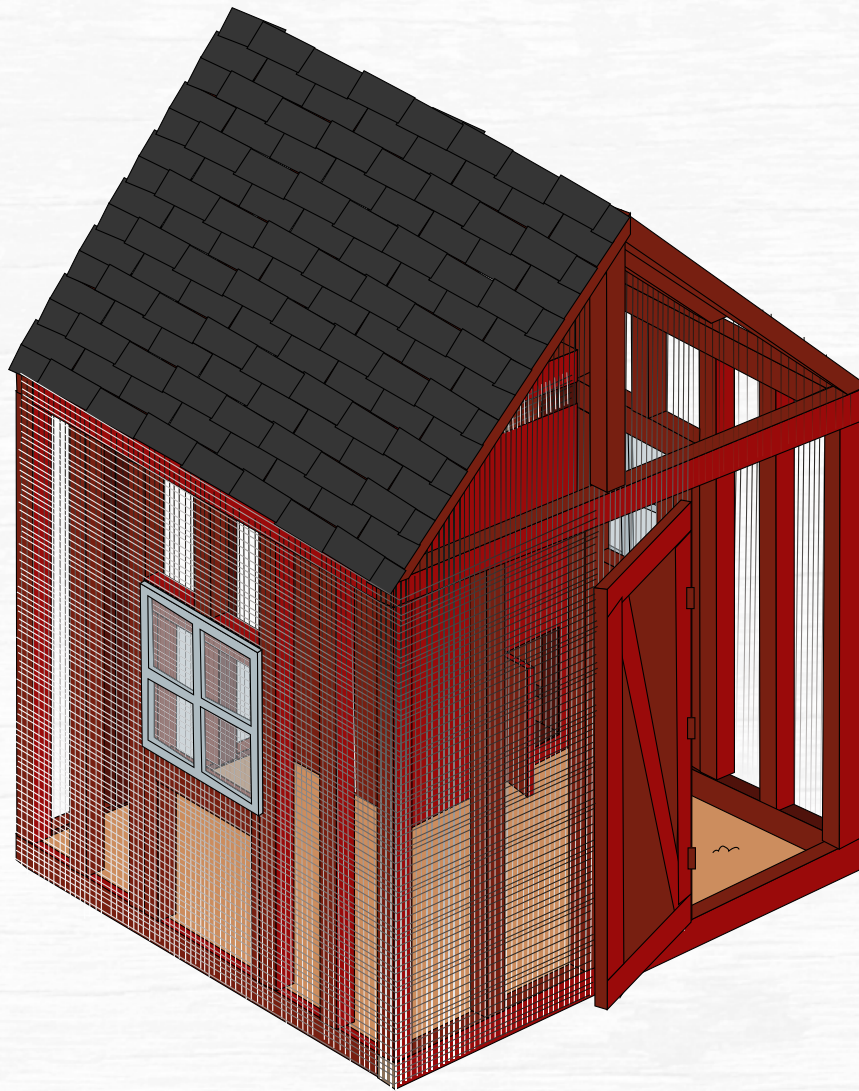


AN EASY STEP-BY-STEP

Large 8x8 Chicken Coop Plan (With Run)



GET YOUR RUN UP-AND-RUNNING IN NO TIME AT ALL!



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Looking for a roomy, practical coop that gives your flock plenty of space and makes daily care easier on you?

This 8 ft x 8 ft design is a solid fit. This coop is well suited for about 6 to 9 standard chickens. The larger footprint gives your flock more breathing room, while the walk-in layout makes chores like cleaning, collecting eggs, and checking on birds much more manageable.

MATERIALS LIST

LUMBER / WOOD:

- **2x6s (pressure-treated):** 8 pieces, 8' long & 2 pieces, 4' long
- **2x4s (pressure-treated):** 14 pieces, 8' long & 4 pieces, 4' long
- **Standard 2x8s:** 1 pieces, 8' long
- **Standard 2x6s:** 4 pieces, 8' long & 2 pieces, 4' long
- **Standard 4x4s:** 1 pieces, 4' long
- **Standard 2x4s:** 26 pieces, 8' long & 6 pieces, 4' long
- **1/2" exterior-grade plywood:** 9 sheets, 4' x 8'
- **3/4" exterior-grade plywood:** 2 sheets, 4' x 8'

HARDWARE:

- **Screws:** 1" screws with 1/2" washers: 2 lbs, 1 1/4" screws: 3 lbs, 1 1/2" screws: 2 lbs, 2" screws: 2 lbs, 3" screws: 5 lbs
- **Nails:** 1/2" galvanized nails: 1 lbs, 1 1/2" galvanized connector nails: 2 lbs
- **Hangers:** 8 (joist hangers), 16 (rafter hangers)
- **Hurricane ties:** 16
- **Hinges:** Heavy-duty door hinges: 3 (walk-in door), medium-duty: 6 (chicken door & nesting box lids)
- **Heavy-duty locking latches, padlock-compatible:** 2 (main door and nesting box)
- **6" door pull (Main door)**
- **24" x 24" pre-hung windows:** 2
- **1/2" galvanized hardware cloth:** 300 square feet (for predator-proofing)
- **Roofing materials (metal sheets or asphalt shingles):** check packaging for 100 sq. ft. coverage
- **Exterior paint or stain (weatherproof):** 3 gallons (optional)
- **Exterior-grade silicone caulk:** 2 tubes
- **Wood sealer:** (optional for extra protection)

