

## Step-by-Step Instructions on How to Make: Squirrel Boxes



### Materials:

- 3/4" untreated pine or cedar board, 8' x 10' (one 8' plank will make one box and 10" wide wood is really 9 1/2", sometime even 9 1/4" so ask for true dimensions)
- 2" galvanized wood screws
- sandpaper
- hinges (2 small ones per box)
- water-based wood stain (optional but recommended)

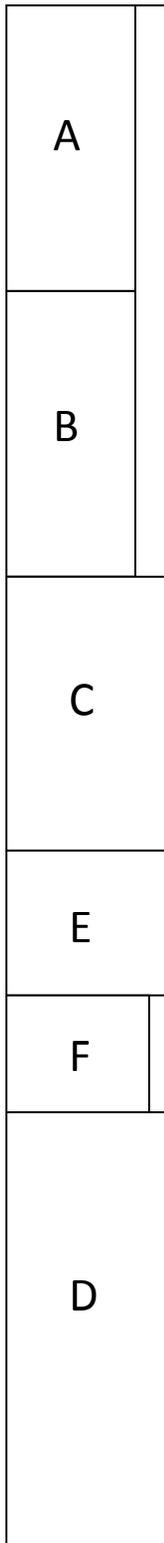
### Tools:

- work surface where wood can be secured while sawing or drilling
- circular saw\*
- jig saw\*
- sander \*
- drill and drill-bits\*
- goggles (for when using power tools)
- gloves (optional but helpful for when handling wood)
- paintbrushes
- hammer (for creating "toe holds" on front piece)

### Instructions:

\*Before using power tools, make sure you read all tool instructions and follow safety guidelines to ensure proper use and safety.

1. Cut wood (most hardware stores, like the Home Depot, will do the cutting for you, just show them the template; however, they will only make cuts going one direction, so other additional cutting will have to be done yourself)
2. Make additional cuts (slants and holes) using saw.
3. Sand all rough edges with a sander until they are smooth and not splintery.
  - Steps 4 through 6 are optional but highly recommended to extend the life of the cage and make it easier to clean.
4. Paint all pieces of wood, including all the edges, with 1 coat of water-based stain.
5. Let stain dry.
6. Repeat steps 4 & 5 for second coat of stain.
7. Assemble bottom and sides to make a box, if some pieces are too long and don't fit together quite right you can trim them with a circular saw. (some extra overlapping is okay though, just make sure all sides overlap enough to nail together)
8. Drill holes for screws, starting with one side at a time at the bottom. Drill screws in. Repeat for edges connecting all sides.
9. Put lid on and line up hinges. Mark dots for holes with a sharpie. Drill holes then screw in hinges.
10. You are done! (leftover pieces can be used to make more boxes!)



Dimensions for initial cutting:

A – 18 ½" x 7"

B – 18 ½" x 7"

C – 18" x 9 ½"

