

## What you'll need to get started on your **D.I.Y.** Project

### Materials

Timber posts  
Galvanised nails  
Flat head clout roof nails  
20 x bugle baton screws  
1 x concrete  
6 Lm 90 x 90mm H4 treated pine posts  
15 Lm 150 x 50mm hardwood beams  
6 sheets 2400 x 1200mm exterior bb board 12mm ply  
50 Lm 70 x 45mm hardwood timber  
15 x 1200mm treated pine pickets  
35 x 2100mm treated pine fence palings  
90Lm 42 x 10mm treated pine lattice batons

### Tools

Shovel  
Saw  
Tape measure  
Hammer  
Electric drill  
String line

### Safety

Safety glasses or goggles should be worn whenever power tools are in use and when chiselling, sanding, scraping or hammering overhead.

Wear ear protectors when using noisy power tools as some tools may damage your hearing.

Ensure you check council regulations as they vary and approval should be sought before construction begins.

## Planning your next **D.I.Y.** Project

The Bunnings **D.I.Y.** brochures are designed to help you step the way through your **D.I.Y.** home projects.

They'll give you the right advice on what materials you'll need, how to get the job done and tips and ideas for achieving the best result.



## Expert **D.I.Y.** advice

If it's advice you're after, come in and discuss the project with one of our experts. Ask about organising Same Day Delivery, Tool Hire, Installation or even enrol in one of our **D.I.Y.** classes.



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**D.I.Y.**

# Build a Cubby House

How to build a cubby house

FREE



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# How to D.I.Y. Build a Cubby House

Building a cubby house can be a great activity for both you and your children. For children, the cubby becomes their private play house and for adults they have the satisfaction of knowing they did something their children love.

#### Please Note:

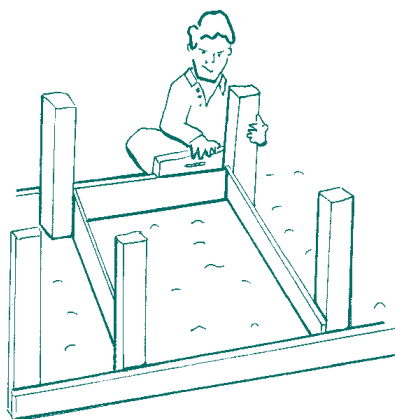
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## Selecting the site

Take care in selecting the site for the cubby house keeping in mind the level of shade during a hot summer's day, the level of privacy and play area outside the cubby house.

## Footings



Start by marking out an area of 2300 x 1800mm on the site – these are posts outside dimensions and mark out the perimeter of the frame. You may choose to use a string line. Dig post holes to a minimum depth of 600mm – they should be dug in each corner and two should be placed 700mm back from the front edge, which is where the veranda will join. If the posts seem to be sinking in uneven ground ensure there is plenty of the post protruding so any excess can be

cut off later. To secure the posts use set concrete, follow the instruction on the concrete bag.

Now attach the beams to the outside of the posts. This forms the frame around the perimeter. Ensure these are level and provide a step up of no more than 300mm from the ground to the top of the beam.

Connect two 150 x 50mm cross members, one behind the veranda posts at 700mm and the other at 1800mm from the front bearer – nail these into the end grain from outside the beams.

## Floor

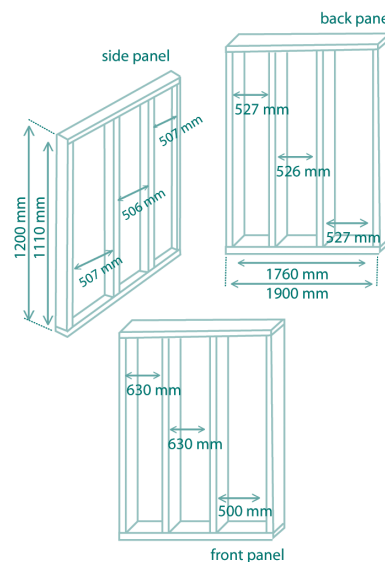
To support the join of the two floor sheets measure 675mm across from a front corner and put down a 150 x 50mm beam so that the edge of the two floor sheets will fall over half of the beam. Now trim the posts off level with the beams.