TOOLS NEEDED

CUTTING & MEASURING:

- **Tape measure** (at least 25')
 - **Speed square/carpenter's square**
 - **Carpenter's pencil or chalk**
 - **Circular saw** (for cutting plywood and 2x4s)
 - **Wire snips/side cutters**
 - **Miter saw or hand saw** (for precise angle cuts, like rafters)
-

DRILLING & FASTENING:

- **Drill/driver** (corded or cordless)
 - **Drill bits** (for pilot holes)
 - **Screwdriver bits for 1 ¼", 1 ½", 2", and 3" screws**
 - **Hammer** (for nails and hardware cloth)
-

ASSEMBLY & SUPPORT:

- **Clamps** (optional, for holding pieces while screwing)
 - **Level** (to ensure walls and frame are plumb)
 - **Sawhorses or workbench** (to support plywood while cutting)
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ROOFING & EXTERIOR:

- **Utility knife** (for shingles or underlayment)
 - **Roofing nails or screws** (if using metal roofing)
 - **Paintbrushes/rollers** (for exterior paint or stain)
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SAFETY:

- **Safety glasses**
- **Hearing protection**
- **Work gloves**
- **Dust mask** (especially when cutting plywood)

STEP 1

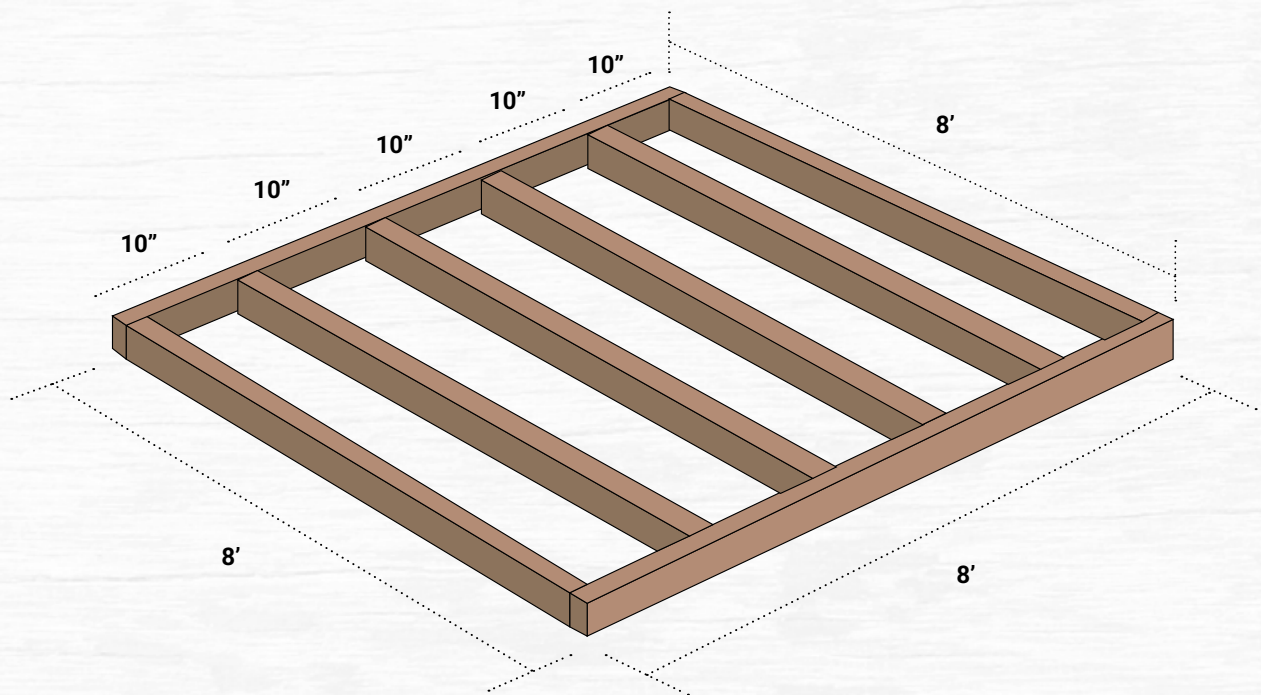
Preparing the Base

Prepare the Site:

- Clear the ground where the coop will sit. Ensure it's level to prevent issues with the structure later.

