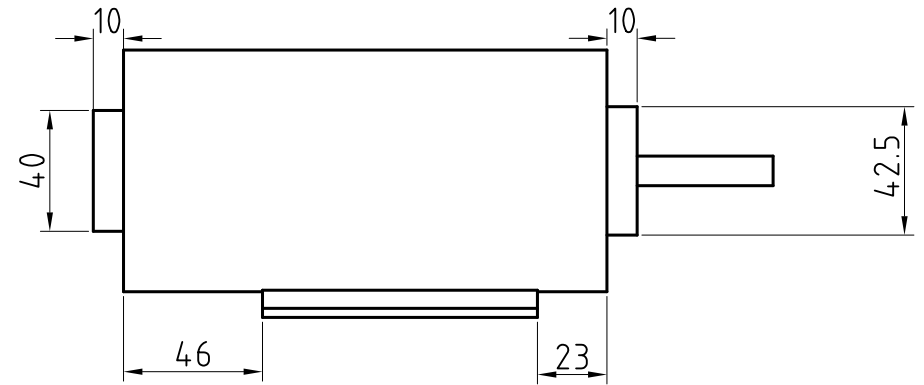
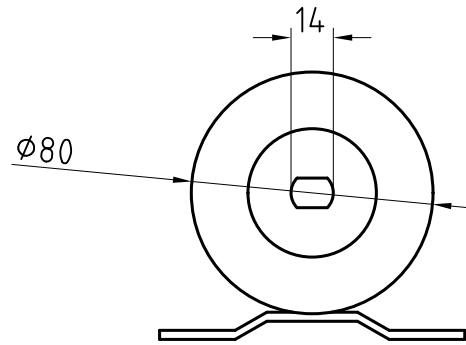
X14

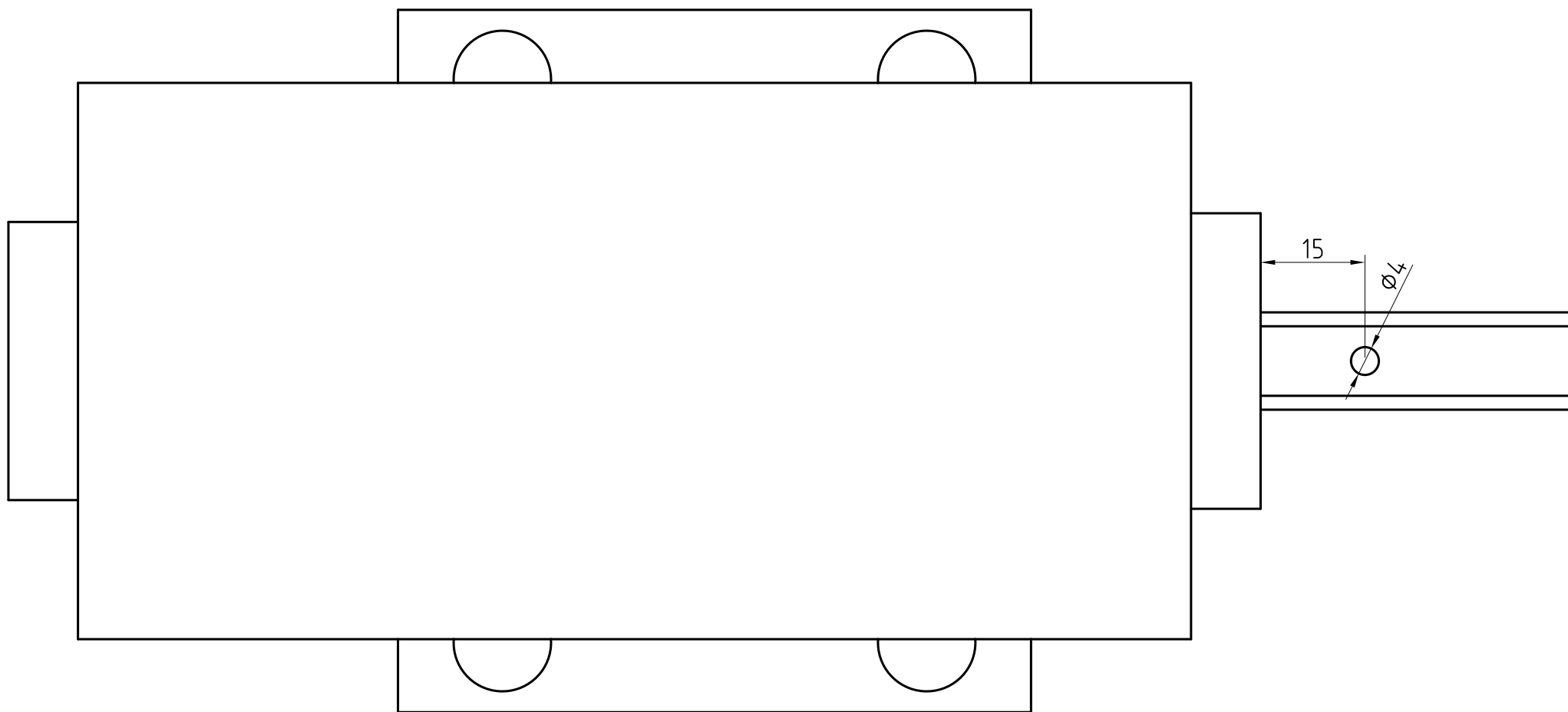
0.5"

x4

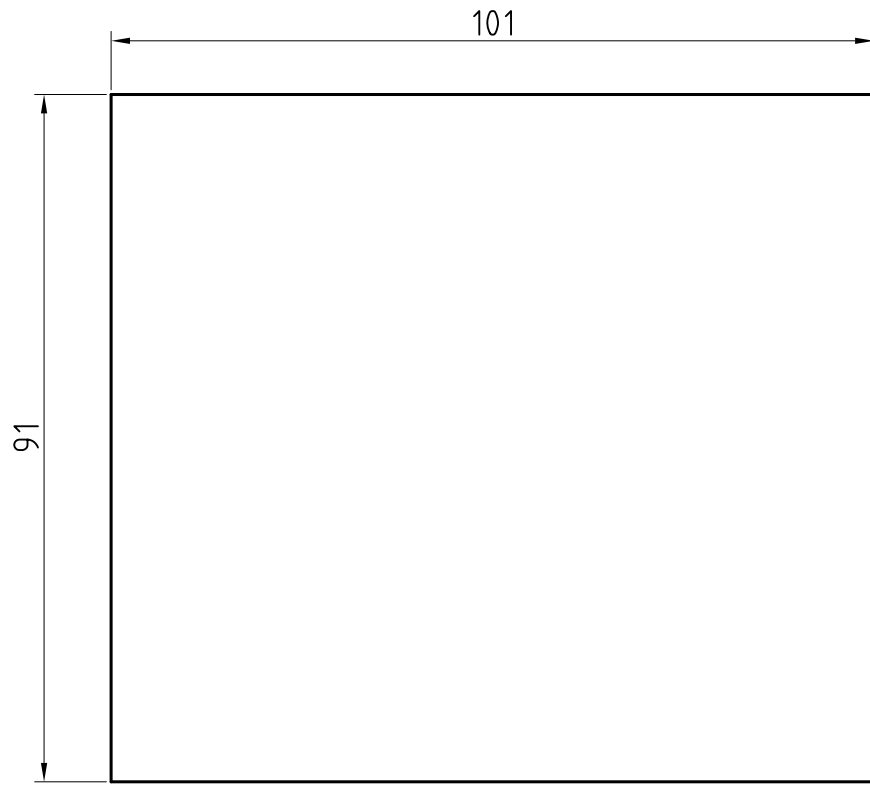


To build this wind turbine, we used an old treadmill motor that looks like this. Although the rest of these directions assume that you are using the same motor, it is possible to adapt them to suit your own motor. For a guide on whether or not your motor is suitable for electricity generation, see our guide here: www.leproject.org/wind-turbine-motor-guide

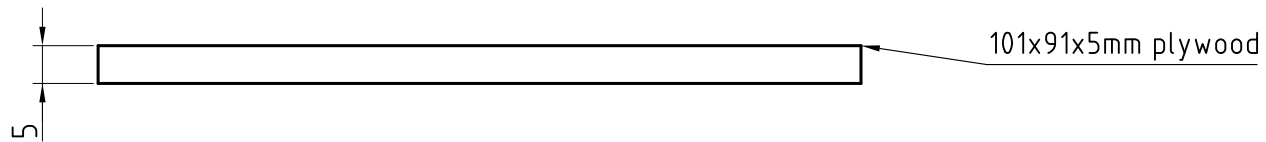




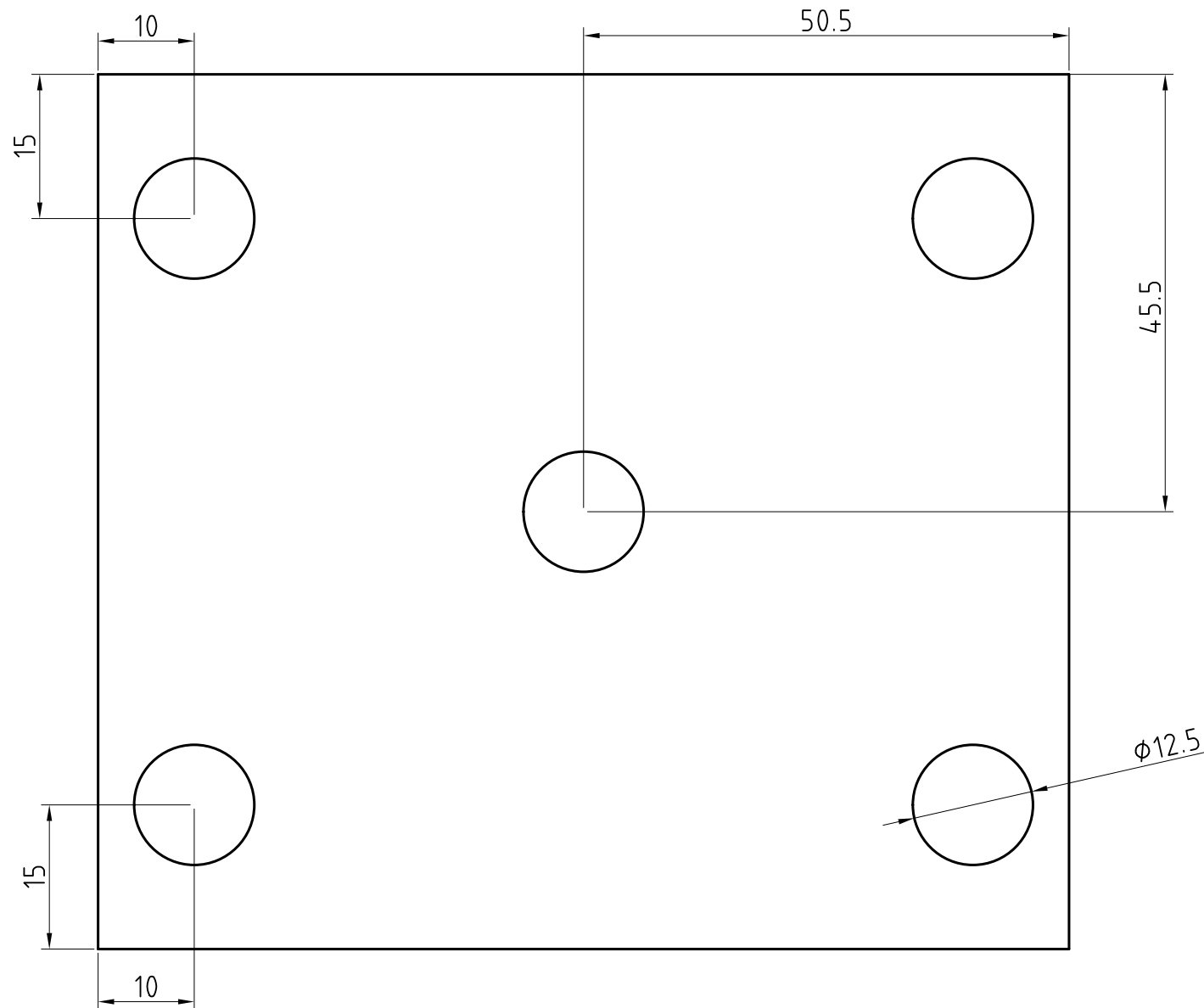
Drill a 4mm hole in the flat side of the motor shaft, 15mm away from the motor body.

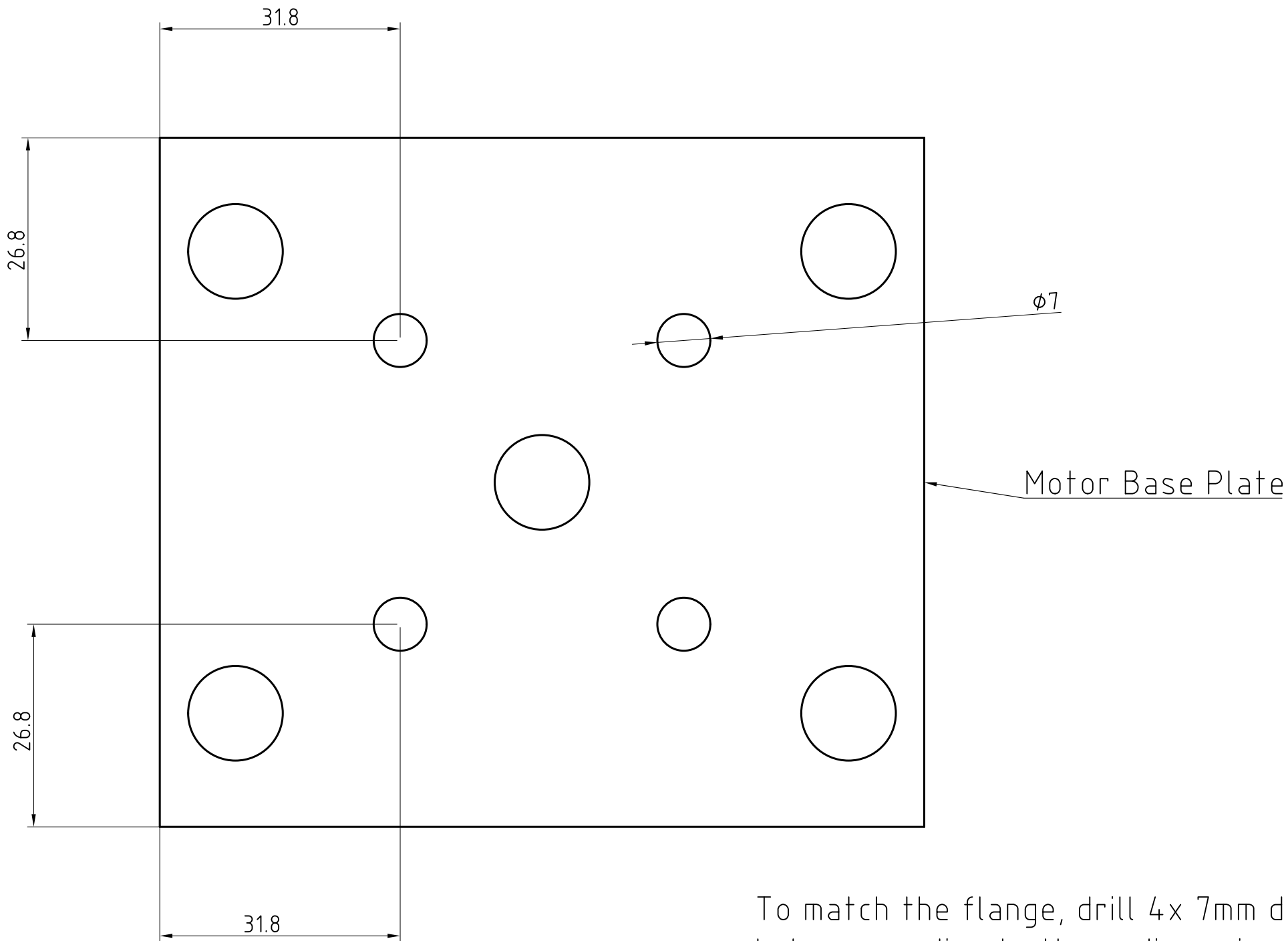


Next we need a way to fasten the motor down.
Cut a piece of 5mm plywood to this size.

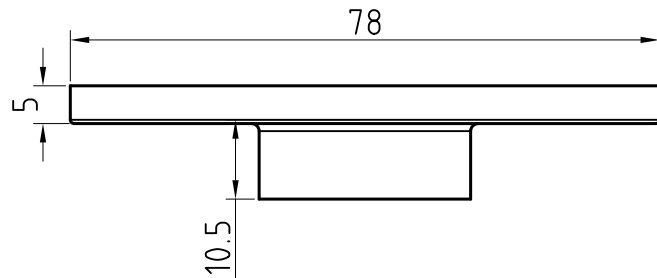
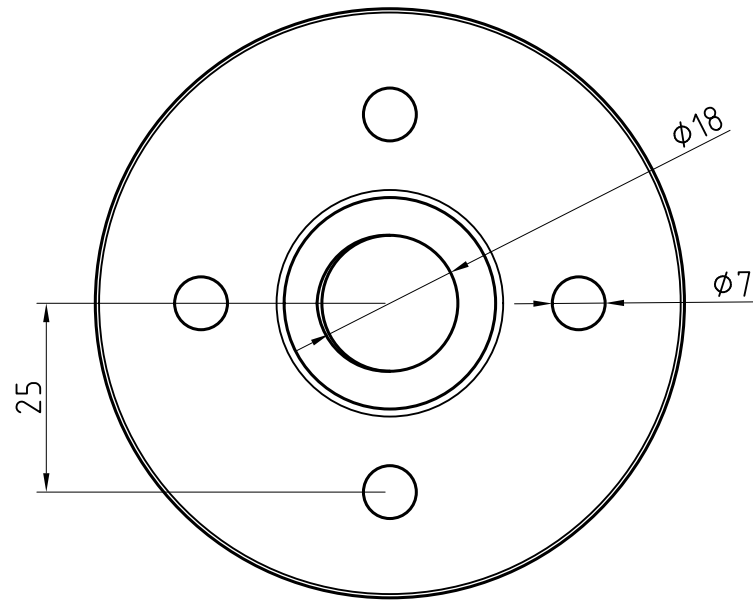


The holes to mount our motor are $\frac{1}{2}$ inch diameter (approx 12.5mm), so we need to drill 4 holes to match. The hole in the middle is just so that the wires can pass through.



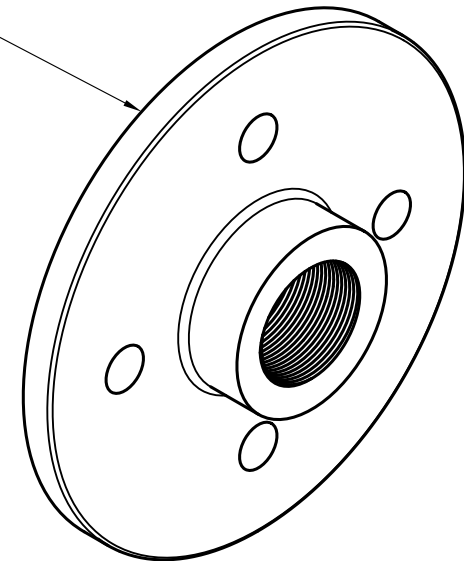


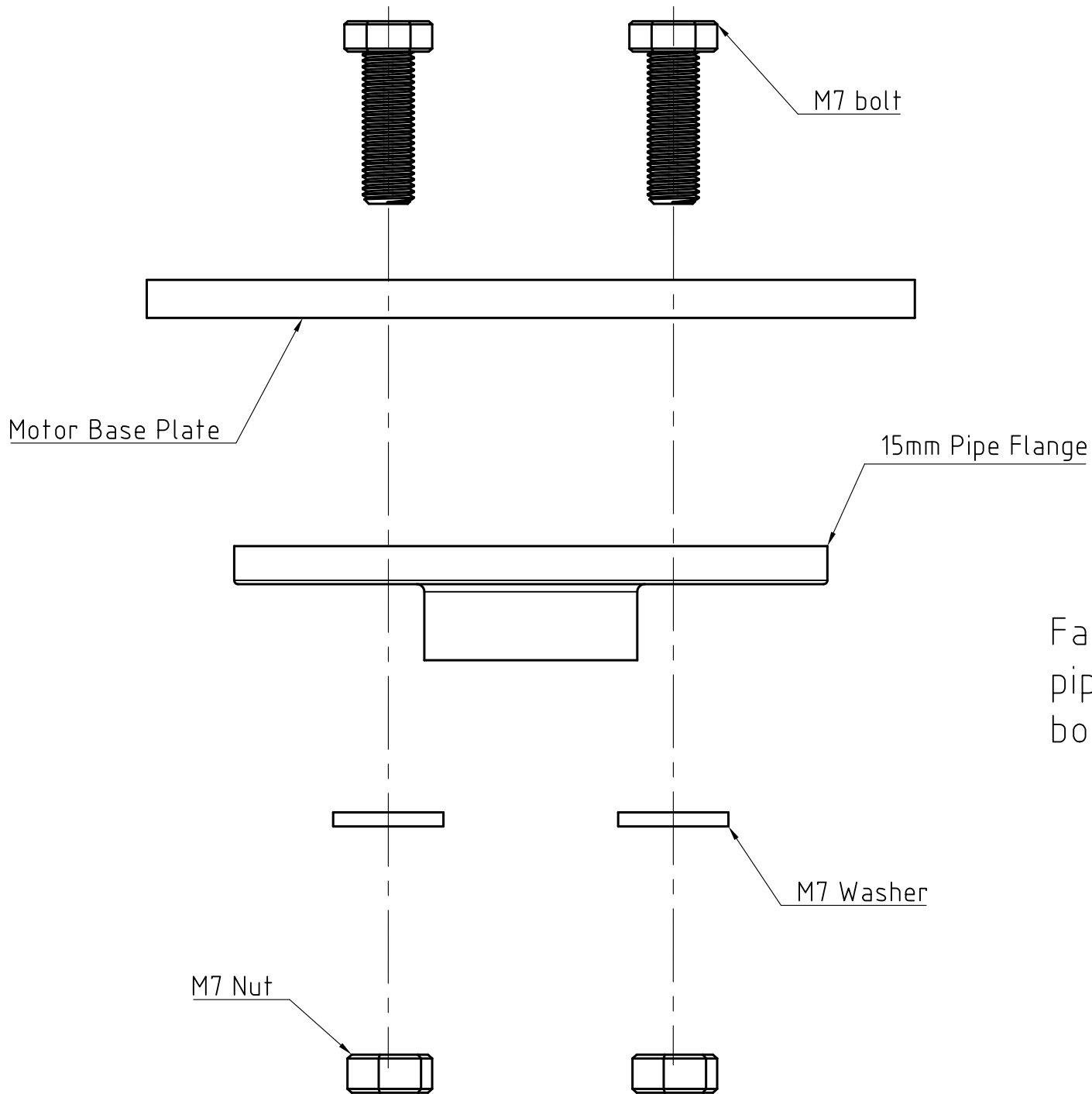
To match the flange, drill 4x 7mm diameter holes according to these dimensions.



