



The plans for making a dog house out of one sheet (4' x 8') of 5/8" CD or better solid core exterior grade plywood and one 6 foot long 2" x 4" board have been around for years and years. We have seen this plan attributed to Paul Gunby, Bill Chambers, Norbert Kanzler, and others. We recently had another inquiry, and since the plans haven't been published in several years - here they are again! Additional explanation follows: Use galvanized, dinned nails if possible. The legs will be sturdier if you use 4" x 4" wood. Cut the framing pieces after you cut the plywood, to make sure they fit properly. Frame the doorway **BEFORE** you assemble the house. The framing around the door will help keep rain and snow from blowing inside the house - and is required by law in MN. The door is positioned well above the floor of the house to help keep in any bedding you may use inside the house. Remember to check the bedding, especially in spring and fall, for wetness and change it when necessary. The roof slants from front to back so that rain and snow will run off instead of pooling on the roof and rotting your house. The roof also overhangs the house on all sides to help protect the cut edges of the sides from getting wet. You can paint your new dog houses to make them look nice and last longer, but remember to use **only paint that is non-toxic**. Also remember - **never use treated wood** in making your dog houses. You can add nice features to this dog house - a bracket to hang water buckets from - remember to measure **before** you attach the bracket; the bucket should be high enough so that male dogs cannot urinate into it. If you want to be able to take the roof off your dog house to clean inside, do not nail the roof down. Instead, attach strips of wood, at least 1" x 1", to the underside of the roof so that when the roof is set onto the assembled dog house, this framing sits to the outside of the walls. Should you have a dog that can knock the roof off, simply attach a hook and eye to either side.

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