Playset

PROJECT PLAN

YellaWood® Pressure Treated Pine

Build a durable and fun playset for your children's backyard adventures.

This playset calls for a slide and 2 swings and features a sturdy frame, 2 ladders, and a crow's nest peer-out point with a raised platform.

It is an outdoor fixture that will last and have the whole family spending more time outside.

You'll start with the construction of the A-frame supports, then move on to assembling the main skeleton. After that is raised, you will attach floor joists and install decking and outside walls.

Make sure to take proper safety precautions including always wearing gloves, goggles and a dust mask when you're cutting or sanding.

BUILD TIME

18 HRS

DIFFICULTY

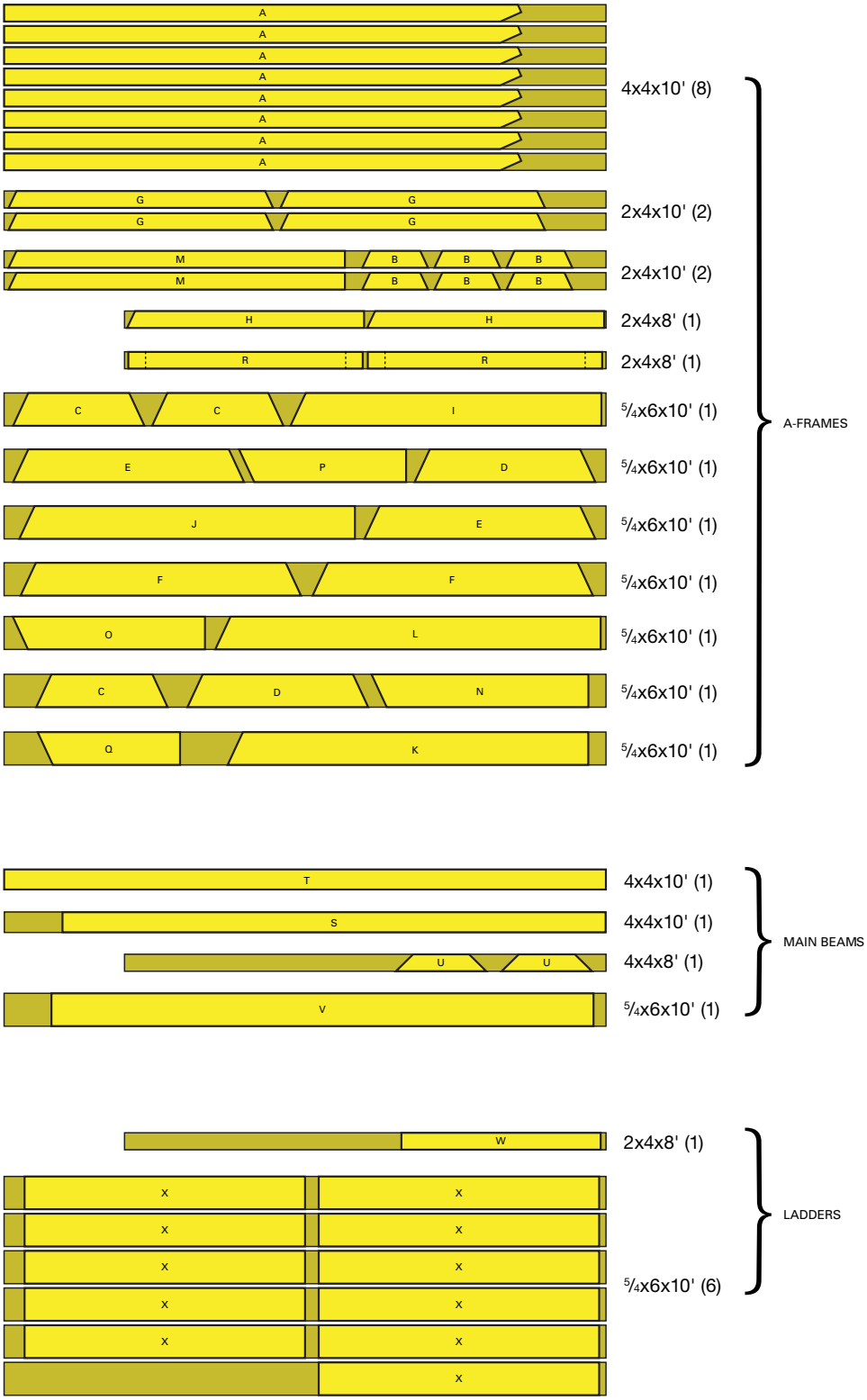
●●●●●

BuildYella.com

Playset

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

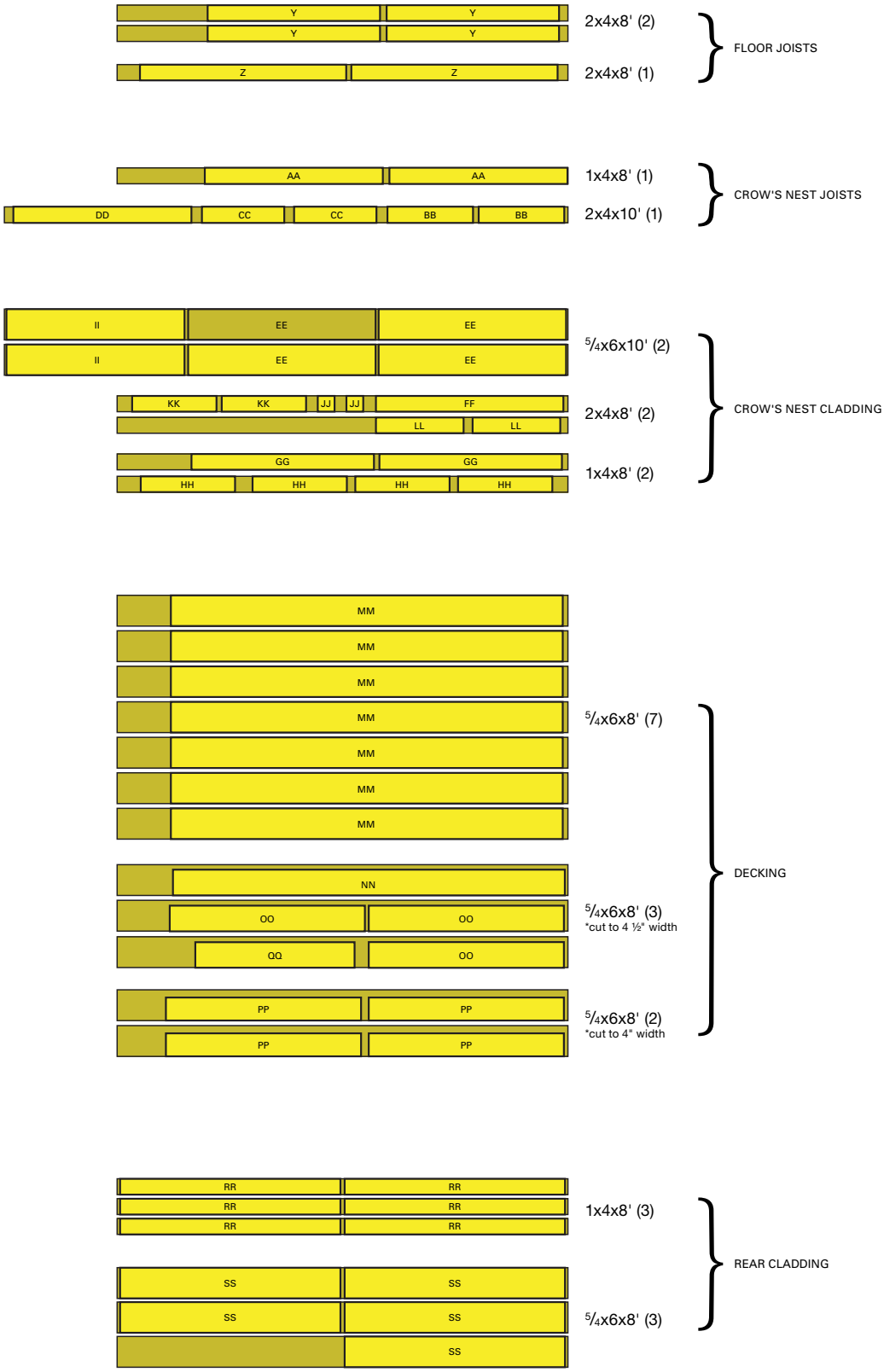
SUPPLIES



Playset

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

SUPPLIES



Playset

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

SUPPLIES

WOOD STOCK TOTAL

6x 1x4x8'

8x 2x4x8'
5x 2x4x10'

1x 4x4x8'
10x 4x4x10'

15x 5/4x6x8'
16x 5/4x6x10'

YellaWood Protector® Stain & Sealer

HARDWARE

1 LB BOX

2 1/2" Star-drive decking screws
3 1/2" Star-drive decking screws
1 5/8" Star-drive decking screws

10x

6" FastenMaster TimberLOK

16x

4" FastenMaster TimberLOK

8x

2x4 joist hangers

TOOLS


Miter saw (or hand or circular saw)


Table saw


Handsaw


Drill/driver


1/8" Countersink drill bit


1/2" Forstner bit


Clamps


Carpenter's square


Mallet


Measuring tape


Circular saw


Paint/Stain Brush

BUILD TIME

CUTTING		ASSEMBLY		FINISHING		TOTAL
4 HRS	+	12 HRS	+	2 HRS	=	18 HRS

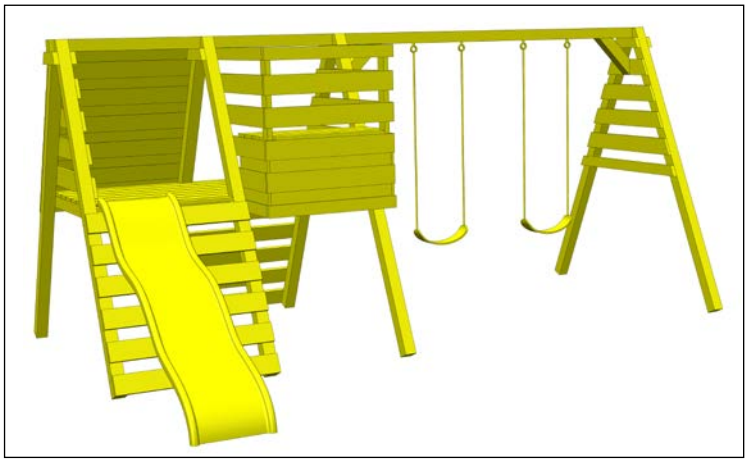
Playset

DIMENSIONS & DIAGRAMS

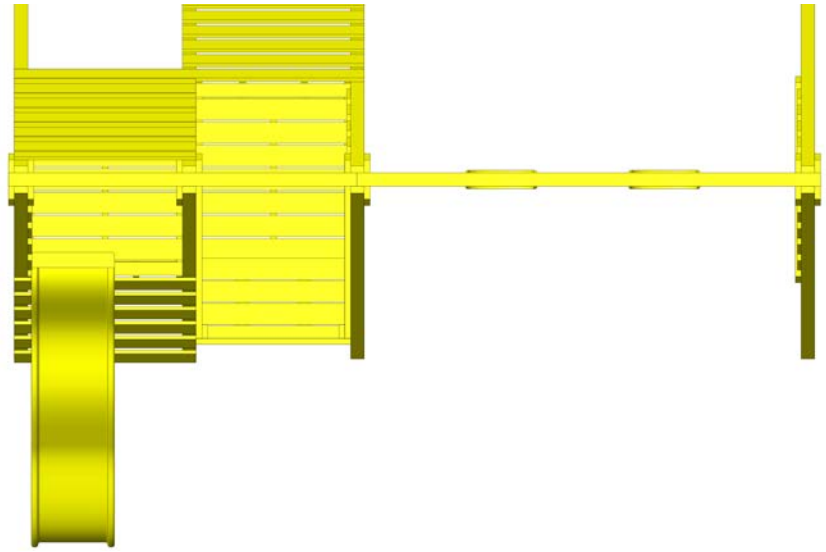
Notes:

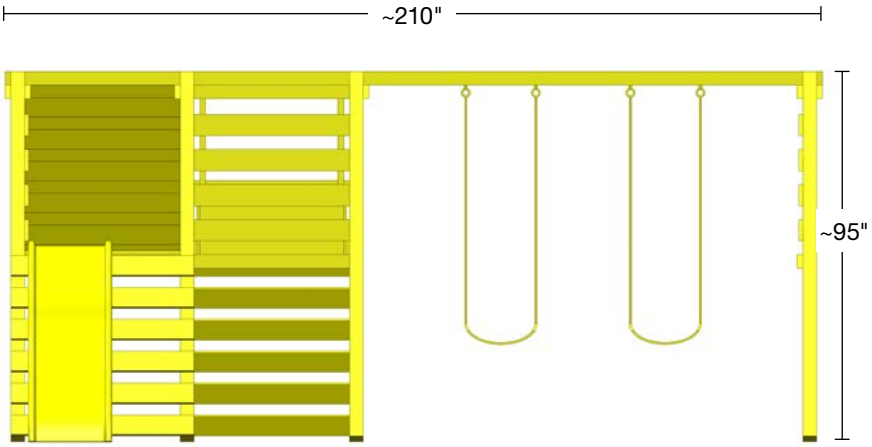
All measurements are approximate. **Cut stock in the correct sequence of steps because many dimensions are directly measured** and will vary based on actual stock and construction.

