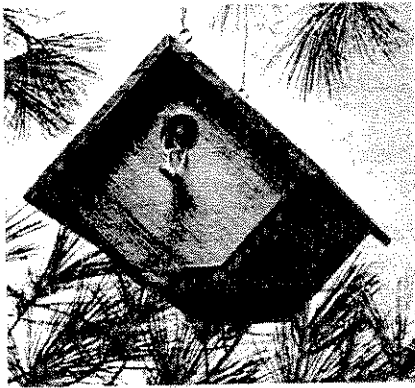


BIRD HOUSES

From *HANDS ON* Mar/Apr/May 85



Getting the birds to flock to your home is easy when you provide them with elegant low-cost housing. Here are two houses you can build—one for wrens and one for

blue jays. You can make these birdhouses for your yard, and while you're at it, make extras to give as gifts. Easy-to-build, these projects will be a hit with your friends (fine-feathered and otherwise).

WREN HOUSE

Wrens are small songbirds that provide sweet sounding music. And wrens are easy to attract because of their willingness to adapt to both rural and city life.

Constructing this wren house is simple and basic. By starting with an 8' board, you can build four of these houses. Here's how:

1. Cut the ends (A) from a 2' long 1 x 6. Next, use a bandsaw to resaw

the remaining stock in half. Plane the resawn boards to 5/16" thick, then cut parts (B,C,D) to size.

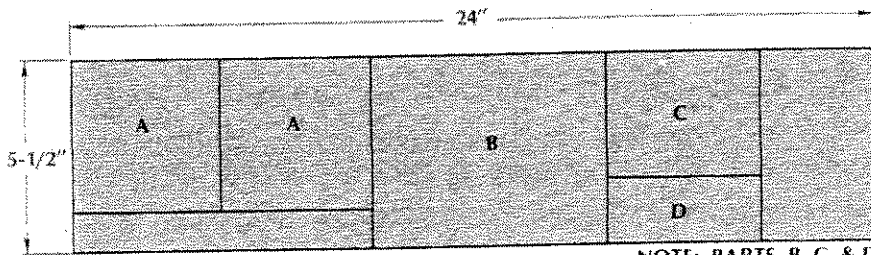
2. Tilt the saw table 45° and bevel the roof (B), sides (C), and bottom (D) as indicated in the drawings.

3. Drill the entrance hole no larger than 1" in order to keep out undesirable birds. Next, drill a 1/4" hole for the perch.

4. Use galvanized nails to assemble the ends, roof, and sides.

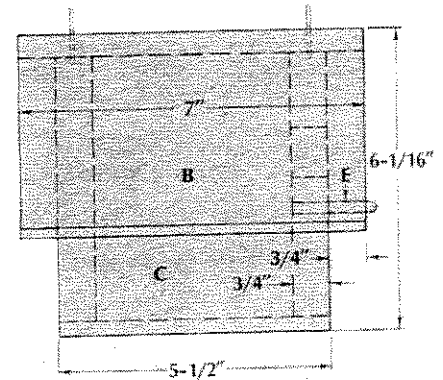
5. Use a 3/32" bit to drill the pilot holes for the screw eyes in the top of the roof and install them. Tap the perch (E) into place (the fit should be snug), and slide the bottom (D) into position.

6. Apply the finish of your choice (see box). After the finish dries, hang the house from your favorite tree.

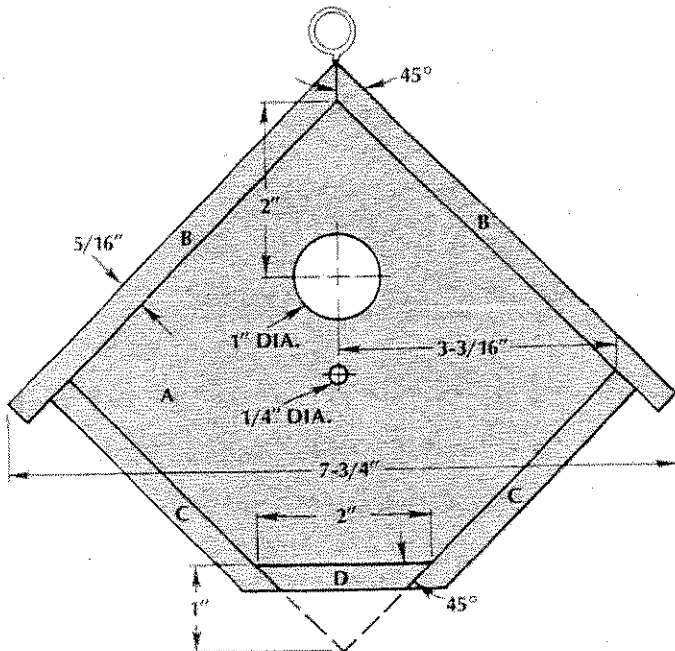


CUTTING DIAGRAM FOR WREN HOUSE

NOTE: PARTS B, C, & D RESAWN TO 5/16" THICK



SIDE VIEW



FRONT VIEW

LIST OF MATERIALS

(finished dimensions in inches)

| | | |
|---|----------------|----------------------|
| A | Ends (2) | 3/4 x 4-1/2 x 4-1/2 |
| B | Roof (2) | 5/16 x 5-1/2 x 7 |
| C | Sides (2) | 5/16 x 3-1/2 x 5-1/2 |
| D | Bottom | 5/16 x 2 x 5-1/2 |
| E | Perch | 1/4 dia. x 1-1/2 |
| | Screw eyes (2) | 3/8" |