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DIY Birdhouse Plans

Five easy cuts, a few holes, a few nails, and voila! a new birdhouse.

This plan can be completed with a single, cheap 6" cedar fence post, or you can use a standard 1×6 (you'll only need 55.25" in length).

- 1. Cut the 1 x 6 according to the cut diagrams below. Note the two side pieces have a slanted cut between them. This is optional, but I do prefer to include this cut to help water shed from the roof.
- 2. Drill a 1" 1 1/8" (no bigger!) hole in the front piece 1" from one end.

 This will serve as the front of the birdhouse.
- 3. Now drill four 1/4" holes in the 4" piece. This will be the bottom of the birdhouse, and the holes serve both for drainage and for air circulation.
- 4. Nail the bottom piece to the birdhouse back (the 15" piece), 1" up from the bottom. The piece should be centered, with the 4" side of the piece against the back.
- 5. Nail on one side, with the long side against the back.
- 6. Nail on the front of the birdhouse with the hole at the top of the piece.
- 7. Nail on the top.
- 8. For the last side piece, you want to leave a very small gap from the roof, and only put one nail on each side about an inch down from the top. Make certain these nails are exactly in line with each other, as they will serve as pivot points for the side door so that you can open it and clean it out in between seasons.
- 9. Lastly, drill a small hole, slightly bigger than the size of your nails, through the front of the birdhouse and into the side which pivots. This hole should allow you to easily push a nail in by hand, and also pull it out by hand. Essentially this is the lock that prevents the side from opening accidentally.

That's it! You've got a new birdhouse!