Board dimensions can vary, so be sure to **measure your stock.**

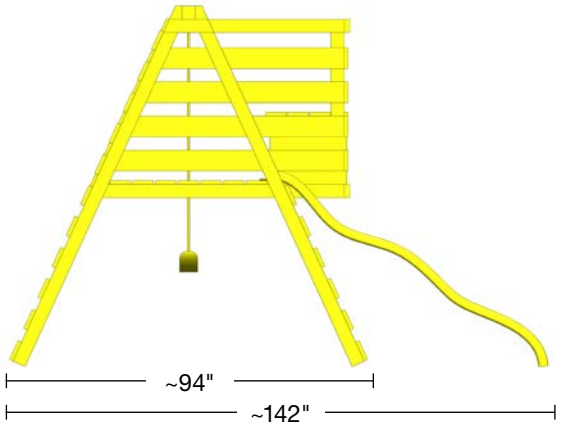


TOP





RIGHT SIDE



Playset

OVERVIEW OF STEPS

1: A-FRAME SUPPORTS

2: MAIN BEAM

3: LADDERS

4: FLOOR JOISTS

5: CROW'S NEST JOISTS

6: CROW'S NEST CLADDING

7: DECKING

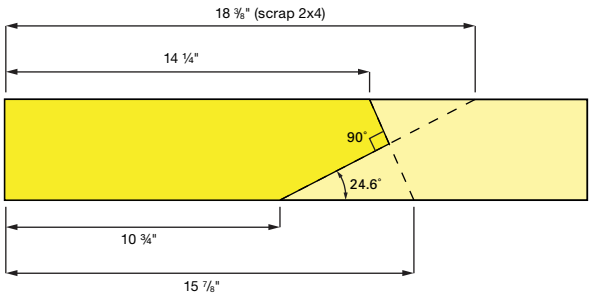
8: REAR CLADDING

9: FINISHING

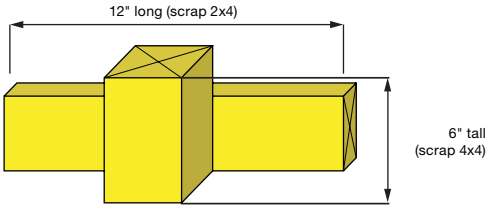
10: ACCESSORIES

CUTLIST & DIAGRAMS FOR JIGS USED

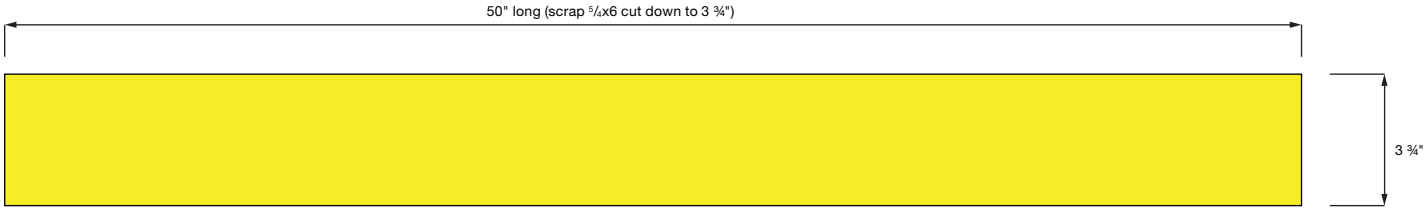
A-FRAME MARKING JIG



A-FRAME TOP BEAM SPACER JIG



A-FRAME SIDE CLADDING SPACER JIG



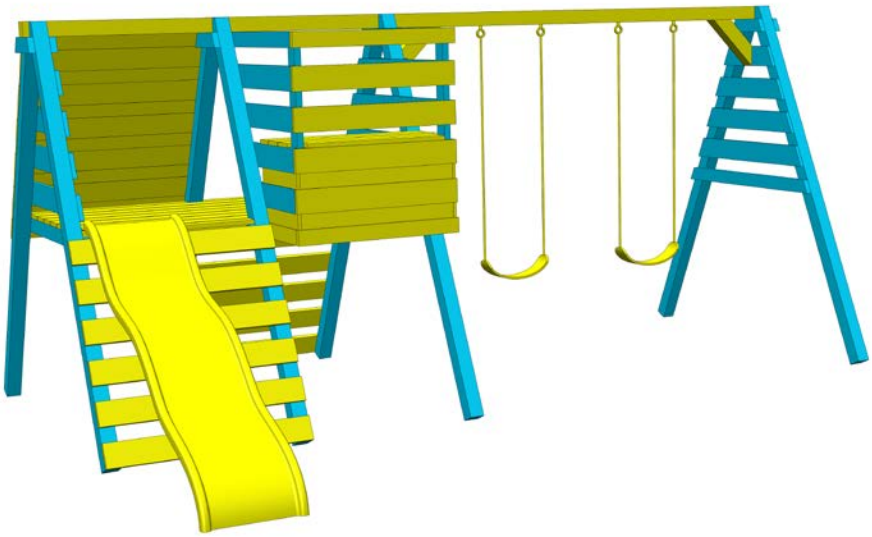
Note: Why are these jigs necessary? To provide accuracy and consistency between parts and make cutting and assembly easier. Using jigs will result in a playset that is safer, stronger, and better looking. Watch the video to see how to make these jigs.

Playset

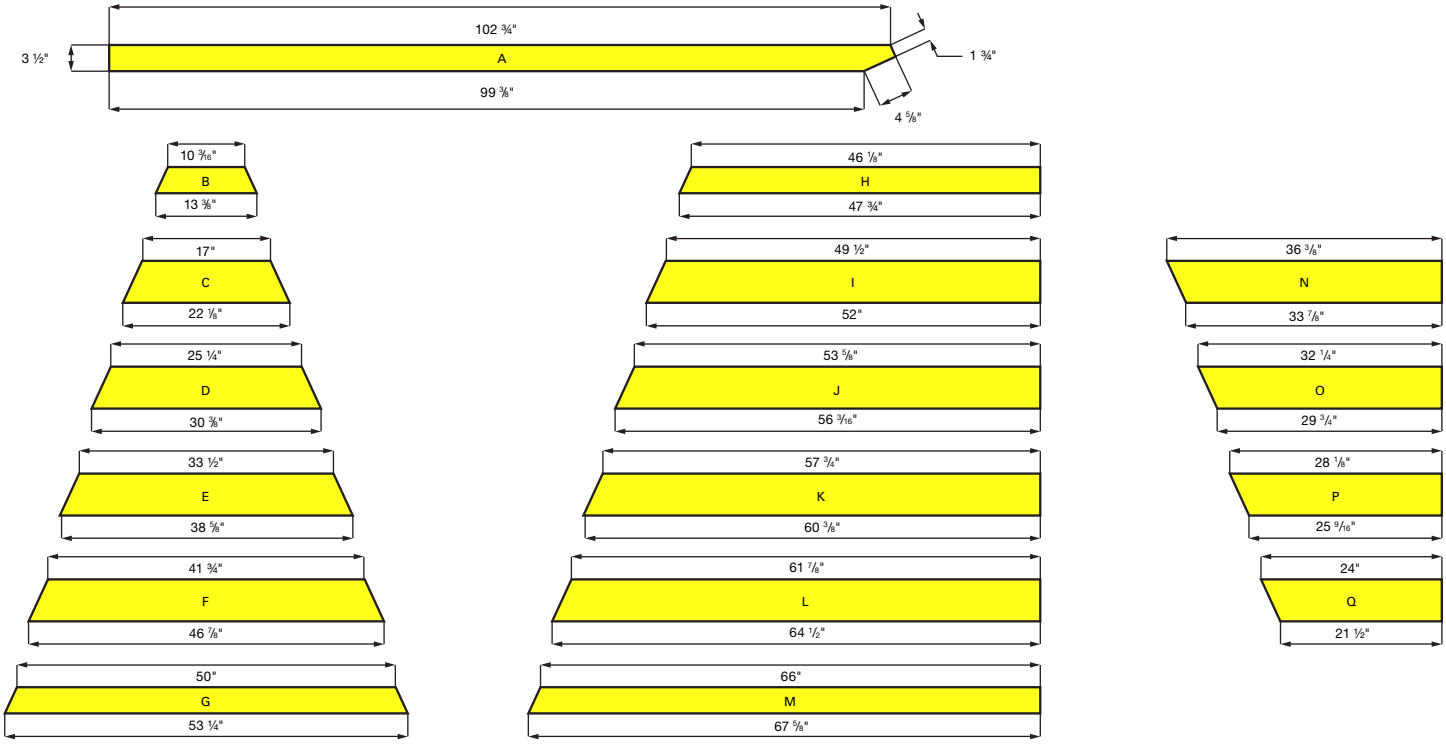
DIMENSIONS & DIAGRAMS

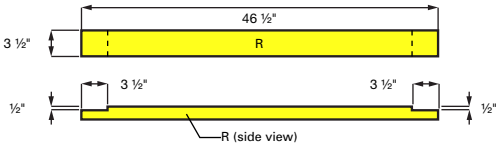
YellaWood® Pressure Treated Pine

STEP 1: A-FRAMES



CUTLIST FOR A-FRAMES:



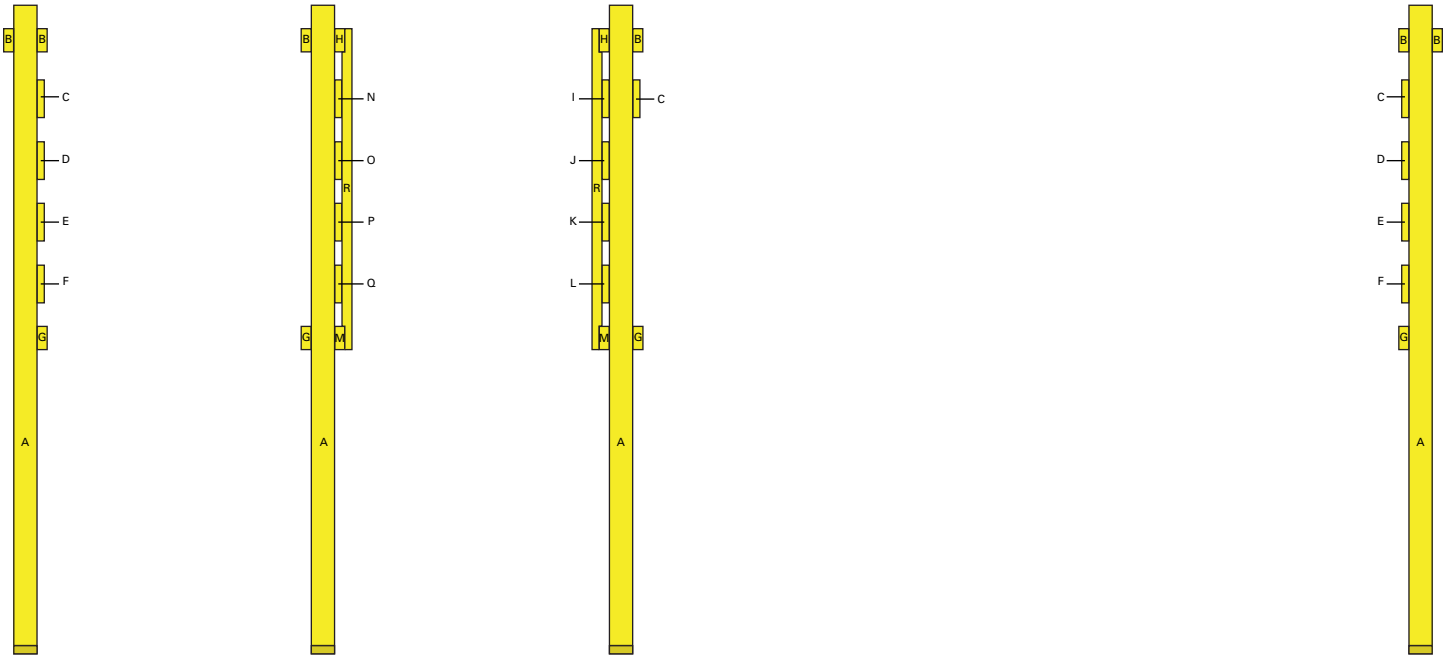


Playset

DIMENSIONS & DIAGRAMS

STEP 1:
A-FRAMES

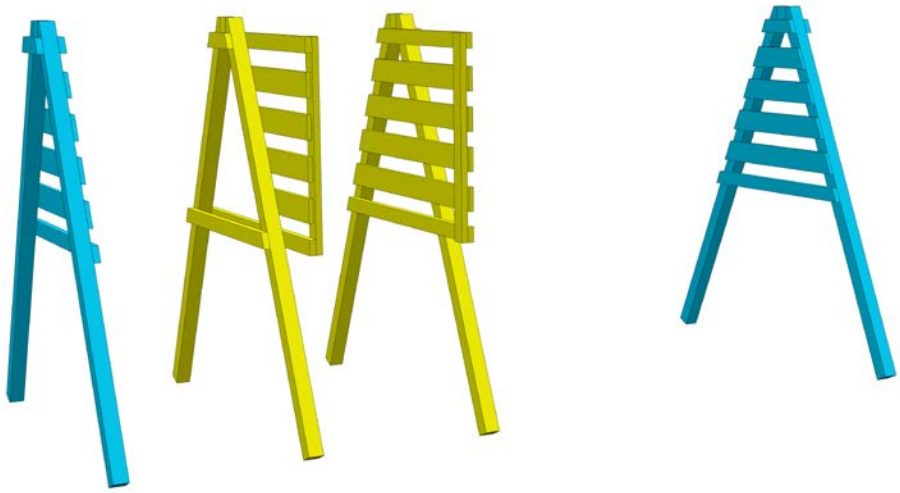
SIDE ASSEMBLY VIEW
A-FRAMES



Playset

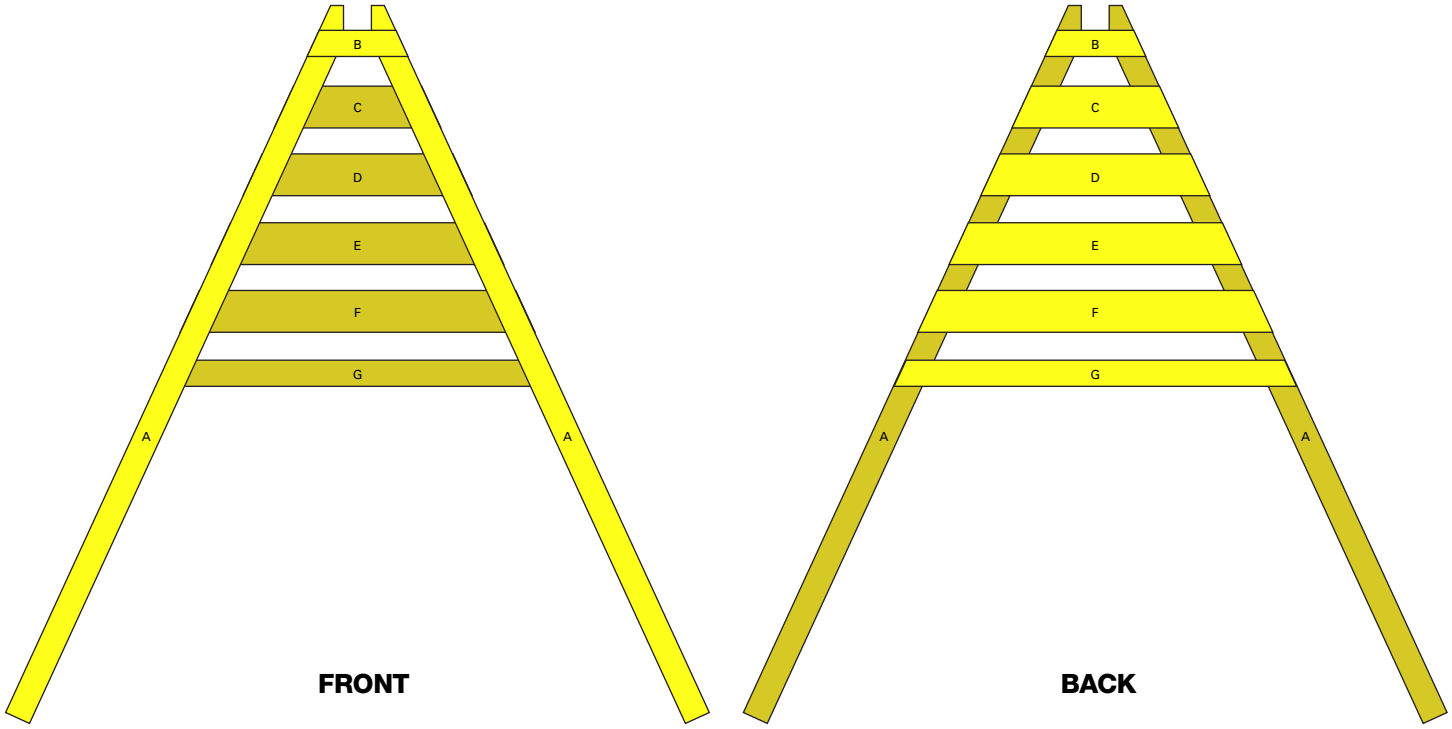
DIMENSIONS & DIAGRAMS

1ST SECTION: THE TWO OUTSIDE SUPPORTS



ASSEMBLY VIEW OUTSIDE SUPPORTS

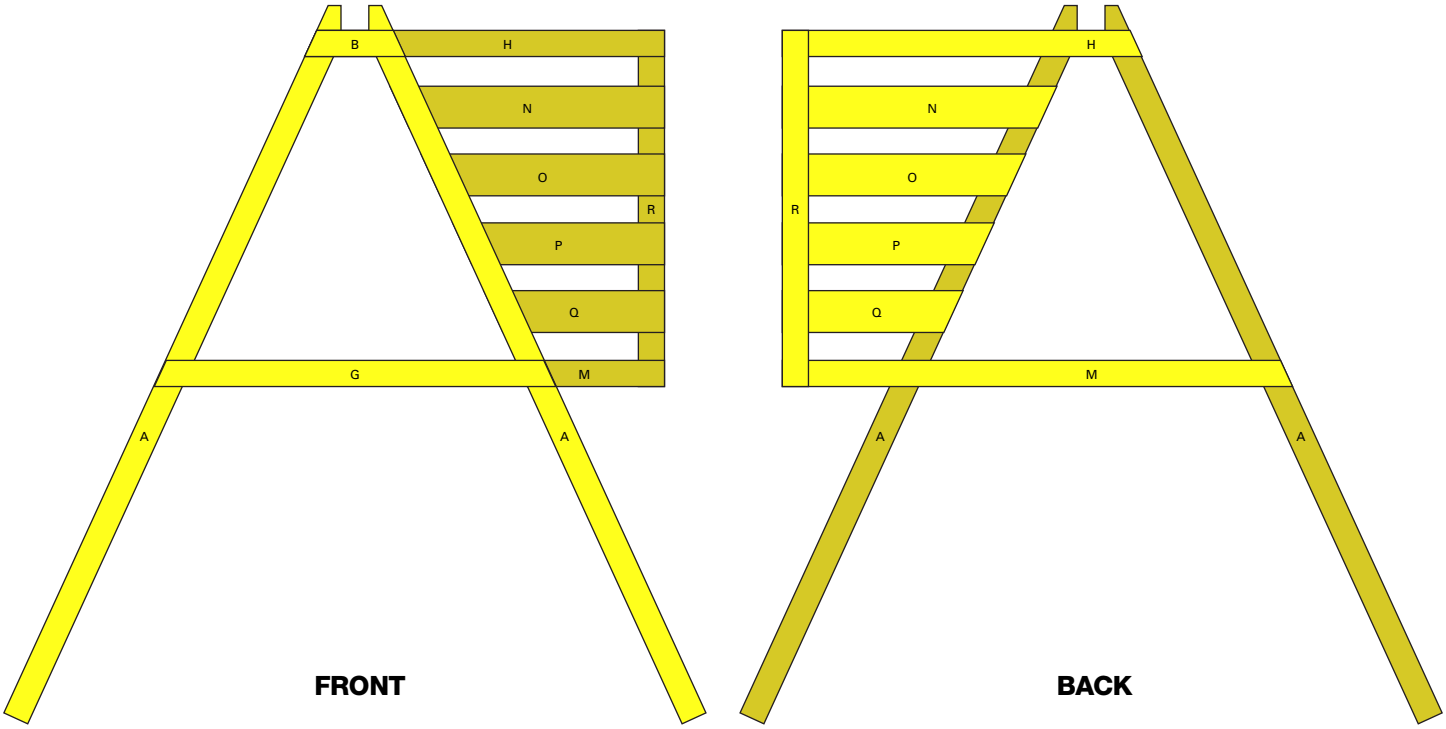
Make this assembly twice.
Outside supports are identical.



(2x)

2ND SECTION:
INSIDE LEFT SUPPORT

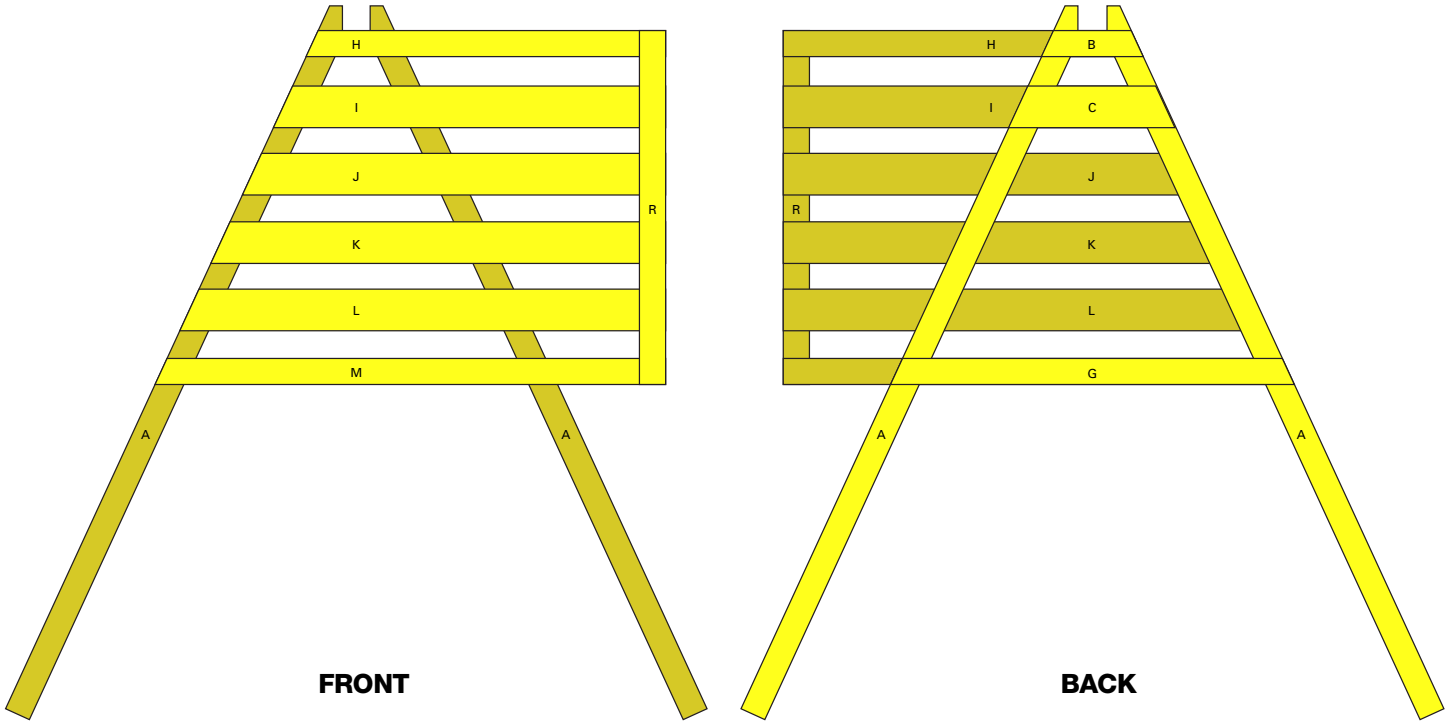
ASSEMBLY VIEW
INSIDE LEFT SUPPORT



(1x)

3RD SECTION:
INSIDE RIGHT SUPPORT

ASSEMBLY VIEW
INSIDE RIGHT SUPPORT



(1x)

STEP 1:
A-FRAMES

A: Prep: Making Jigs and 4x4 Angle Cuts

A1 ☐

We'll begin by making three jigs. See page 7 for the measurements. The first one you'll make is a Marking Jig for the tops of the 4x4 beams.

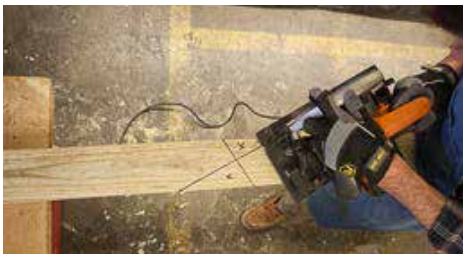
A2 ☐

The second jig is the Top Beam Spacer, used to align the top of the 4x4 beams during assembly of the A-frames. See dimensions on page 7 and make accordingly.

A3 ☐

The third jig is a Spacer Jig that will be used for spacing the A-Frame side planks and ladder cladding. See dimensions on page 7 and make accordingly.

A4 ☐



For the Marking Jig, take a 4x4 part (A) and measure 102 ¾" on each post. Use the Marking jig to inscribe the cut lines. Then flip part (A) over and mark the other side too.

A5 ☐

You'll need to do this to all 8 posts, marking both sides with cut lines. Next, cut on the inscribed lines using a circular saw to half depth. Flip the wood and cut through the remainder.

A6 ☐

If desired, use a belt sander on the cut surfaces to smooth out the faces.

Cuts: For each step, you can pre-cut all of the pieces listed in the Cutlist for each section.

Tip: Need help, or have questions about how to cut these parts? Watch the video!

STEP 1:
A-FRAMES

B: Assembling A-Frame Supports

B1 ☐

All four A-frames share the same basic structure, so you'll repeat steps B1 - B6 four times. Use the Top Beam Spacer Jig and lay out two of the 4x4 posts into the A-frame position.

B2 ☐

Measure 51 ¼" from the bottom outside corner and mark this on the post. Do this on both posts.

B3 ☐

Align the top of part (G) to the two points you just marked. This will set the angle of the A-frame. Be sure the Top Beam Spacer is still in place.

B4 ☐

Countersink part (G) with a half-inch Forstner bit.

B5 ☐

Make sure the edges of part (G) are flush with the outside of the 4x4 post, and then secure it with 4" TimberLOK screws.

B6 ☐

Finally, attach part (B) to the 4x4 posts using 3 ½" screws. Keep the Top Beam Spacer in place. Repeat steps B1 - B6 three more times to make the remaining A-frames.

STEP 1:
A-FRAMES

C: Cladding the two Outside A-Frames

C1 ☐

We'll focus first on the two outside A-frames. Flip over two of the assembled frames and attach a second part (B) to the tops of them. Keep the Top Beam Spacer jig in place for this.

C2 ☐

Flip them again and install cladding planks (C) through (F) onto the 4x4 posts. Place the spacer jig between each plank. Use 2 ½" screws. Begin at part (G) and move up toward part (B).

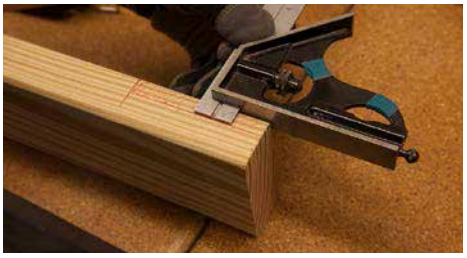
C3 ☐

Use 2 screws at the end of each board. Make sure the angled edges on the cladding are flush with the 4x4 post. The completed A-frames should look like the photo above.

STEP 1:
A-FRAMES

D: Cladding and Assembling the Inside Left A-Frame

D1 ☐



Each of the two inside A-frames are unique. We'll start by cutting notches into the ends of part (R). These will allow proper positioning of the crow's nest side walls.

D2 ☐

Using a handsaw, cut a ½" deep by 3 ½" wide notch at each end of part (R).

D3 ☐

Next, we will create the crow's nest walls. This assembly is created separately from the A-frame.

D4 ☐

Attach parts (H) and (M) to vertical post (R). They should set into the notches at each end. Attach with 2 ½" screws.

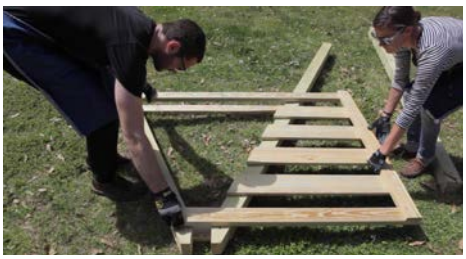
D5 ☐

Be sure the angles at each end of parts (H) and (M) match the angle of the A-frame.

D6 ☐

Using the spacer jig, lay out the remaining parts (N) through (Q). Align them so that their edges are flush with the edge of part (R), and then attach them with 2 ½" screws.

D7 ☐



Flip the assembly and position it on the A-frame. Support the overhanging edge with blocking during this step.

D8 ☐

Align part (M) with part (G), then attach using 4" TimberLOK hardware. Next, with the Top Beam Spacer in place, attach part (H) using 3 ½" screws.

D9 ☐

Attach parts (N) - (Q), starting with (Q). Use the spacer jig for placement. This completes the Inside Left A-frame.

Tip: Need help, or have questions about how to cut these parts? Watch the video!

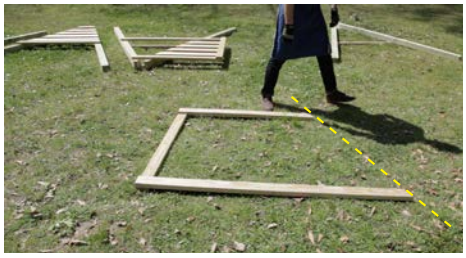
STEP 1:
A-FRAMES

E: Cladding and Assembling the Inside Right A-Frame

E1 ☐

Attach parts (H) and (M) to vertical post (R). This is similar to step D4, but reverse the orientation of these parts.

E2 ☐



Be sure the angles at each end of parts (H) and (M) match the angle of the A-frame.

E3 ☐

Using the spacer jig, lay out the remaining parts (I) through (L). Align them so that their edges are flush with the edge of part (R), and then attach them with 2 ½" screws.

E4 ☐

Flip the assembly and position it on the A-frame. Support the overhanging edge with blocking during this step.

E5 ☐

Align part (M) with part (G), then attach using 4" TimberLOK hardware. Next, with the Top Beam Spacer in place, attach part (H) using 3 ½" screws.

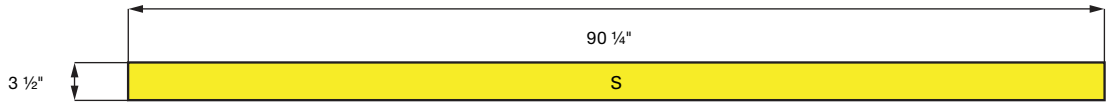
E6 ☐

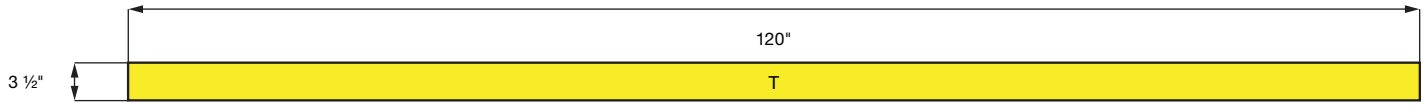
Attach parts (I) - (L), starting with (L). Use the spacer jig for placement. The angled edges of parts (I) - (L) will be flush with the back edge of the A-frame, creating a walled-in piece. This completes the Inside Right A-frame.

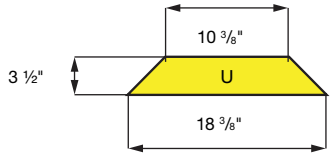
CONGRATULATIONS! THE A-FRAMES ARE THE SKELETON OF THE PLAYSET, AND HAVING THEM COMPLETE MAKES THE FOLLOWING STEPS STRAIGHTFORWARD.

