

CHICKEN COOP

EYES FOR THE JOB- EPISODE 204.2

'WORKING WITH WASTE'



MATERIALS NEEDED

- Two pieces of $\frac{3}{4}$ standard plywood for structure
- 50 feet of 2x4 spruce for structure
- 16 feet of 1x4 spruce for fascia
- 48 feet of 2x2 spruce
- One hundred 2-inch nails for nailing fascia
- One hundred 1-inch nails for nailing clapboard
- One hundred fifty 3" wood screws
- Four 3x3 galvanized butt hinges for doors
- 80 feet of clapboard for siding
- 58 square feet of 3-foot-wide hardware cloth
- 2 tubes clear caulking for sealing
- Three 2" hasps to keep doors on coop and run closed
- 2 carabiner hooks to keep door closed
- 1 gallon of primer (optional)
- 1 gallon of paint (optional)

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STEP BY STEP BUILD PLAN

CHICKEN COOP

1. Cut plywood to size
 - a. Cut front, back, and bottom side and roof of coop. These cuts determine a slope for shedding water.
 - i. 24"x36" for the front piece
 - ii. 20"x36" for the back piece
 - iii. 22 ½ (wide) x 24" (high end) x 20" (low end) on the sides (slope)
 - iv. 22 ½" x 34 ½" for the bottom
 - v. 28"x40" for the roof. This gives a ½" overhang
 - b. Ensure a hole is cut in the side panel where the chicken run is going.
 - i. Center the hole
 - ii. Hole dimensions are 10" wide, 12" high
 - iii. Cut hole 1 ¾" from the bottom
2. Construct the plywood box
 - a. Use offcut material to rip strips of 1"x1" for a ledger
 - b. Create a ledger on the underside of the bottom panel on all 4 walls
 - c. Attach side, front, and back panels to the ledger
3. Fasten the legs to the plywood box
 - a. Front legs are 48"
 - b. Back legs are 44"
 - c. Use legs as corner boards. Front and back boards have 1 ½" overhang to allow sides to butt in flush.
 - d. Rip 2x4. Use the 2x2 to complete corners from roof to ground

- e. Add 2x4 spanning from corner board to corner board, along the top of the front face. This is what the front door hinges will later attach to.
 - f. At the base of the legs, join the horizontal lengths between them with 2x2 (ripped from 2x4). These are being made so the hardware cloth has something to attach to, to inclose the area beneath the coop.
4. Build and attach the roof.
 - a. Attach the roof by screwing into the corner boards
 - b. Install the clapboard on the roof from the bottom up.
 - i. Leave a 5" exposure. This is more exposure than will be used elsewhere.
 - ii. Back caulk clapboards to keep it water tight.
 - c. When fastening the first piece of clapboard (at the bottom of the roofs slope), leave an overhang of 1". This will overhang the fascia and create a ¼" drip edge.
 - d. Cut 1x4 spruce to match the slope of roof.
 - e. Use nails to install pine fascia board past the leading edge of the clapboard by ¼". This creates a caulking edge from the clapboard to the spruce fascia.
 5. Cut out the main door.
 - a. On the front face of the coop, use a skill saw to cut out a square of plywood, between the corner boards from side to side and the 2x4 for the hinges and the bottom from top to bottom. Complete the cut with a hand saw. This piece of plywood becomes the door, so care should be taken when removing it.
 6. Finish the main door.
 - a. Use 2x4 to frame the outer edge of the flat of the plywood that was just cut.
 - b. Don't bother mitering the corners, in keeping with the rest of the design.
 - c. Fill the void with clapboard
 - i. Nail at 1 ½" from the top of clapboard. Leave an exposure of 4".
 - ii. Back caulk clapboards to keep it water tight
 - d. Use hinges to attach the door to the 2x4 above the door.
 7. Frame the small chicken door.
 - a. Rip 2x4 to 2x2
 - b. On the side of the coop with the 10x12 chicken door, use the 2x2 frame around it.
 8. Install remaining clapboard on the back and sides.
 - a. Nail at 1 ½" from top of clapboard. Leave an exposure of 4".
 - b. Back caulk clapboards to keep it water tight
 9. Build the nesting box
 - a. Use scrap plywood to make 12"x12"x12" nesting box. This is made with two pieces of 12" plywood, using the existing bottom, side, and back for the other walls. Simply put, it's a basic nesting box built on the floor of the coop.
 10. Install roosting beam.
 - a. Rip 36" of 2x4 to 2x2
 - b. Centred, attach a 36" length of 2x2 spanning the sides, above the nesting box.
 11. Install latches for the door on the front side.
 - a. Use a 2" hasp on either side of the door, lining up with the 2x4 frame. The hasps lock the door frame to the corner boards.
 - b. Attach carabiner hook in either side to lock the door.

CHICKEN RUN

1. Use scrap wood to make the ramp
 - a. Ramp should be between 6" and 10" wide, and not too steep.
 - b. Make horizontal spruce runners for grip.
 - c. Attach to coop with nails
2. Build 2 panels for the front and back face out of 2x2.
 - a. One of the panels includes a door made of 2x2
 - i. Make the door to the interior dimensions of the panel
 - ii. Attach mesh to door

- iii. Fasten hinges and install door
3. Build 1 panel for the end furthest from the coop.
4. Cut three pieces of 2x2
 - a. Two length will be used to join the long panels that will connect to the coop. One brace at the bottom of the frame and one at the top.
 - b. The other brace will bridge the top in the middle
5. Attach the run together with screws
6. Cover the run in hardware cloth with staples
7. Attach hardware cloth to the legs of the coop and below the legs to make a fully enclosed space that joins with the run when it is attached.
8. Fasten hinges and install the door.
9. Attach the run to coop.
 - a. Use screws to fasten open side of the run to the side of the coop with the 10"x12" hole
10. Attach latch to door of run and lock with carabiner hook.