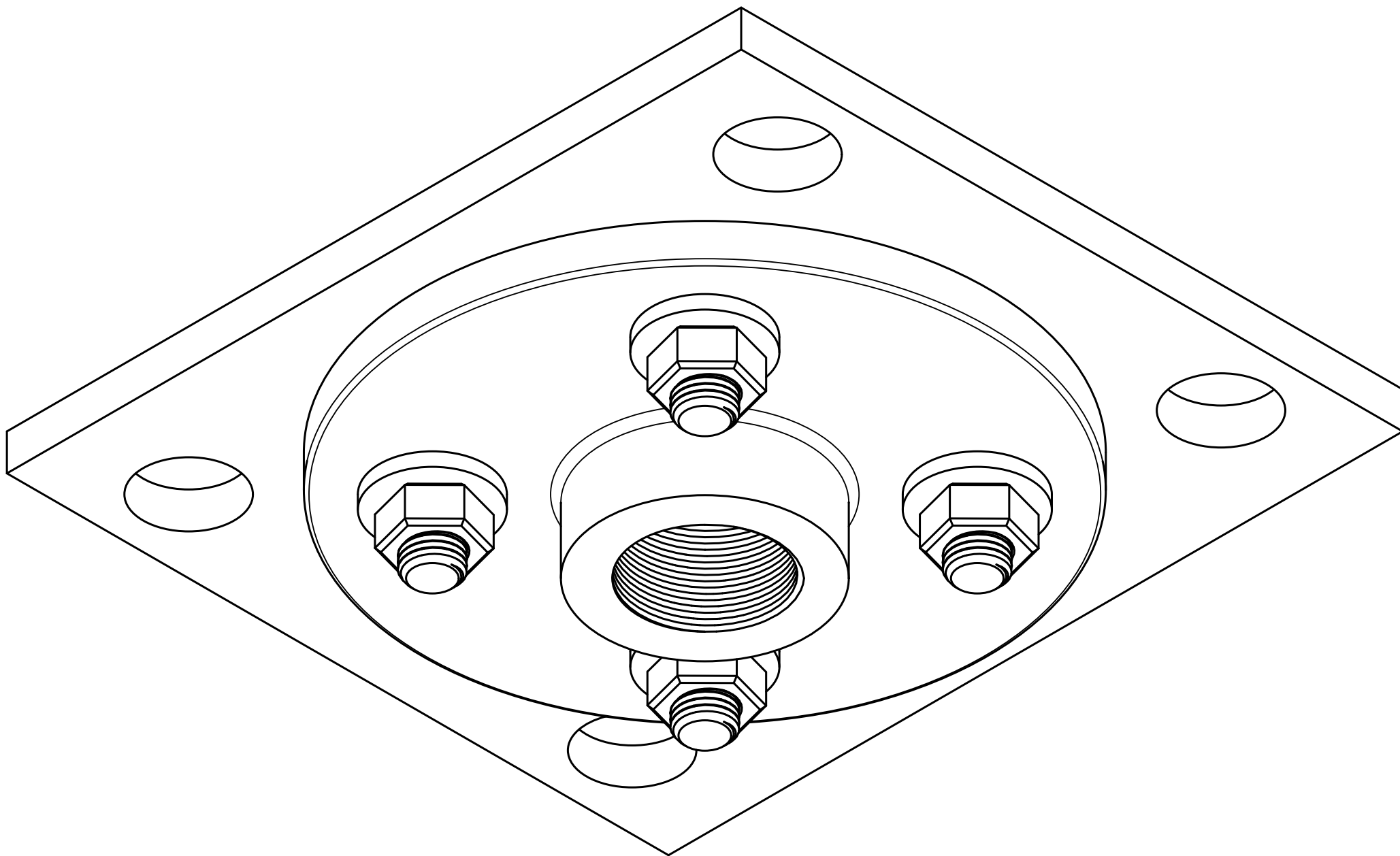
We also need to drill the base plate to attach an off-the-shelf 15mm pipe flange.

15mm Pipe Flange

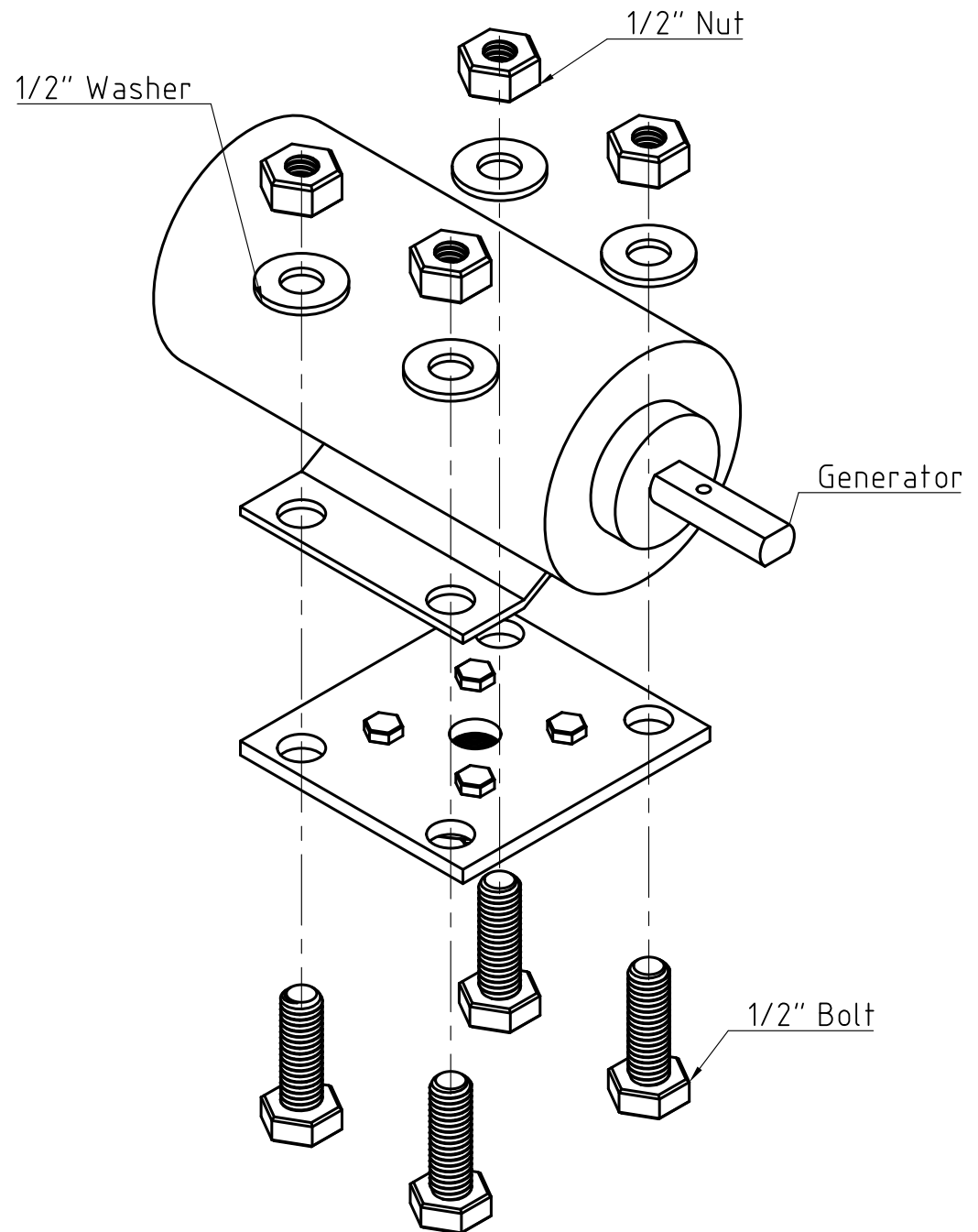


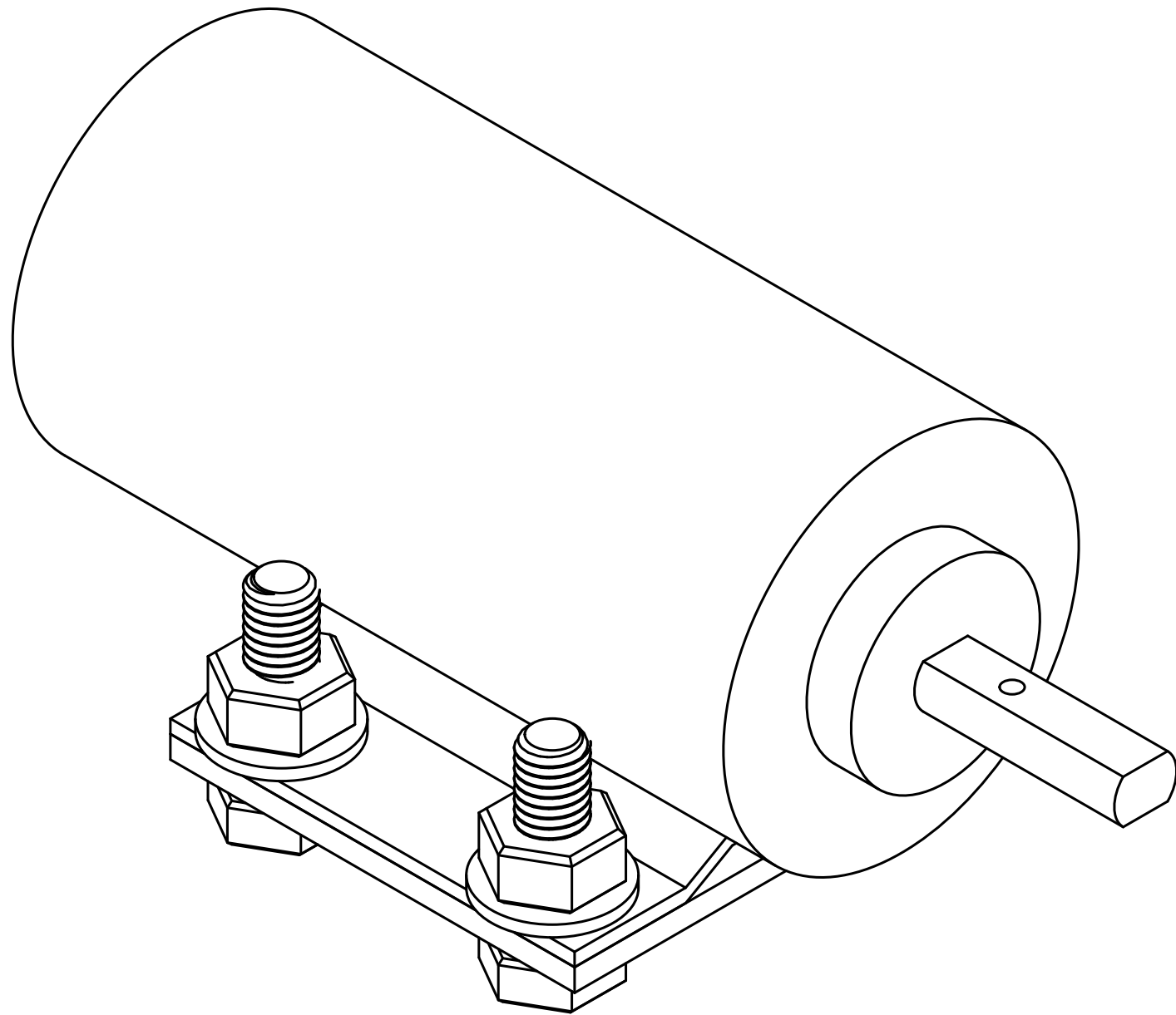


Fasten the base plate to the pipe flange using M7x20mm bolts, nuts and washers.

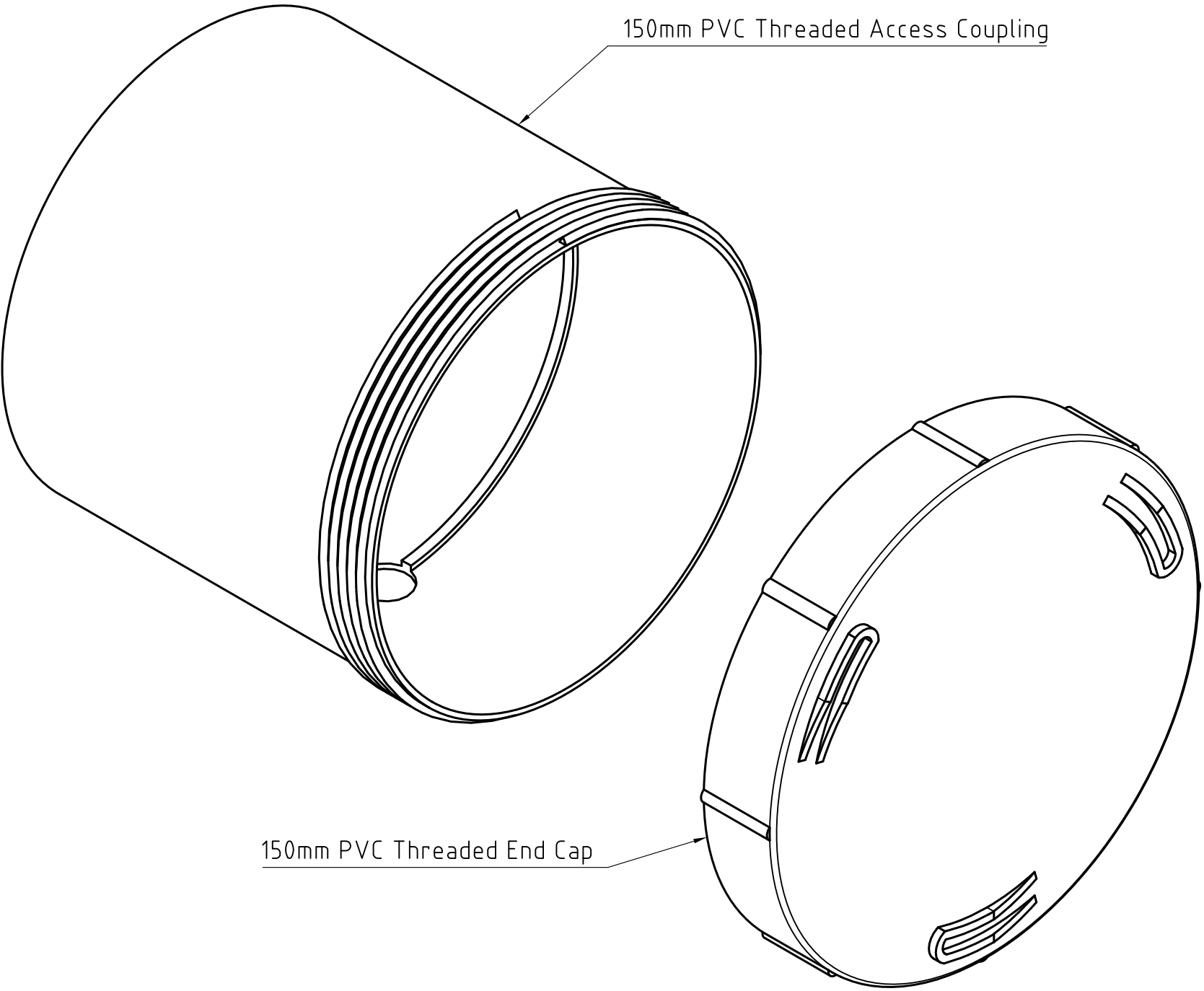


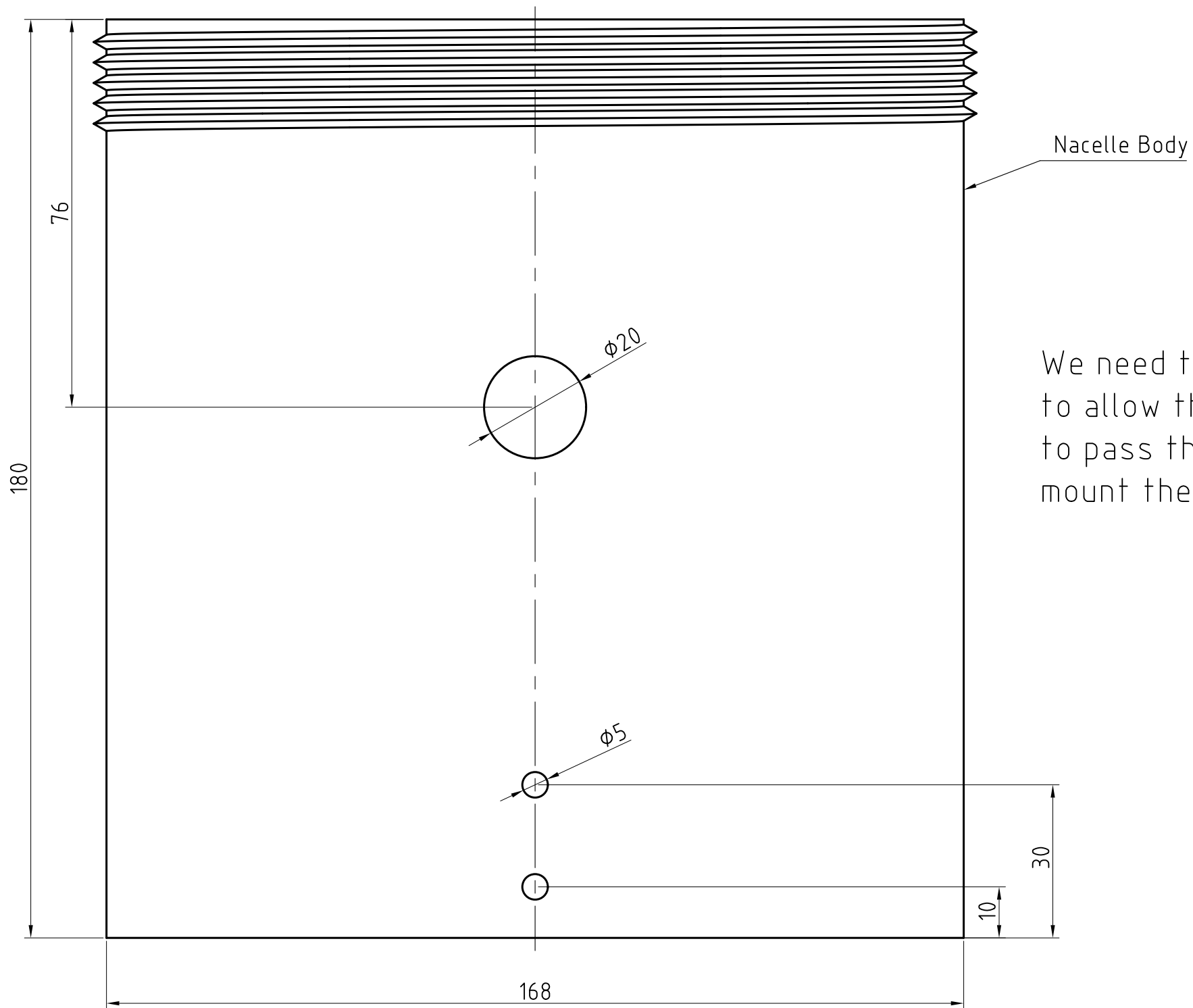
Fasten the generator to the base plate assembly using $\frac{1}{2}$ "x1.5" bolts, nuts and washers.



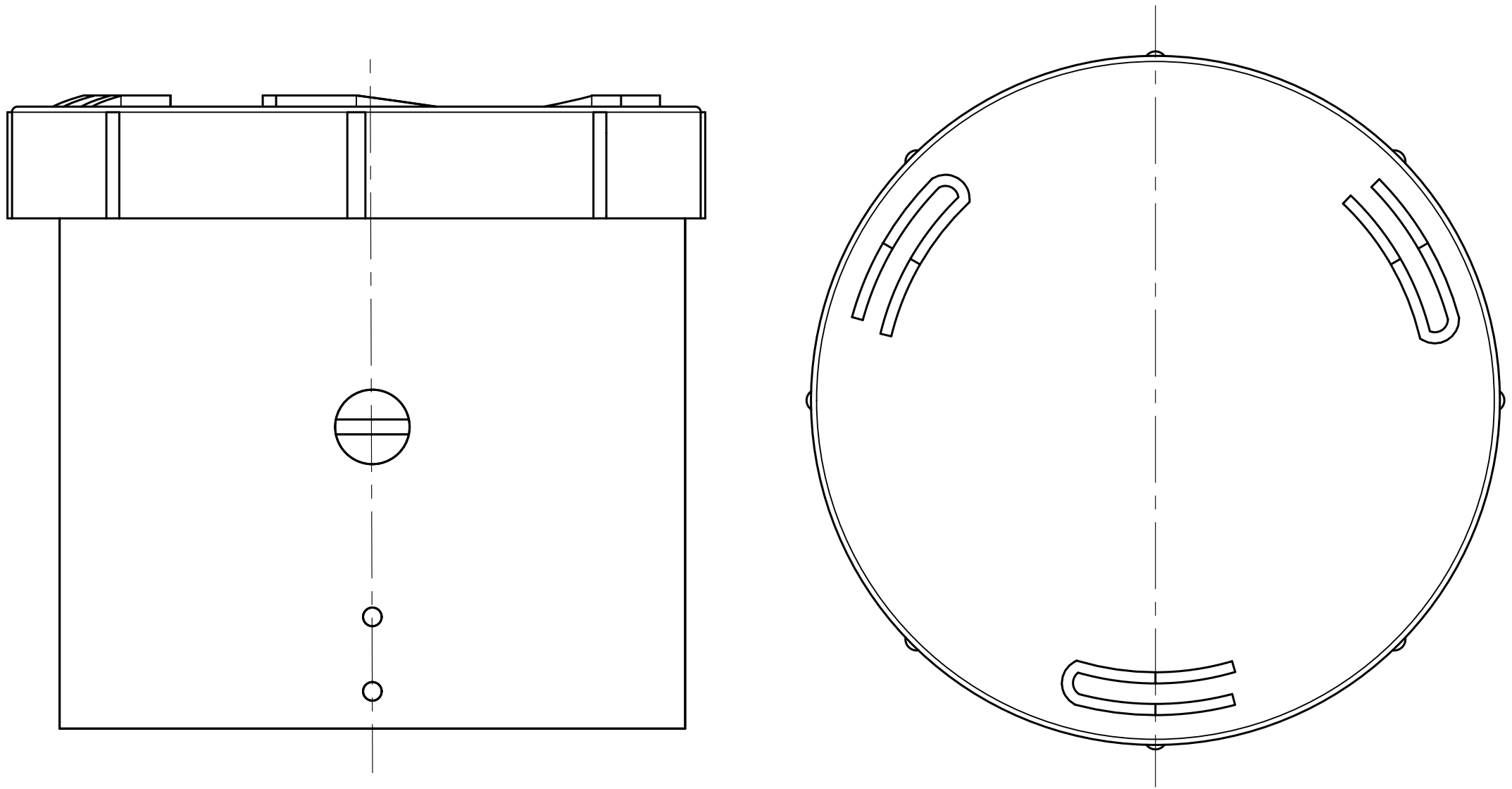


To keep the motor protected from rain, we use a threaded section of 150mm PVC and end cap.

