OUTDOOR CAT HOUSE CONSTRUCTION PLANS

OUTDOOR CAT HOUSE INSTRUCTIONS

STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS : TOOLS & PARTS LIST
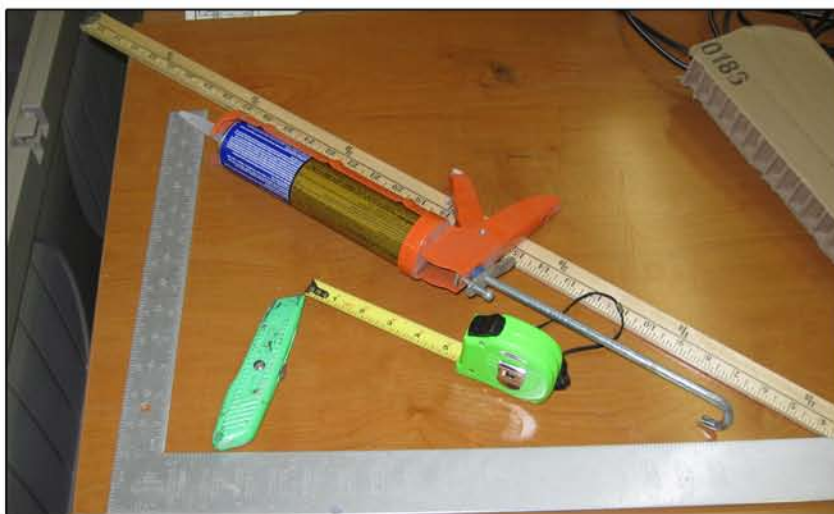
Here is a list of reccomended tools for this project:
1. T- Square or similar device
2. Caulking gun
3. Measuring stick or similar
4. Utility cutting Knife
5. Tape Measure
6. Sharpie pen or Similar
7. 1" and 2" Hole Saws
8. #2 Phillips Screwdriver
9. One Pair disposable Gloves

PARTS LIST:
1. Main Cat House Box•
2. Four Cans of Expanding Foam Insulation
3. One (4'X8') Sheet of 1" Foam Insulation
4. Three tubes of Liquid Nails (or Similar)
5. One Tube of Caulk All-Weather Sealer
6. PVC Pipe Cement
7. Misc PVC Pipe Pieces•
8. One cat Flap access door kit
9. Handful of 1" Drywall or similar screws
10. Quarter Bale of Straw

OPTIONAL PARTS:
1. Tail Light Lens•
2. Cat Bed Heater•

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• See Assembly Instructions for Part Details.

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Please Read through all instructions BEFORE beginning. It will make building easier.

STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS: MAIN BOX

1. The base for the Cat House is an Outdoor Storage Box.
   We sellected a Suncast 99 Gallon Deck Box (Fig. A).

2. Assemble the Deck Box according to the instruction (Fig. B). DO NOT INSTALL COVER YET!
   Once Deck Box is complete, place INVERTED cover on it for Spray Insulation Fill (Fig. C).
   NOTE: It is important to wear gloves when working with wet foam! Cover requires about 4
   cans of spray foam (Inset). Fill each area about half full. Foam will expand to fill area.

3. When filling, make note of areas where foam will conflict with cover tension straps, latch, etc.
   Make sure you leave space in these areas (Fig. D). Set cover aside to cure for at least 12 hrs.
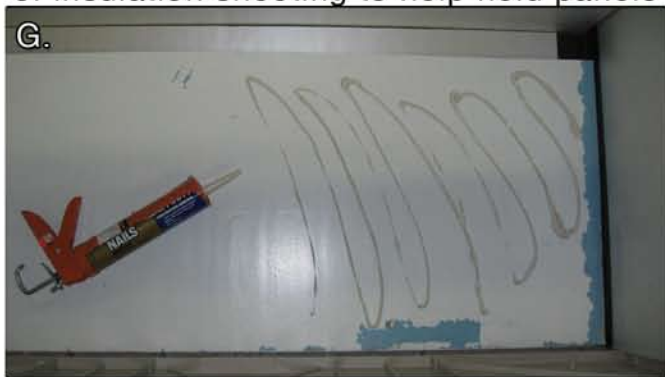
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STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS: MAIN BOX

4. While cover is curing, we can begin insulating the main box. Measure box interior sides for foam insulation panels (Fig. E). All 4 sides and the bottom can be cut from a single 4' X 8' sheet of 1/2" foam insulation. Wedge pieces into place to test for snug fit (Fig. F).

5. After assuring good fit, remove panels, and apply construction adhesive (Liquid Nails) to the back of each panel, and secure back in place (Fig. G). TIP: It is a good idea to mark the back of each side for placement during reassembly. Allow glue to dry overnight TIP: I used scraps of insulation sheeting to help hold panels in place while glue set-up overnight (Fig. H).

