



# **A Step-by-Step Guide to Building an Awesome Chicken Coop**



**By Chris Jordan**

Click One of the Two Options:

**EUROPEAN METRIC SYSTEM**

**US METRIC SYSTEM**

# **A Step-by-Step Guide to Building an Awesome Chicken Coop**

- Metric System -

A good looking chicken coop can improve the way your yard is looking. A beautiful and comfortable coop can influence the health of the chickens and the number of eggs produced. Below, you can see the way it will look in the end.



As seen in the image, the chickens have a sleeping place and an outside space surrounded by wire netting. The owner has access to the sleeping place through the front door and also through a larger side door that is not visible in the picture above.

### **Designing the chicken coop for your chickens**

Before I started building it, I thought a lot about the dimensions. In the end, I decided to make it large enough for ten chickens to fit in comfortably. So, the dimensions I used are: 2.1 m X 1.9 m X 1.5 m as seen in the image below.



So, after I set up the dimensions, I made a list of materials needed. If you decide to use the same dimensions, here are the materials you will need. If you choose other dimensions, you should scale to fit.

So, here is the list of materials needed:

- 4 x Wood Beam 4.5 cm x 4.5 cm – 210 cm long
- 4 x Wood Beam 4.5 cm x 4.5 cm – 190 cm long
- 4 x Wood Beam 4.5 cm x 4.5 cm – 82 cm long
- 1 x Wood Beam 4.5 cm x 4.5 cm – 42 cm long
- 4 x Wood Beam 4.5 cm x 4.5 cm – 136 cm long
- 3 x Wood Beam 4.5 cm x 4.5 cm – 170 cm long
- 3 x Wood Beam 4.5 cm x 4.5 cm – 200 cm long
- 1 x Wood Beam 4.5 cm x 4.5 cm – 112 cm long
- 9 x Wood Board 15 cm x 2 cm – 92 cm long
- 12 x Wood Board 15 cm x 2 cm – 150 cm long
- 4 x Wood Board 15 cm x 2 cm – 147 cm long
- 2 x Wood Board 15 cm x 2 cm – 34 cm long
- 2 x Wood Board 15 cm x 2 cm – 80 cm long
- 2 x Wood Board 15 cm x 2 cm – 25 cm long

- 2 x Wood Rail – 67 cm long
- 1 x OSB Plywood – 33 cm x 65 cm
- 2 x Wood Board 15 cm x 2 cm – 27 cm long
- 4 x Wood Board 15 cm x 2 cm – 24 cm long
- 2 x Wood Board 15 cm x 2 cm – 42 cm long
- 1 x Wood Board 15 cm x 2 cm – 36 cm long
- 1 x Wood Board 15 cm x 2 cm – 27 cm long
- 6 x Wood Board 15 cm x 2 cm – 260 cm long
- 12 meters of wire netting
- 6 hinges
- 2 x wood protection oil
- 260 cm x 200 cm of onduline
- 3 door locks
- Iron nails
- “U” form iron nails
- Screws
- A brush