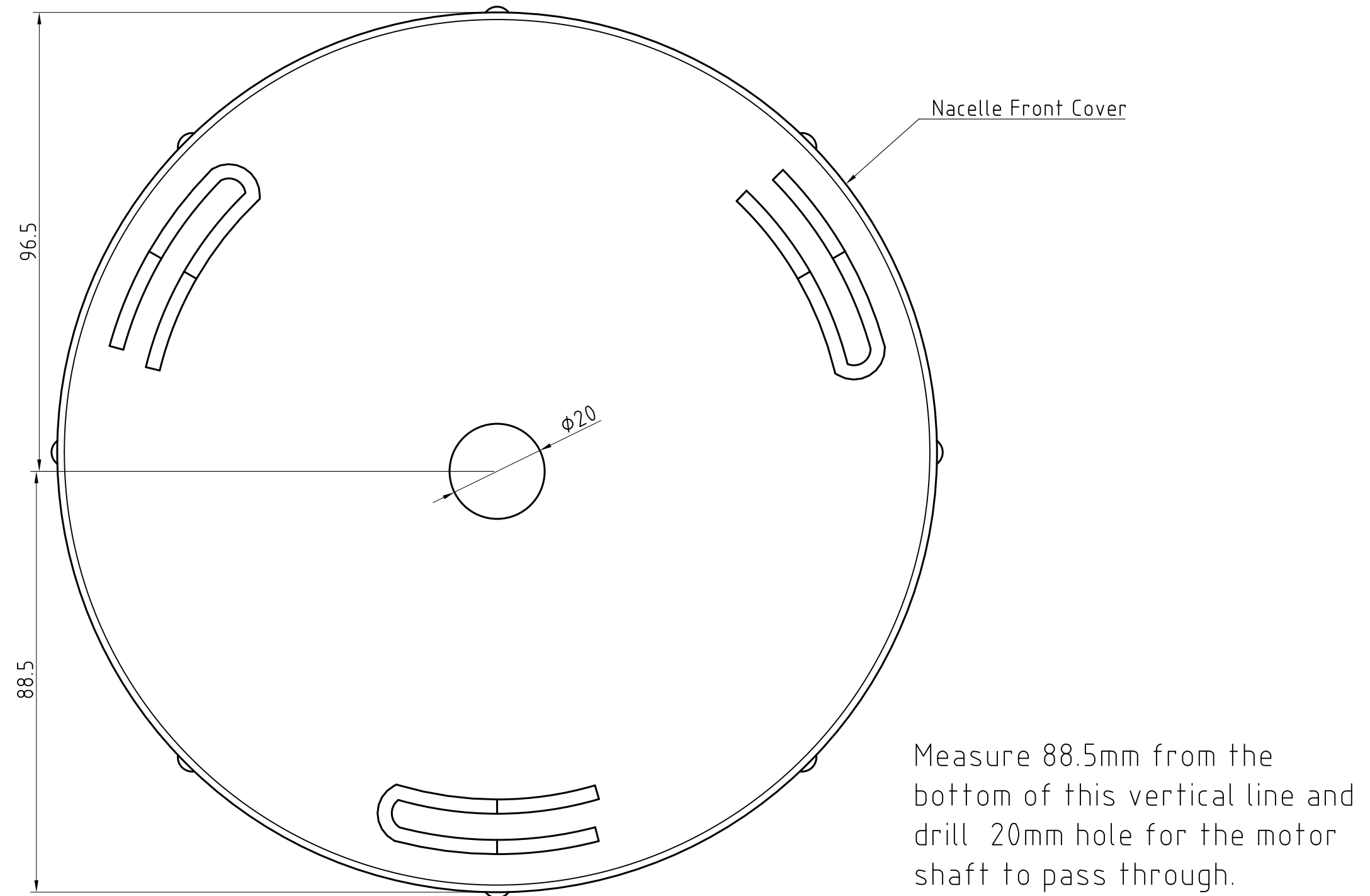




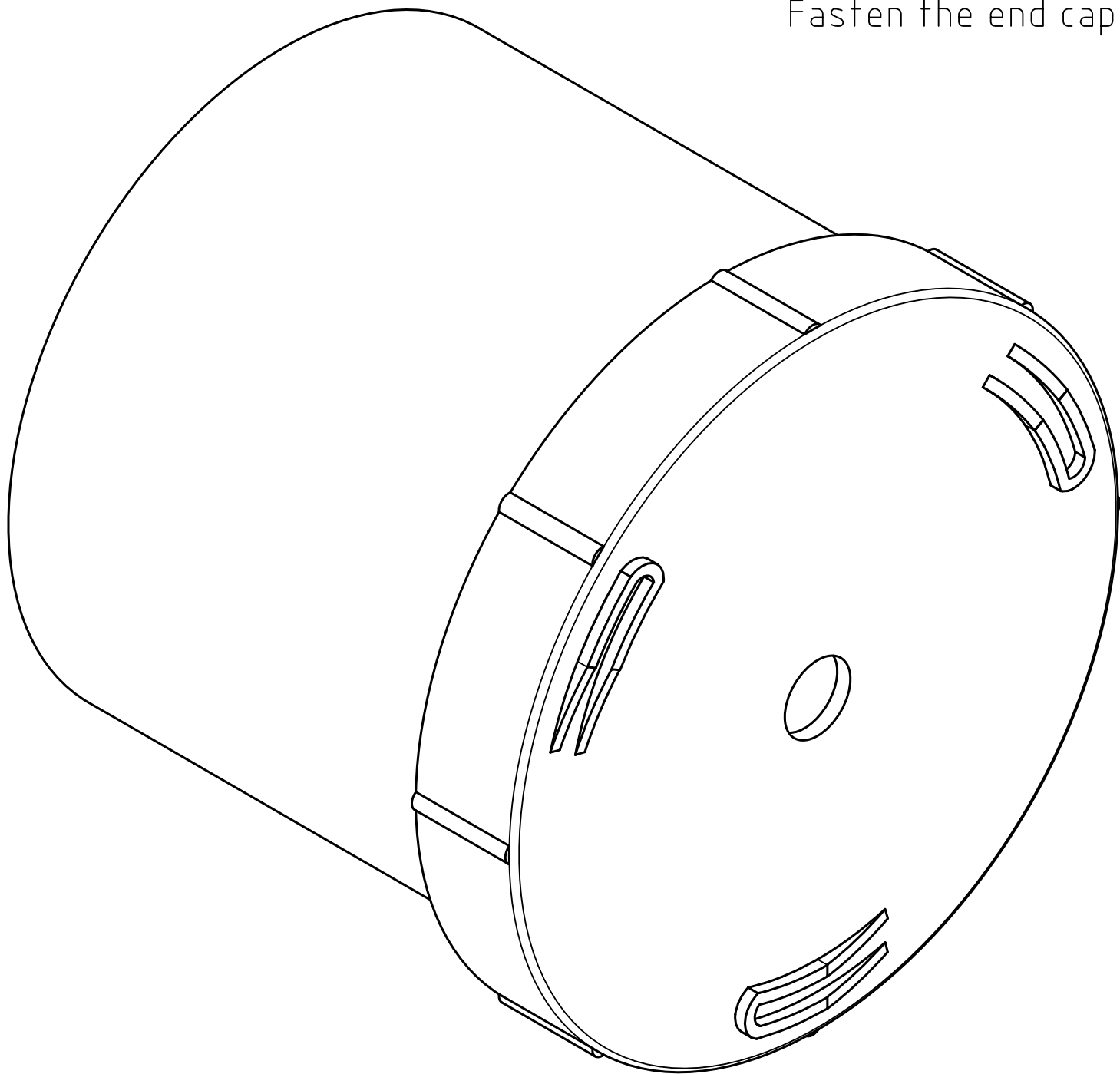
We need to drill holes to allow the yaw shaft to pass through, and to mount the tail assembly.

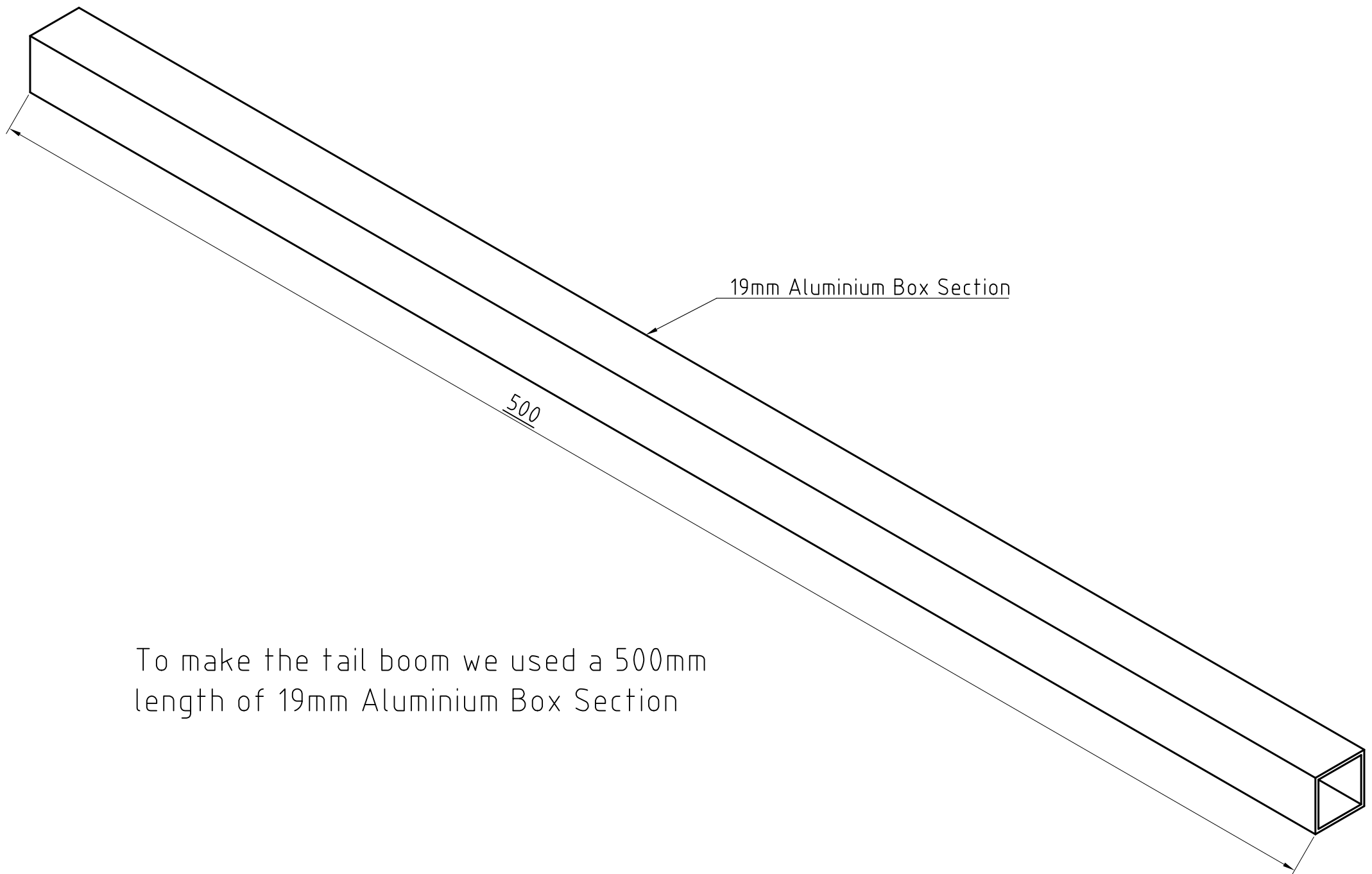


The hole in the end cap is slightly off-centre due to the dimensions of the motor. To ensure it is drilled in the correct place, first fasten the end cap to the coupling and take note which direction the end cap sits when fully secure. Mark out a vertical line to make it clear.



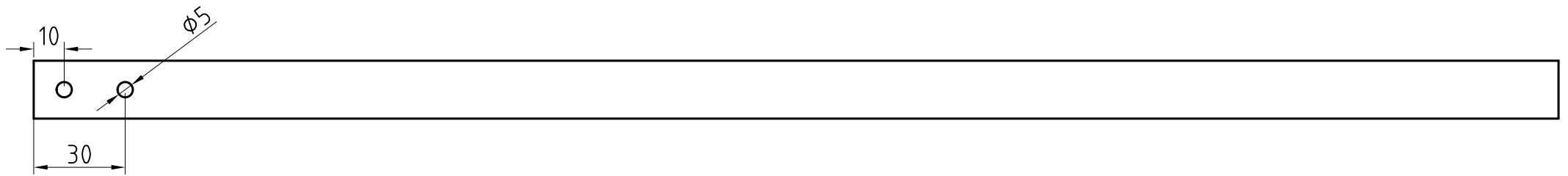
Fasten the end cap and the coupling together.



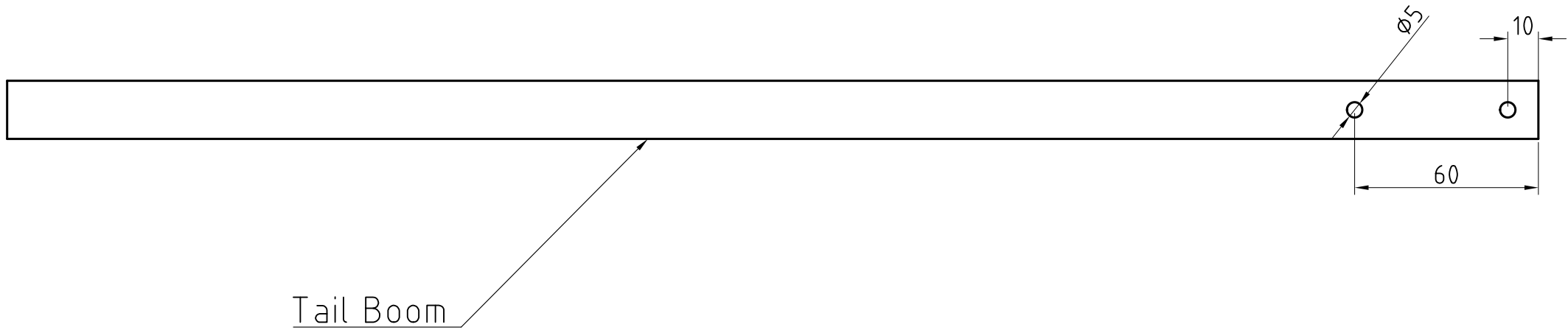


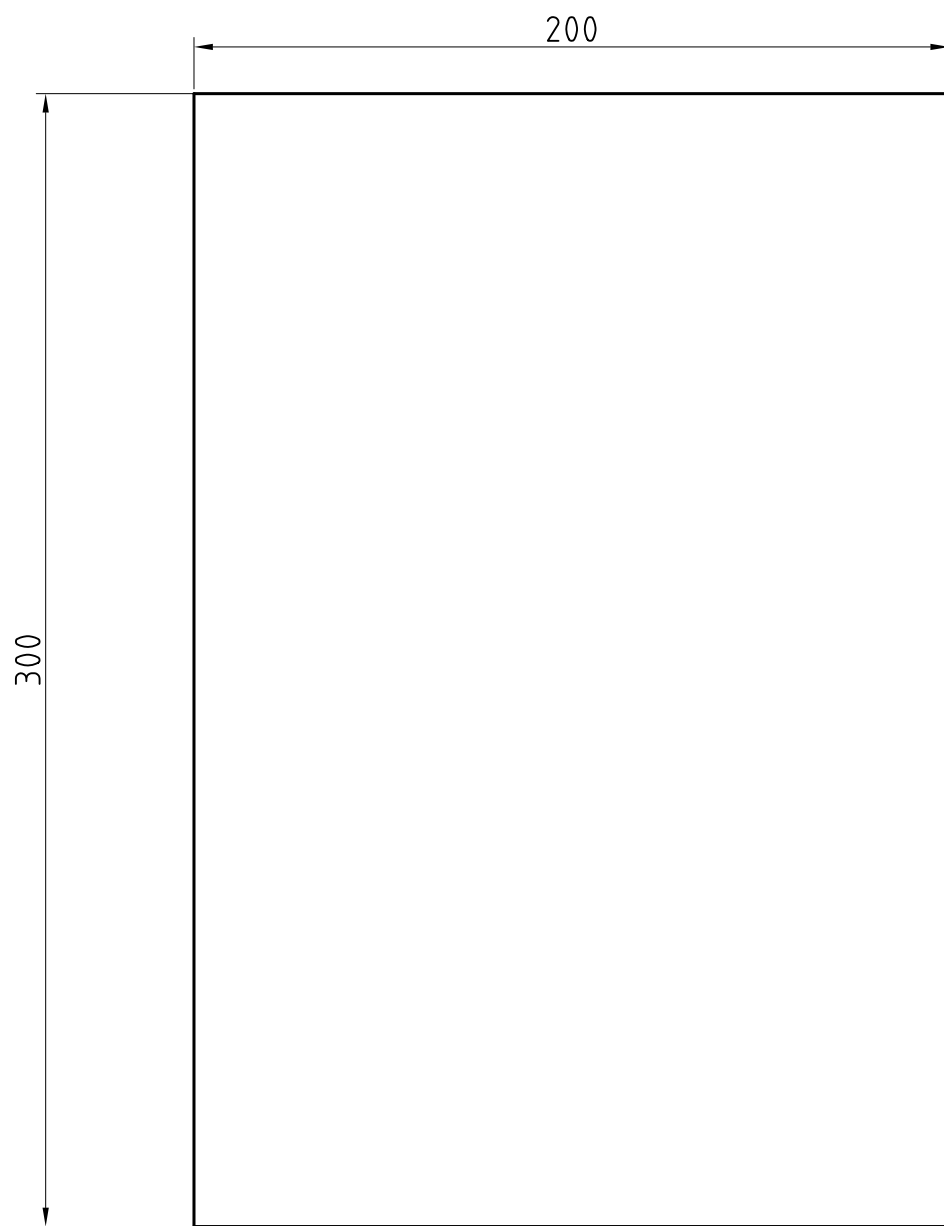
To make the tail boom we used a 500mm
length of 19mm Aluminium Box Section

Drill 2x 5mm holes all the way through:

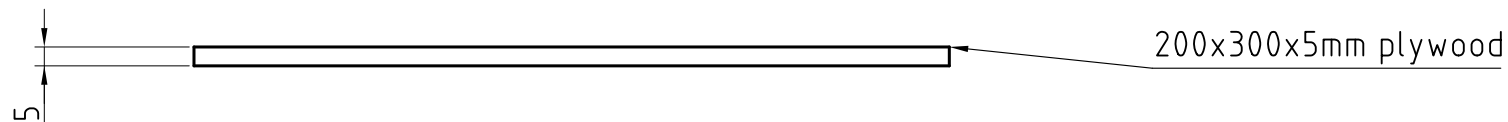


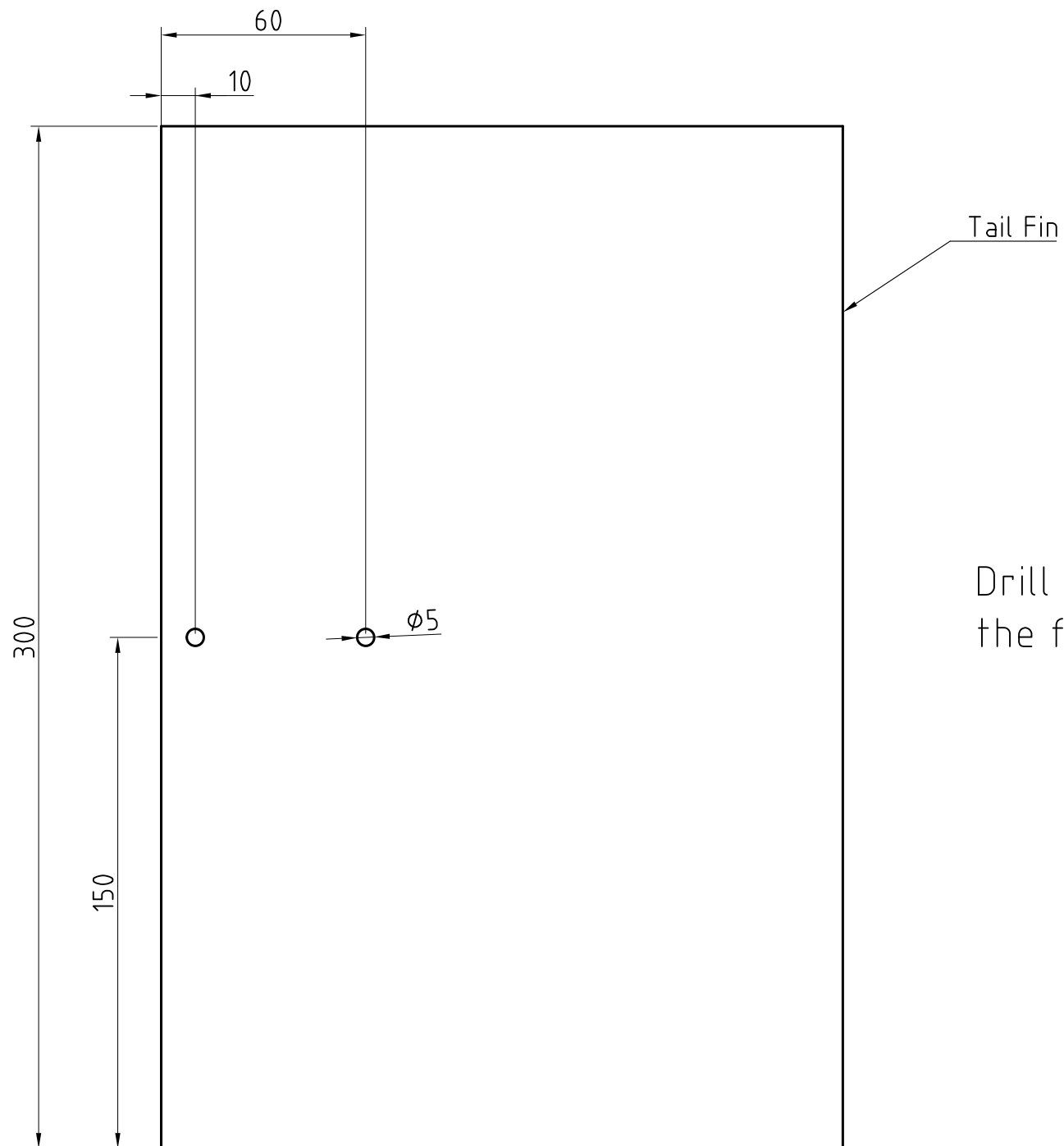
Rotate the piece by 90 degrees and drill two more holes at the other end.



