

DIY

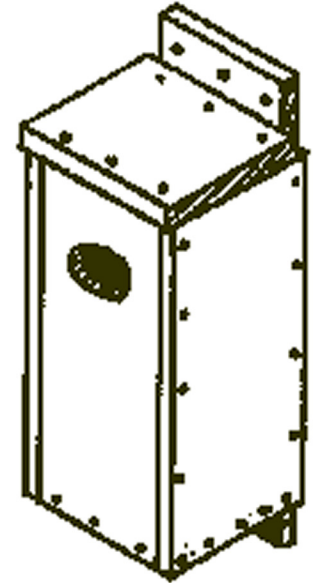
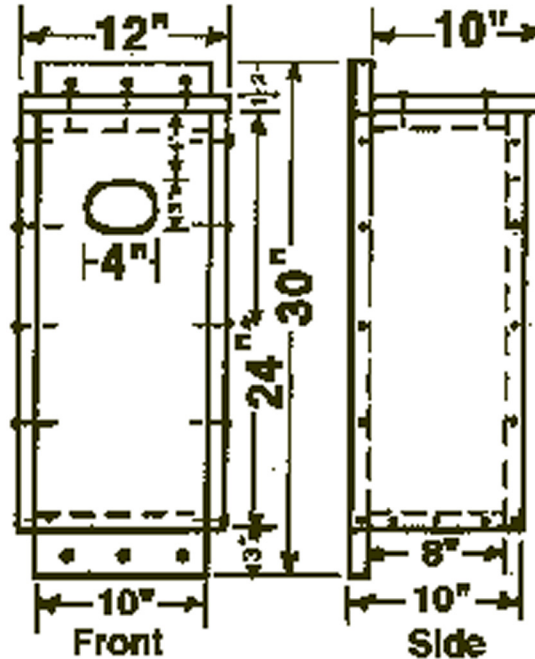
Wood Duck Nest Boxes *and suggestions for placement*

ONLINE STORE: DO IT YOURSELF SERIES

www.dfw.state.or.us/store

MATERIALS LIST

- Rough 1" Lumber 10' - 10"
- Back 30" x 10" and Front 24" x 10"
- Sides 24" x 10"
- Bottom 8" x 10"
- Lid 12" x 10"
- Lid Cleat 8" x 10"
- Nails - Galvanized
- Size 8d - 13 per side & 3 in front = 29 total
- Size 6d - 6 in lid = 6 total



Unlike other waterfowl nesting in Oregon, wood ducks almost always seek a tree cavity in which to deposit their eggs. The nesting tree will usually border a stream or lake, but woodies may nest a mile or more from water. The lack of suitable natural nesting sites has led to the construction of artificial boxes which may be placed in areas used by wood ducks. Of hundreds already placed in western Oregon, wood ducks have used a high percentage. Others are used by owls, squirrels and bees. To achieve nesting success, a four-inch layer of sawdust or wood shavings must be put on the floor of the box.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

1. Use rough lumber: weathered cedar preferred - do not paint. If smooth or planed wood is used, tack screen inside box from floor to hole (rough wood or screen is necessary for ducklings to climb out).
2. Hole: Four inches wide, three inches high, oval, located four inches from top.
3. Bottom: Bore two or three one-quarter inch holes for drainage.
4. Back board: Extend back board several inches above and below to facilitate fastening to tree or pole.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PLACEMENT

1. Nesting box may be placed in a tree. It should be at least 15 feet above the ground and faced toward the water but away from prevailing winds, if possible.
2. A living tree should be chosen since dead trees are more likely to be blown down. The nesting box should be turned so that its entrance hole is not obstructed by branches.
3. If box is placed on a post in the water, it should be above high water danger. This location is good since it eliminates the danger from ground predators.