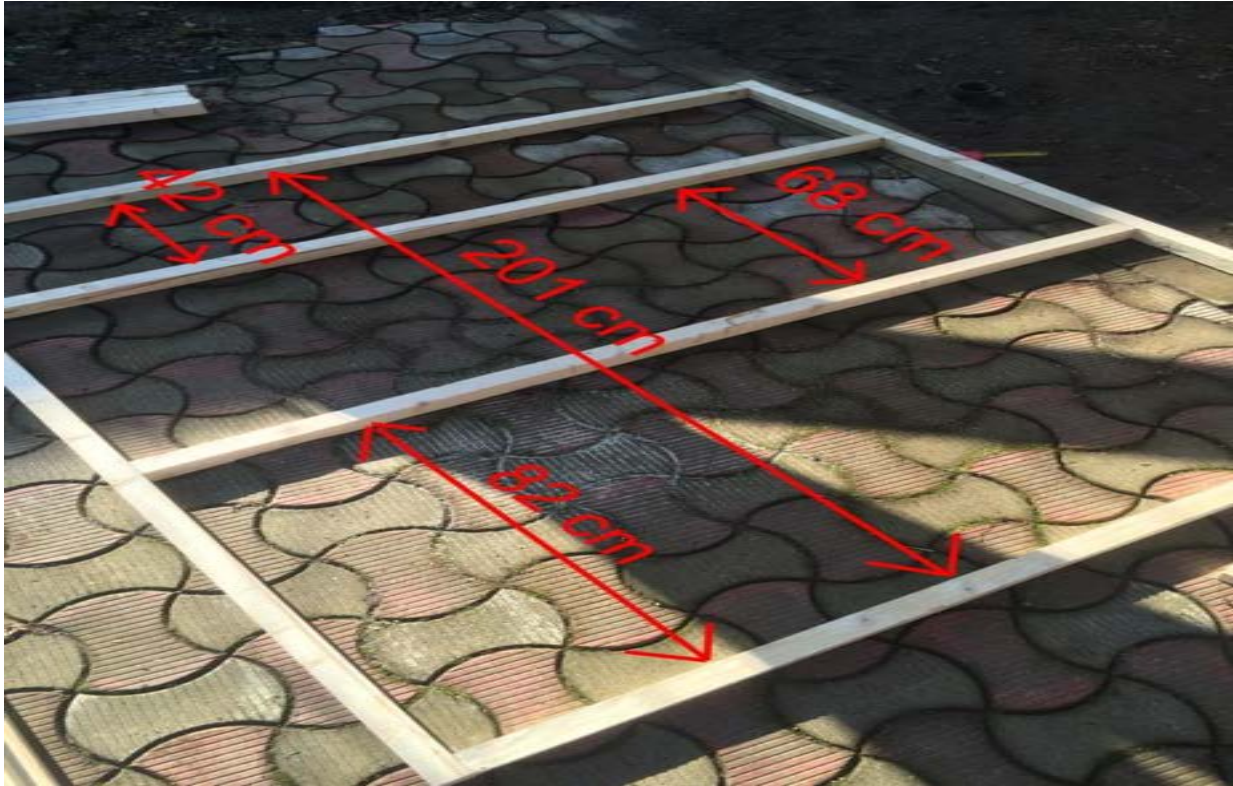
When it comes to the tools you will need, this is the list:

- A ruler
- A hammer
- A plier
- A jigsaw
- A drill

### **Step #1 – Building the front panel**

We will start by building the front panel. For this step, we will need two Wood Beams - 210 centimeters long, and 4 Wood Beams – 190 centimeters long. Using screws, we will join the pieces together as seen in the images below. Please note that in the image is pointed out the interior space.