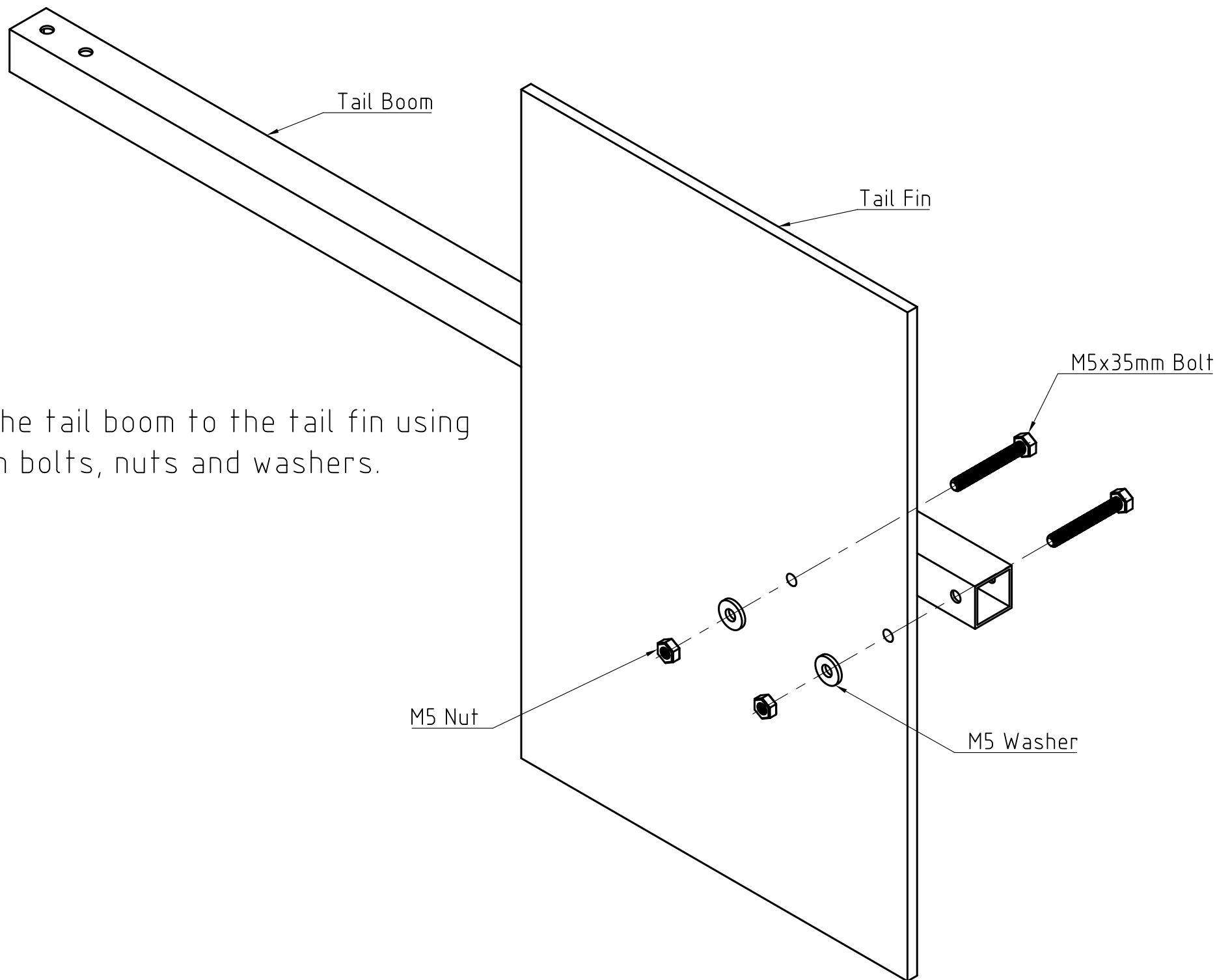


For the tail fin we need to cut another piece of 5mm plywood measuring 200x300 mm.

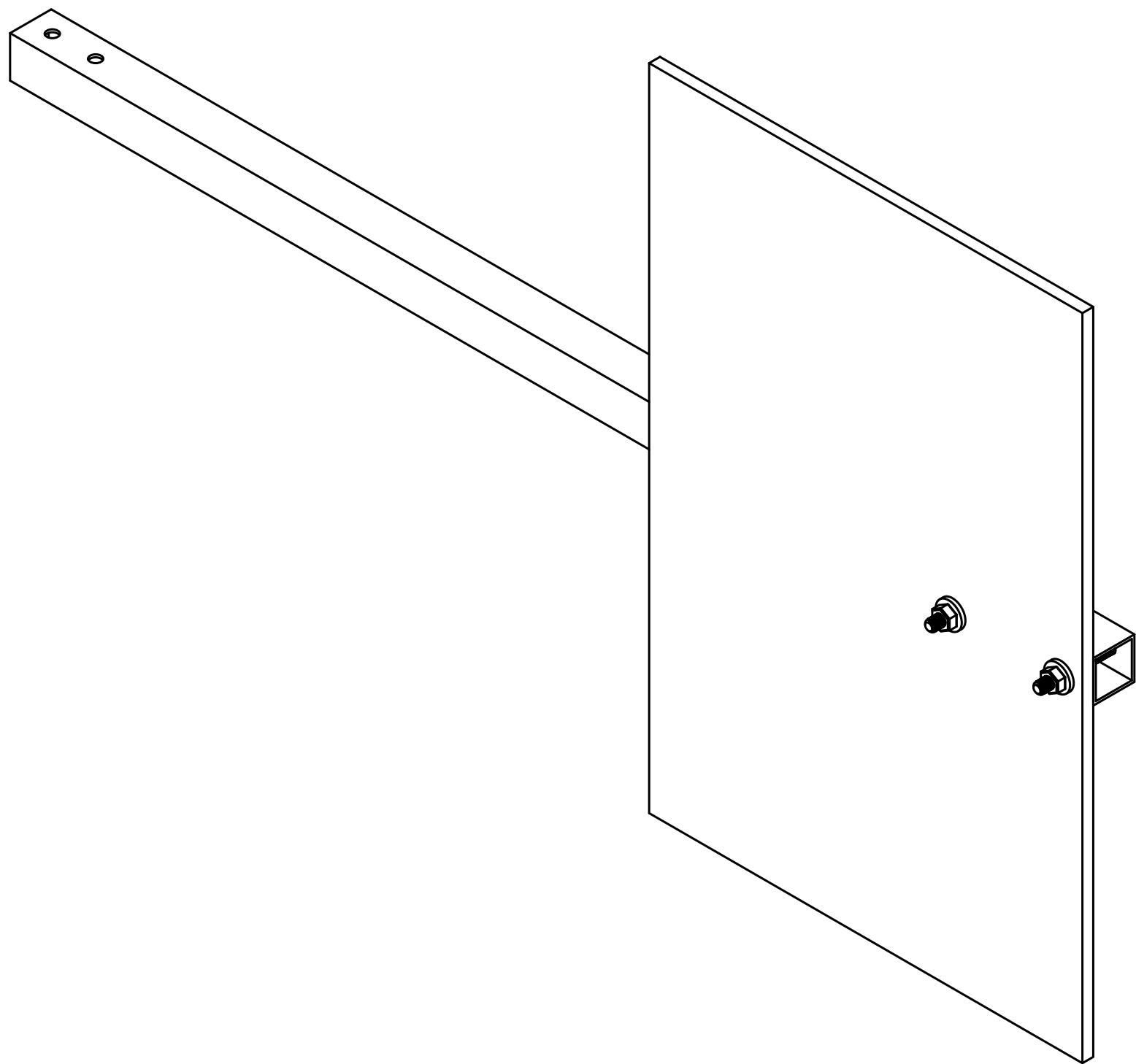


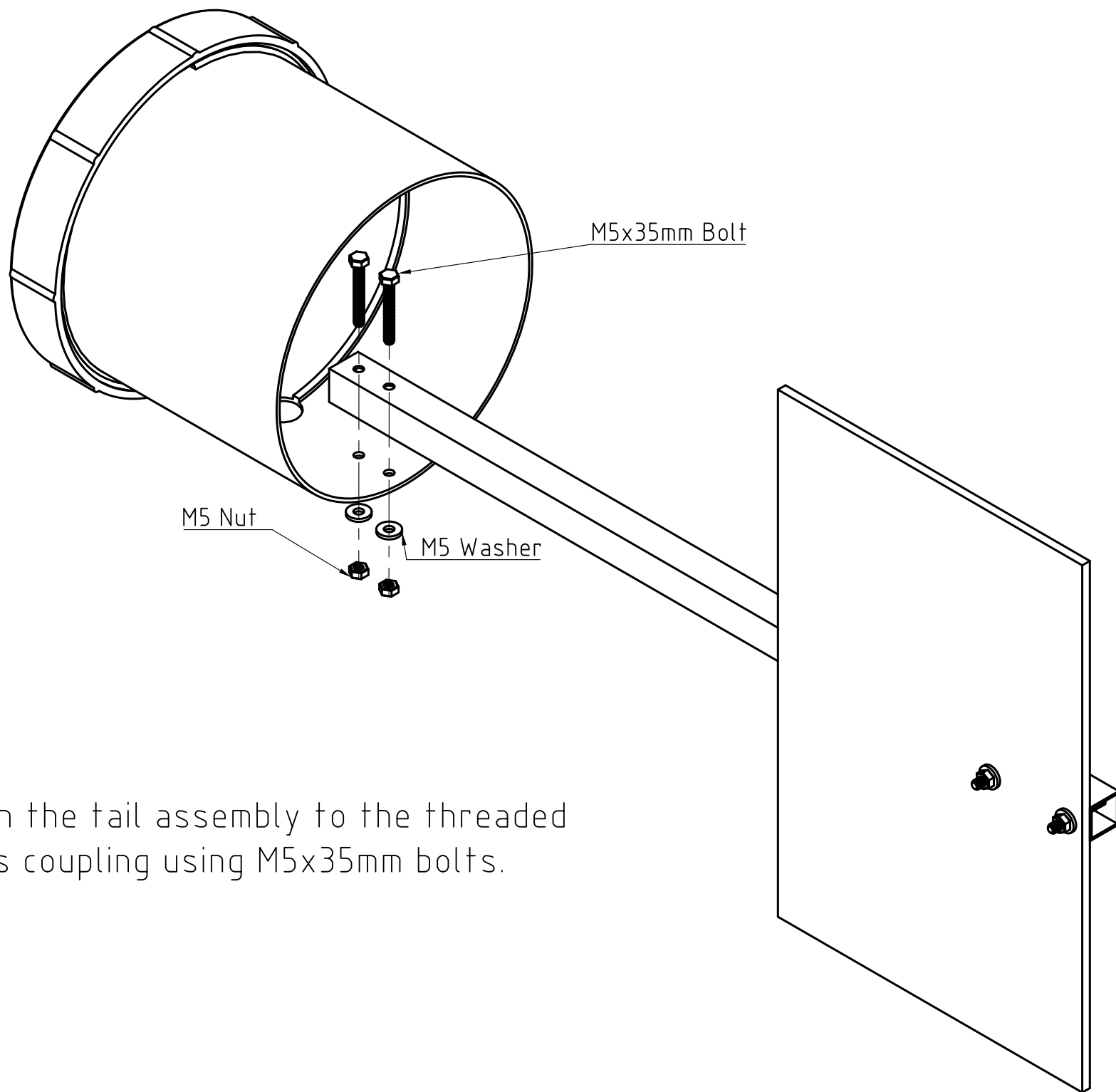


Drill 2x 5mm holes according to the following dimensions

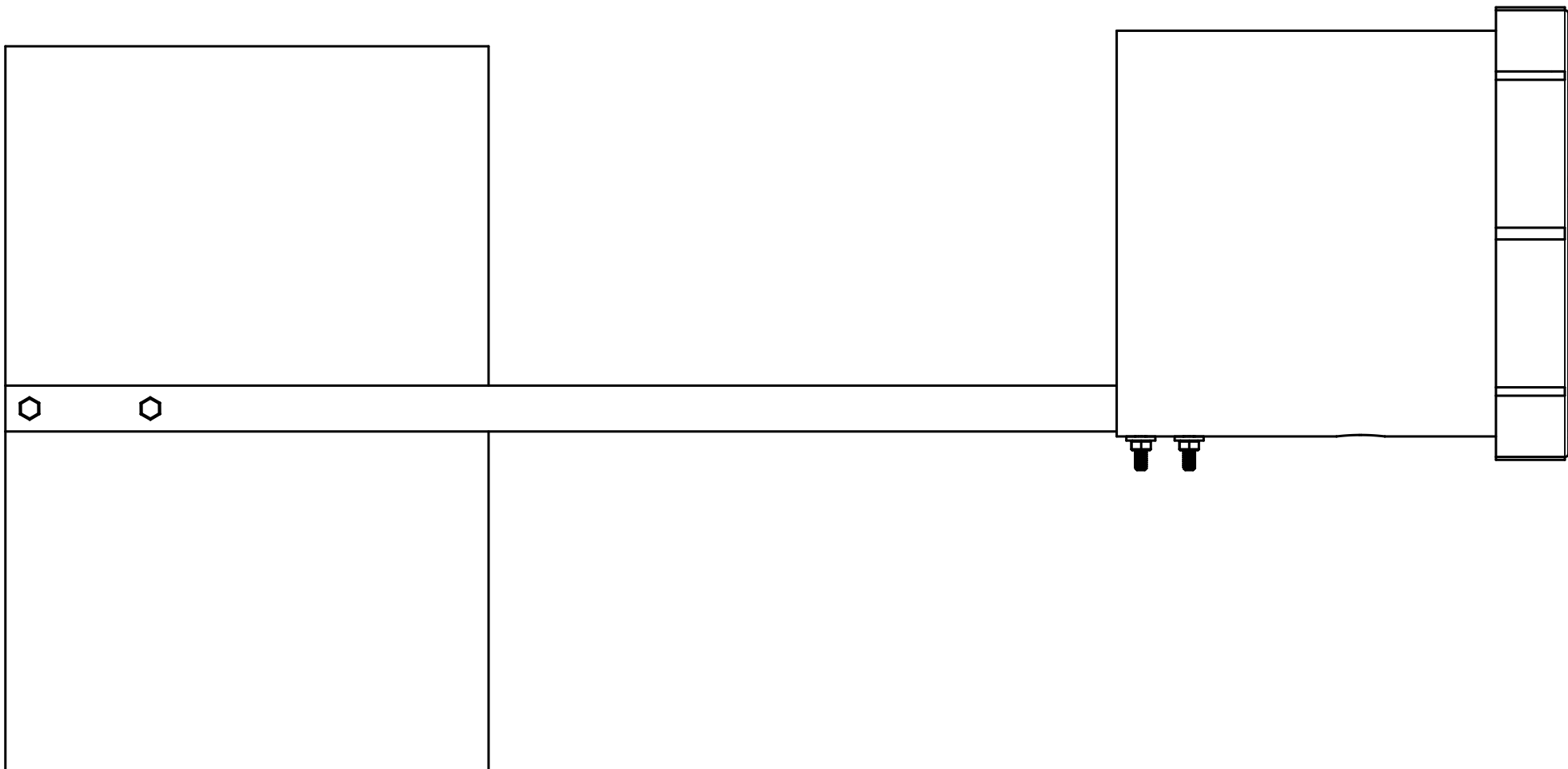


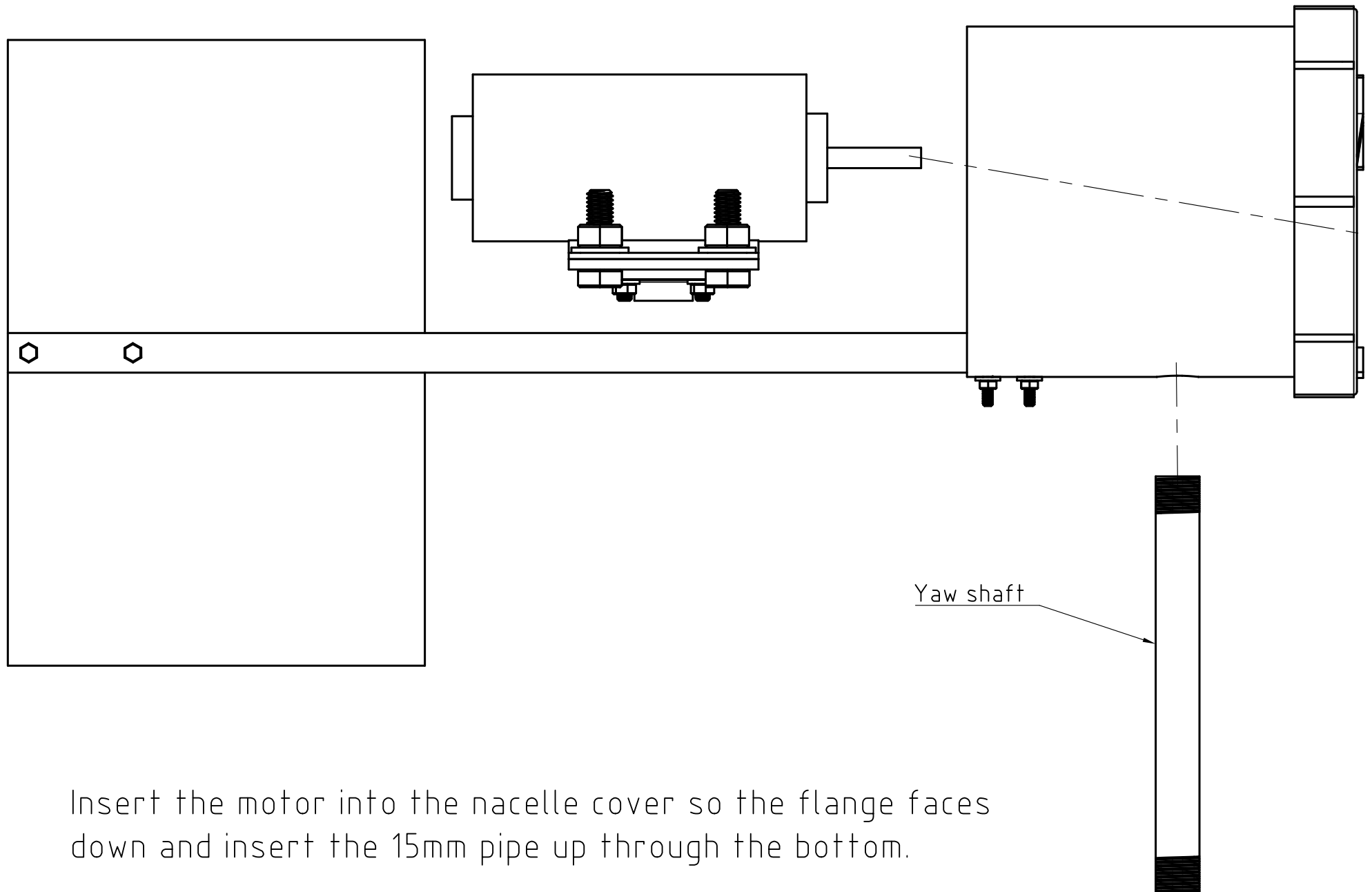
Fasten the tail boom to the tail fin using M5x35mm bolts, nuts and washers.

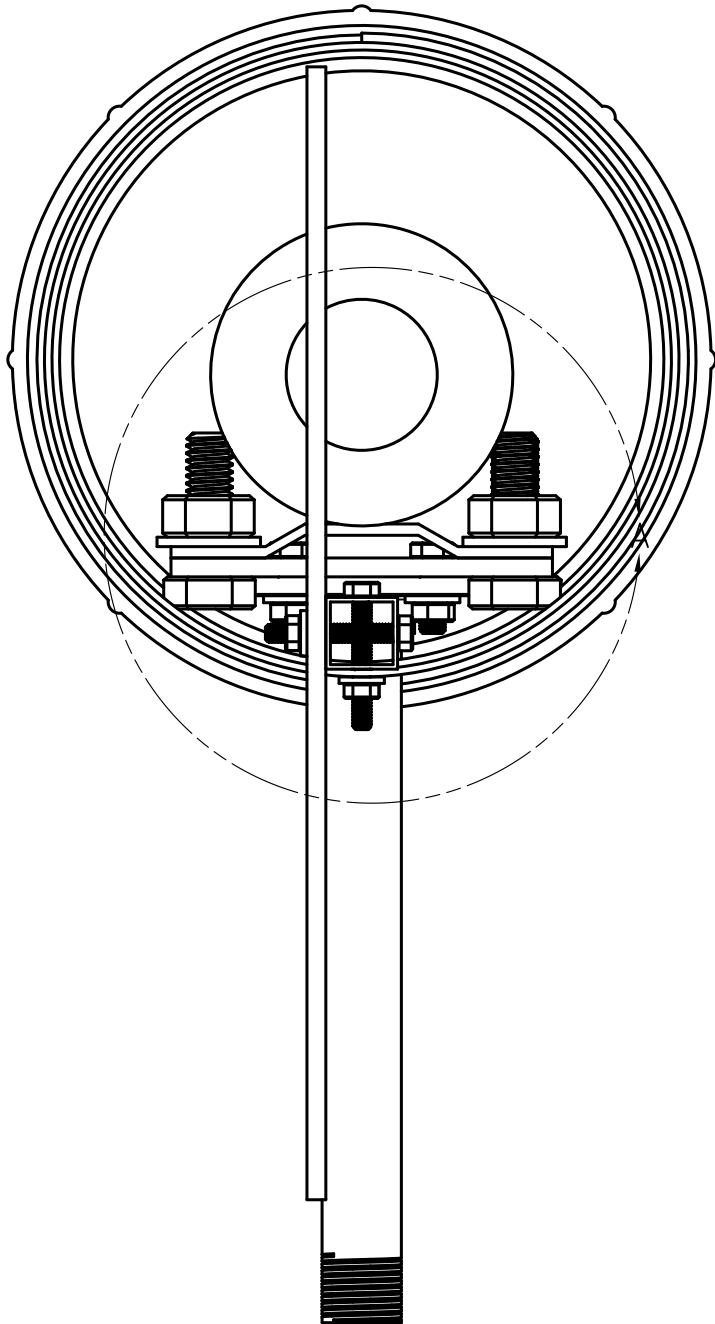




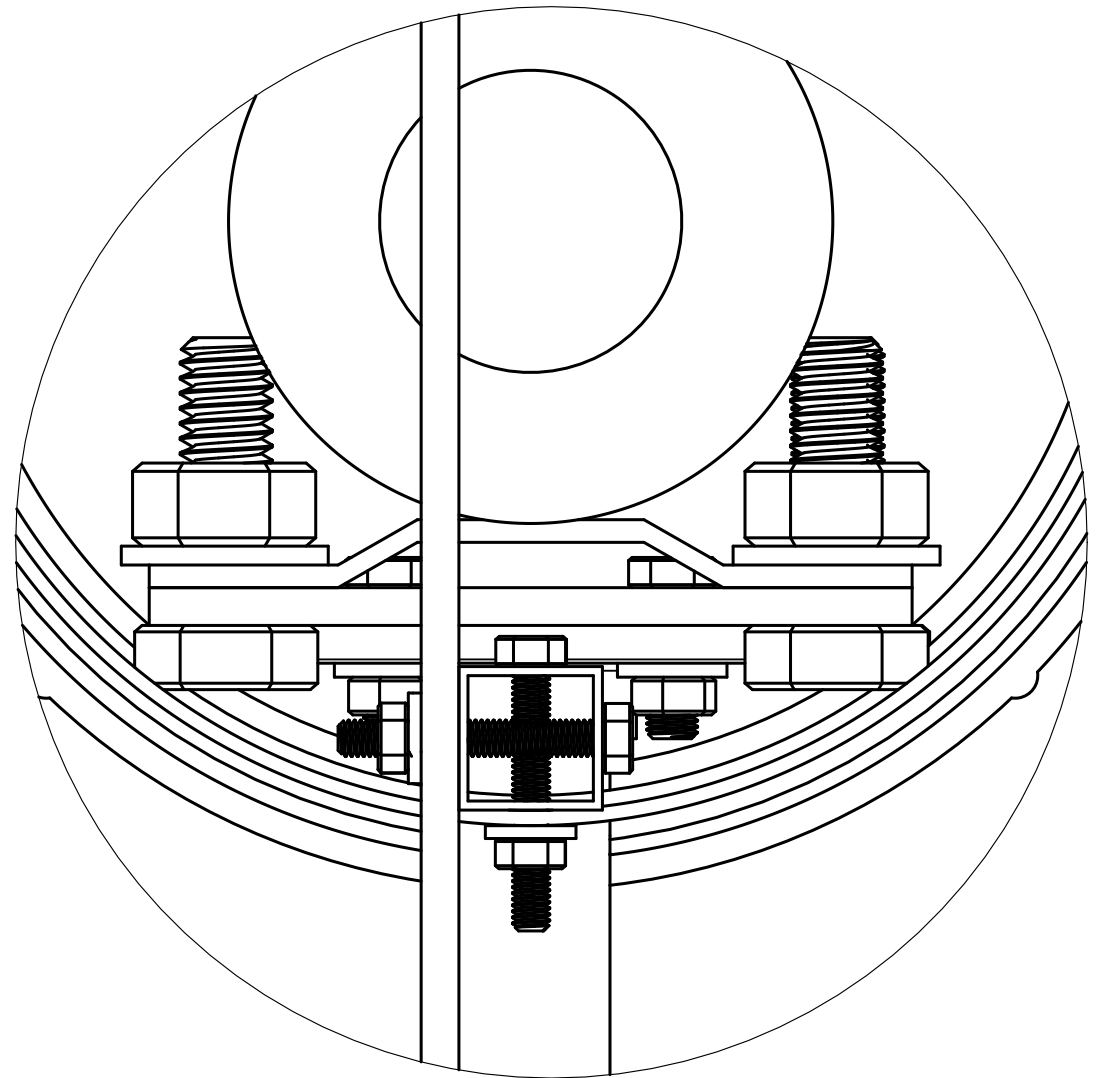
Fasten the tail assembly to the threaded access coupling using M5x35mm bolts.