Frame the Base:

- Use **four pressure-treated 2x6s at 8'** to form the frame.
- Assemble the frame using **3" screws**, ensuring the angles are square.
- Add **four pressure-treated 2x6s at 8'** for the cross braces, space them approximately **10" apart** up to half the overall floor width.



STEP 2

Framing the Front & Back Walls

Front Wall Frame:

- Use **standard 2x4s** to cut **five 8' vertical studs** and space them between **16"** and **24"** apart, leaving an opening of approximately **2' 9"** for the door width.
- Use a **standard 2x6** for the **8' horizontal top frame**.
- Assemble with **3" screws**.

Back Wall Frame:

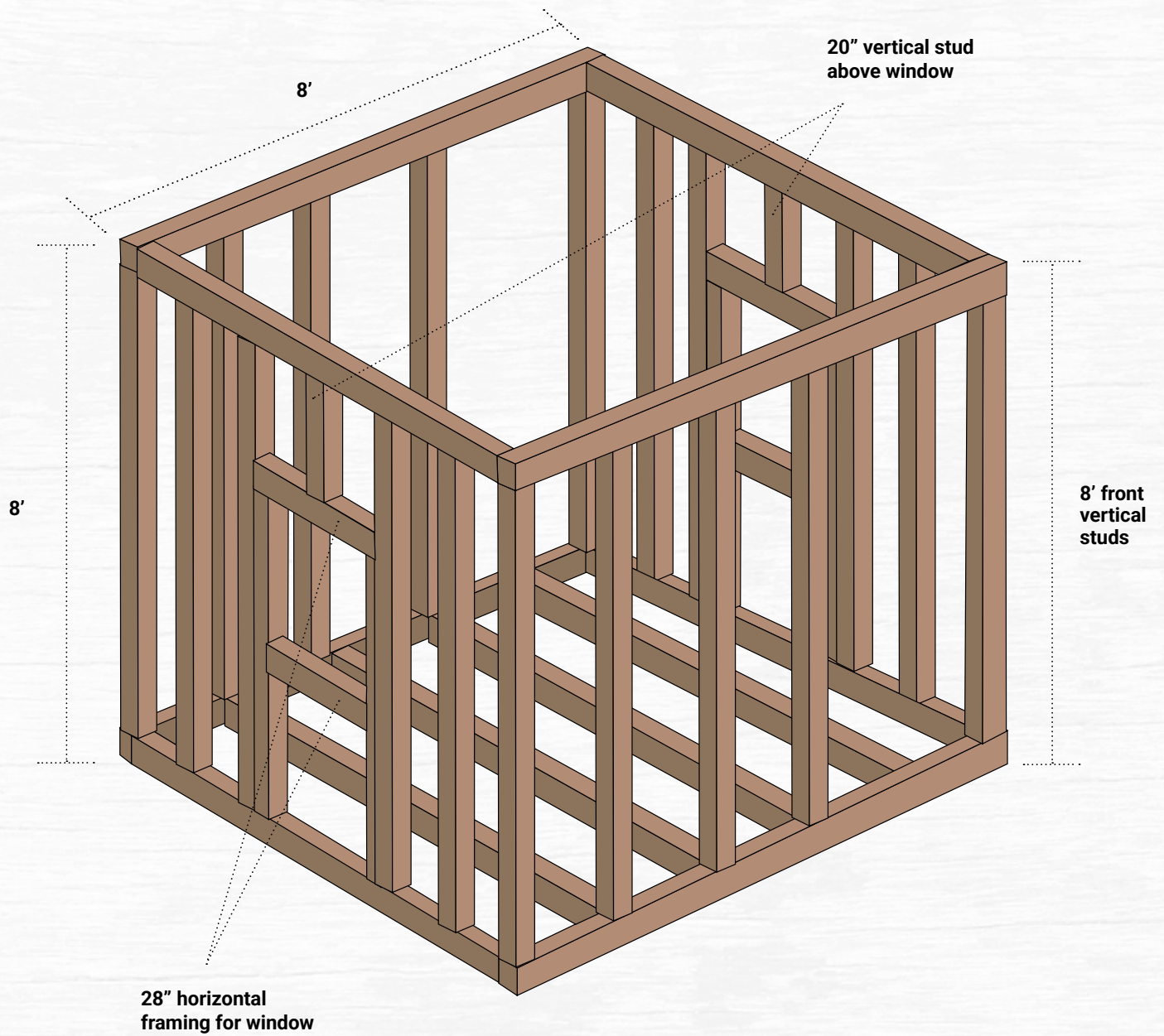
- Use **pressure-treated 2x4s** to cut **five 8' vertical studs** and space them between **16"** and **24"** apart, leaving an opening of approximately **2' 9"** for the nesting box width.
- Use a **standard 2x6** for the **8' horizontal top frame**.
- Assemble with **3" screws**.

Side Wall Frames:

- Use **pressure-treated 2x4s** to cut **four 8' vertical studs** and space them **13"** apart, leaving an opening of **28"** in the center for the window.
- Use a **standard 2x6** for the **8' 4" horizontal top frame**.
- Assemble with **3" screws**.