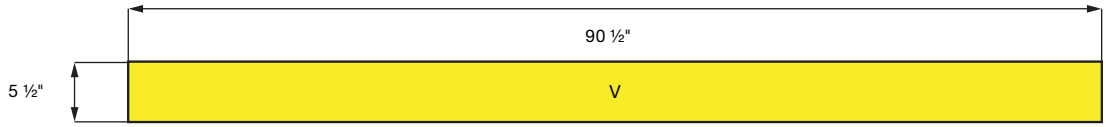
STEP 2:
MAIN BEAM

CUTLIST





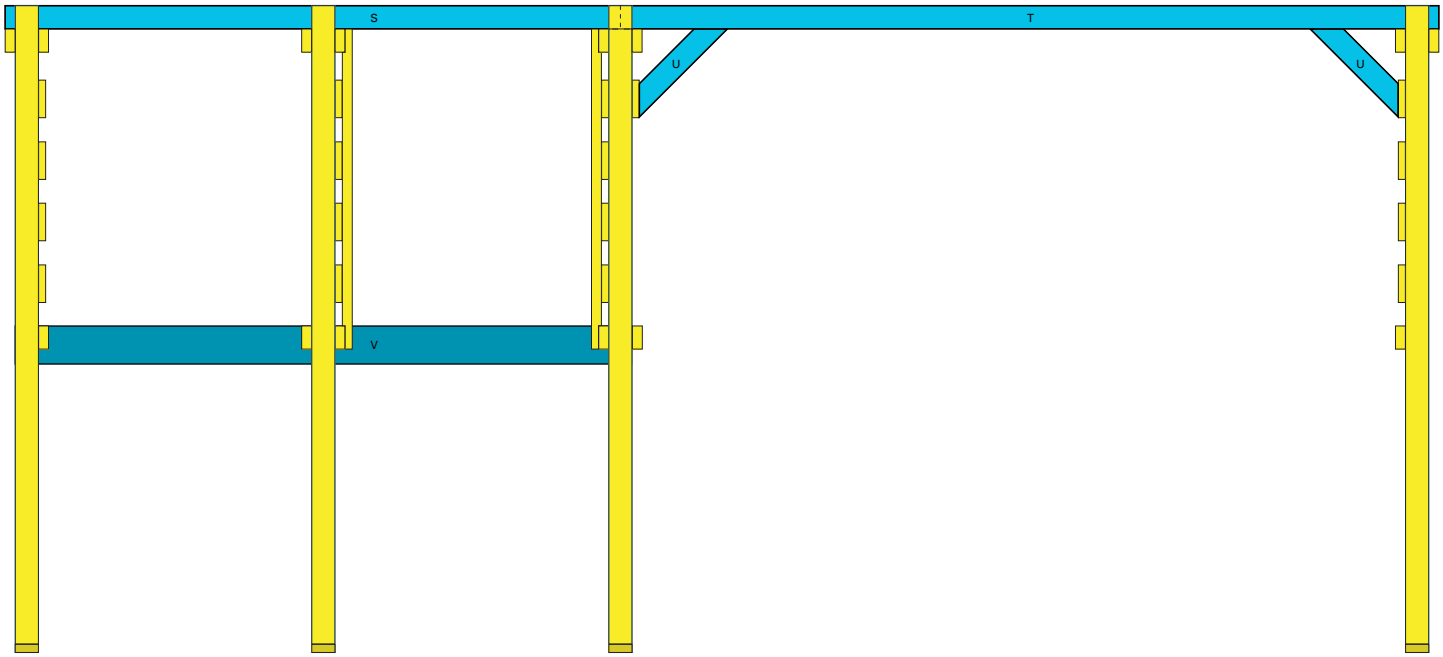




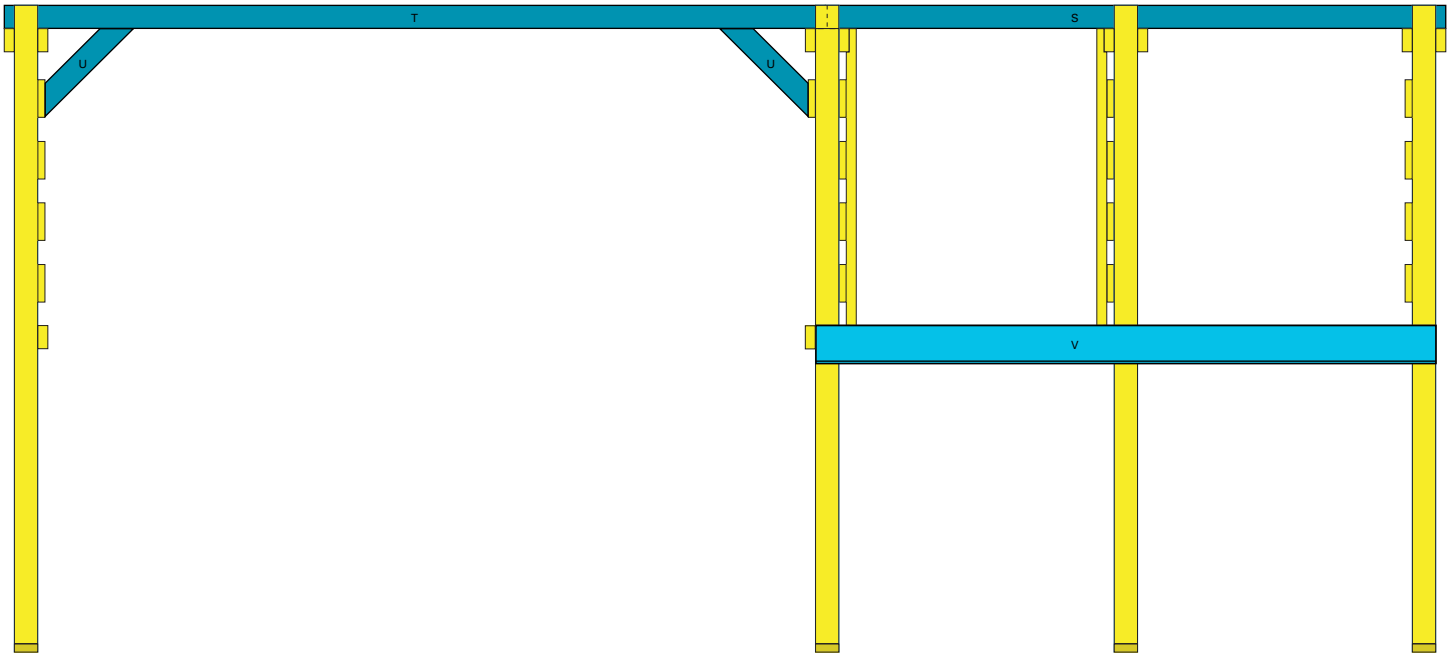
Playset

DIMENSIONS & DIAGRAMS

ASSEMBLY VIEW
MAIN BEAM

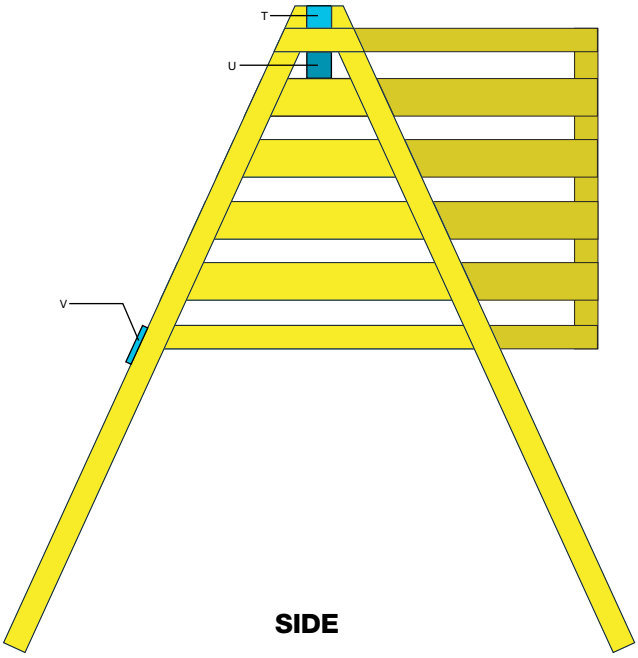


FRONT



BACK

ASSEMBLY VIEW
MAIN BEAM



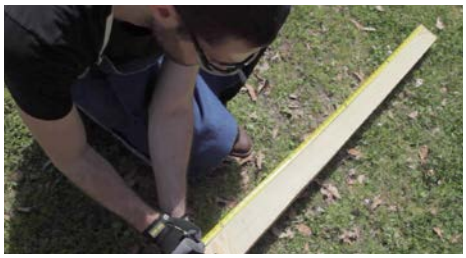
STEP 2:
MAIN BEAM

A: Prep and Mark

A1 ☐

Next we'll need beams (S) and (T), as well as part (V). This piece will help stabilize the structure during assembly.

A2 ☐



On the rear posts of the Outside Left A-frame and the two Inside A-Frames, make a mark at 50 ½" from the bottom edge of the post.

A3 ☐

Mark the center of part (V) and the center of the rear post (A) on the Inside Left A-Frame as well. These marks will help position part (V) during assembly.

A4 ☐

With an assistant or two, lift the Outside Left and Inside Left A-Frames up.

A5 ☐

Connect the two frames by installing part (V) using the marks you made to help position the board. Use 3 ½" screws.

Note: The center of part (V) should be attached at the center of the rear post of the Inside Left A-Frame. This step is critical for the dimensions of parts throughout the structure assembly. Measure and double check dimensions as needed.

STEP 2:
MAIN BEAM

B: Mount Beams

B1 ☐

Drop in part (S). Align the end so that it's flush with the outside edge of part (B) on the Outside Left A-Frame.

B2 ☐

In the center of this beam, drill and countersink using a ½" Forstner bit. Then fasten the parts together using 6" TimberLOK screws. Do this on the reverse side of the A-Frame as well.

B3 ☐

The center of the Left Inside A-Frame, part (A), should be 46 ¾" from the end of the beam. After confirming this measurement, fasten the pieces together.

B4 ☐

Raise the Inside Right A-Frame into position. Attach part (V) using your reference marks as guides. The outside edge of part (V) should be flush with the outside edge of the A-frame.

B5 ☐

Top Beam (S) should end at the midpoint of the Inside Right A-Frame as shown. Countersink and attach using 6" TimberLOK screws.

B6 ☐

Next, position part (T) vertically with the Outside Right A-Frame on the ground. Insert part (T) into the A-Frame, then countersink and attach using 6" TimberLOK screws.

B7 ☐

Tip the assembly into position with the end of part (T) butting up against part (S). Countersink and attach with 6" TimberLOK screws.

B8 ☐

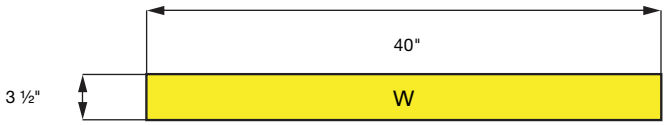
Install the additional part (C) to the outside of the Inside Right A-Frame using 2 ½" screws. The angle brace (U) will butt up against this piece.

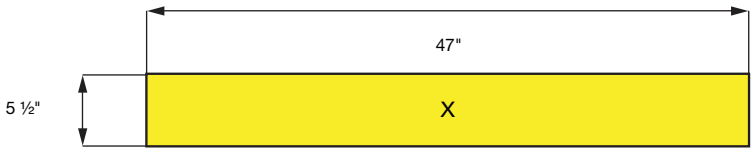
B9 ☐

Attach part (U) using 3 ½" screws. There are two of these braces you'll need to install, one on each side of the swings.