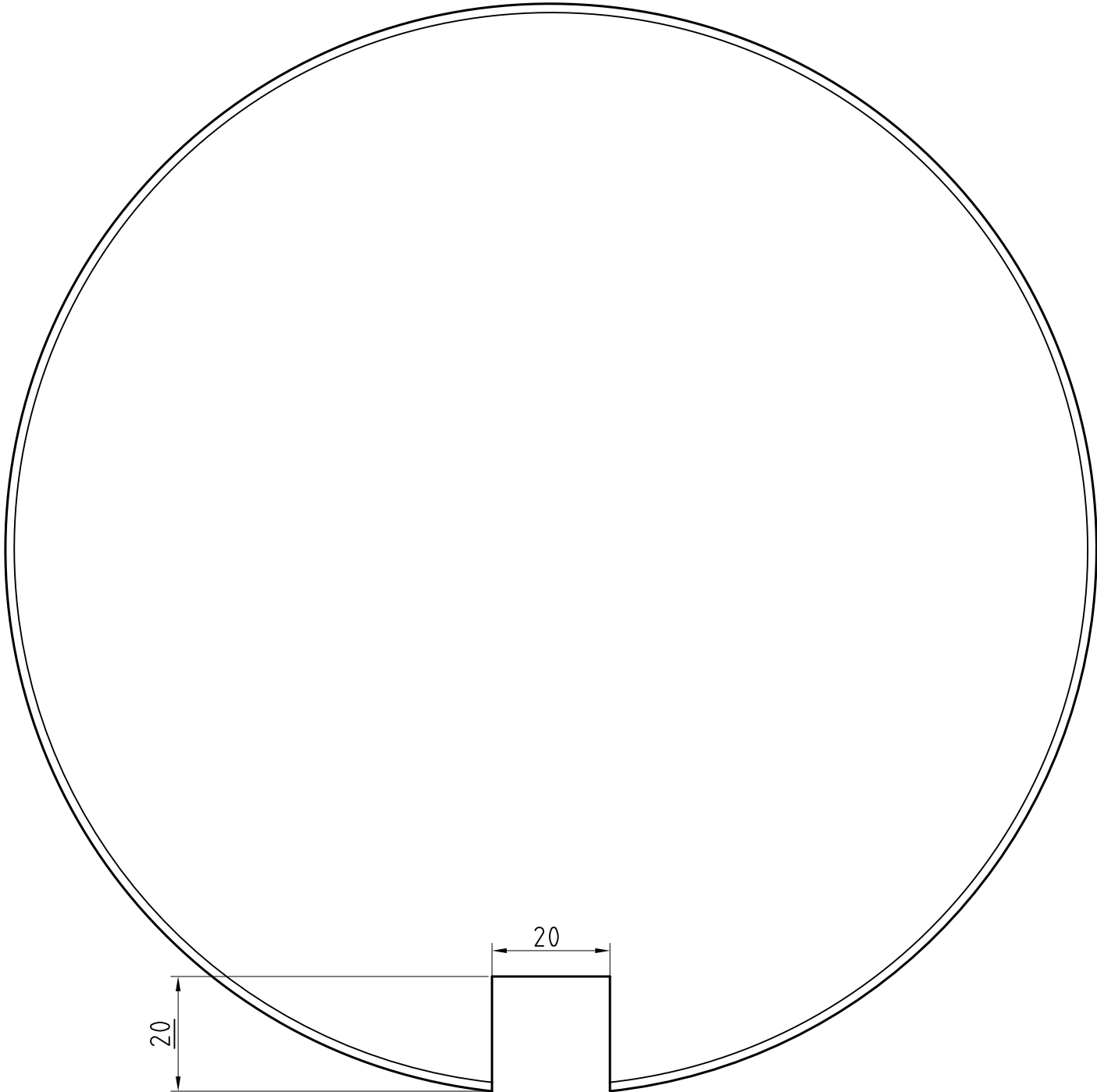
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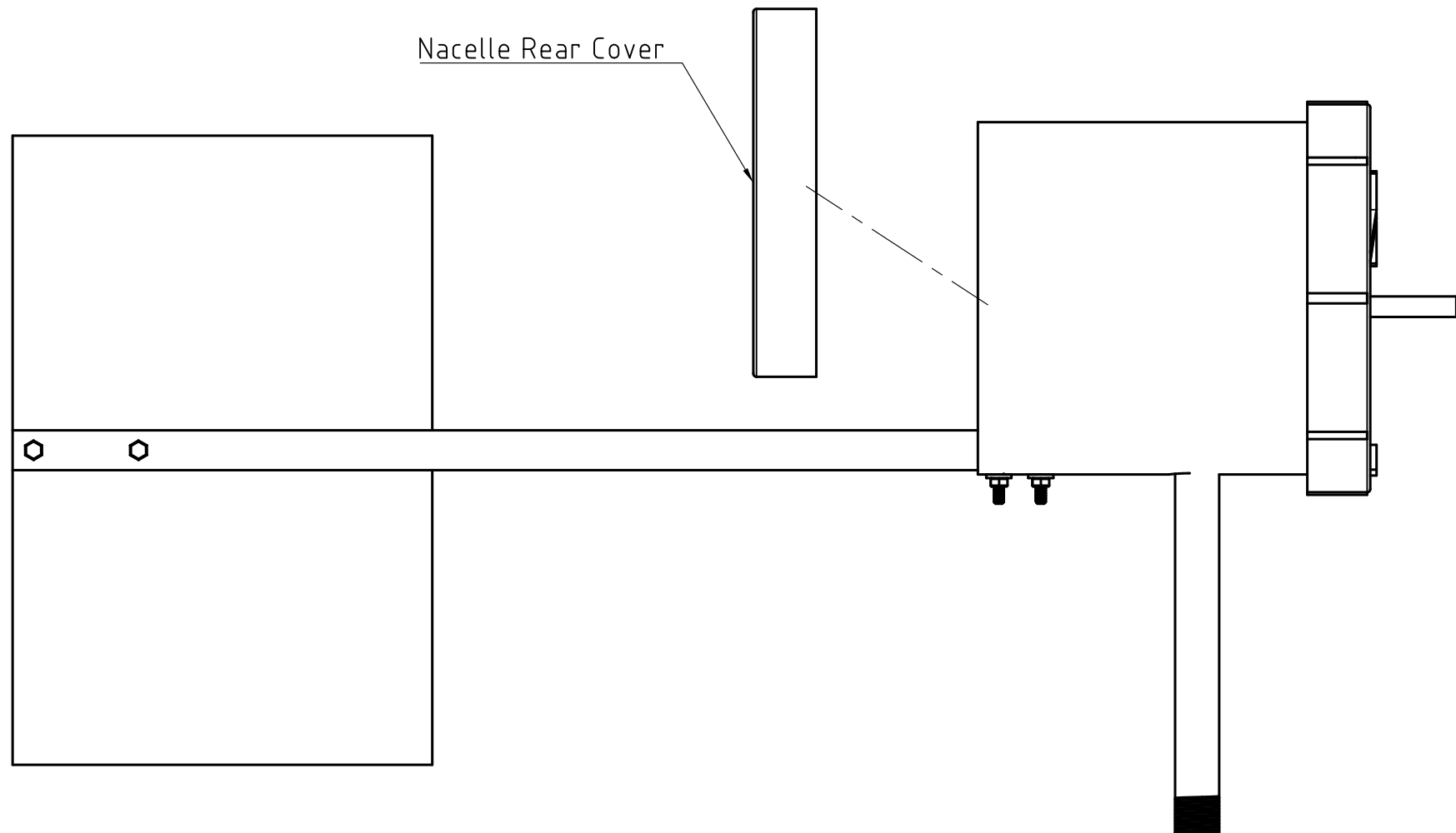


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1:1

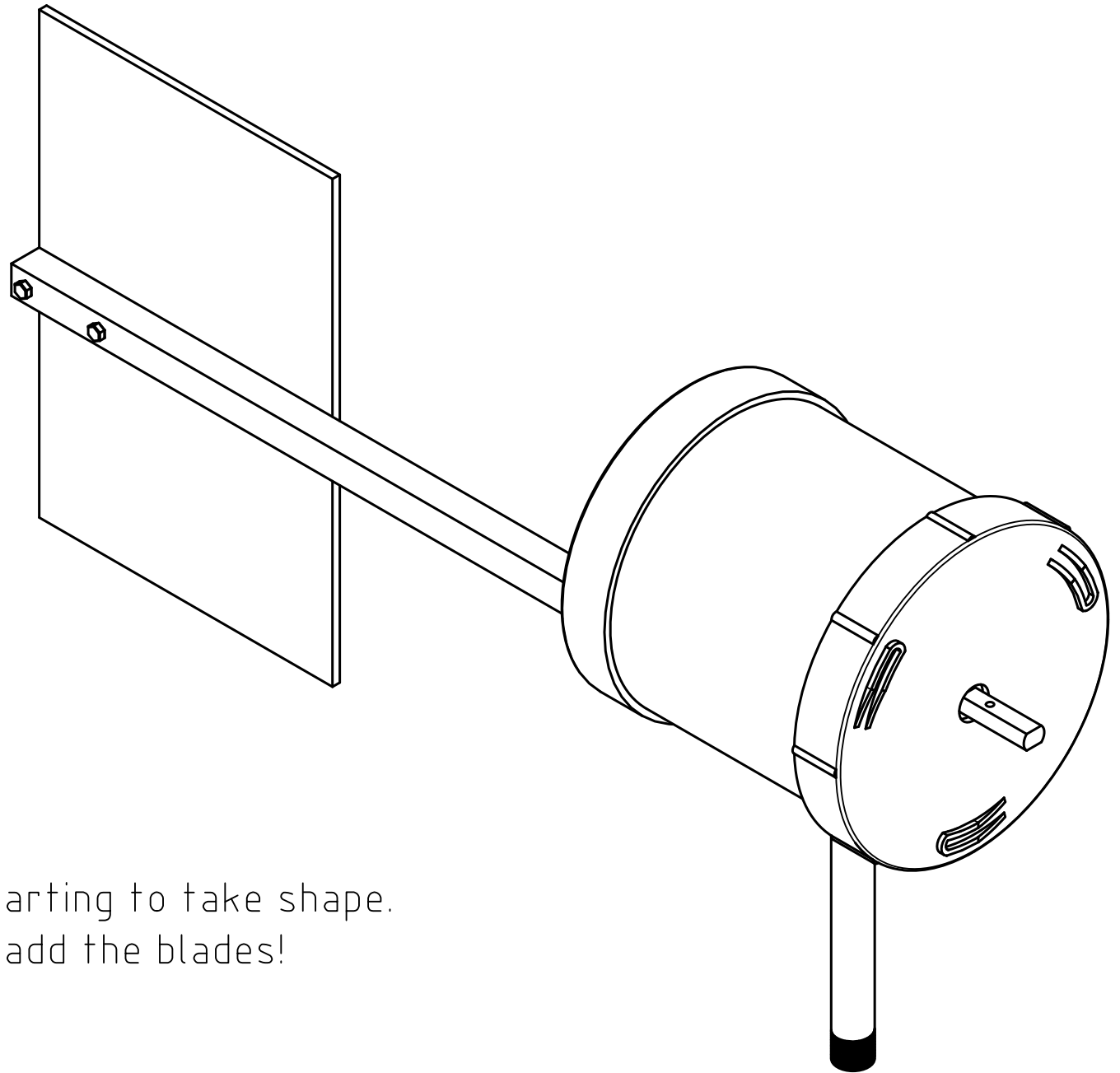
Screw the 15mm pipe into the flange as tight as possible. Note that the bolts will prevent the flange from sitting on the PVC, but this isn't a problem!

Cut out a 20mm square
section from the edge of the
non-threaded PVC end cap.

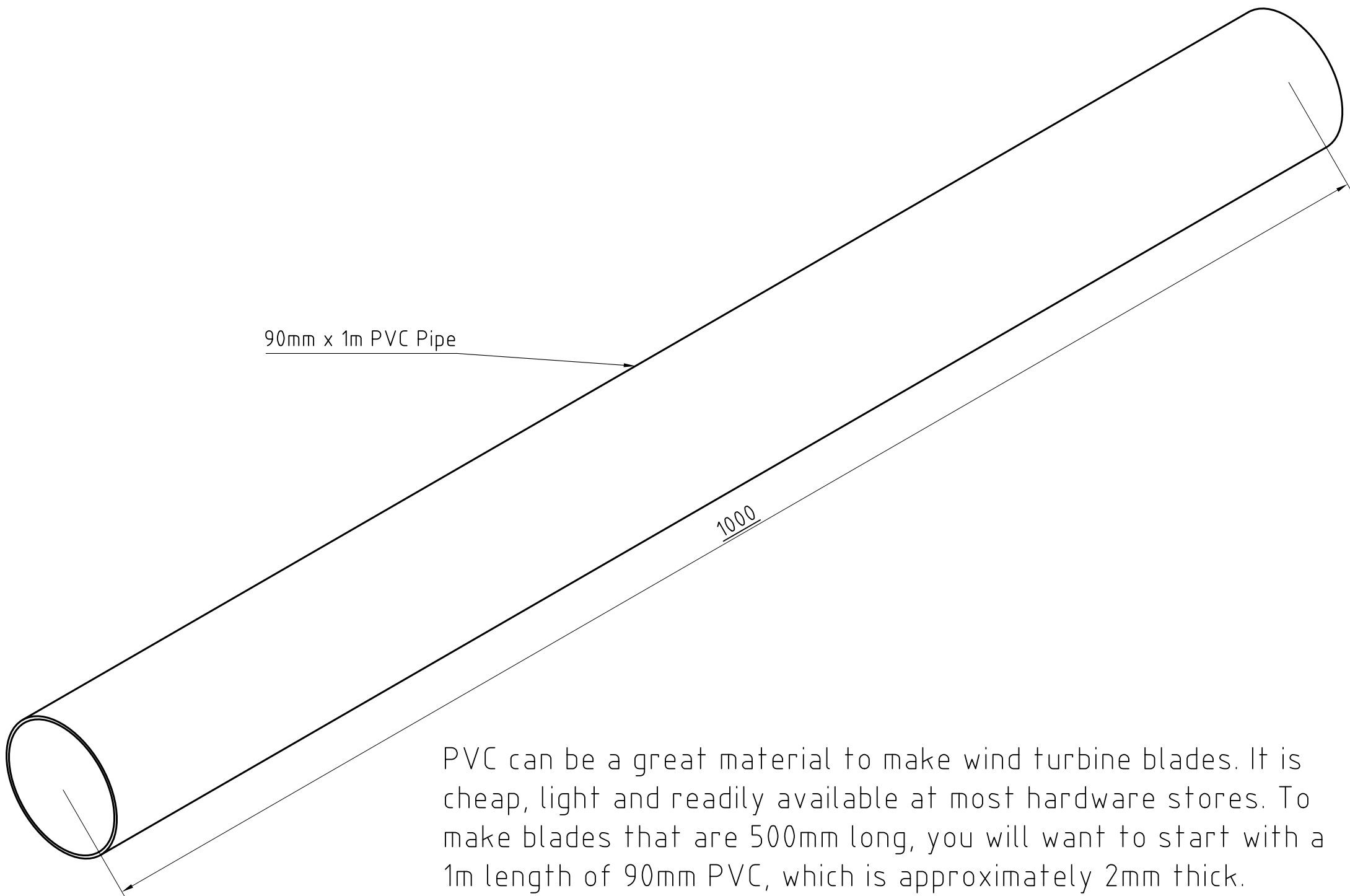




Push the PVC end cap onto the back of the coupling. You should have a tight fit and so don't need to use any fasteners.



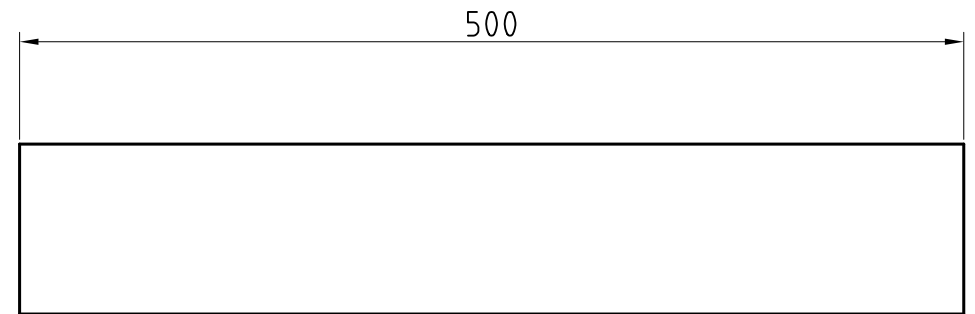
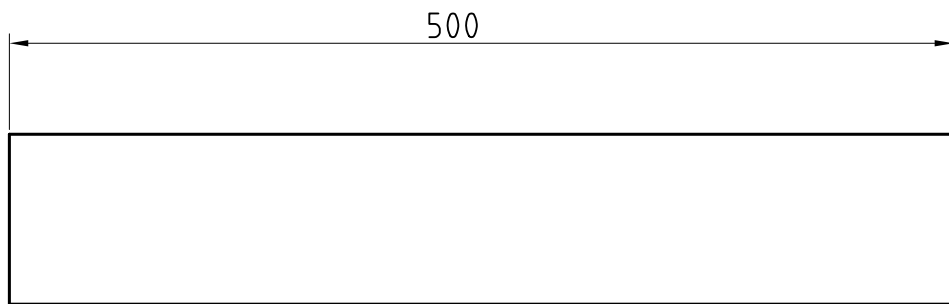
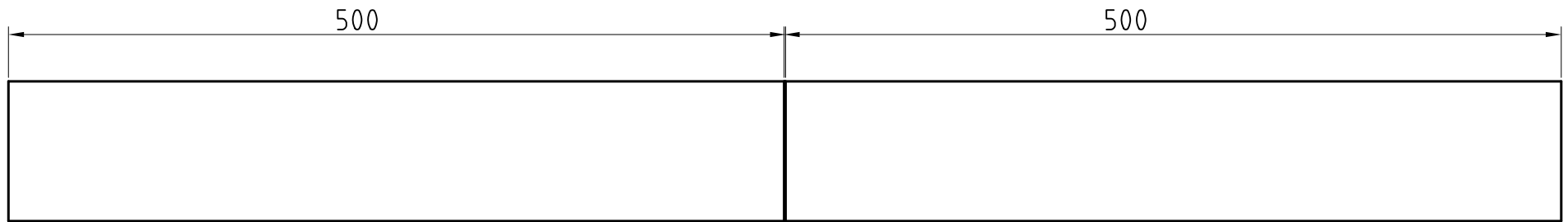
The turbine is starting to take shape.
We just have to add the blades!



90mm x 1m PVC Pipe

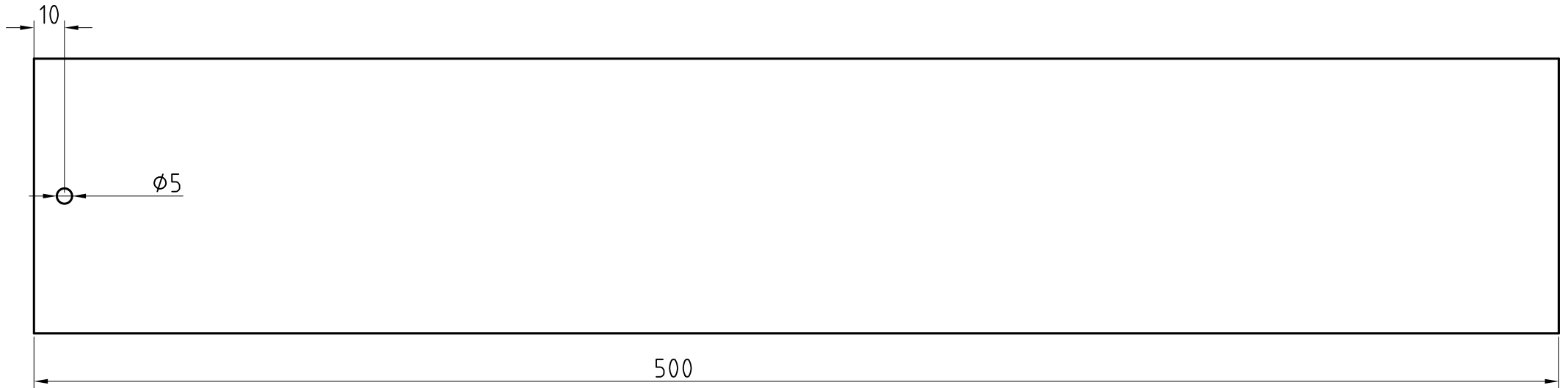
1000

PVC can be a great material to make wind turbine blades. It is cheap, light and readily available at most hardware stores. To make blades that are 500mm long, you will want to start with a 1m length of 90mm PVC, which is approximately 2mm thick.

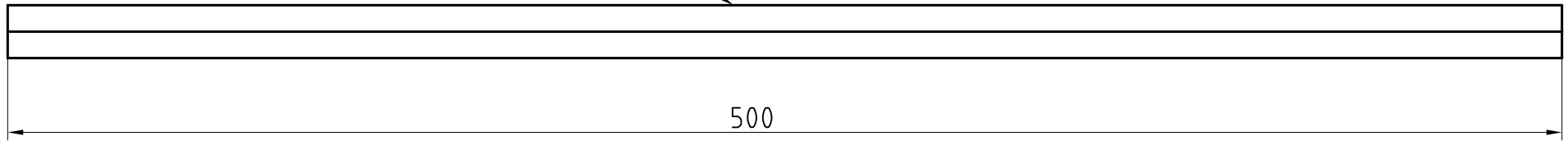


Measure and mark off 500mm from the end of the pipe.
Then carefully cut through to make two equal lengths.

