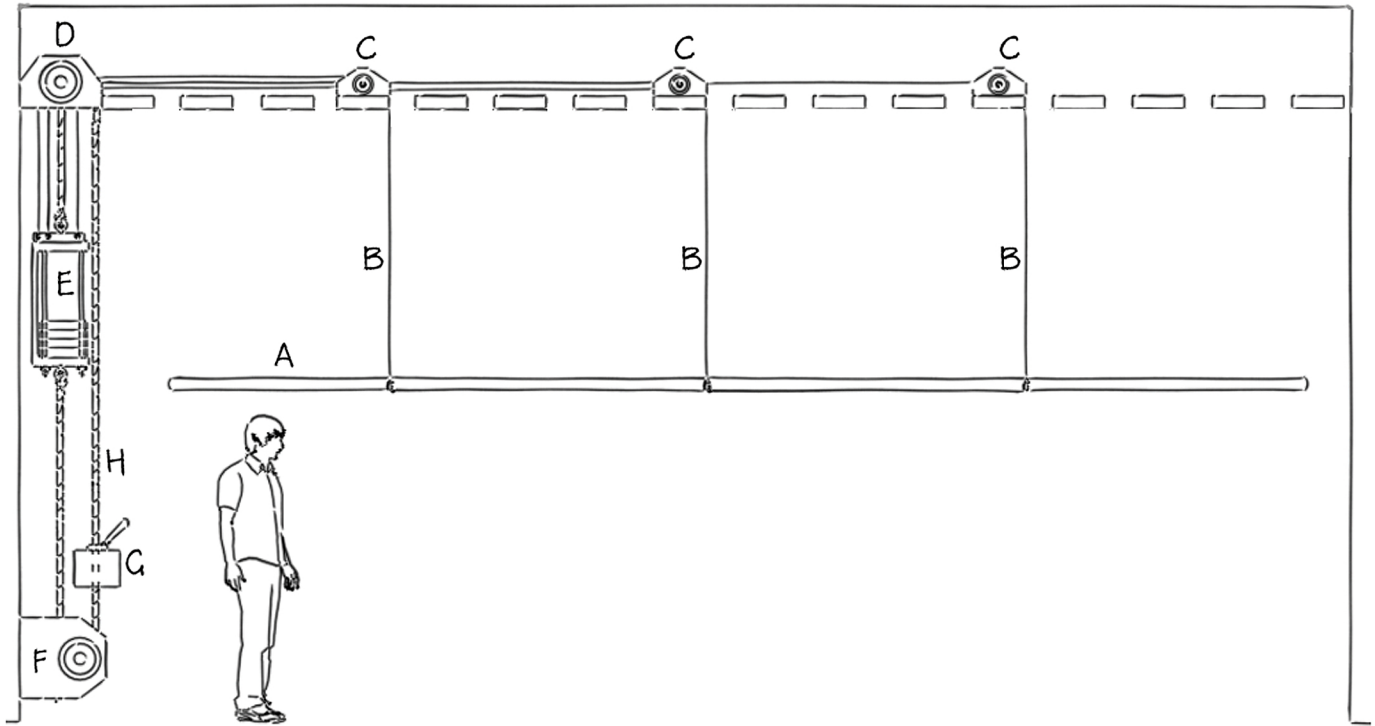


# UNDERSTANDING COUNTERWEIGHT SYSTEMS



- A. BATTEN** The batten is a long steel pipe that spans the stage running parallel to the proscenium line.
- B. LIFT LINES** The lift lines are sections of aircraft cables used for connecting the batten to the arbor
- C. LOFT BLOCKS** The first set of pulleys located in the grid that redirect the lift lines from vertical to horizontal
- D. HEAD BLOCK** The second set of pulleys located in the grid, above the arbor, that redirects the cable from horizontal to vertical
- E. ARBOR** The component used to add stage weights for counterbalancing the system. The lift lines attach to the top of the arbor.
- F. TENSION BLOCK** The tension block is the final pulley, positioned directly below the arbor. The purchase line travels through the tension block and is redirected up through the lock rail and back up into the head block.
- G. LOCK RAIL** The lock rail allows the flyman to lock off the lineset from moving.
- H. PURCHASE LINE** The purchase line is attached to the bottom of the arbor, traveling down through the tension block, up through the lock rail, and over the head block, where it is finally tied off to the top of the arbor. This rope is used to fly the batten in and out.