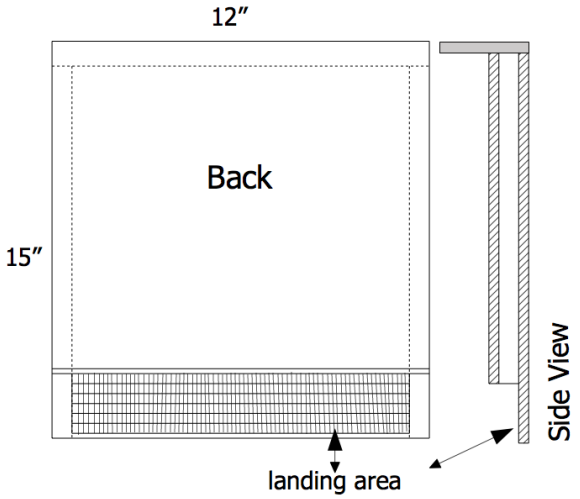
Single-chamber Bat House (wall mounted)

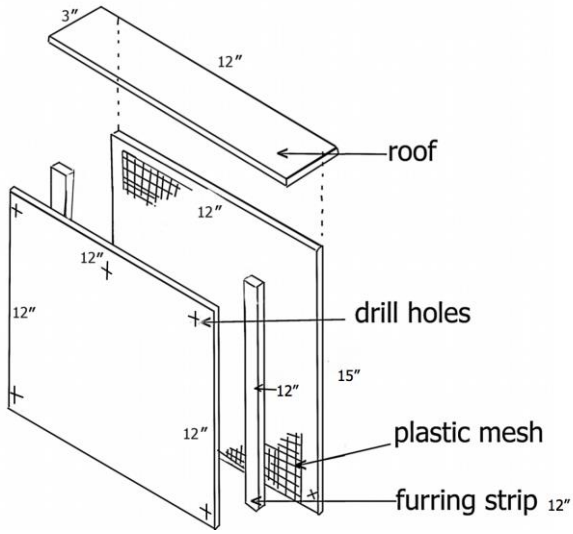
Materials (makes one house)

- ¼ sheet (2' x 4') 5/8", AC, BC or T1-11 (outdoor grade) plywood
- One piece 1" x 2" (3/4" x 1 ½" finished) x 8' pine (furring strip)
- 20 to 30 exterior-grade screws. 1" or 1 ½" galvanized nails
- 15" x 12" plastic mesh (to staple on the inside back)
- One quart flat, water-based paint or stain, exterior grade, DARK
- One tube paintable latex caulk
- One 3" x 12" board for roof

Recommended tools

1) Table saw or handsaw
2) Variable-speed reversing drill
3) Screwdriver bit for drill
4) Tape measure or yardstick
5) Caulking gun
6) Paintbrushes
7) Hammer & Nails
8) Staple gun & Staples





Construction

1) Back – 12" x 15" – Staple on screen
2) Furring Strips – Pine – attach with nails
    a. Sides – 12" (x2)
3) Front – 12" x 12" - attach
4) Roof – 3" x 12" (last)
5) Drill holes top & bottom for mounting (* x=drill holes for mounting)
6) Caulk gaps if necessary
7) Paint with dark paint (not screen area)

Ventilation slots may not be necessary in cold climates.

Attach to building facing east, south or west, 10-20 feet off the ground with no trees nearby.

Two bat houses can be placed back-to-back, mounted between two poles, to create a three-chamber nursery house. Before assembly, cut a horizontal 3/4" slot in the back of each house about 9" from the bottom edge of the back piece to permit movement of bats between houses. Two pieces of wood, 1" x 4" x 4 1/4", screwed horizontally to each side, will join the two boxes. Leave a 3/4" space between the two houses, and roughen the wood surfaces or cover the back of each with plastic mesh. One 1" x 4" x 18" vertical piece, attached to each side over the horizontal pieces, blocks light but allows bats and air to enter. A galvanized metal roof, covering both houses, protects the center roosting area from rain. Eaves should be about 3" in southern areas and about 1 ½ " in the north.

Ref: BCI *Bathouse Builder's Handbook* by M. D. Tuttle and M. & S. Kiser, 2004. Adapted by Melanie Elliott, WRSOS & University of Saskatchewan, College of Education

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