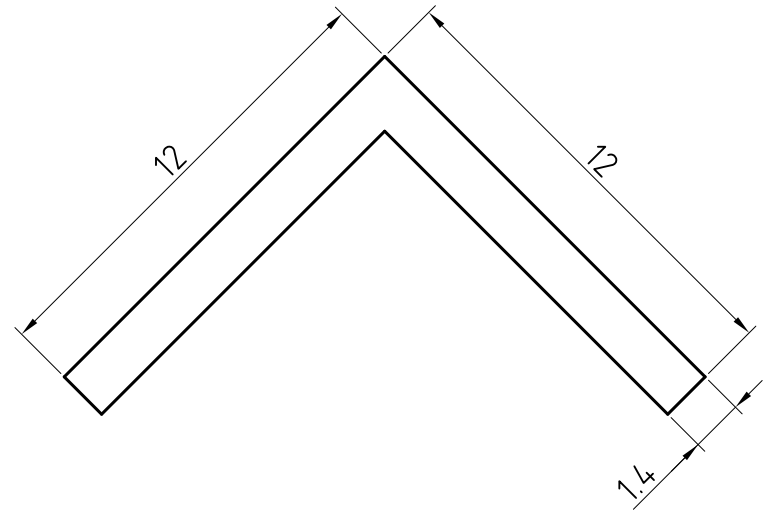
Drill a 5mm hole, 10mm from one end of the pipe. Rotate the pipe 90 degrees and repeat three more times to give a total of four holes.



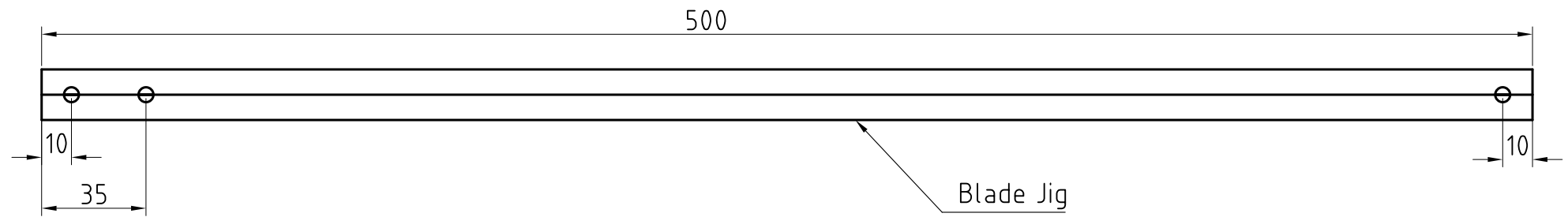
12x12x1.4mm Angle Iron



To make sure we cut and drill the blades accurately, we made a jig out of 12x12x1.4mm angle iron.



Drill three holes in the centre of the angle iron as shown here:



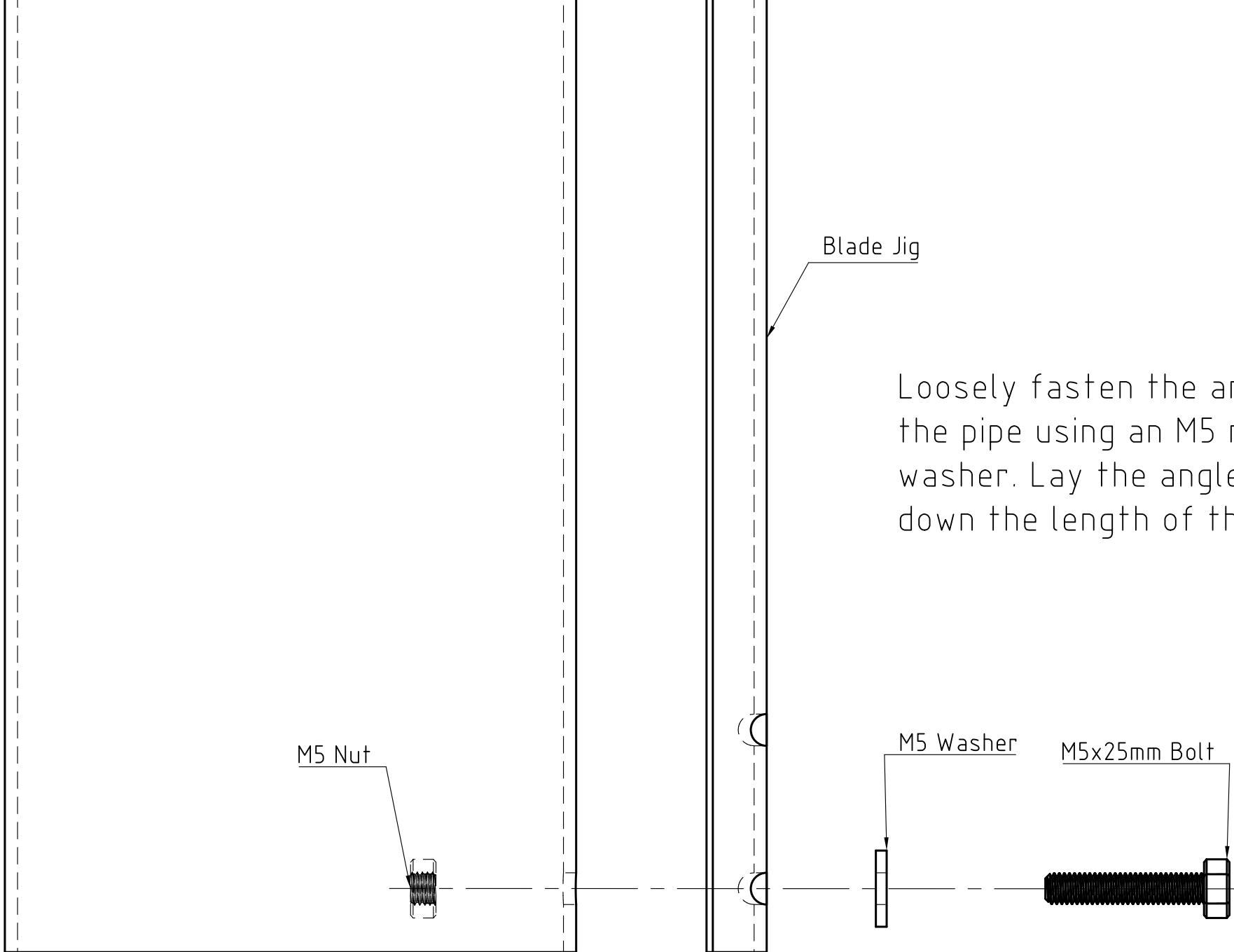
Blade Jig

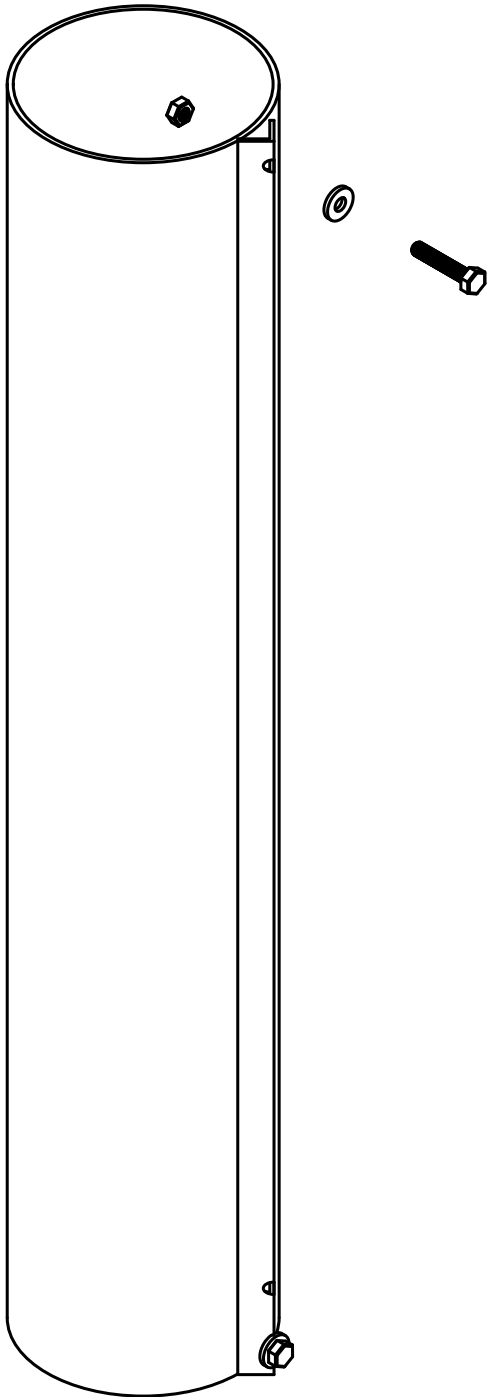
Loosely fasten the angle iron to the pipe using an M5 nut, bolt and washer. Lay the angle iron straight down the length of the pipe.

M5 Nut

M5 Washer

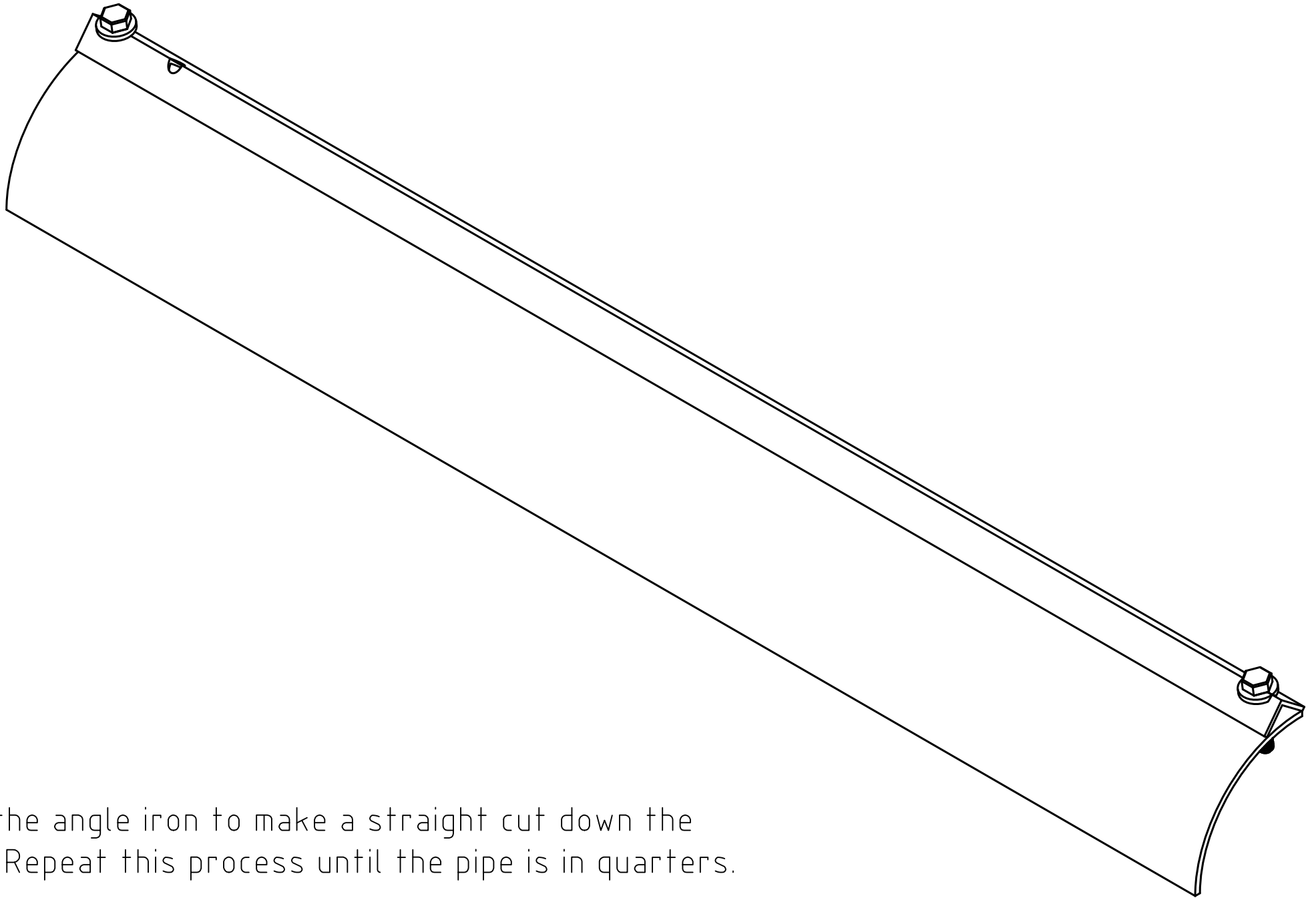
M5x25mm Bolt





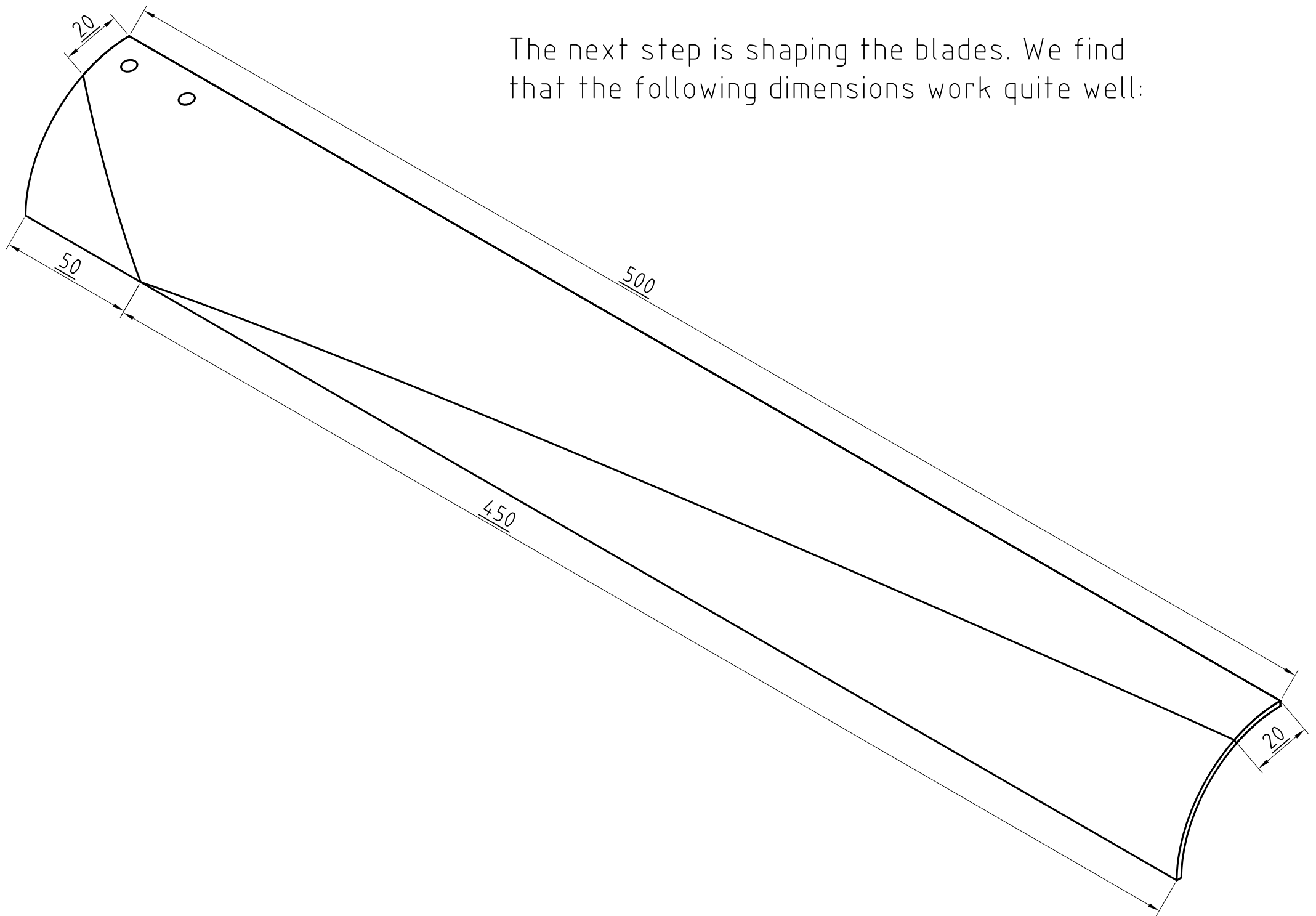
Line up the angle iron straight down the pipe and use the holes in the angle iron to drill two more holes in the PVC pipe.

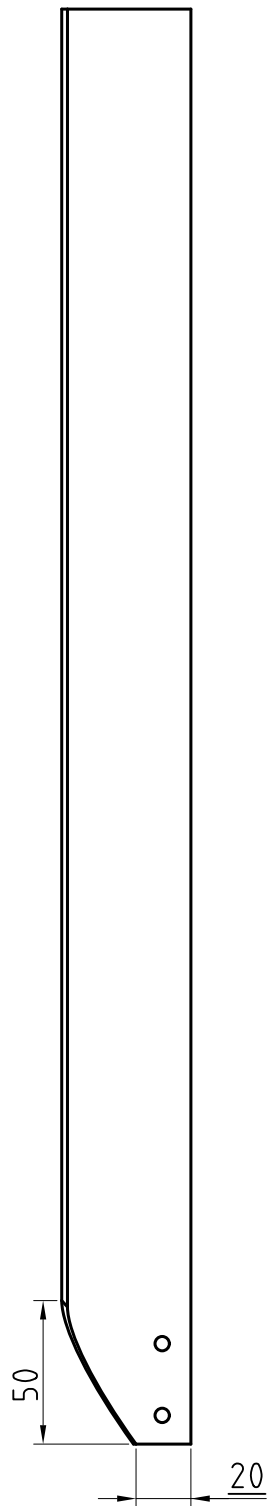
Fasten down the other end of the angle iron with another M5 nut, bolt and washer. Make sure the angle iron is straight and the bolts are tight.



Use the angle iron to make a straight cut down the pipe. Repeat this process until the pipe is in quarters.

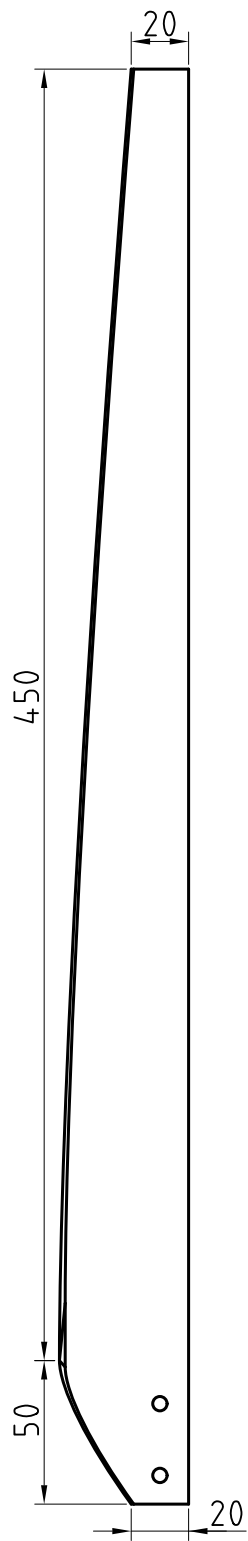
The next step is shaping the blades. We find that the following dimensions work quite well:



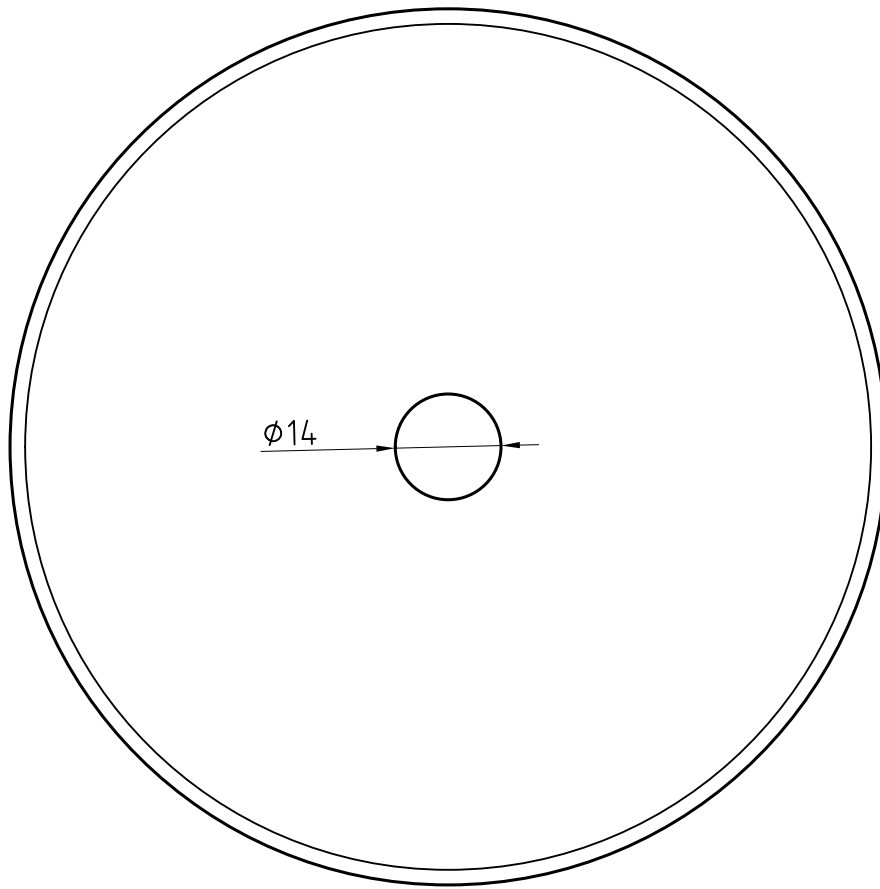


First we cut the 'root' of the blade. This is the end where the blade will be attached to the generator.

Measure the root to be 20mm wide and then mark off a point 50mm from the end. Using sticky tape, join these two parts with a straight line and make a cut to shape the blade.



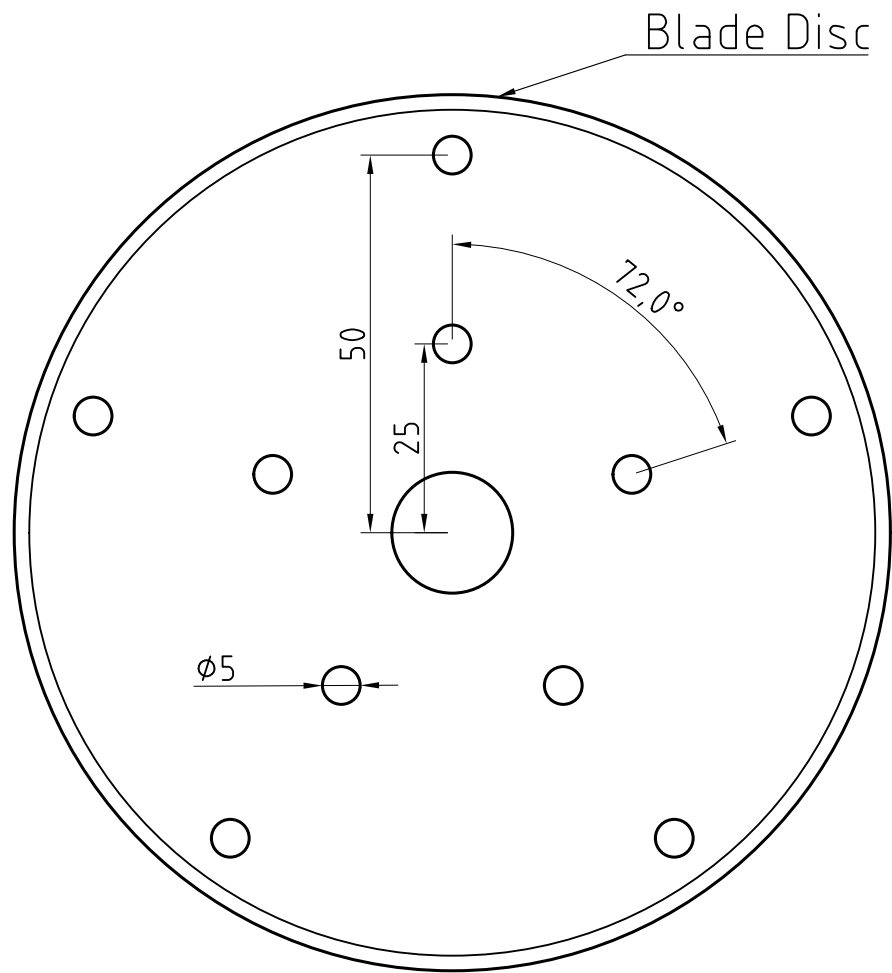
Repeat this process for the blade 'tip' using the dimensions shown. Note that it is difficult to cut accurately due to the shape of the blades, and so it is recommended to cut less than you think and then use a file and sandpaper to finish.