Frame Windows:

- Use **four standard 2x4s** at **5'** as vertical studs of the two windows.
- Use **two standard 2x4s** at **28"** for the horizontal top framing of each window.
- Use **two standard 2x4s** at **24"** for the horizontal bottom framing of each window.
- Add **two standard 2x4s** at **20"** as a vertical stud above each window at its center.
- Assemble with **3" screws**.
- Repeat for both side walls.



STEP 3

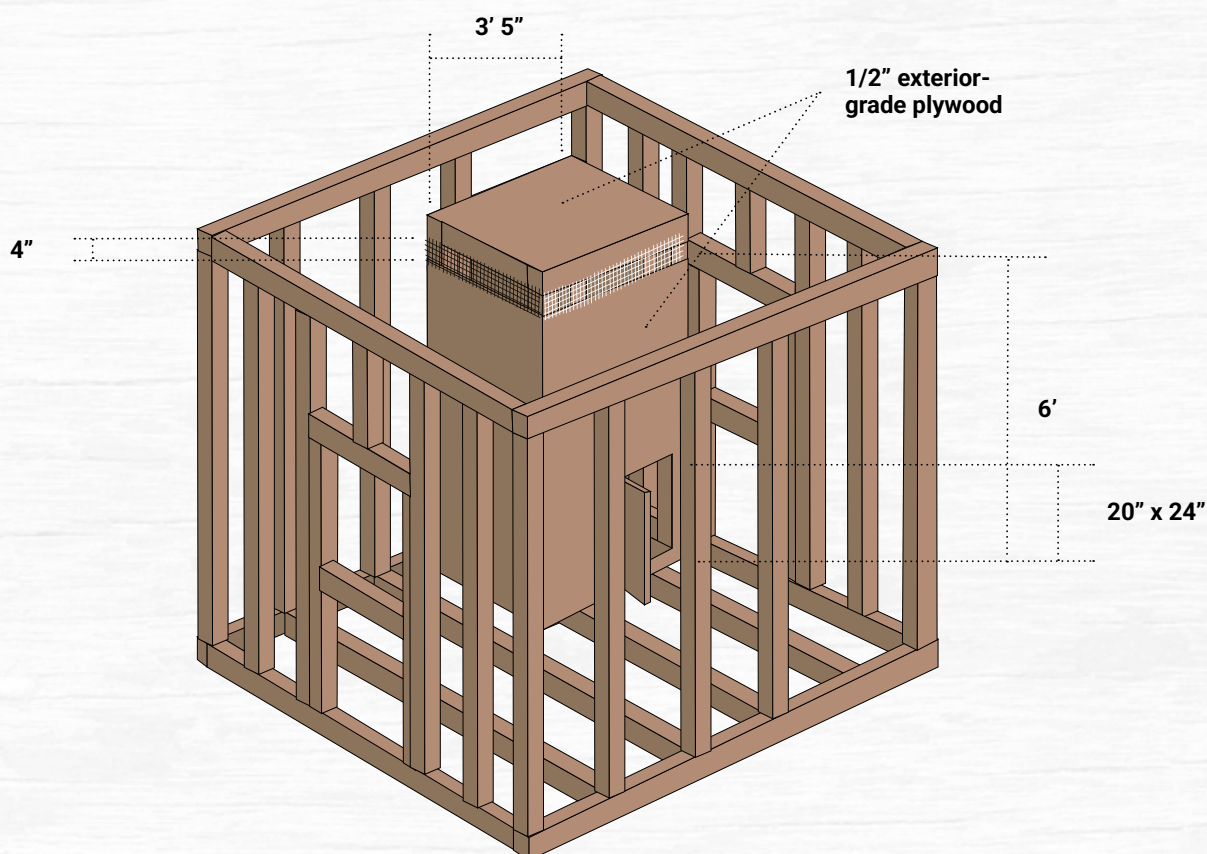
Enclosed Box:

Framing Enclosed Box:

- Use **two standard 2x4** cut to **6'** as a vertical studs and install on one on each side wall, **4'** from the back wall.
- Install **two 3' 5"** horizontal **standard 2x4s** for the top framing.
- Use **3" screws** for the frame.

Walls, Floor & Roof:

- Use **3/4" exterior-grade plywood** to install the enclosed box coop floor and roof.
- Use **1/2" exterior-grade plywood** to skin the sides, back and front of the structure, leaving a **4" opening** at the top of each side, for ventilation.
- On the back wall, cut a **2' 9" x 14"** rectangle to leave a gap for the nesting box.
- On the front wall of the enclosed box. Cut a **20" x 24"** hole for the door and re-attach it with hinges.
- Use **1 1/4" screws** to attach the plywood to the frame.
- Cover the ventilation openings on the inside with **1/2" hardware cloth**, fastened with **1" screws** with **1/2" washers** to prevent predators or rodents from entering the sleeping area.



