

How to Build a Horizontal Insect Hotel



You will need:

- 1 in. x 6 in. x 6 ft. board
- 1 in. x 8 in. x 6 ft. board
- 4 in. x 4 in. x 4 ft. board (only if placing in a garden)
- ¾ in. thick piece of plywood
- Galvanized screws/nails (1-¼")
- Filler material cut to 5-½ in. lengths (bamboo, hollow stems, sawn logs, sticks, etc.)
- Drill bits (if drilling holes in wood blocks or logs) – 3/32", 3/8", 5/16"
- Miter saw
- Wood glue (recommended)
- Nail gun (recommended)
- Insect friendly paint/stain (optional)

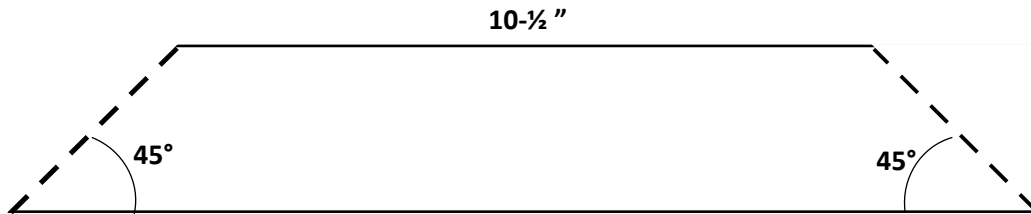
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Instructions

Frame:

Step 1. Cut a 45° angle on the 1 in. x 6 in. x 6 ft. board.

Step 2. Measure and mark 10-½” (267mm) from the top of the angle (the shorter side). Cut another 45° angle. **This should be opposite of the first (see below).**

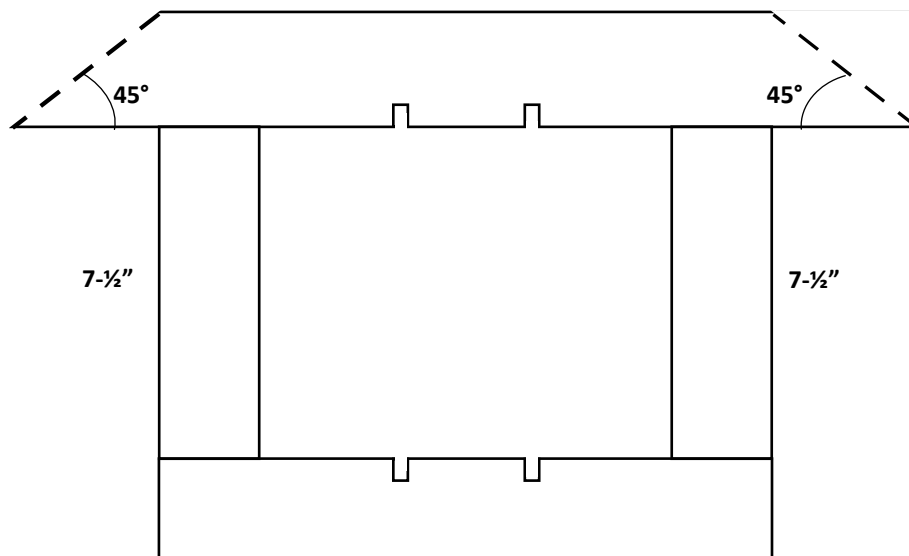


Step 3. Cut the following flat-edged pieces from the 1 in. x 6 in. x 6 ft. board:

- One 10-½” piece
- Two 7-½” pieces

Step 4 (optional). Groove both 10-½” pieces for ply-wood inserts. **Follow the diagram below to make sure grooves are on the correct side.** Grooves can be spaced as desired, though keep in mind the size of material used for the interior.

Step 5. We recommend wood glue to secure the pieces before nailing/screwing together. Line the edges so that the two 7-½” pieces are flush against the edge of the 10-½” piece as shown below. **If you grooved the pieces, make sure the grooves face inward.** Nail or screw into place.



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Roof:

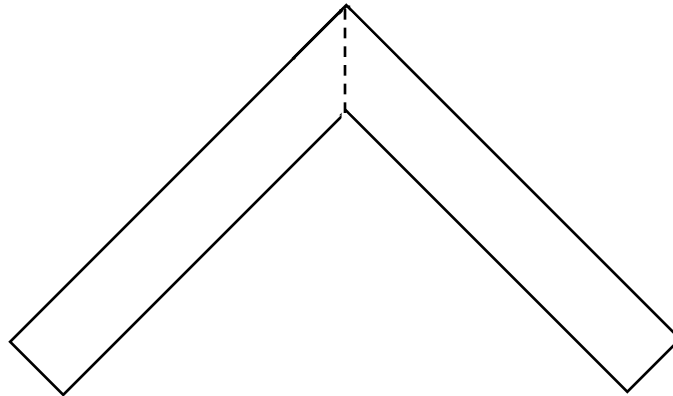
Step 1. Cut a 45° angle on the 1 in. x 8 in. x 6 ft. board.

Step 2. Measure approximately 10" from the long edge and cut a straight edge.



Step 3. Repeat steps 1 & 2.

Step 4. Fix together both boards at their 45° angles to create a roof for the insect hotel. It is recommended to use a thin line of wood glue to add security to the pieces before screwing/nailing them together. Make sure the edges are flush with one another.



Plywood Backing:

Step 1. Place the assembled insect hotel onto the plywood board and trace its outline. We recommend leaving a sizeable buffer around the vertical sides in order to have extra space to nail/screw through the plywood to a post or wall. Cut out the outline.

Step 2. We recommend using wood glue to add stability before nailing/screwing on the plywood cutout to the back of the insect hotel. H

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Placement:

We recommend mounting to the side of a shed or garage or atop a post near a garden. If mounting on a post, use a 4 in. x 4 in. x 4ft. post. Nail or screw a 10-½” plank (you can use the leftover wood from earlier) on to the top and attach the insect hotel to this post. **It is best to place the insect hotel before filling it with nesting material.**

Filler Material:

Different types of material will attract different species. Some examples are given in the table below. If drilling into wood, place the holes about 1 in. apart from one another and approximately 6 in. deep. Feel free to fill in the roof compartment as well!

Building Item	Possible visitor(s)
sawn logs or wooden blocks with pre-drilled holes	solitary bees, such as mason bees and leaf-cutter bees
bamboo or reed stems	solitary bees, such as mason bees and leaf-cutter bees; wasps, such as thread-waist wasps
dry leaves	centipedes, beetles, harvestmen
sticks	ladybird beetles
strips of bark	beetles, woodlice, centipedes, millipedes, spiders



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