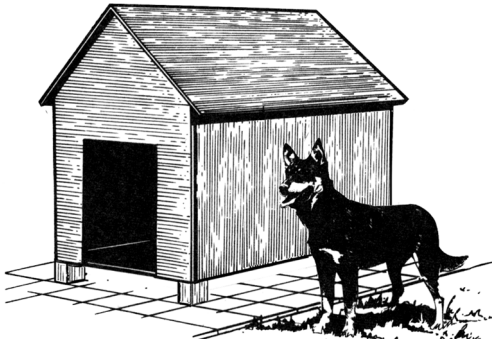


Project Ideas & Information

Dog House



Before purchasing tools, timber and materials, read every step thoroughly then talk to one of our experts

Every dog needs a home. Show your best friend how much you care by building his or her home yourself. This dog house is designed for an average sized dog and makes the most use of a single sheet of 2440mm x 1220mm exterior plywood. The same basic plan can be used for any sized dog, it's just a matter of scaling the dimensions up or down. A feature of this design is that it makes allowance for two floor panels for added rigidity.

Step 1: Choosing The Materials

The materials list is simple and consists of :

1/2440mm x 1220mm sheet of 16mm exterior ply

1/3300mm length of 45 x 45 radiata pine

1/3000mm length of H3 treated pine

75mm galvanised screws for base & floor

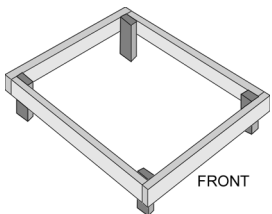
40mm galvanised screws for attaching panels to frame

Exterior ply has one "good" and one "bad face" ... keep in mind that you'll want the "good" face on the outside when fixing the framing to the various panels

Step 2: Cutting The Panels

Lay out the panels on the back of the ply as shown in the illustration. Then, carefully cut out the panels on the lines. Cut the entry hole only large enough to allow your dog easy access.

Step 3: Assembling The Base



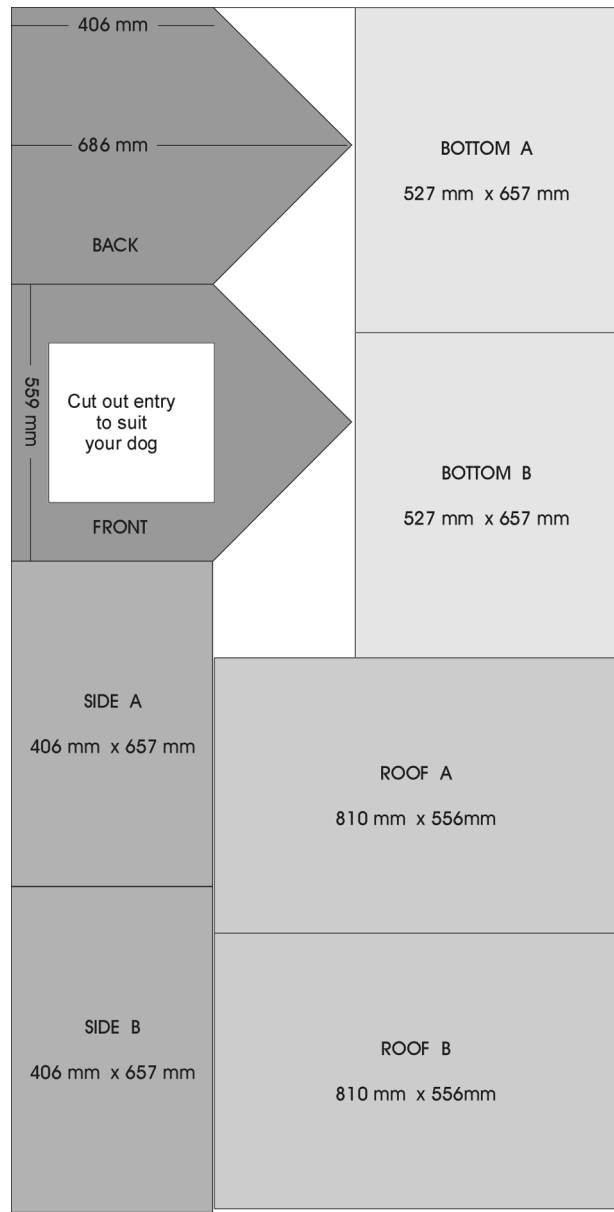
pieces as shown.

Cut 4 x 150mm lengths of the 90mm x 45mm treated pine and attach these to the inside edges of the long sides of the base structure as shown.

Using the 90mm x 45mm treated pine, cut and assemble the base structure using one of the floor panels as a template.

The front and back pieces overlap the ends of the side

These will act as the legs of the base and will ensure that the floor sits far enough above the ground to prevent water from entering on rainy days.



Cutting guide using 2440 mm x 1220 mm x 16 mm ply

Once the base unit is assembled you should line it up with one of the floor panels to make sure that is square and aligned. Then attach both floor panels in place ensuring that they are both aligned with the base.

Step 4: Assembling The House

From the 3300mm of 45mm x 45mm radiata pine cut the following pieces to be used as framing elements.