STEP 4

Roof Framing & Sheathing

Install the Ridge Beam:

- Use **two standard 4x4s** at **24"** as vertical supports, center the supports on top of the top horizontal wall framing on the front and back walls.
- Secure a **standard 2x8** at **8'** on the support beams, across the center of the coop.
- Assemble with **3" screws**.

Attach Roof Rafters:

- Use **8 standard 2x4s** at **5' 6"** for the rafters.
- Notch each rafter for a solid connection to the ridge beam and top wall frames.

Assemble the Roof:

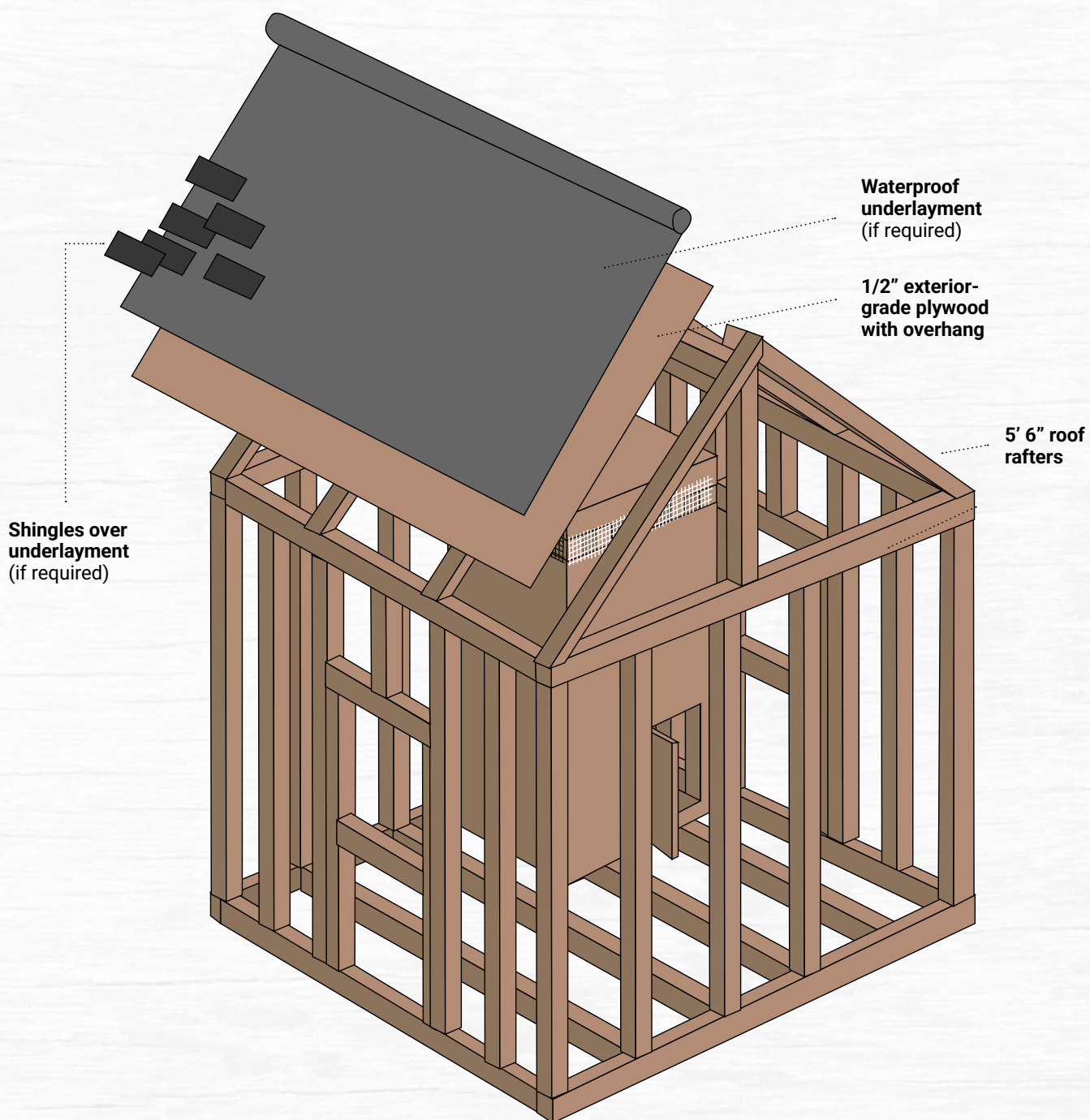
- Nail **hurricane ties** to the side wall top frames at **14" intervals**.
- Set the rafters into the **hurricane ties** and against the ridge beam. Use **rafter hangers** at the ridge for maximum strength.
- Secure the rafters to the metal plates with **1 ½" galvanized connector nails**.

