

Purvis Hanging Nestbox Plan Guide

This is a guide to the *Purvis Hanging Nestbox Plan*. Refer to the plan as you review each of the steps below. There is also a *Purvis Hanging Nestbox Assembly Guide* filled with photographs that may interest you.

Materials

You can build your nestbox out of most common types of wood. The only strict requirement is the wood must be $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick (1" nominal). I prefer pine or similar types of light wood. For the sides and door, I really like to use shiplap siding that is rough sawn on one side. The vast majority of nestbox builders use scrap wood. Be flexible in your build process because scrap wood is seldom straight.

Cutting

The widest piece is the top which is 9"x8". So, the widest piece of stock you need is 8". Cut the top and set it aside. Next, from the same stock used for the top, cut the back and the bottom. Trim the corners off the square bottom with a band or saber saw.

Rip the shiplap siding to 6-1/2" width. Be sure to orient the piece so the beveled edge is the front and the rough-sawn side goes in. Cross-cut each side to 10". I like to make the door from the shiplap siding. The rough-sawn side goes in providing the nestlings a rough surface when they are fledging.

Routing

I use my router table to cut the grooves for the hanging wire. I use a $\frac{1}{4}$ " straight bit and make a cut about $\frac{1}{4}$ " deep. The back groove starts at the top and is 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " long. At the bottom of the groove drill a $\frac{1}{4}$ " hole $\frac{3}{8}$ " inch deep for the $\frac{1}{4}$ " bend of the wire.

The top has the same type of groove. It is 3-1/8" long and offset from the back of the top by 1-1/4". At the end of the groove (closest to the center of the top), drill a $\frac{1}{4}$ " hole all the way through the top for the wire exit.

I use a $\frac{1}{8}$ " straight bit to cut a drip groove all the way around the top $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edge.

Finish Up

Use a 1-1/2" hole-saw or Forstner bit to cut a hole in the door 1-1/2" from the top. Flip the door over and cut $\frac{1}{4}$ " horizontal grooves, $\frac{1}{2}$ " apart. These grooves help the nestlings climb to freedom.

Drill pilot holes for the wood screws that support the door, 1" down from the top of each side. I also suggest you drill $\frac{3}{8}$ " vent holes in the top of both sides and at the top of the back.

Refer to the *Purvis Hanging Nestbox Assembly Guide* for step-by-step assistance in putting your box together.

Share your designs and photos. You can contact me at mspohn@socalbluebirds.org.

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