8 pieces 315mm long.

1 piece 559mm long

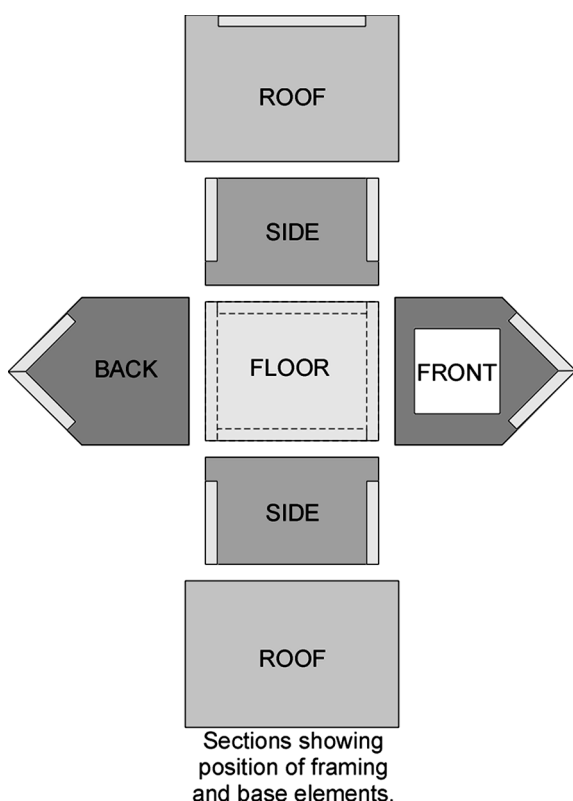
Attach one piece of the 315mm flush against the short edges of each the side panels. Each frame piece should be positioned starting at the

top of each side corner, leaving a 90mm space at the bottom to allow the side panel to overhang the platform.

Attach the other 315mm frame pieces to the inside roof line of the front and back panels. The frame pieces should meet at the top, so you will have to mitre the ends. Each piece should extend along the roof line to approximately 65mm from the sides.

Put one of the side panels in place (the edges of the side should align with the front and back of the base) and attach it to the base at the bottom. Repeat this step for the other side.

Now you can attach the back of the doghouse. Align it with the sides and attach it in place, first against the base and then into the frame members in the corners. Do the same for the front.



Step 5: Putting on the Roof

Centre and fasten the 559mm long piece of 45 x 45 radiata pine flush against the top inside long edge of one of the roof panels.

There should be a gap of about 125mm from the ends of the framing member to the edges of the roof panel.

When both roof panels are installed, this piece will run across and support the ridge cap.

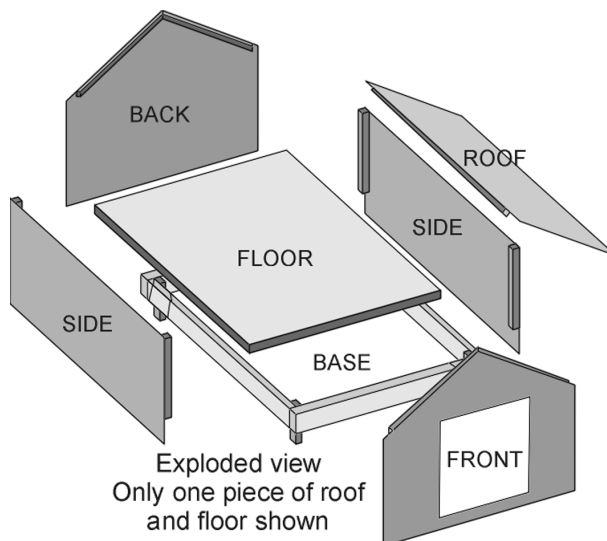
Place the first roof panel in position (the one with the frame piece along the top inside edge), and fasten it to the frame attached to the top of the front and back of the doghouse. Now fasten the remaining roof panel in place.

If you've opted for a basic dog house, then the construction is now completed apart from fixing some zincalume or plastic flashing along the joint where the two roof panels meet and sealing with silicone sealant.

Step 6: Finishing The Dog House

Round and sand any rough edges of the dog house which could injure your dog and finish off with a couple of coats of a good quality exterior acrylic paint.

To make your dog feel more at home, you can detail your dog house by adding a porch, adding carpet, installing a decorative roof and/or siding and of course, adding a name plate.



Dog House Hints

- The opening should be 50mm wider and higher than the dog.
- Whether your dog spends only few hours outside or lives in his house, always check on him regularly. Inspect his doghouse to make sure he is not eating something dangerous, and that his area is clean and safe.
- The house should be wide enough to allow the dog to turn around in and long enough for him to stretch out without his body touching any side. However it must not be too large, because it's the dog's own body warmth that heats the place.
- The house should face away from the prevailing winds, and be placed so the sun can reach it a good part of the day during winter. In summer, it should be in the shade and well ventilated.
- In winter, a piece of heavy carpet or hessian, fastened at the top of the doorway, should cover the entrance to keep out drafts, but this can be removed in the summer.

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