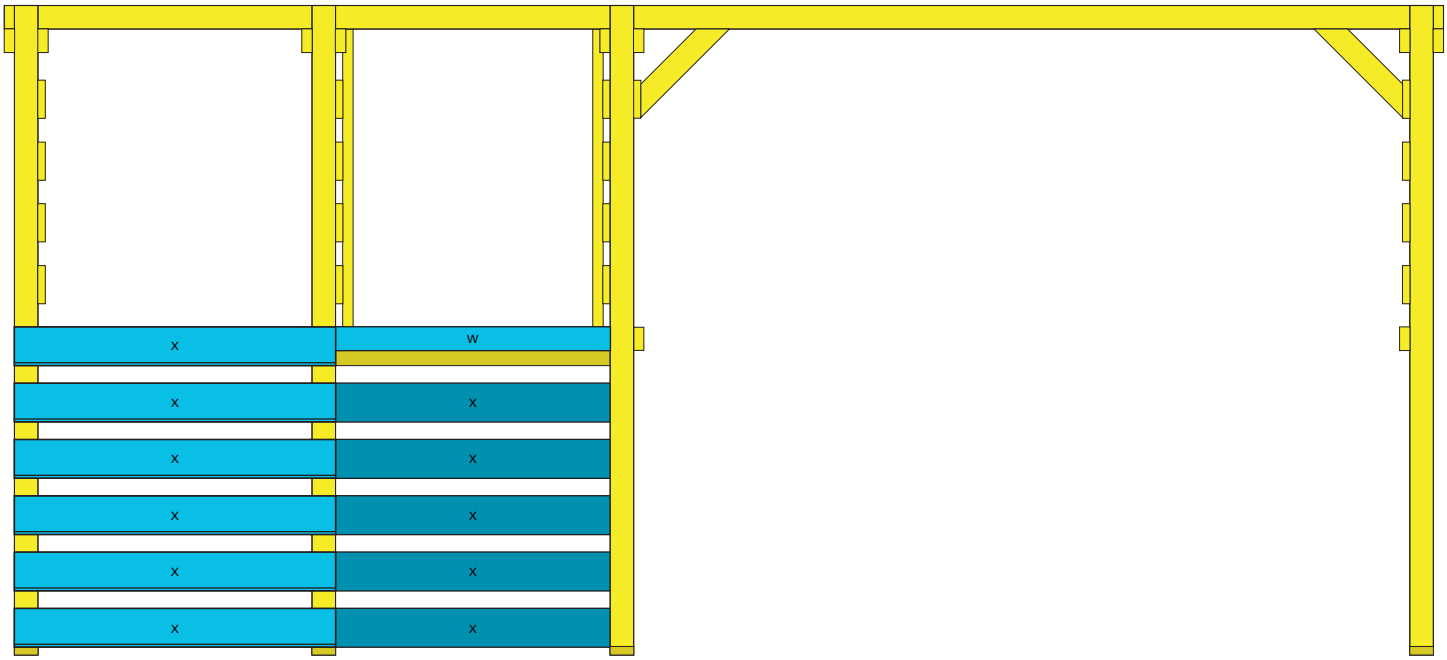
STEP 3: LADDERS

CUTLIST

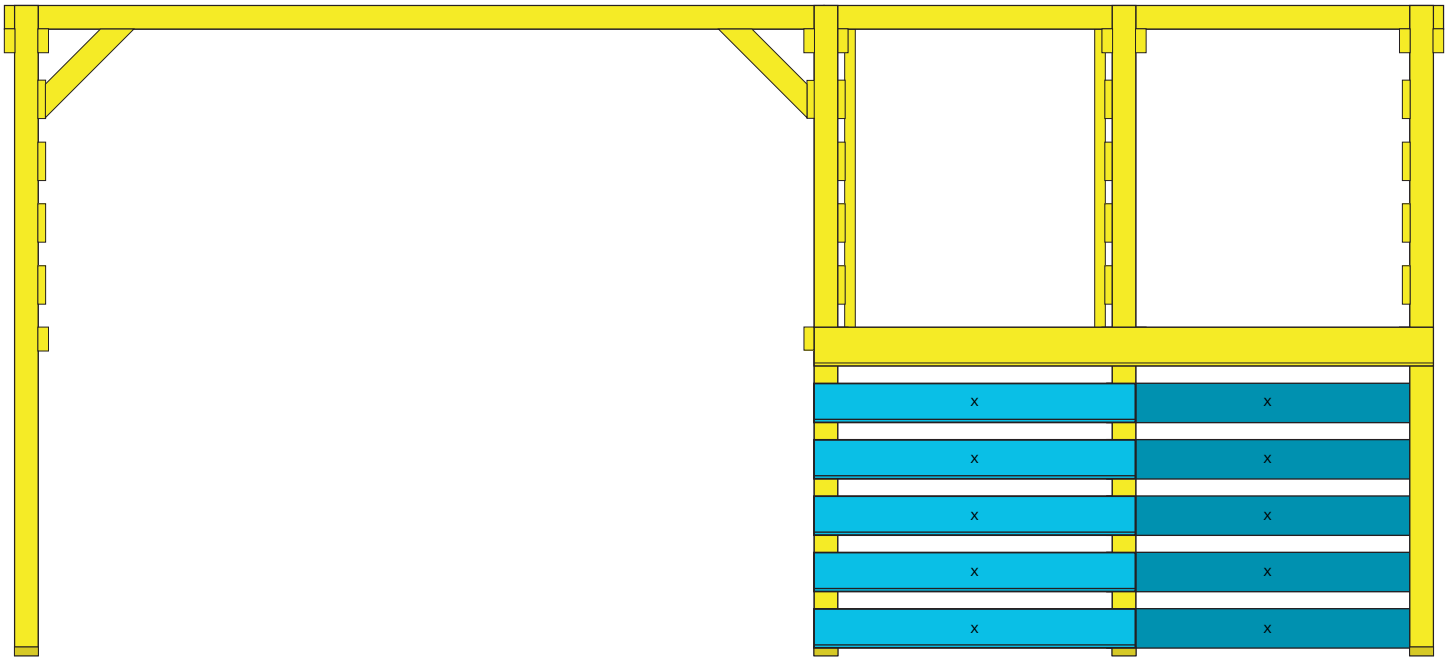




ASSEMBLY VIEW
LADDERS



FRONT



BACK

STEP 3:
LADDERS

A: Attach to Structure

A1 ☐

Position and install the bottom rung, part (X). Attach using 2 ½" screws at the end of each board.

A2 ☐

Using the 3 ¾" spacer jig from before, continue to install parts (X) up the A-frame. The top edge of the top rung should be slightly below the top edge of part (G).

A3 ☐

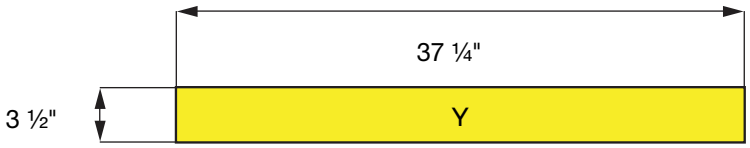
Repeat this process for the ladder at the back of the inside A-frames.

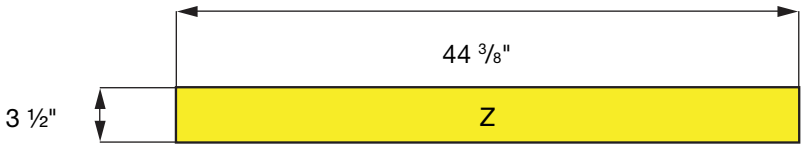
A4 ☐

Finally, install part (W) on the front of the crow's nest using 3 ½" screws.

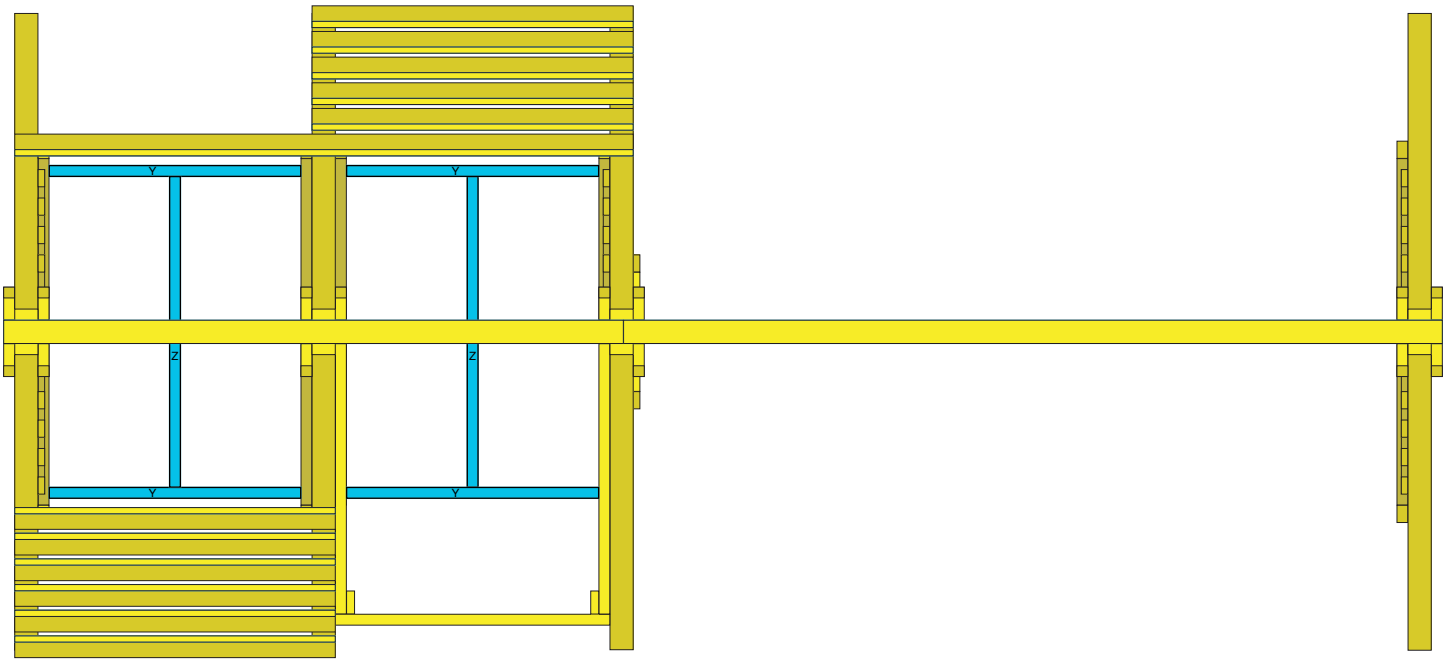
STEP 4:
FLOOR JOISTS

CUTLIST

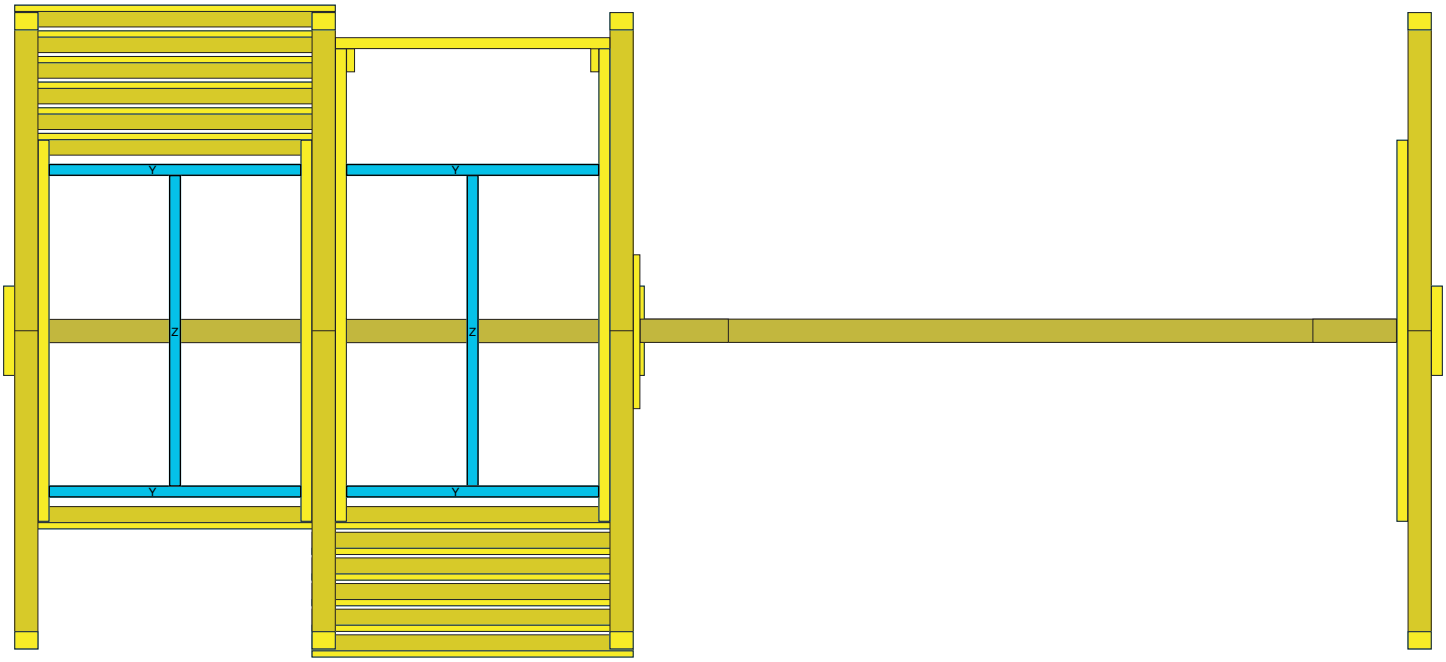




ASSEMBLY VIEW
FLOOR JOISTS



TOP



BOTTOM

STEP 4:
FLOOR JOISTS

A: Attach to Structure

A1 ☐

The joist hangers will be mounted to the cross frame supports (G) and (M). On part (G), make a mark 2 ½" in from the edge. This is the center of the joist hanger. Also mark this on part (M).

A2 ☐

Install these joist hangers at the first marks using 1 ½" screws. Use a scrap 2x4 block during this step. The top edge of the 2x4 should be flush with the top of parts (G) and (M).

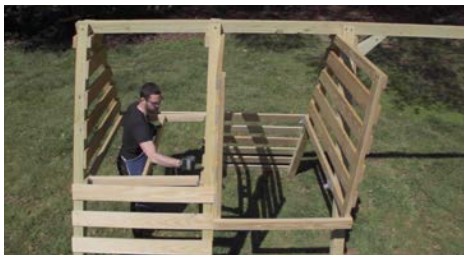
A3 ☐

Now mark 45 ⅞" away from the first set of joist hangers (center to center). Do this for each cross frame support and install the second set of joist hangers on parts (G) and (M).

A4 ☐

Attach part (Z) to parts (Y) to create two H shaped assemblies. Part (Z) should be attached to the centers of parts (Y) using 3 ½" screws. Create these assemblies on the ground, separate from the main structure.

A5 ☐



Drop one H shaped assembly into the joist hangers and secure the hangers to the joists using 1 ⅝" screws.

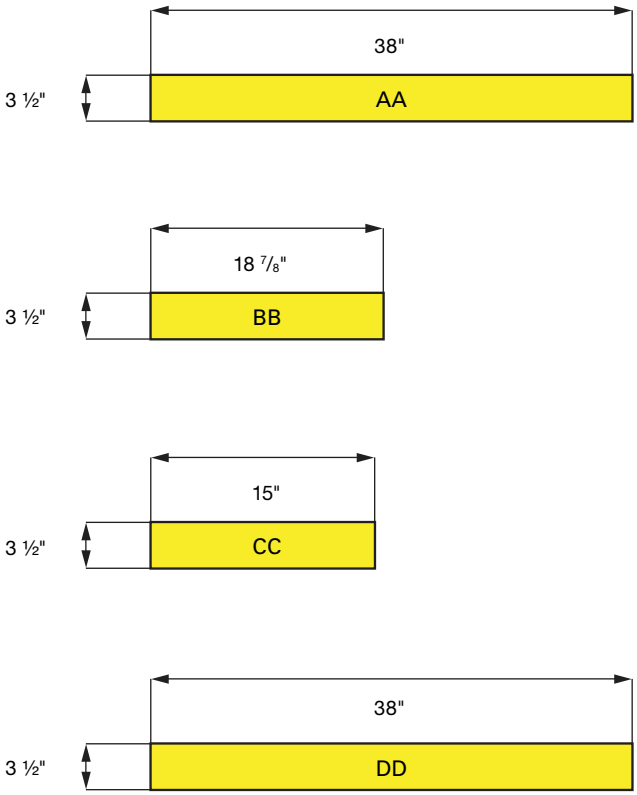
A6 ☐

Repeat this on the right side, where the crow's nest will be. Once complete, the supports for the decking are finished.

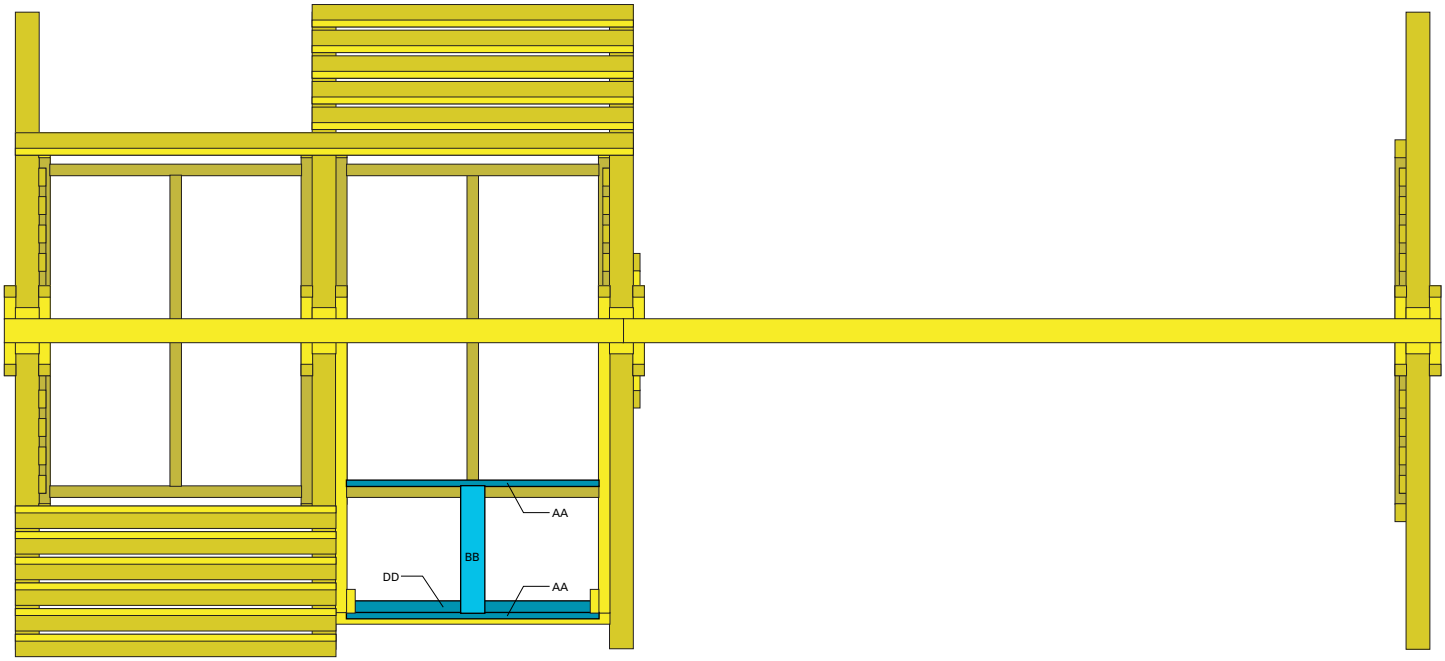
Tip: Need help with the joist hangers? Watch the video!