D – 25-30" x 9 ½"\*

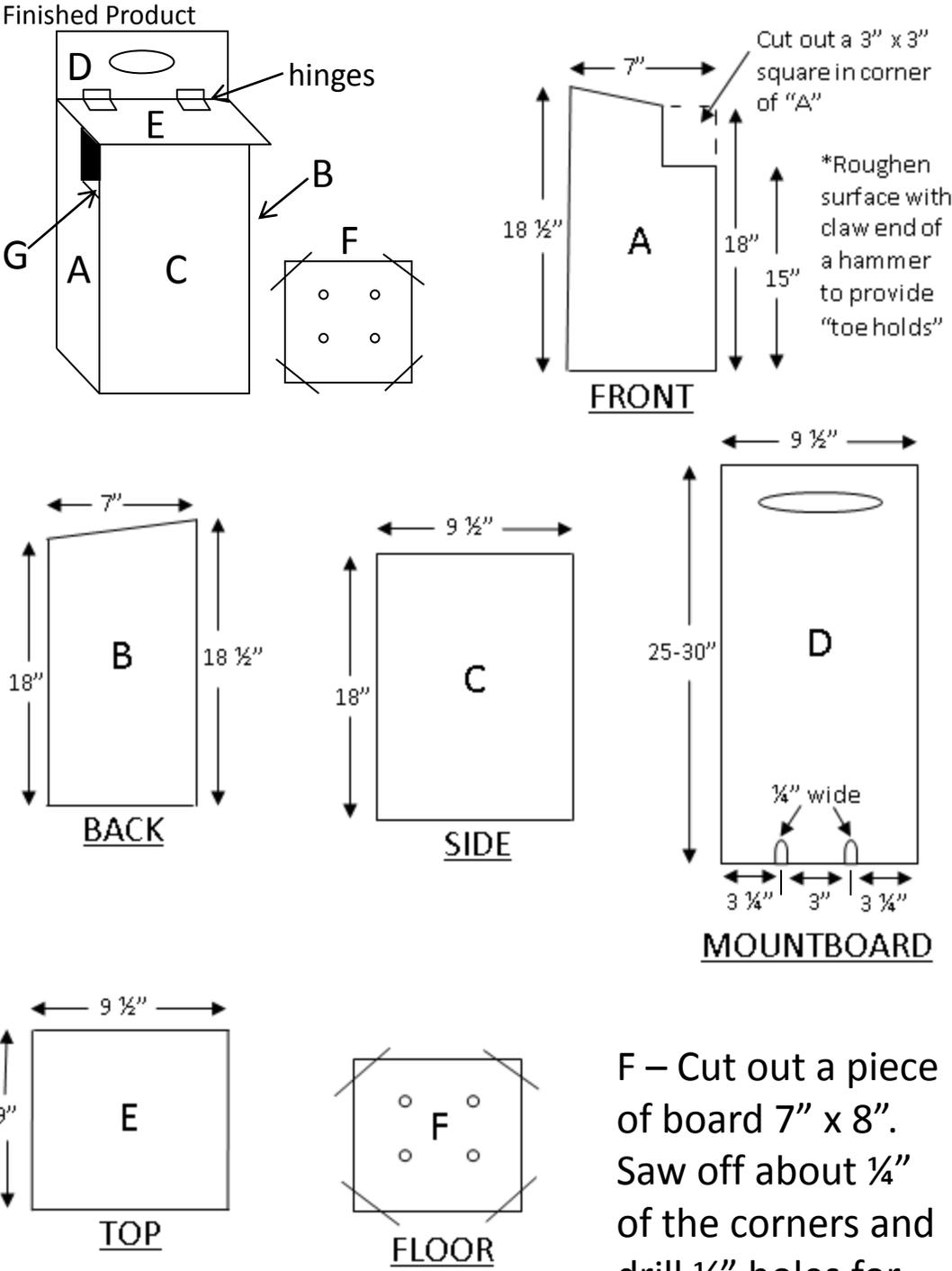
E – 9" x 9 ½"\*

F – 7" x 8"

\*9 ½" tends to fit better;  
however, with the dimensions of  
the plank being only 9 ¼" wide it  
will still work just fine.



Details:



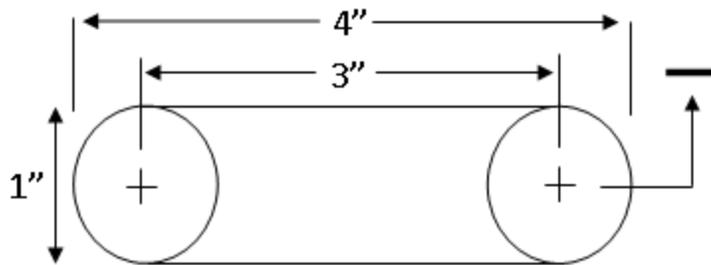
F – Cut out a piece of board 7" x 8". Saw off about 1/4" of the corners and drill 1/4" holes for drainage.

Drawings not drawn to scale

CONT'D....

G – A piece of 2 x 4  
8" inch length.  
(Protection from  
raccoons reaching  
in box)

To make "carry  
handle" drill two one  
inch diameter holes,  
the centers of which  
are 3" apart. Cut out  
wood in between  
holes with a jig saw or  
keyhole saw.  
(Top of board should  
be 1 ½" to 2" above  
center of hole)



CARRY HANDLE

\*One 8 foot plank will make one box; and 10" wide  
wood is really 9 ½".  
Use ¾" thick untreated pine or cedar board 10" wide.