

Weedsport Bluebird House with Uncle Dan

Supply list:

Cedar or pine 6'6" x 8", cut to size per the template instructions (click here for printable template and instructions)

17, 2" *galvanized nails* (helps protect it from the weather)

1, 2" *galvanized finish nail* (hardly a head on the nail is the difference from the above. Easily embed into wood and covered if you want to hide them.)

2, 1 ½ *inch galvanized finished nails*

1, 1 ½ *counter sunk wood screw* (It is for the door, but really I just made another hole and put a nail in it to help hold the door. This is to open it to clean it, look in, observe. They tend to have two nests a season. Their nests are picture-perfect. Round precise well built nest. So I don't like the idea of cleaning them out, but that is what's recommended).

Building Instructions:

1. Size and cut boards to the template
2. **Sides** and **Backboard**: gather **sides** (#2 and #3) and **backboard** (#1). Align the sides' edges flush onto the backboard's face. Pre-drill nail holes through rear of backboard into sidepieces. You should have three predrilled holes for each side. Then nail through holes.
3. **Floor (#4)**: insert between sides and flush with backboard. It should recess within the sides by one inch. Pre-drill two holes through rear of backboard into floor piece. Also, pre-drill two holes through each side into floor. Follow with nails.
4. **Door (#5)**: The **door** should now lie between sides and against front edge of floor. Be sure door is low enough within sides so as to not hit the roof when opening (about a half inch below the wall's (sides) height). This spacing between the door and roof also helps with ventilation. Pre-drill hinge holes, half inch from the bottom of each side. Follow with nails. Test door to be sure it opens and set roof piece on top of house to see it clears the roof. Tap with hammer if aligning needs adjusting.
5. **Roof (#6)**: Now, align the roof with the sides and back. Roof could be flush with outside of backboard so as to not interfere with mounting. Or, our preference for "cute factor", is to allow the roof to overhang the back of the birdhouse by an inch. Pre-drill four holes, one on each corner, followed by nails.

Wood Template: Weedsport Bluebird House

- 1) Backboard (#1): cut 2 foot long and 5 ½ inches wide (cut from ¾" stock pine)
- 2) Sides (#2 and #3): cut 24 ½ inches long and 5 ½ inches wide.
 - Cut board in half at an angle by measuring 13 inches at back rooffline down to 11 ½ inches at front of rooffline. You should now have two pieces (#2 and #3 from template picture)
 - On each piece, cut two ¾ inch vent holes two inches from rooffline and spaced 2 ½ inches apart.
 - Mark front hinge hole ¾ from intersecting point of bottom and front corner of sidepiece #3.
- 3) Floor (#4): cut square 4 inches wide and 4 ¾ inches long. Notch/round corners at a 45-degree angle to allow for drainage.
- 4) Door (#5): cut 11 ½ long and 4 inches wide.
 - bore 1 ¼ hole in face of door 2 ½ from top.
 - Cut eight kerf lines on front door, ¾ inches apart, the first starting 2 ½ inches from the bottom of the door piece
- 5) Roof (#6): cut 12 inches long and eight inches wide.