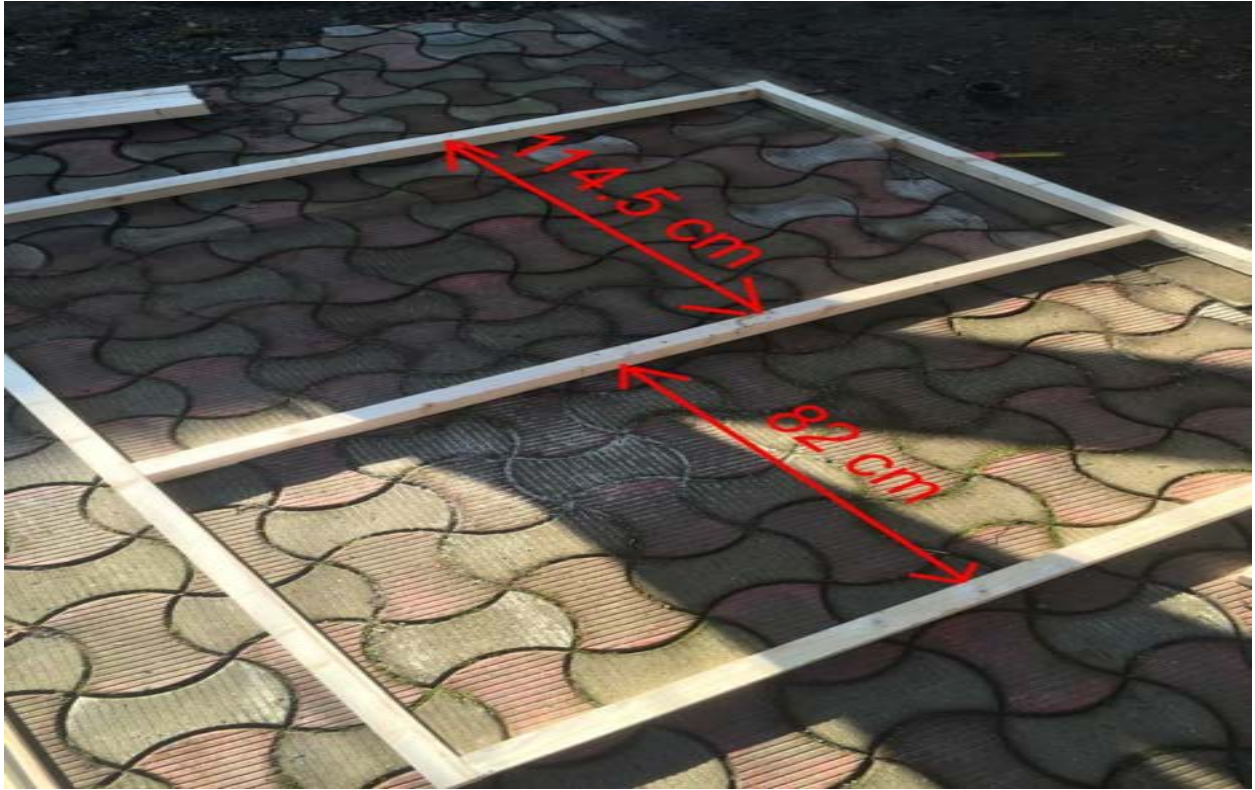


## Step #2 – Building the back panel

You will need 3 wood beams of 190 cm long and 2 wood beams of 210 cm.

The back panel should look similar to the front panel, except that it has only one wood beam from the upper part to the bottom. Also, the height of the back panel is only 190 cm, not 210 cm like it was for the front panel. The difference is because we want to get drain angle for the roof. After this step, you should have a panel like in the image:





### **Step #3 – Adding strength to the panels**

In this step we will add some metal corners to give some extra strength to the panels. Add the corners like in the next image



Now, we have to add two wood beams, parallel with bottom and upper beam. They have to be 82 cm long, and the one in the front should be placed at a distance of 82 cm under the top. The one in the back should be placed exactly over the one in the front, like in the image.



#### **Step #4 – Adding wood boards**

On the back side of the back panel, we have to nail the boards. We will need 5 wood boards, 112 cm long and 15 cm wide.

On the front side, we should nail 4 wood beams, beginning from the top, so in the end there should be enough space for another two boards to fit. There, we will build a door.



### **Step #5 – Joining the front and the back panels together**

At this step, our wood will start looking like a cage. For this step, we will need 2 wood beams of 136 cm. Now we need to lift the front and the back panels and there should be a distance of 136 cm between them. Then, we need to add metal corners in all four corners from the bottom. Using two temporary wood boards, we have to fix the top part at the distance of 136 cm as seen in the image below:



### **Step #6 – Nailing wood boards on the exterior of the cage**

Before starting this step, we need to nail, on the top of the cage, 3 wood beams 200 cm long. Two of them will be placed on the outside, over the side beam, and one over the beams that support the boards.

After this, we will need 6 wood boards 150cm long. We will start nailing from the bottom to the top. Using a jigsaw, we will cut the last board to fit the remained space.



After doing this, we will now nail the boards in the bottom of the box. For this, we will need 4 boards 147 cm long and 2 wood beams 82 cm long. We will nail two beams for a side of the box, and the other two for the other side, because right in the middle we will have the access door. Using the jigsaw cut the corners of the boards, so the board and the beam fit perfectly. I attached an image, this is how it should look.