Install Roof Sheathing:

- Secure **1/2" exterior-grade plywood boards** to the rafters. Ensure plywood extends past the walls for side overhangs.
- Use **1 ¼" screws** to attach the plywood to the rafters.

Install Roofing:

- If using shingles: Install a waterproof underlayment first, then apply the shingles according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- If using metal roofing, secure the metal sheets with appropriate fasteners.
- Ensure all edges are sealed and weatherproofed to prevent leaks.



STEP 5

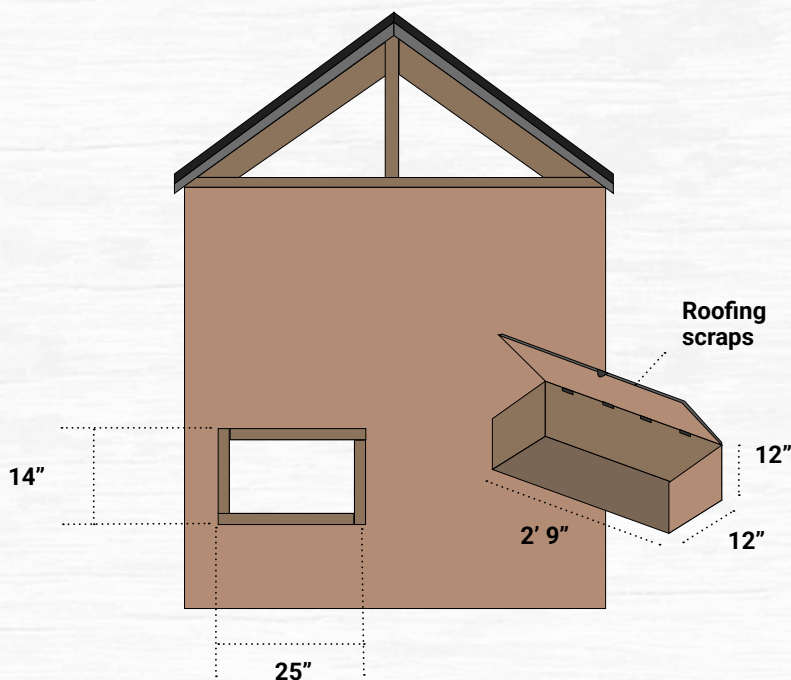
Nesting Boxes & Roosting Bar

Nesting Box:

- Install **two pressure-treated 2x4s** at **14"** to the exterior back side wall to frame the vertical sides of the **2' 9" x 14"** rectangle hole.
- Install **two pressure-treated 2x4s** at **25"** to the exterior back side wall to frame the horizontal top and bottom of the **2' 9" x 14"** rectangle hole.
- Cut a box from **1/2" exterior-grade plywood**. Two sides at **12" x 12"**, floor at **2' 9" x 12"**, and the front wall at **2' 9" x 10"**.
- Cut the top of the **12" x 12"** sides with a slope from the back edge at **12" tall** to the front edge at **10"** (this is for a sloped roof).
- There should be no back wall on the nesting box; leave this open and mount the nesting box outside the enclosed coop box, aligning it with the framed **2' 9" x 14"** opening.
- The nesting box roof should have a roughly 9-degree slope. Cut **1/2" exterior-grade plywood** to be **2' 9" x 13"**.
- Add roofing scraps to the roof for extra protection from the elements.
- Attach **four hinges** evenly spaced along the back edge and secure the roof.
- Install a secure latch to the roof lid so it cannot be opened by raccoons, foxes, or other predators.

Roosting Bar:

- Install a **standard 2x4** at **4'** horizontally inside the enclosed box, **8" higher** than the nesting boxes and at least **12" away** from the nearest wall.
- Position the **standard 2x4** with the wide side facing up so the chickens can rest on a flat surface.



