

The Class III preventer stack is designed for drilling or workover operations. It is composed of a single hydraulically operated annular preventer on top, then a blind ram preventer, a drilling spool, and a single pipe ram preventer on bottom. The choke and kill lines are installed onto the drilling spool and must have a minimum internal diameter of 2". All side outlets on the preventers or drilling spool must be flanged, studded, or clamped. An emergency kill line may be installed on the wellhead. A double ram preventer should only be used when space limitations make it necessary to remove the drilling spool. In these instances, the choke manifold should be connected to a flanged outlet between the preventer rams only. In this hookup, the pipe rams are considered master rams only, and cannot be used to routinely circulate out a kick. The Class III blowout preventer stack is shown to the right in Figure 11J.4.

Figure 11J.4
Class III Blowout Preventer Stack