STEP 5:
CROW'S NEST JOISTS

CUT LIST



ASSEMBLY VIEW
CROW'S NEST JOISTS



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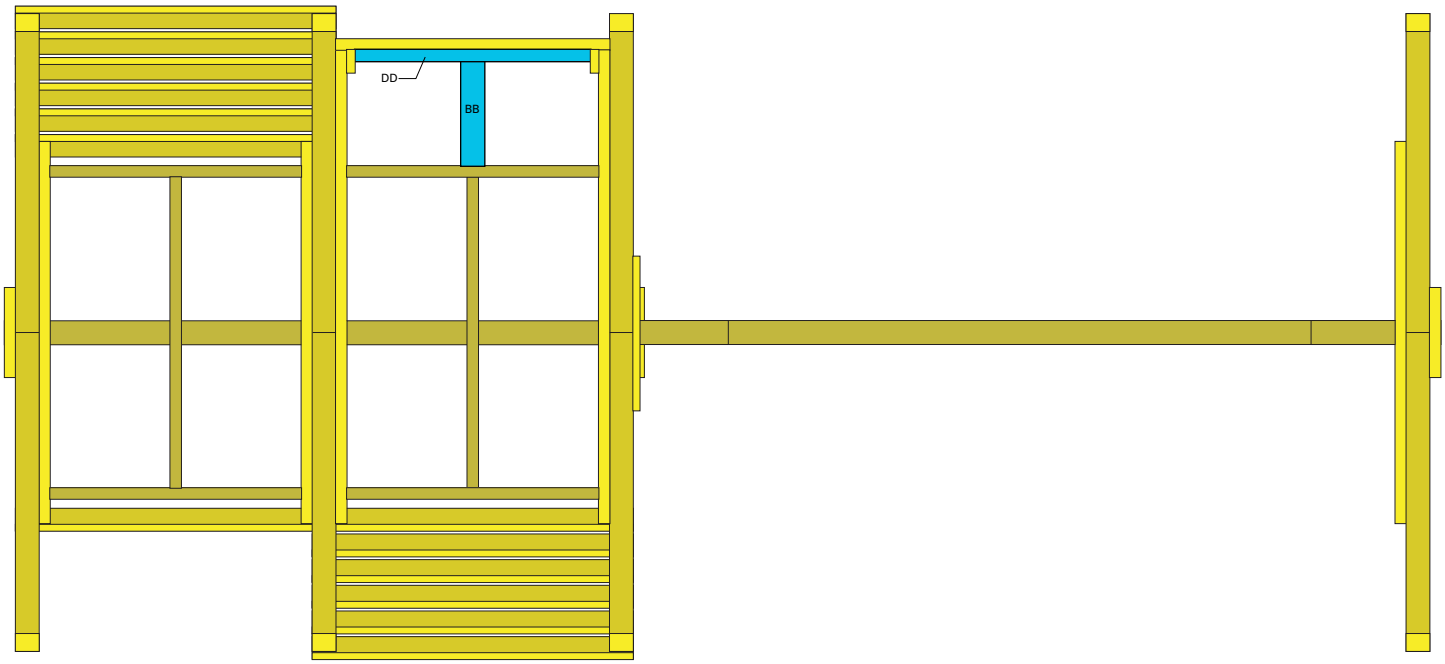
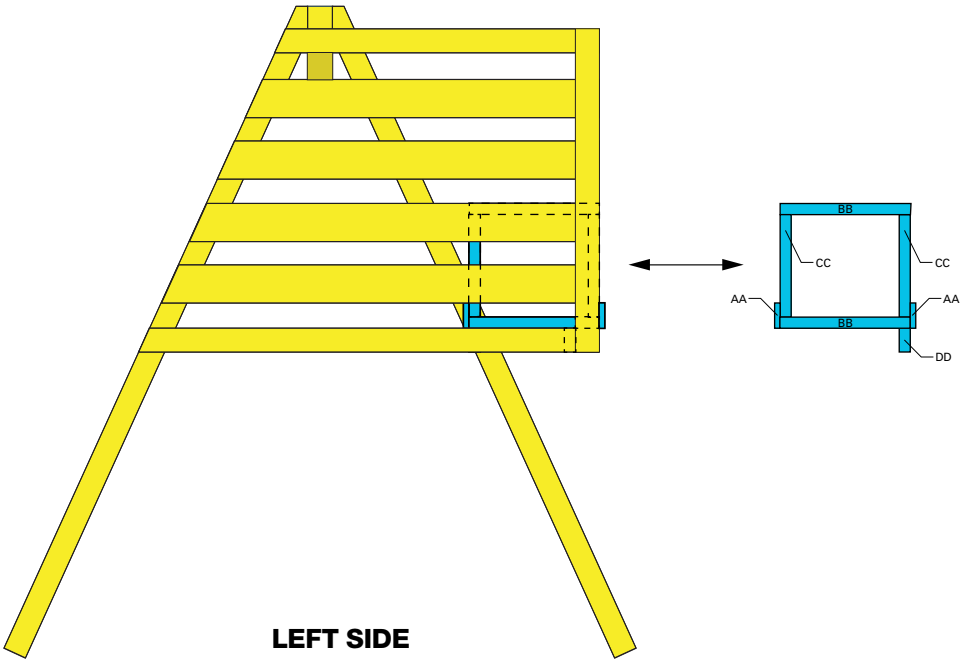


BOTTOM

ASSEMBLY VIEW
CROW'S NEST JOISTS



STEP 5:
CROW'S NEST JOISTS

A: Attach to Structure

A1 ☐

We'll start by adding framing for the crow's nest. Begin by attaching part (DD) to the back of part (W), creating a double 2x4 beam across the front of the crow's nest. Use 2 ½" screws.

A2 ☐

Now, assemble parts (BB) and (CC) using 3 ½" screws to create a center support structure for the crow's nest decking. Use two screws at the end of each board to make a square structure.

A3 ☐

Attach part (AA) to the center of the center support structure you just made. The bottom edge of part (AA) should be flush with the bottom edge of part (BB). Use 1 ⅝" screws.

A4 ☐

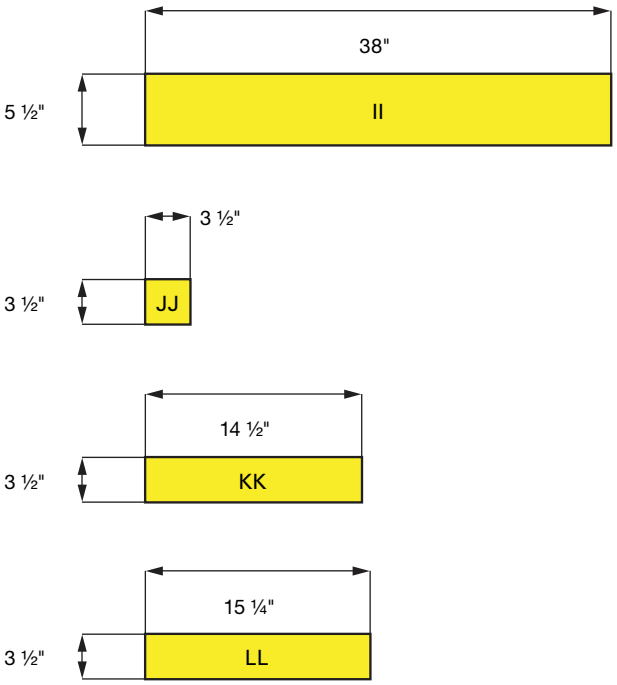
Position the center support structure you just made so that it rests on part (Y) and (DD). It should be centered on these parts. Attach using 3 ½" screws diagonally into parts (Y) and (DD). Also use 1 ⅝" screws at the edge of part (AA).

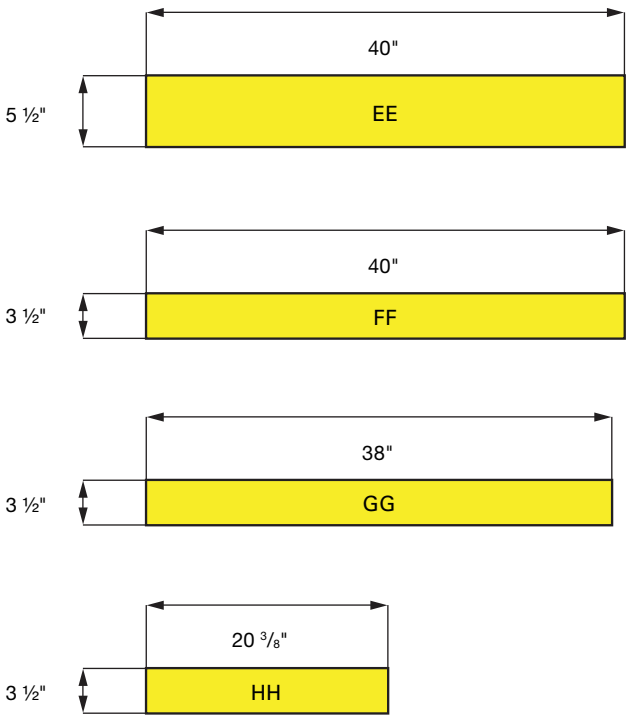
A5 ☐

Finally, position part (AA) so that it is centered on the back of the center support structure. The bottom edge of part (AA) should be flush with the bottom edge of part (BB). Attach using 1 ⅝" screws.