Find and mark off the centre of the 100mm PVC end cap. Use this mark to drill out a 14mm hole.

There may be a centre mark from manufacturing, but if this is difficult to find, see this guide for finding the centre of any circle:

<http://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-find-the-center-of-a-circle/>



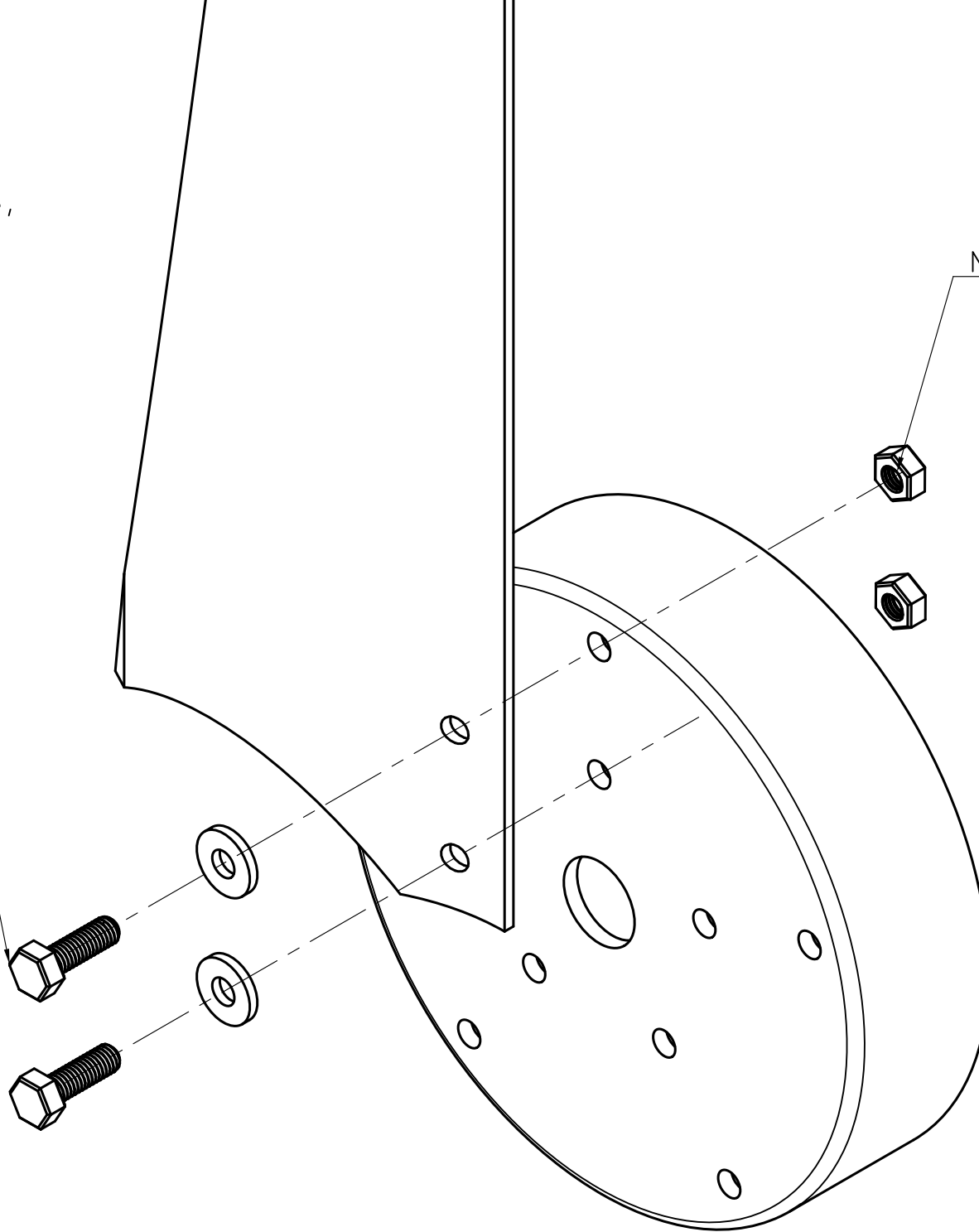
Using a protractor and ruler, mark out and then drill 5mm holes to attach the blades according to these dimensions.

Alternatively, print this page to scale and use the drawing as a template.

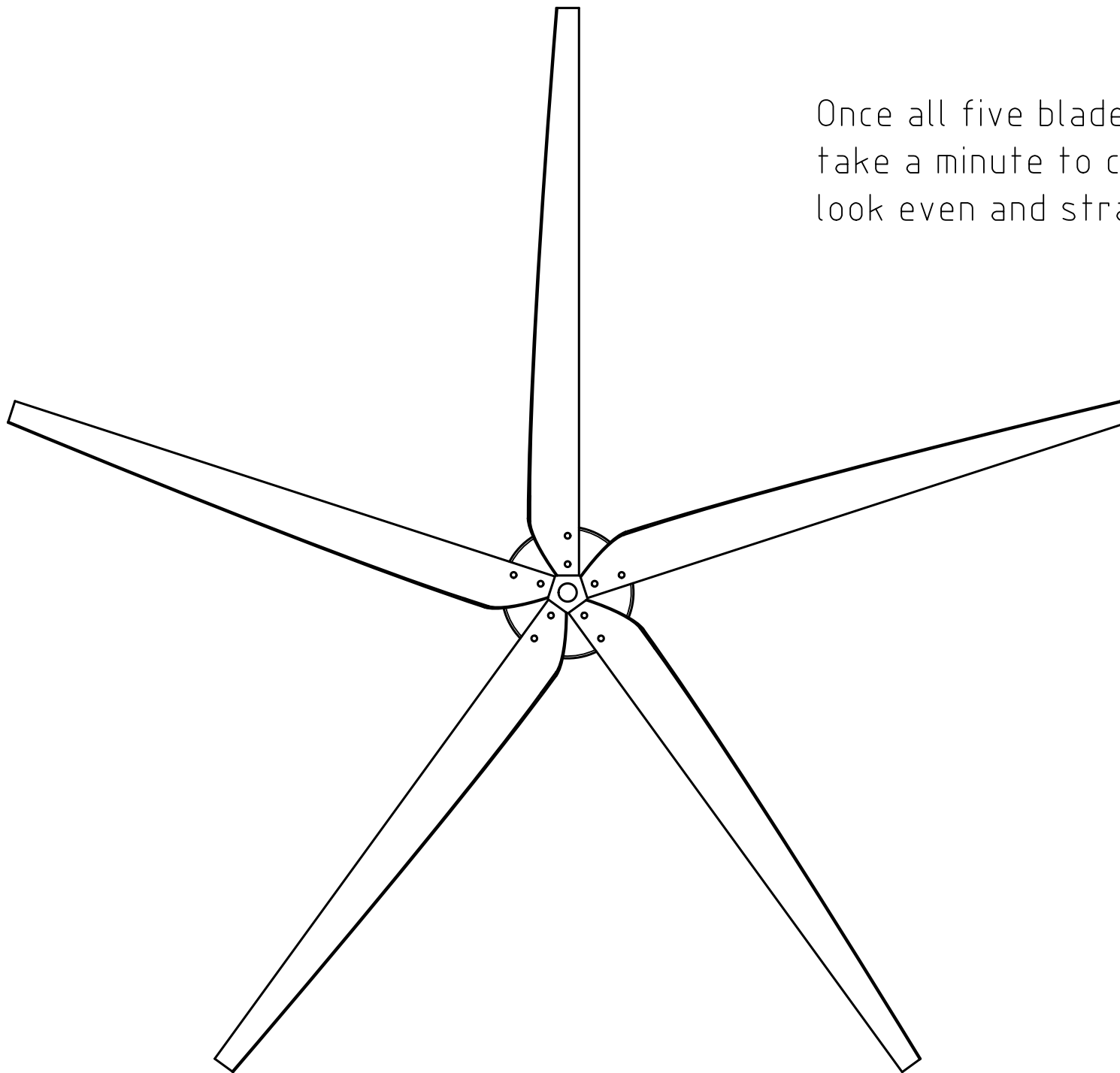
Attach each blade using 5mm bolts,
washers and nylon locking nuts.

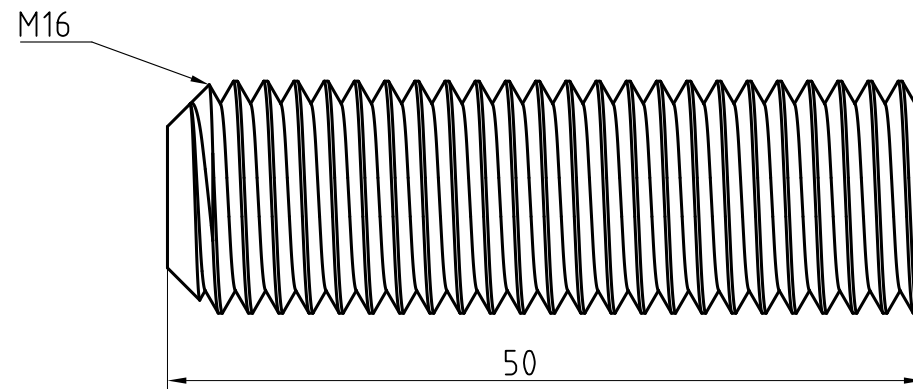
M5x25mm bolt

M5 Nut

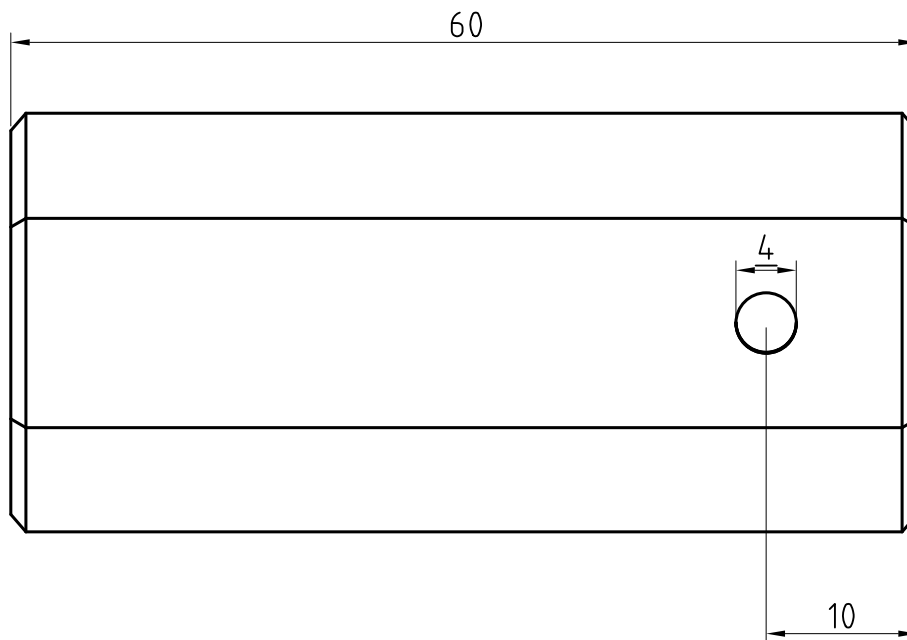
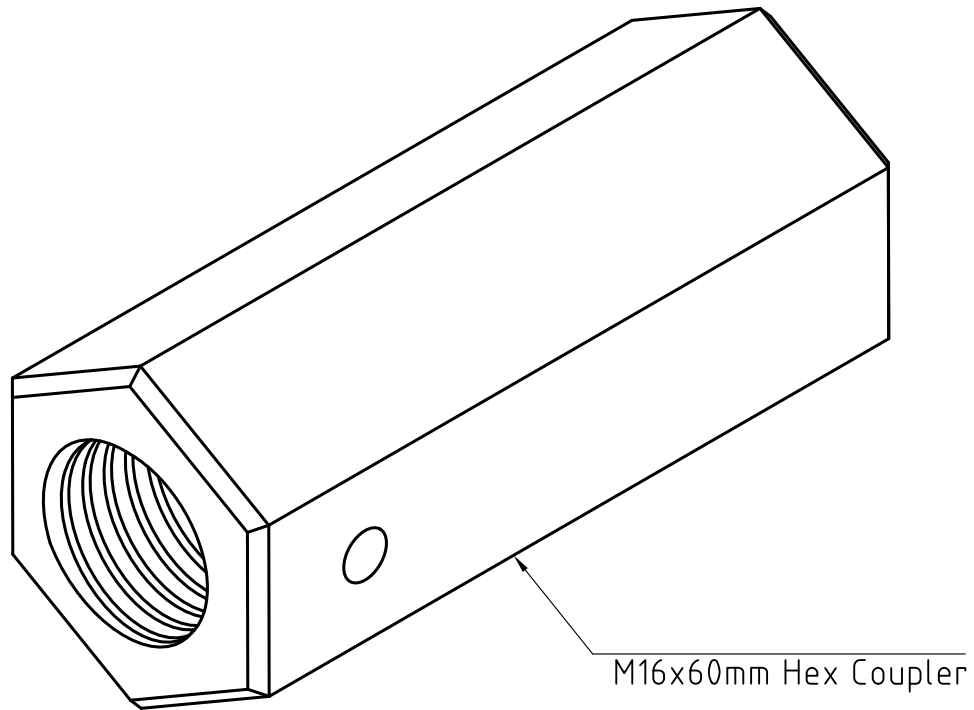


Once all five blades are attached,
take a minute to check that they all
look even and straight.

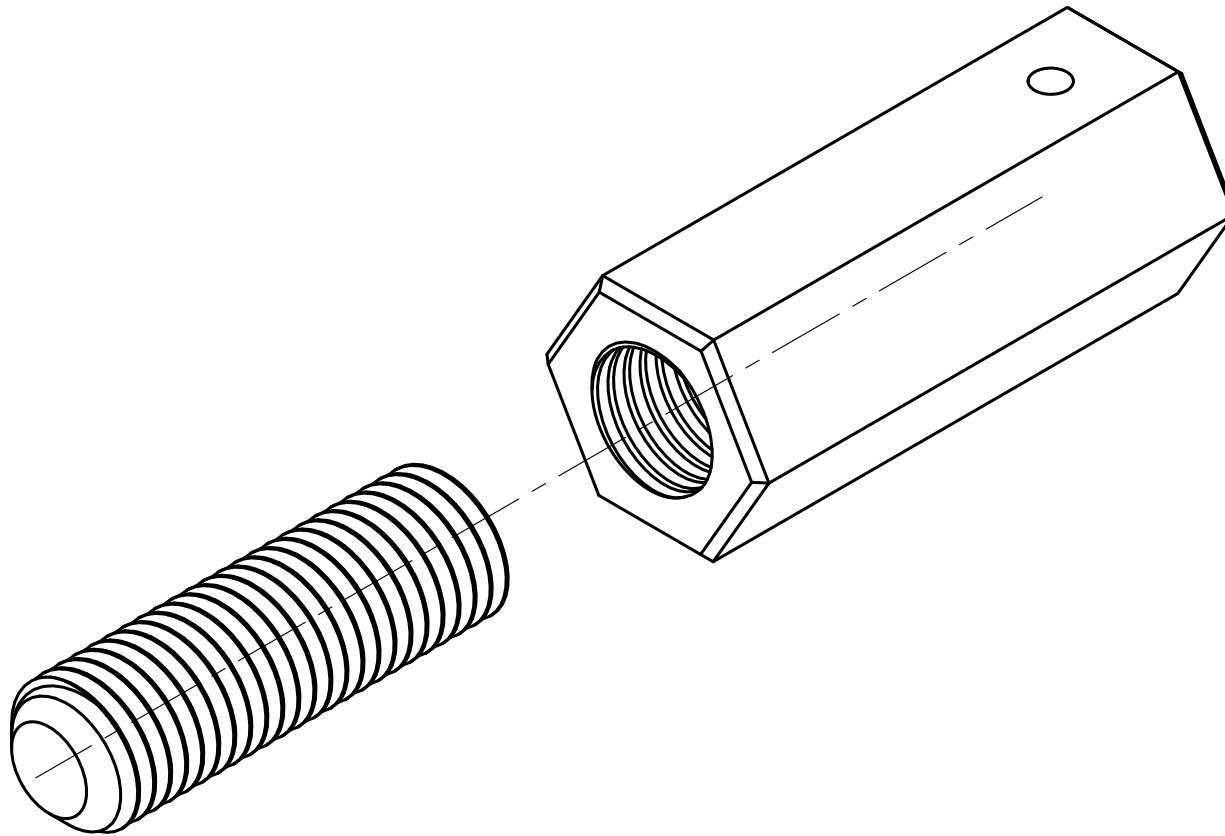




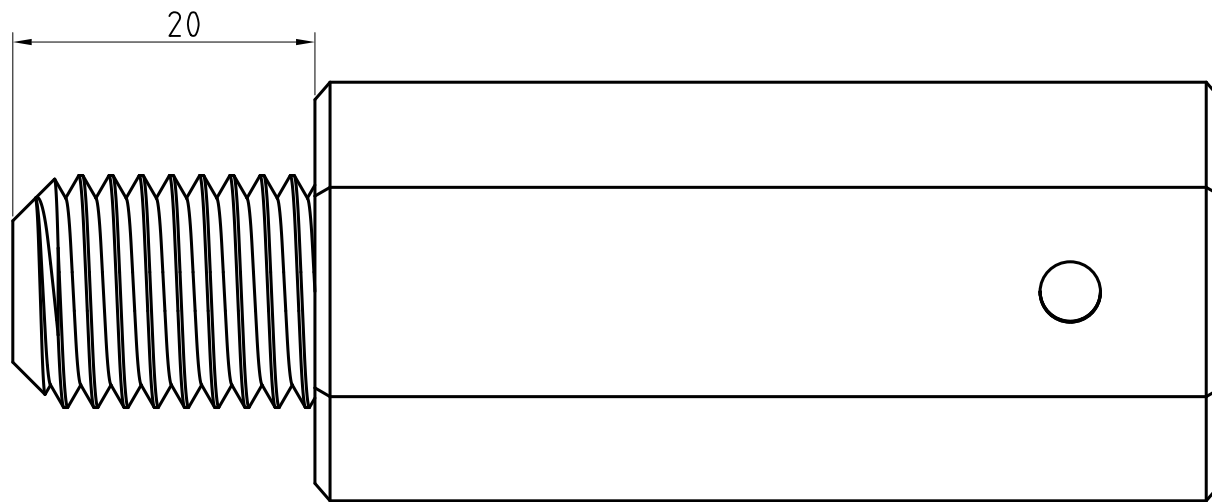
Cut off a 50mm length of an M16 threaded shaft.



Drill a 4mm hole all the way through the M16 hex coupler, 10mm from one end.

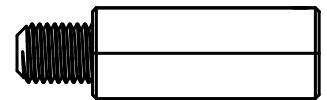
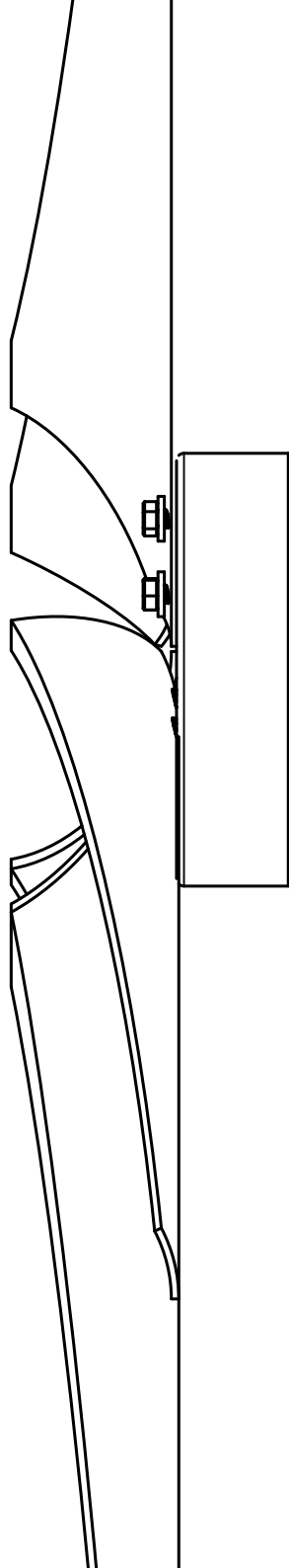
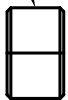


Apply threadlock/superglue and insert the M16 thread into the coupling

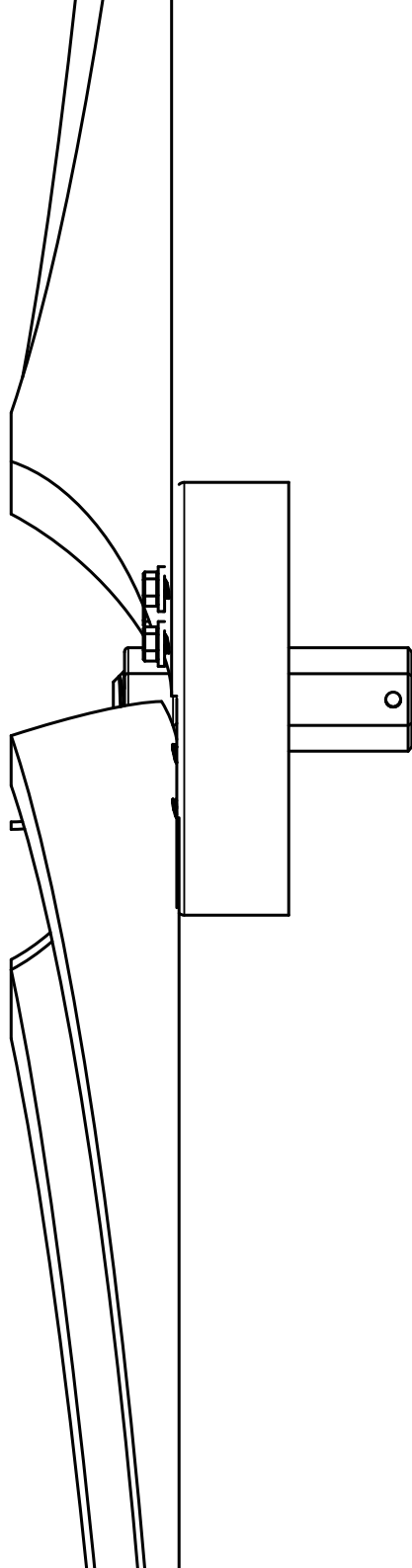


Leave 20mm of shaft exposed and allow to dry.