STEP 6

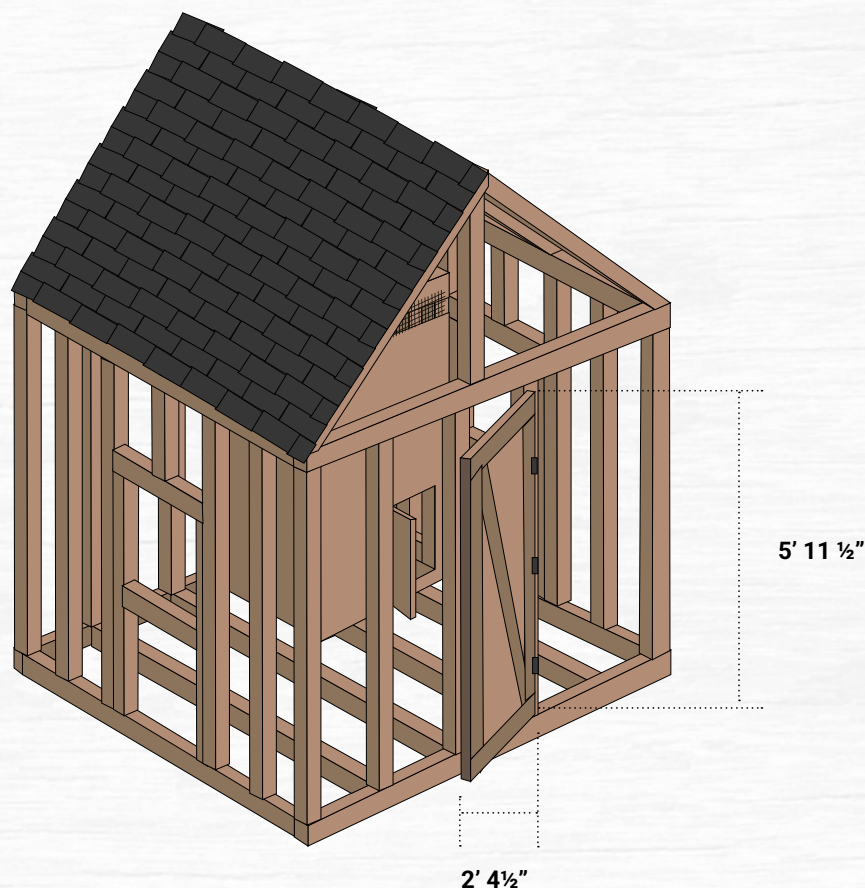
Installing the Door:

Main Door:

- Cut a piece of **1/2" exterior-grade plywood** to be **2' 8 1/2" x 5' 11 1/2"** (this **1/4" gap** on all sides prevents the door from sticking when the wood swells in the rain).
- Lay your plywood door flat. Use **two standard 2x4s** to cut two vertical framing to **5' 11 1/2"**.
- Use **three standard 2x4s** at **2' 4 1/2"** for top and bottom horizontal framing, and a center brace.
- Measure and cut **two standard 2x4s** to fit diagonally inside each rectangle. It must run from the top corner (hinge side) down to the bottom corner (latch side).
- Attach the frame pieces with **3" screws**, ensuring that all angles are square using a speed square.
- Secure the frame to the **1/2" exterior-grade plywood** using **1 1/2" screws**.

Attach Hinges & Latch:

- Attach **3 heavy-duty hinges** to the door and the coop frame.
- Install a secure locking latch to prevent predators from opening the door.
- Finish the door installation by attaching a **6" door pull**.
- Ensure the door swings outward for safety.
- Install a **standard 2x4 at 24"** as a vertical stud above door frame at its center.