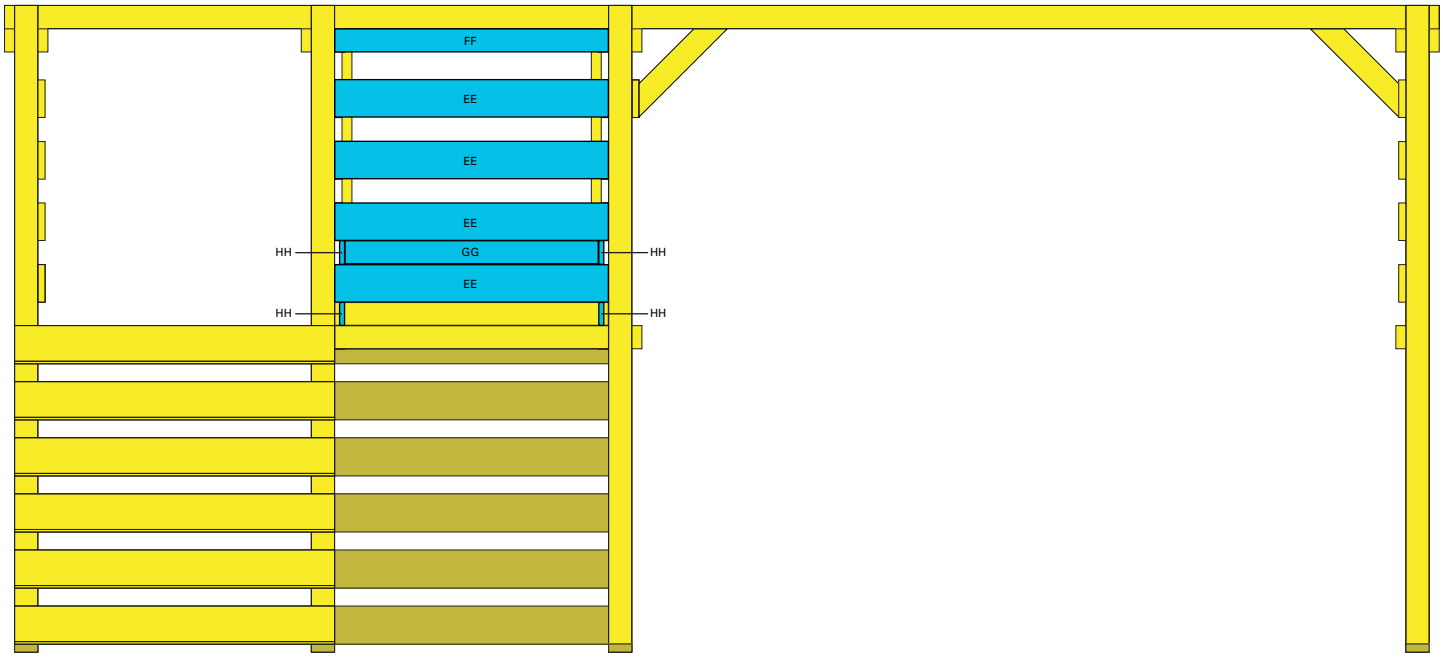
STEP 6:
CROW'S NEST CLADDING

CUTLIST

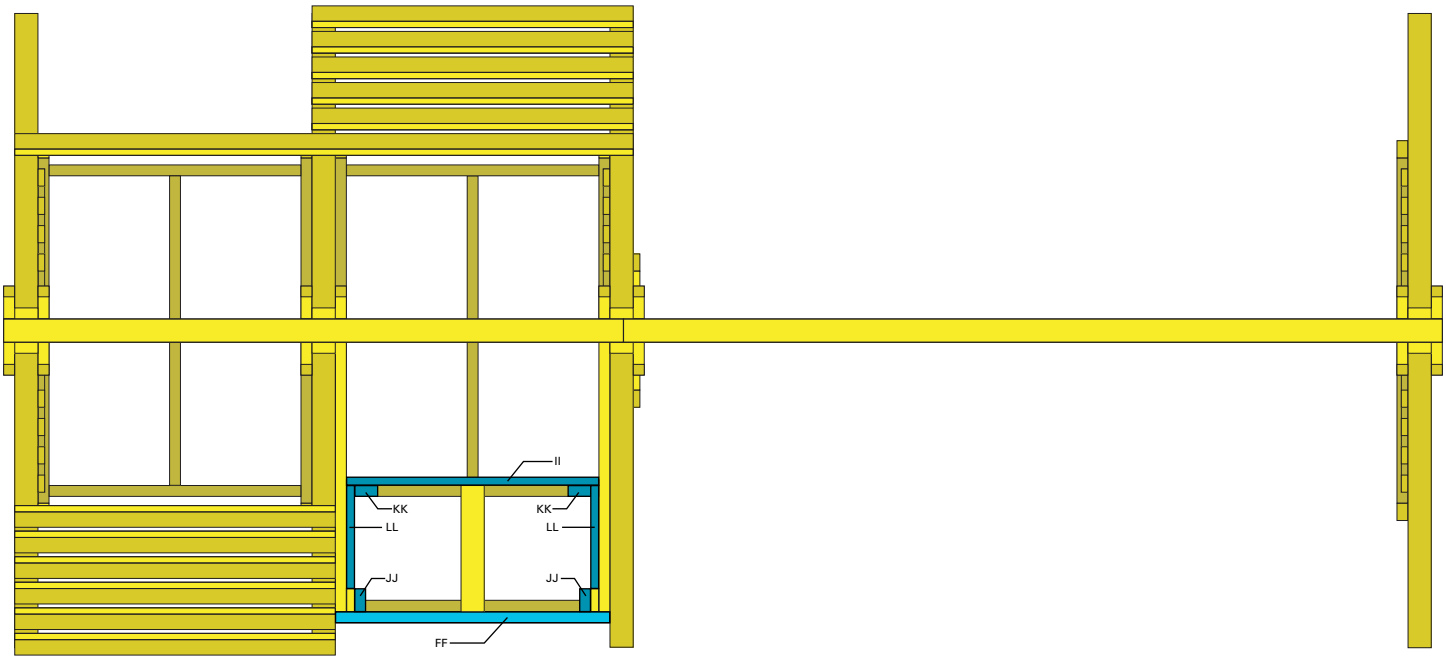




ASSEMBLY VIEW
CROW'S NEST CLADDING

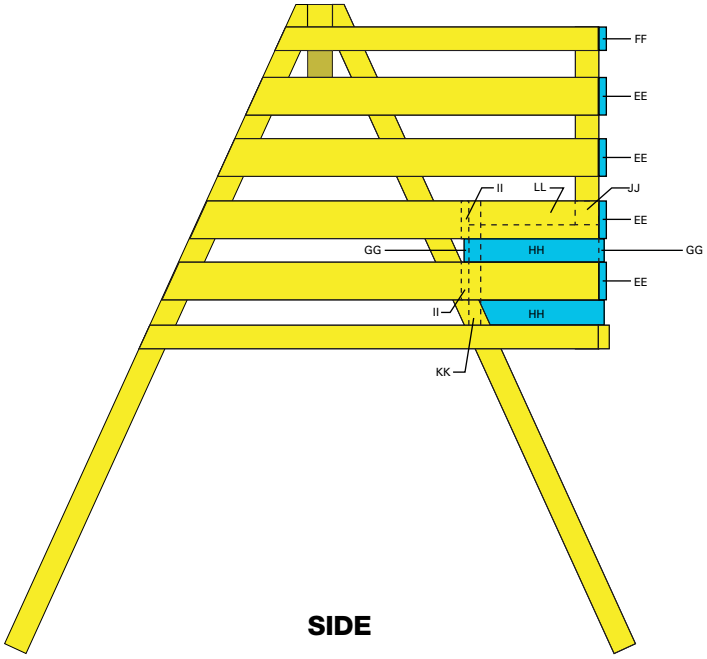


FRONT



LEFT SIDE

ASSEMBLY VIEW
CROW'S NEST CLADDING



STEP 6:
CROW'S NEST CLADDING

A: Install Blocking Supports

A1 ☐

Install parts (LL) along the back of part (P). The top edge of part (LL) should be flush with the top edge of part (P). Attach using 2 ½" screws from the outside.

A2 ☐

Repeat on the other side of the crow's nest, this time making sure the top edge of part (LL) is flush with the top edge of part (K). This will provide support for the decking to come.

A3 ☐

Next, install parts (KK) vertically, using part (AA) to help position them. Part (KK) should butt up against part (AA) at the bottom, and butt up against part (LL) at the top. Attach using 1 ⅝" screws from the outside.

A4 ☐

Attach parts (JJ) to the inside of parts (R). The top edge of part (JJ) should be flush with the top edge of part (LL). Attach with 2 ½" screws from the inside.

STEP 6:
CROW'S NEST CLADDING

B: Attach to Structure

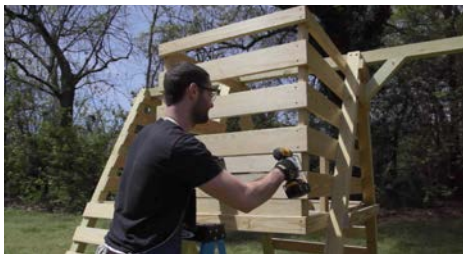
B1 ☐

Attach the lowermost part (EE) to the front of the crow's nest using 2 ½" screws. Align part (EE) with parts (L) and (Q).

B2 ☐

Next, attach part (FF) at the top of the crow's nest using 3 ½" screws. Align part (FF) with parts (H). Then, install the remaining parts (EE) on the front of the crow's nest, from bottom to top.

B3 ☐



The remaining parts (II), (GG), and (HH) should fit into the remaining gaps on the crow's nest.

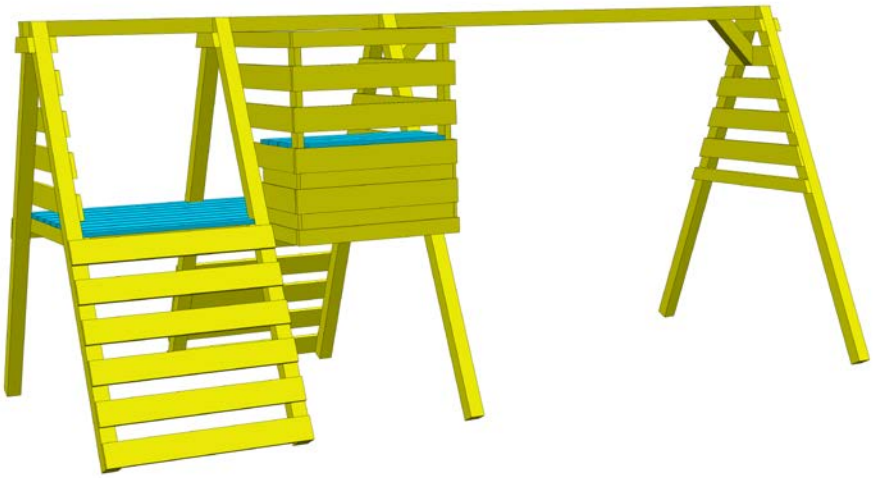
B4 ☐

For parts (II) and (HH), the screws should be at the ends of the board and go into the blocking part (KK).

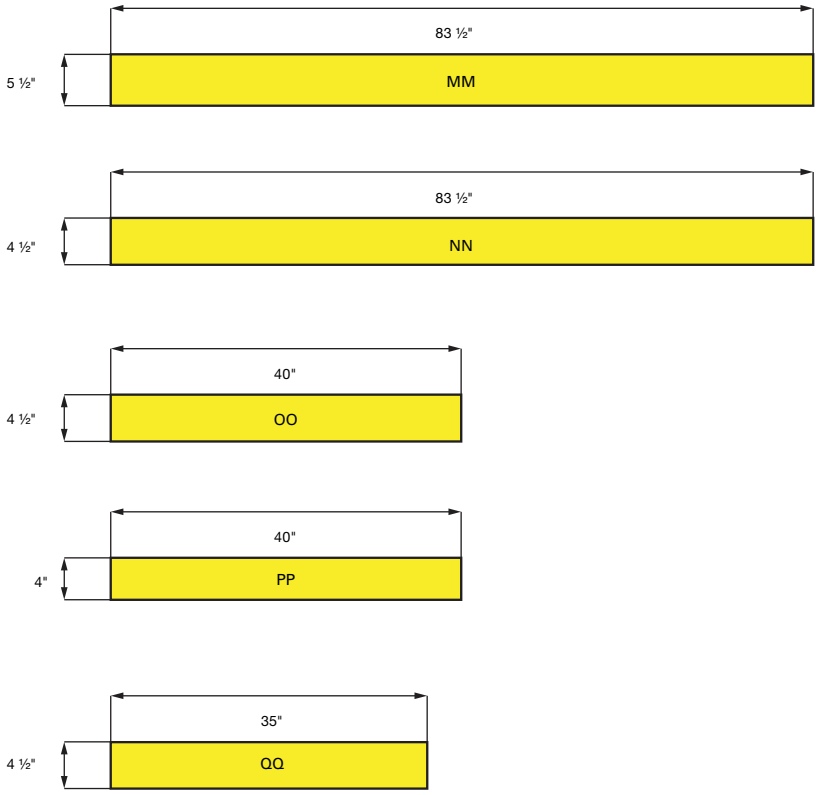
B5 ☐

Be sure to pre-drill and countersink when screwing this close to the ends of the boards.

STEP 7: DECKING



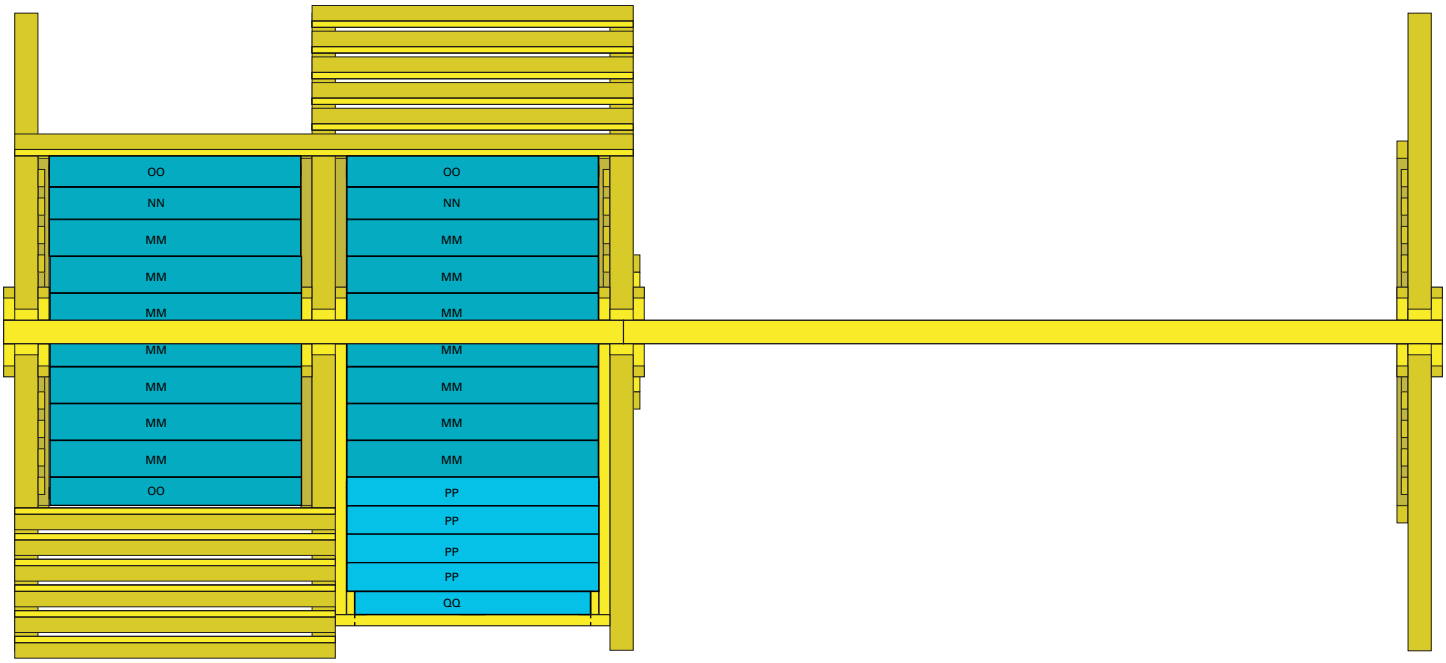
CUTLIST



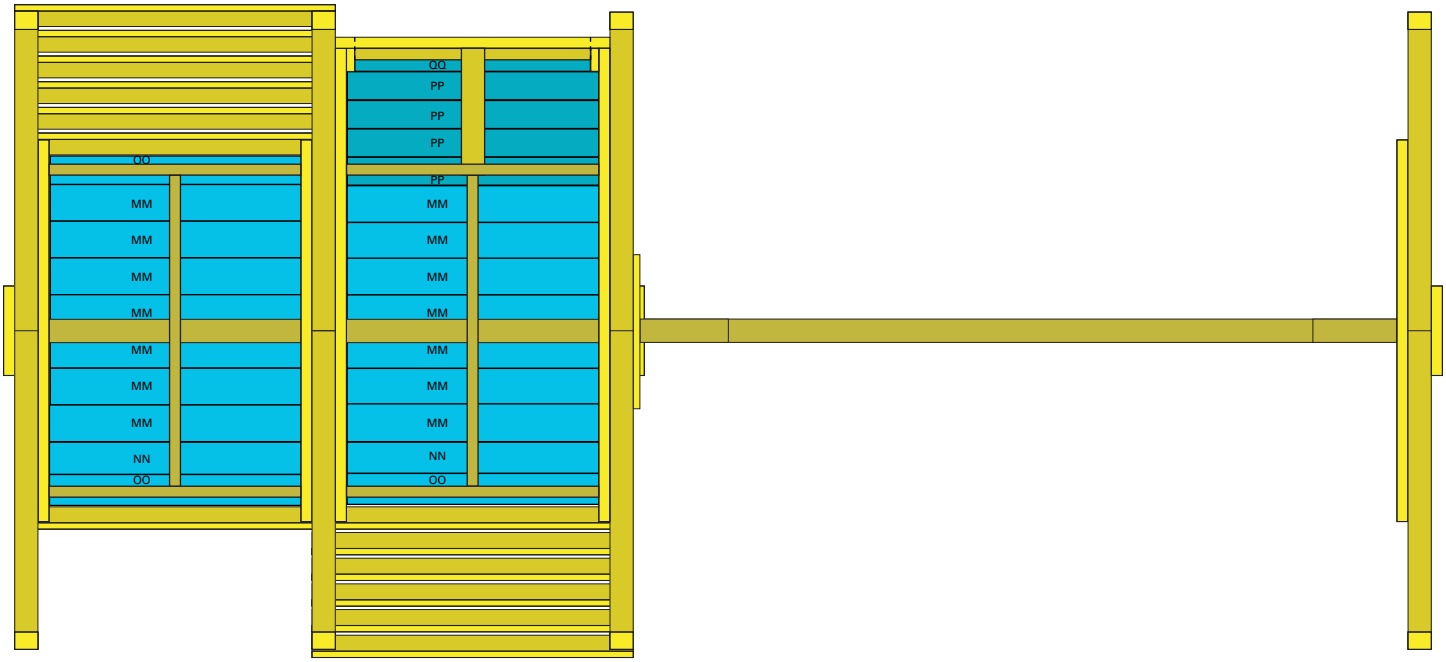
Playset

DIMENSIONS & DIAGRAMS

ASSEMBLY VIEW
DECKING



TOP



BOTTOM

STEP 7: DECKING

A: Attach to Joists

A1 ☐

Position the first decking board (MM) against the posts of the A-frame at the front of the structure.

A2 ☐

Center and attach using 2 ½" screws. Use 2 screws at each floor joist location, for a total of 8 screws per board (MM). Set out the remaining (MM) boards but do not screw them in.