Lay out a sheet of ply 2400mm x 1200 flush with the corners of the frame, remembering that the inside length should fall over half of the beam and a second sheet cut to 2400 x 700mm to finish the floor off.

## Walls

To build the four wall frames use the 70 x 45mm timber. Do the two side walls first. Cut out the top and bottom plates at 1700mm lengths, lay them next to each other and mark out the studs at approximately 500mm spacings, giving you four studs. This space allows for the windows to be added later. The height of the wall frames is 1200mm, to suit the sheet size, so accounting for the width of the plates, the internal stud size is 1110mm. Each frame should be built separately and each stud should be cut and measured separately. Now stand the frames stand nail them down through the floor and through the corner studs.

You only put in one beam and that is the sill plate for the windows. To do this nail a piece of timber between the two centre studs of either wall 600mm up from the floor. The top plate will act as the top of the window – follow the same procedure for the front and back walls.



Cut your top and bottom plates to fit between the side walls, it should be approximately 1760mm. Now, to account for a door and window in the front wall, measure out the spacing between the first and second studs to about 500mm and then about a 600mm –spacing for the remaining two studs. Attach the studs and another sill plate for the front wall. The back wall will have spacings at about 530mm. Slide the front and back walls in and nail off everything, including the corners.

Cut and attach one sheet of 1200 x 1700mm ply to each side wall. Cut and attach a 1200 x 1900mm sheet to the back wall. Drop the side wall and back wall sheets 25mm down each frame. This will cover the joints at the floor and leaves a portion of the top plate to attach a gable sheet under the roof. Cut and attach a 1200 x 1400mm sheet for the front wall. This will act as the front door.

## Roof frame

Four roof rafters are required. Although a pitched roof looks good they can be very complicated so an alternative is a skillion roof.

On the top plate of the frame at the back wall, nail a second top plate (45mm length at the vertical). Using 70 x 45mm, with the 70mm length at the vertical, nail four skillion rafters to the back wall top-plate at about 470mm spacings. These will run from the back wall to the veranda and also sit on the top plate of the front wall. Let the rafters run about 100mm past the front of the veranda to allow for the width of the veranda posts and veranda bearer.

## Veranda and roof

Attach two veranda posts to the two outside rafters. Measure the length down from the two outside rafters to the bottom of the floor frame and cut two lengths of 70 x 45mm timber to suit. Nail the veranda posts in place at each front corner and to the outside rafters (the 70mm length facing towards the front.)

Now attach a 1900mm (70 x 45mm) veranda beam at the top of and to the front of the veranda posts and under the four rafters. The extra top plate on the back frame will give the fall required for the roof to disperse rain. (Remember that this isn't a waterproof structure).

Attach a cross beam to the veranda posts 600mm from the floor to support the veranda pickets. Ensure the pickets are spaced no more than 80mm. A picket is a good tool for this. Nail them to the floor frame at the bottom and the cross beam at the top.

With 2100mm pieces of treated pine, start at the lower end of the roof and attach the first pailing. Continue overlapping each consecutive pailing 20mm, nailing to the previous pailing and rafters. Proceed with this until you have covered the entire roof. To neaten the roof up, nail a pailing at each end as fascia boards.

To create the side gables measure out and cut to size two triangular panels (1700mm long, 140mm high and the back and 95mm high at the front). These are put in place to cover the gap left by the skillion roof on either side of the cubby house. Nail to the exposed top plate and end rafters. Cut the back gable to 1900mm long and 140mm high and affix.

## Windows

When cutting the windows out, mark out a square with the bottom holes directly above each sill plate and the top holes below the top plate. Drill a hole in each corner of the square and then cut out the window.

For further expert advice consult the qualified Team Members at your local Bunnings Warehouse.