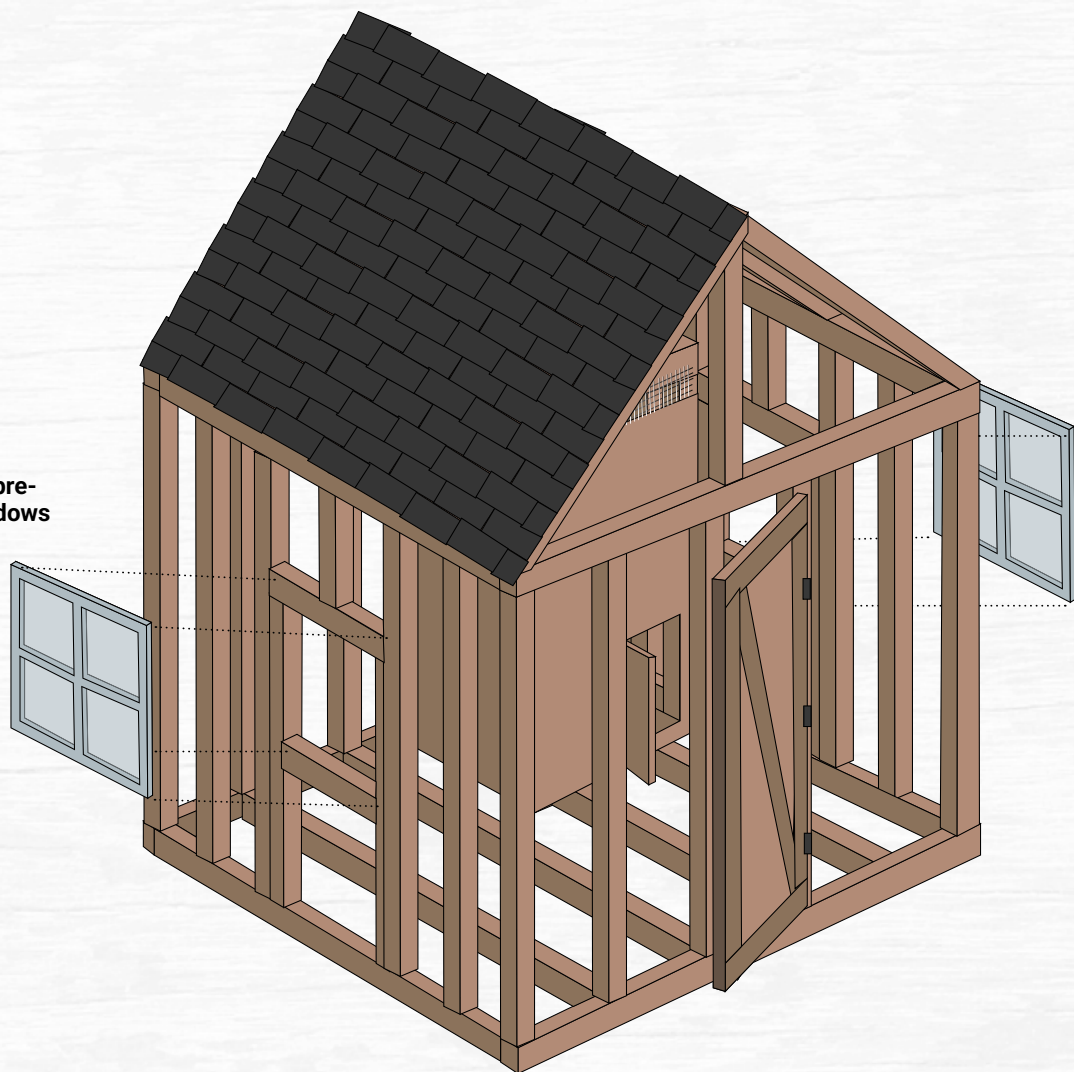


STEP 7

Installing Windows

- Lift your **24" x 24" pre-hung windows** into the framed openings on the side walls to ensure a proper fit.
- Apply a thick bead of **exterior-grade silicone caulk** around the back of the window flange before inserting it into the opening.
- Place the window in the opening. Use a level to ensure it is perfectly straight. Fasten the window to the framing using **1 ½" screws** through the pre-drilled holes in the flange.
- Use **pressure-treated 1x4s** to frame the outside of the windows.
- On the inside of the coop, fasten **1/2" hardware cloth** over the window openings using **1" screws with 1/2" washers**.

24" x 24" pre-hung windows



STEP 8

Installing the Hardware Cloth

- Wrap **1/2" hardware cloth** horizontally around all exposed areas of framed walls.
- Fasten the wire to the wood using **1" screws** with **1/2" washers** every **4"**.

STEP 9

Finishing Touches

Painting:

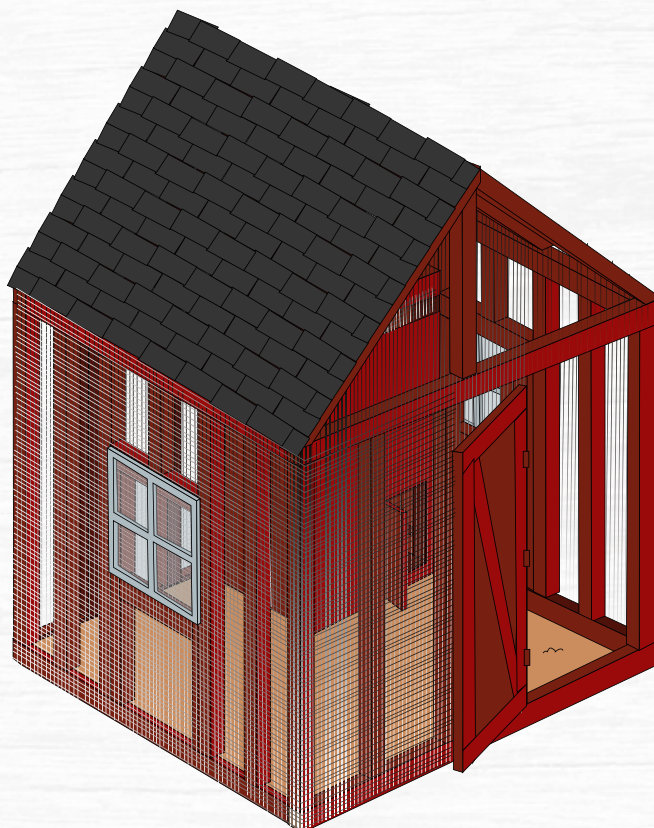
- Paint or stain the exterior of the coop frame with **weatherproof exterior paint**.
- Ensure all exposed wood and roof edges are sealed.

Predator-Proofing:

- Ensure all openings are securely covered with **1/2" hardware cloth**.
- Bury hardware cloth **12-18"** underground to prevent digging predators.

Cleaning:

- Consider adding a **deep litter system (4-6" of pine shavings)** to make cleaning easier.





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MEET THE EXPERT, CODY DELUISIO:

Cody Deluisio is a poultry expert with over 28 years of experience raising chickens, from small backyard flocks to groups of up to 500 birds. He is a member of the American Bantam Association and has hands-on experience with DIY coops, pre-built kits, barns, sheds, and chicken tractors. He currently raises Silkies and ISA Browns, sharing insights from his farm and breeding work through his content channels.