A3 ☐

The final board of this decking will be board (NN) which should fit up against the rear posts of the A-frames. Now you can attach all these boards with 2 ½" screws into the joists below.

A4 ☐

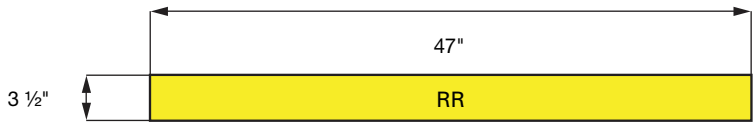
Install parts (OO) at the three openings of the structures. They should project slightly beyond the A-frames.

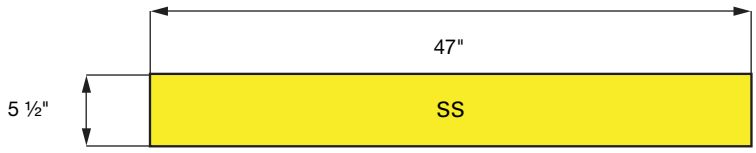
A5 ☐

Position and install parts (PP) and (QQ) as the decking for the crow's nest. Part (QQ) will sit between the posts (R). Attach using 2 ½" screws into the blocking you installed below.

STEP 8:
REAR CLADDING

CUTLIST

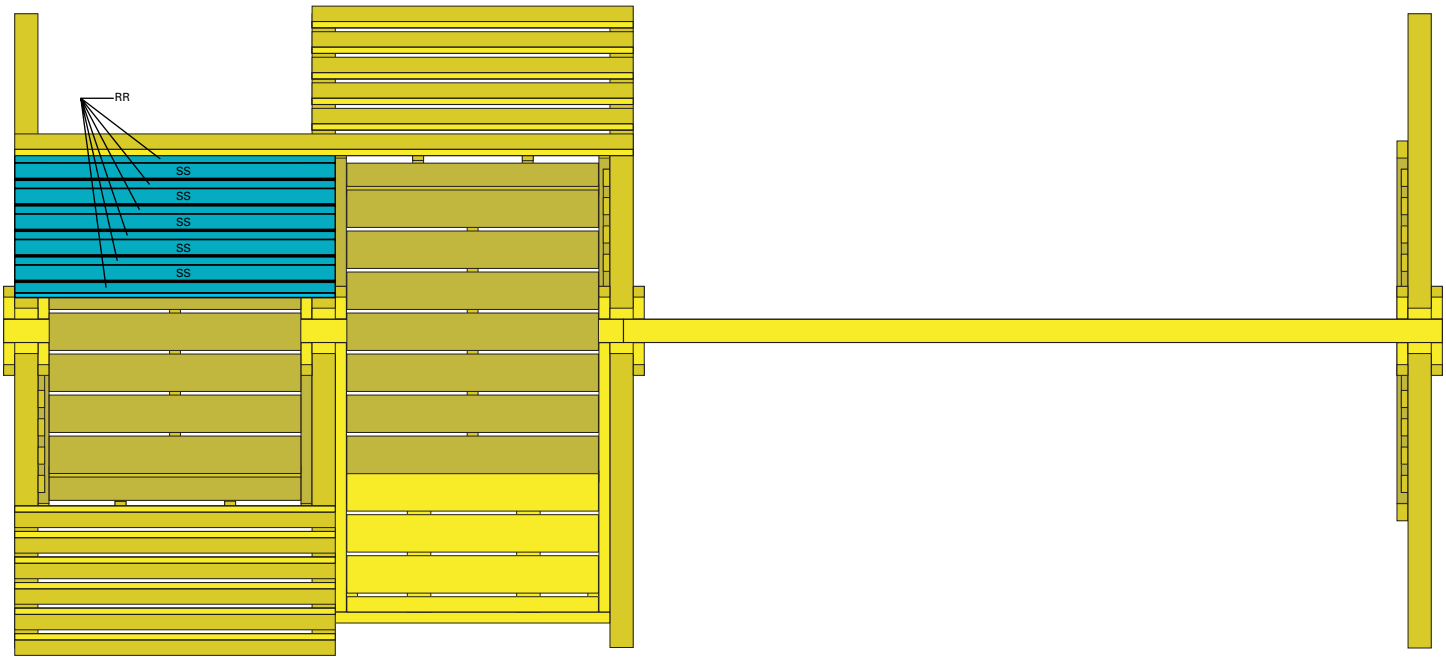




Playset

DIMENSIONS & DIAGRAMS

ASSEMBLY VIEW
REAR CLADDING



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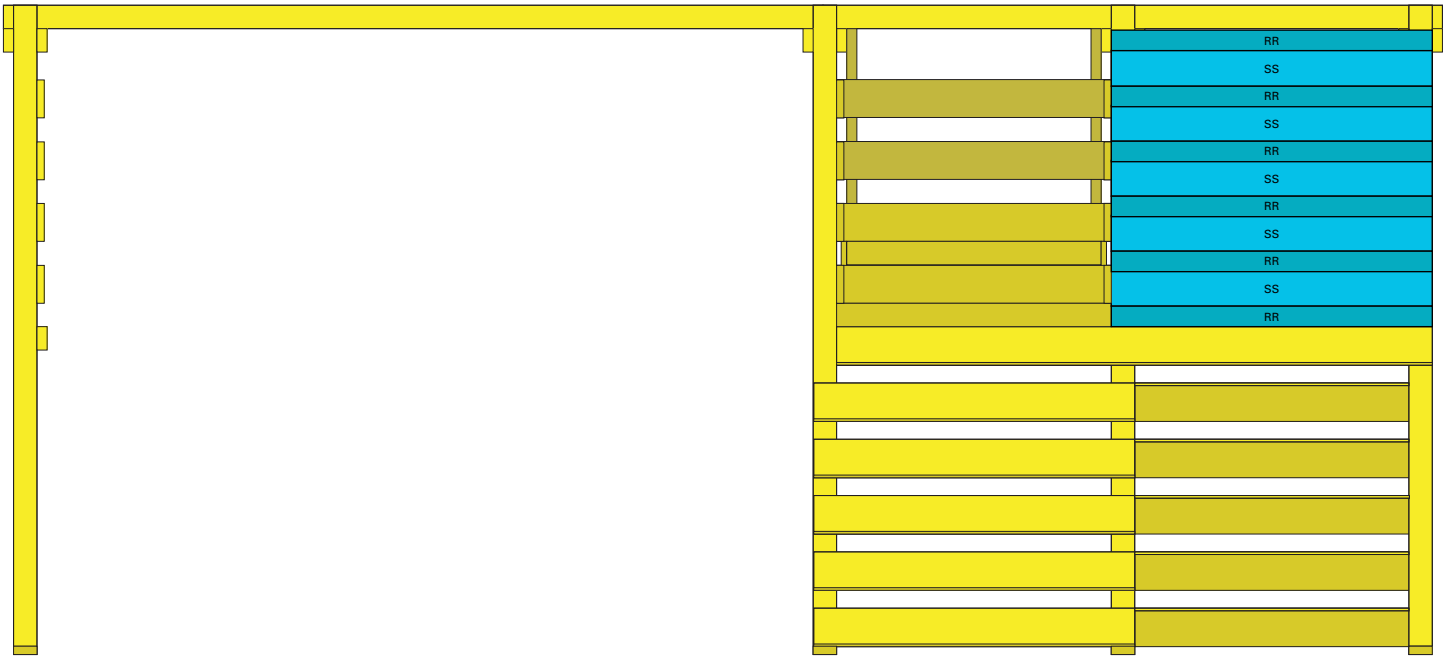


BACK

STEP 8:
REAR CLADDING

A: Attach to Structure

A1 ☐

Position part (RR) on the back of the A-frame posts. Making sure the outer edge is flush with the 4x4 posts behind it, attach part (RR) with 2 ½" screws.

A2 ☐

Alternate boards (SS) and (RR) up the structure, keeping the outside edges flush with the 4x4 posts behind them.

A3 ☐

Attach all of the parts (RR) and (SS) with 2 ½" screws into the 4x4 posts behind them.

STEP 9: FINISHING

YellaWood® brand products provide the best available pressure treated lumber protection against rot, fungal decay and termites. Sanding edges is recommended to reduce snags and splintering. At a minimum, we recommend annual application of a water repellent. You can also paint or stain it if you prefer.

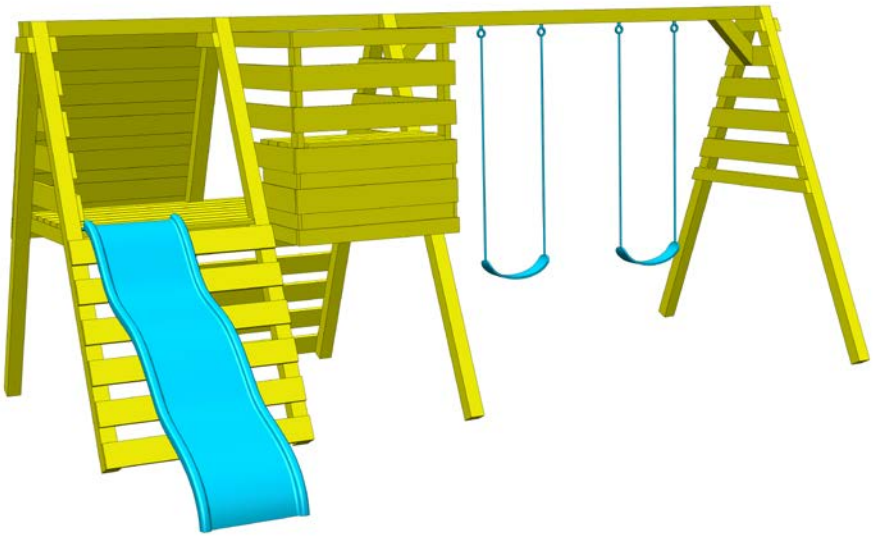
A1 ☐

Ease any sharp edges with a medium grit sandpaper. Apply a finish to the wood if desired.

A2 ☐

We recommend long lasting YellaWood Protector® semi-transparent stain and water repellent wood sealer, the only stain backed by the famous Yella Tag. Follow manufacturer's recommendations for application.

STEP 10: ACCESSORIES



Choose your own playset accessories based on your needs. One or both of the standard swings shown can be replaced by toddler or glider swings if needed.

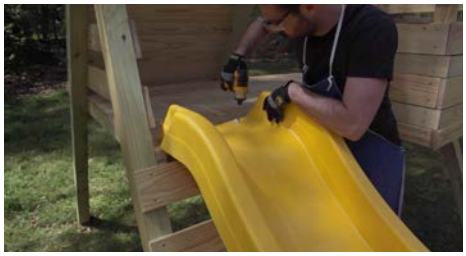
A1 ☐

Make a mark on beam (T) 26" from the left edge of beam (T). Make a second mark 18" further in. Drill holes at these points to hold your swing hanger bolts. Follow the swing hanger bolt manufacturer's instructions for this step.

A2 ☐

Repeat this step on the right side of beam (T). After installing the swing hanger bolts, follow the swing manufacturer's instructions for how to attach the swings.

A3 ☐



Attach the slide to the decking. Follow the slide manufacturer's instructions for this step. Use approved hardware to attach the slide and swings.

CONGRATULATIONS ON COMPLETING YOUR VERY OWN OUTDOOR PLAYSET! TIME TO LET YOUR KIDS ENJOY IT. NEVER LET CHILDREN USE THE PLAYSET WITHOUT PROPER SUPERVISION.

Playset

GALLERY

Playset

FASTENER & HARDWARE INFORMATION

FOR INTERIOR OR EXTERIOR APPLICATIONS

Use fasteners and hardware that are in compliance with the manufacturer's recommendations and the building codes for their intended use. As with any good design and construction practices, treated wood should not be used in applications where trapped moisture or water can occur. Where design and/or actual conditions allow for constant, repetitive or long periods of wet conditions, only stainless steel fasteners should be used.

FOR EXTERIOR APPLICATIONS

The following minimum galvanization levels may be used for connectors, joist hangers, fasteners and other hardware that are placed in direct contact with exterior applications of micronized copper treated wood:

- **Fasteners –** nails, screws, etc. ASTM – A 153 (1 oz/ft²)
- **Hardware –** connectors, joist hangers, etc. ASTM – A 653 G90 (0.90 oz/ft²)

The effects of other building materials within a given assembly, along with environmental factors, should also be considered when selecting the appropriate hardware and fasteners to use for a given project containing treated wood.

Stainless Steel fasteners and hardware are required for Permanent Wood Foundations below grade and are recommended for use with treated wood in other severe exterior applications such as swimming pools, salt water exposure, etc. Type 304 and 316 are recommended grades to use.

ALUMINUM

Aluminum building products may be placed in direct contact with YellaWood® brand products used for interior uses and above ground exterior applications such as decks, fencing, and landscaping projects. Examples of aluminum products include siding, roofing, gutters, door and window trim, flashing, nails, fasteners and other hardware connectors. However, direct contact of treated products and aluminum building products should be limited to code-compliant construction applications that provide proper water drainage and do not allow the wood to be exposed to standing water or water immersion.

We recommend you contact the aluminum building products manufacturer for its recommendations regarding use of its aluminum products in contact with treated wood in ground contact applications or when exposed to salt water, brackish water, or chlorinated water, such as swimming pools or hot tubs.

Also check with the aluminum building products manufacturer regarding compatibility with other chemicals and cleaning agents and the use of their aluminum products in commercial, industrial, and specialty applications such as boat construction.

Playset

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Consult the end tag to determine which preservative or preservative system was used in the treatment of that particular product. YellaWood® brand products may be used in direct contact with aluminum building products when limited to code-compliant construction applications that provide proper water drainage and do not allow the wood to be exposed to standing water or water immersion.
- Use fasteners and other hardware that are in compliance with building codes for the intended use.
- Do not burn preserved wood.
- Wear a dust mask and goggles when cutting or sanding wood.
- Wear gloves when working with wood.
- Some preservative may migrate from the treated wood into soil/water or may dislodge from the treated wood surface upon contact with skin.
- Wash exposed skin areas thoroughly.
- All sawdust and construction debris should be cleaned up and disposed of after construction.
- Wash work clothes separately from other household clothing before reuse.
- Preserved wood should not be used where it may come into direct or indirect contact with drinking water, except for uses involving incidental contact such as fresh water docks and bridges.
- Do not use preserved wood under circumstances when the preservative may become a component of food, animal feed or beehives.
- Do not use preserved wood as mulch.
- Only preserved wood that is visibly clean and free of surface residue should be used. If the wood is to be used in an interior application and becomes wet during construction, it should be allowed to dry before being covered or enclosed.
- Mold growth can and does occur on the surface of many products, including untreated and treated wood, during prolonged surface exposure to excessive moisture conditions. To remove mold from the treated wood surface, wood should be allowed to dry. Typically, mild soap and water can be used to remove remaining surface mold. For more information visit www.epa.gov.
- Projects should be designed and installed in accordance with federal, state and local building codes and ordinances governing construction in your area, and in accordance with the National Design Specifications (NDS) and the Wood Handbook.

DISPOSAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Preserved wood may be disposed of in landfills or burned in commercial or industrial incinerators or boilers in accordance with federal, state and local regulations.