6. After the foam and glue have dried, the cover can be installed onto the insulated box (Fig. I). When attaching cover, you may need to cut some foam away to allow for straps and a good weather proof seal once the lid is closed (Fig J). A utility knife or foam cutter works well for this
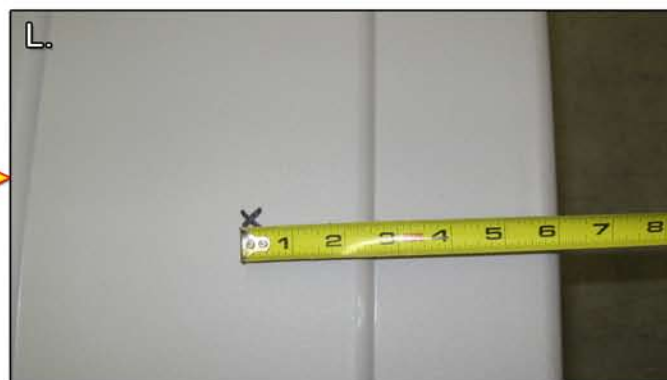
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STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS : VENT PIPE

7. Next, use 2" PVC Pipe to create vent - 90° Elbow, 45° Elbow, and a coupler (Fig K). Measure box 6" in from rear, and from outside edge, and mark drill hole (Fig L).

8. After assuring proper hole alignment inside and outside box, drill 2.5" hole through cover, and glue 90° and 45° elbows together (Fig M). Once dry, insert elbow piece into hole, and glue on on interior coupler piece (Fig N).

9. After PVC Glue has dried, rotate vent toward outside edge of box. Vent should angle down to keep rain water from entering cat house (Fig O). Use exterior grade latex caulk or Liquid Nails to seal around vent pipe, and secure it into place (Fig P).

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STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS : CAT DOORS

10. Cats do not like to feel cornered, so installing TWO cat doors allows multiple entry/exit points. One door will be mounted on the side, and one on the front (Fig Q).

11. Cats need time to adapt to using cat flaps, so remove flaps from one or both doors for the first couple months. Mount door frame in desired location, and mark cut-out area (Fig R). Use a utility knife to cut out hole (Fig S). TIP: 2" hole drill bit cat be used to pre-cut corners.

12. After Holes have been cut cleanly through (Fig T), screw on exterior cat door covers. NOTE: Since covers are only used on exterior side of the cat house box, only ONE cat door is required for a one flap house. Interior panel can be mounted on the second doorway (Fig U).

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STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS : CAT WINDOW (OPTIONAL)

13. As an option, I also added a "Window" to allow extra light into the house (Fig V). The window is a clear plastic semi-truck replacement taillight lens. Available for $3 on ebay (Fig W).

14. Use Hole Drill to cut mounting hole in front center of the box (Fig X). Apply caulk or liquid nails as a gasket/sealer (Fig Y).

15. Screw lens into place (Fig Z).
    NOTE: It is important that none of the screws used on the Cat House are too long, or they could extend into the cat living area, and the cats may injure themselves on the screw ends.
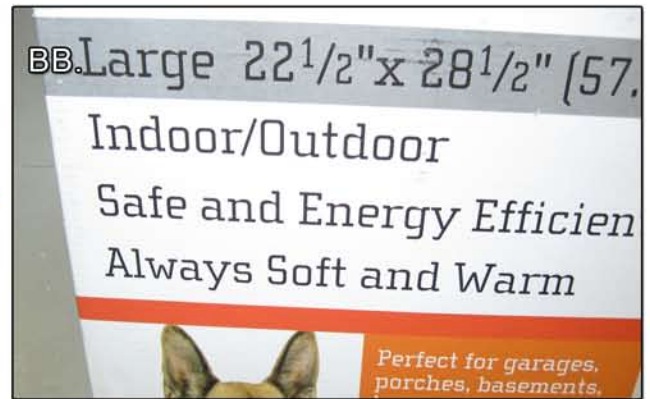
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STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS : CAT HEATER (OPTIONAL)

16. As an option, I also added a heater. I chose this unit because it is designed for all weather use and is chew resistant, and very efficient (Fig AA - BB). Available on Amazon.com ($70).

17. Use 1" Drill to cut hole for cord (Fig CC). Route cord out the hole, and wedge heater into place. Use caulk or liquid nails to seal around cord and chew proof wire. (Fig DD).

18. This option is now complete, and the box can be put into place (Fig EE).
    NOTE: With or without heater, I would reccommend putting straw into the cat box as bedding.