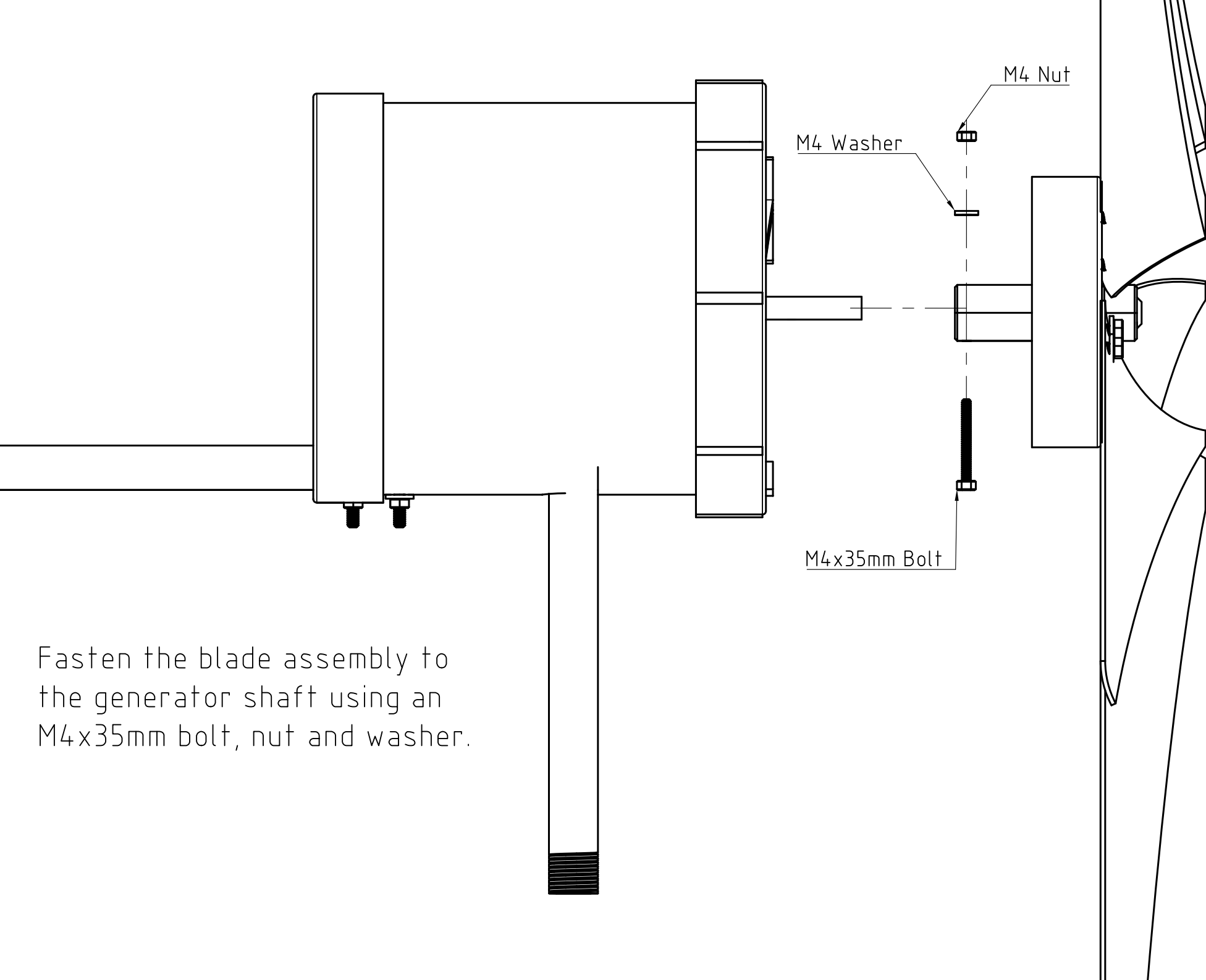
M16 Nut



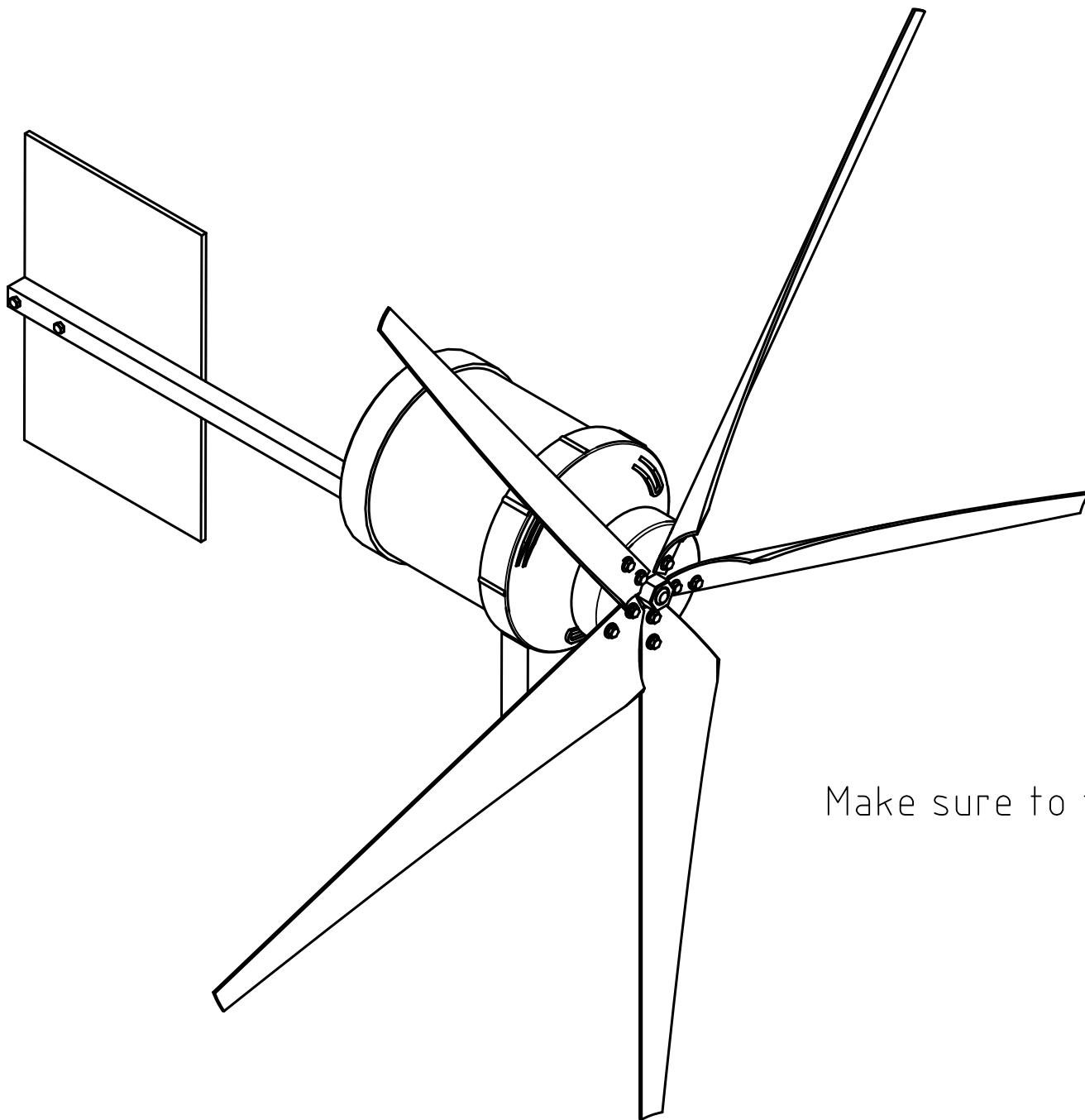
Fasten the whole blade assembly together, until really tight, using superglue or threadlock to hold the fasteners in place.



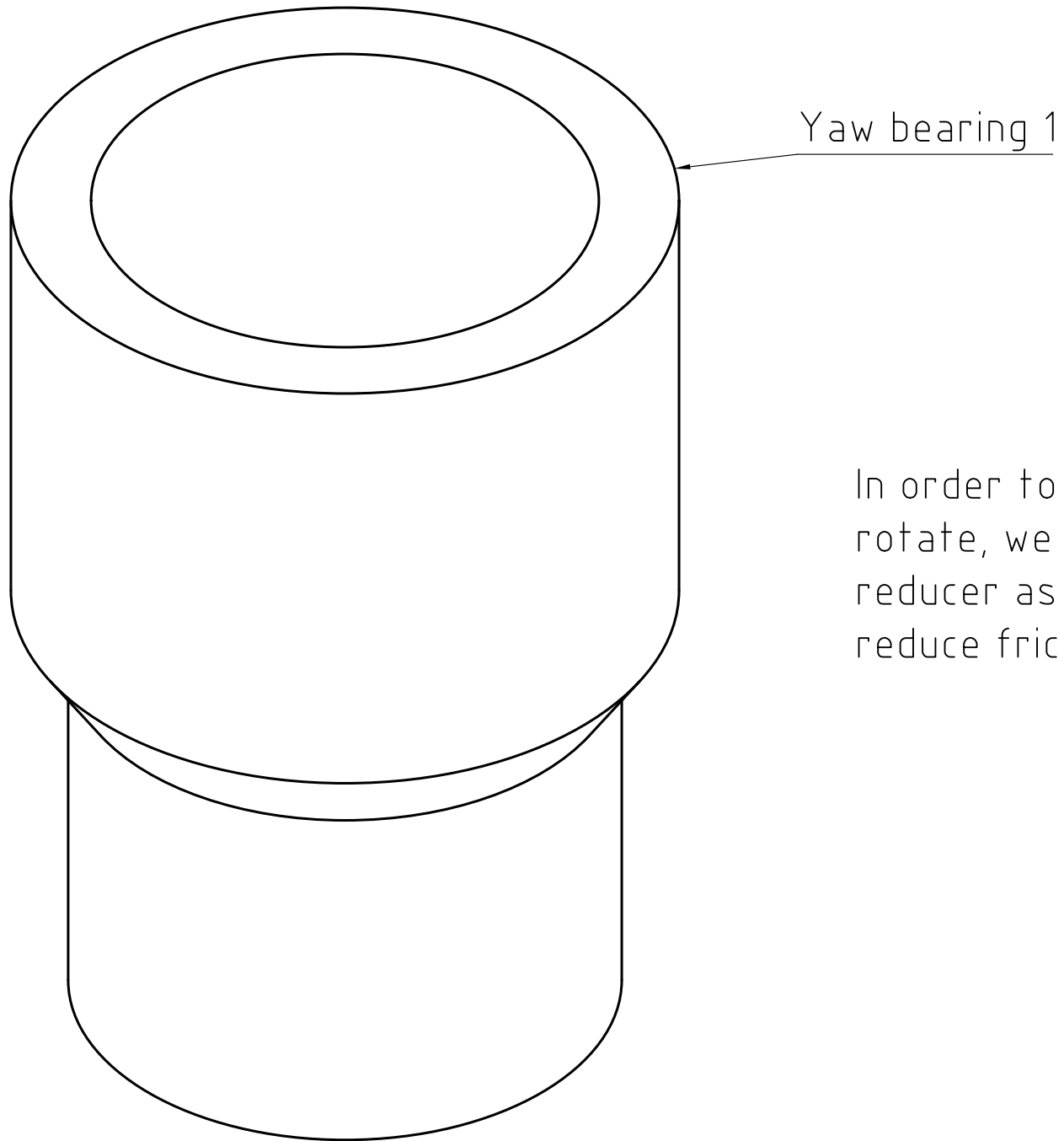
Marvel at your new blade assembly!



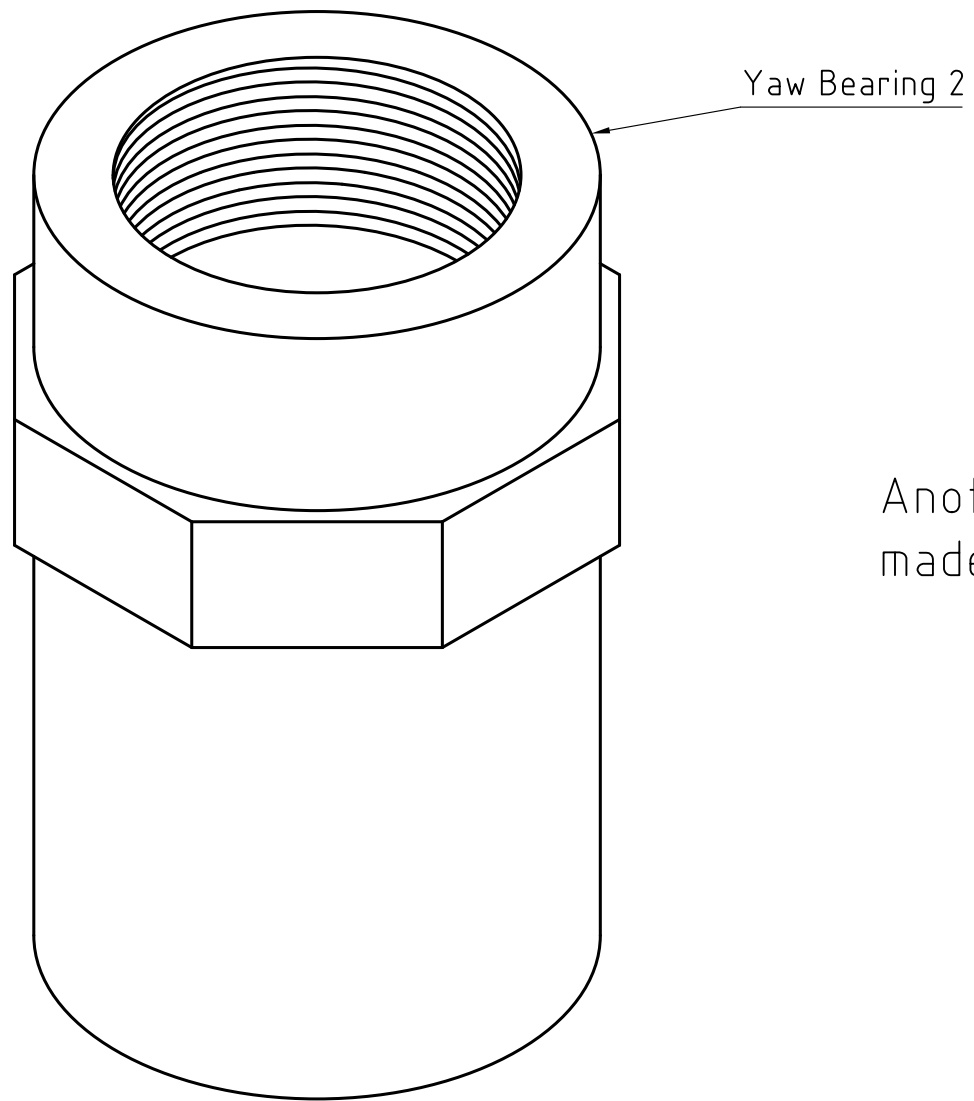
Fasten the blade assembly to the generator shaft using an M4x35mm bolt, nut and washer.



Make sure to fasten the blades down tightly.



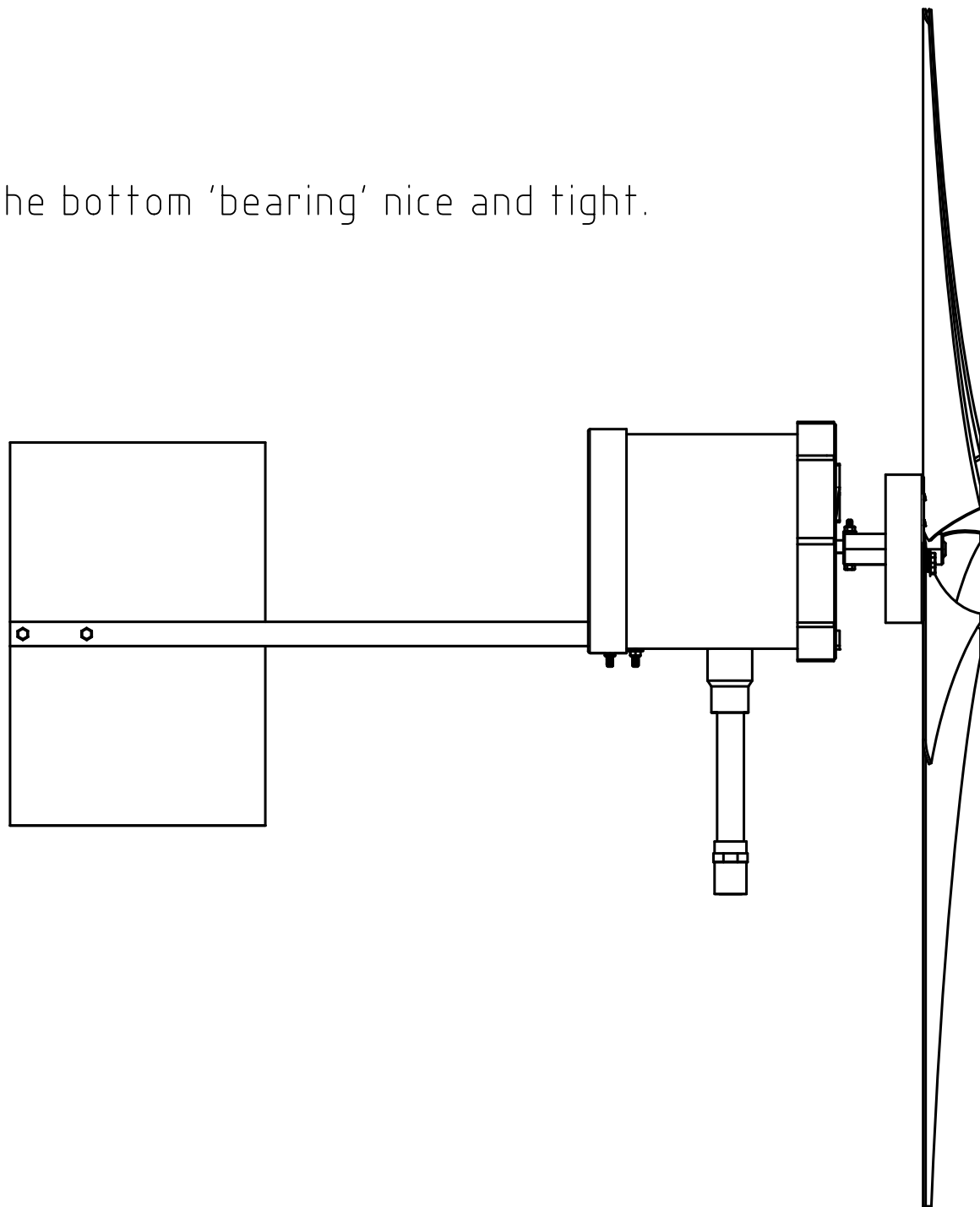
In order to allow the turbine to rotate, we use a 20mm to 15mm PVC reducer as a 'yaw bearing' to reduce friction

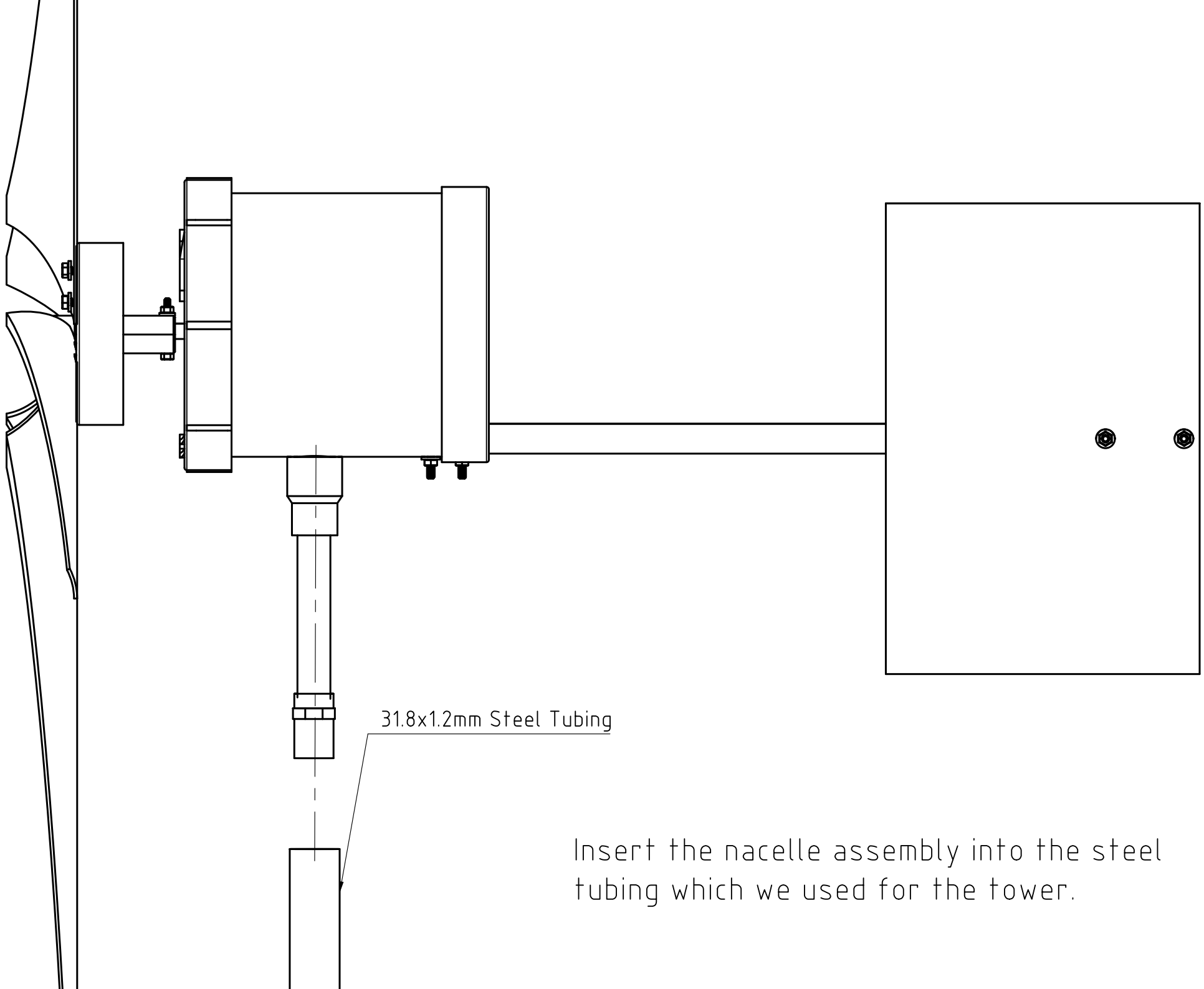


Another part of our 'yaw bearing' is
made up of a PVC Male Thread Adapter



Make sure to screw in the bottom 'bearing' nice and tight.





31.8x1.2mm Steel Tubing

Insert the nacelle assembly into the steel tubing which we used for the tower.

That's it! Your wind turbine is ready to be wired in and start producing electricity.