After this, measure 23 cm from the back wood beam to the front of the cage, and under the boards nail a 82 cm long wood beam. Then, measure 71 cm from the front to the bottom of the box, and do the same.

This is what we should have by now:





## Step #7 – Building & fixing the side door

For this step, we will need two 2 wood boards 150 cm long and wood boards 25 cm long. What we have to do can be seen in the image.



After this, using two hinges, we will fix the door on the interior side of the box, like in the image below.



Then, we have to nail up the other boards over the door. We will need 4 more wood boards 150 cm long. What remains now, is to fix the locker.









### **Step #8 – Building the bottom door**

For this step, we will need 2 pieces of wood rail, 67 cm long and a OSB panel of 33 cm x 65 cm. We have to fix the rail in the inside, in order to fit the OSB panel, like in the image.



### **Step #9 – Building the front door**

For this, we will need 4 wood boards 24 cm long, 2 wood boards 42 cm long, 2 wood boards 27 cm long and 2 wood beams 35 cm long.

We will start by fixing the wood beams at a distance of 15 cm from the margins, like in the image below:



Now, we will fix the 24 cm long wood boards on the sides. You can see below the result.





Using the boards 27 cm long, we will fix together those two wood boards 42 cm long in order to build the door. After this, using 2 hinges and a locker, we will fix the door up.



Here is the result:



Now, that we finished this step too, we only have 3 steps remained.

## Step #10 – Building the access door

For this step, we will need 2 wood board pieces 190 cm long, and two wood pieces 70 cm long. We will nail the pieces together, in order to create a door. After this, using “u” nails, we should fix the wire netting over it.



Now, using two 2 hinges and a locker we can fix the door up.

## Step #11 – Varnishing the wood

At this step, we will need two liters of wood protection oil and a brush. Spread the protection oil all over the wood surface. Let it

dry for two hours and apply another layer. This will make our cage waterproof and will assure a long life for it.



## Step #12 – Fixing the wire netting

At this step, we only need “u” form nails and the wire netting. Start from the access door and go around the cage, fixing the wire netting in nails at every corner, at a distance of 5-10 cm.



Do the same for the bottom part.

### Step #13 – Building the roof

At this step, we will need to fix 6 wood boards 260 cm long perpendicular to the wood beams over the cage. It should look like in the image below:



Now, using nails, the only thing remained to do is to fix the onduline over it.

This is how it should look now:





# **A Step-by-Step Guide to Building an Awesome Chicken Coop**

- US Measurements -

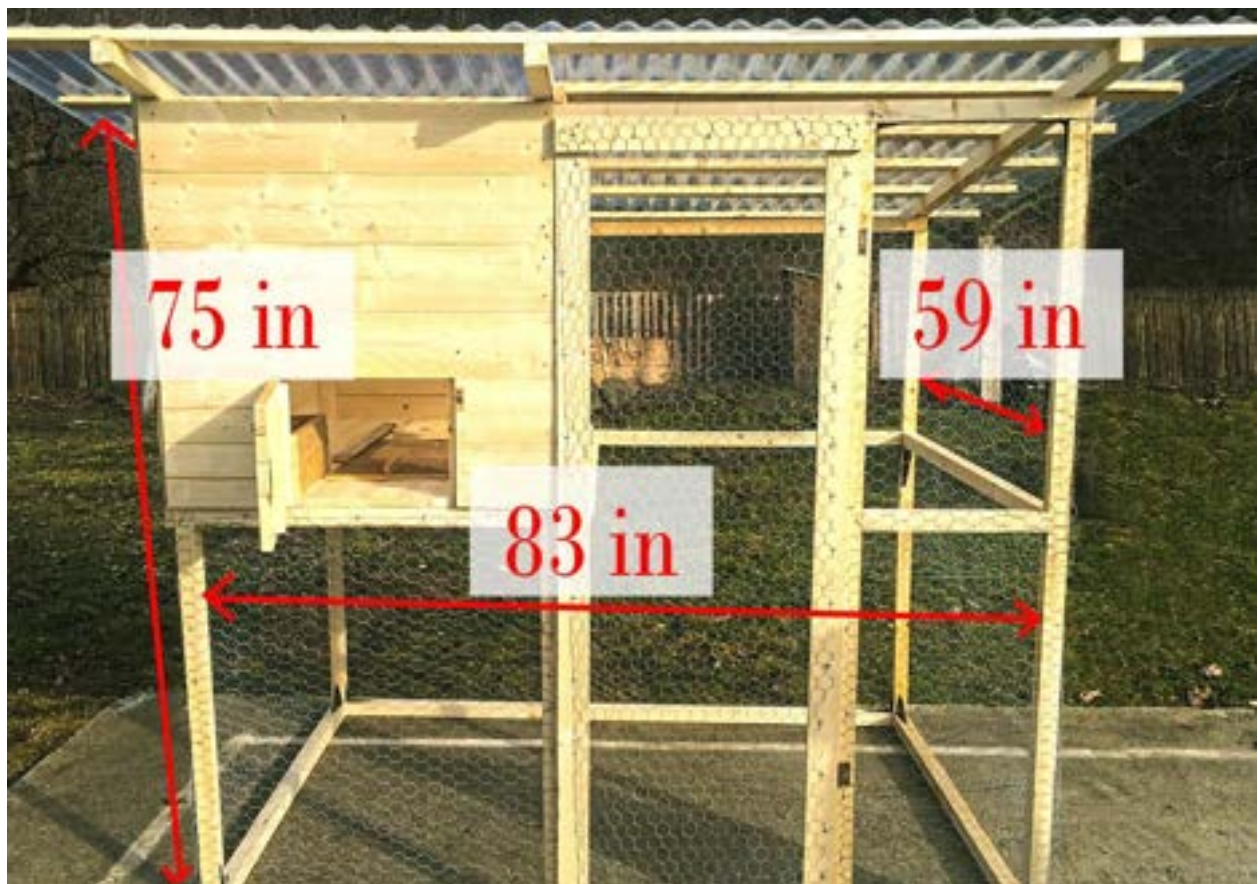
A good looking chicken coop can improve the way your yard is looking. A beautiful and comfortable coop can influence the health of the chickens and the number of eggs produced. Below, you can see the way it will look in the end.



As seen in the image, the chickens have a sleeping place and an outside space surrounded by wire netting. The owner has access to the sleeping place through the front door and also through a larger side door that is not visible in the picture above.

## Designing the chicken coop for your chickens

Before I started building it, I thought a lot about the dimensions. In the end, I decided to make it large enough for ten chickens to fit in comfortably. So, the dimensions I used are: 83 in X 75 in X 59 in as seen in the image below.



So, after I set up the dimensions, I made a list of materials needed. If you decide to use the same dimensions, here are the materials you will need. If you choose other dimensions, you should scale to fit.

So, here is the list of materials needed:

- 4 x Wood Beam  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in x  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in – 83 in long
- 4 x Wood Beam  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in x  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in – 75 in long
- 4 x Wood Beam  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in x  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in –  $32\frac{5}{16}$  in long
- 1 x Wood Beam  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in x  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in –  $16\frac{1}{2}$  in long
- 4 x Wood Beam  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in x  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in –  $53\frac{1}{2}$  in long
- 3 x Wood Beam  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in x  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in – 67 in long
- 3 x Wood Beam  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in x  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in –  $78\frac{3}{4}$  in long
- 1 x Wood Beam  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in x  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in – 44 in long
- 9 x Wood Board 6 in x 1 in –  $36\frac{3}{16}$  in long
- 12 x Wood Board 6 in x 1 in – 59 in long
- 4 x Wood Board 6 in x 1 in – 58 in long
- 2 x Wood Board 6 in x 1 in –  $13\frac{1}{2}$  in long
- 2 x Wood Board 6 in x 1 in –  $31\frac{1}{2}$  in long
- 2 x Wood Board 6 in x 1 in – 10 in long
- 2 x Wood Rail –  $26\frac{3}{8}$  in long

- 1 x OSB Plywood – 13 in x  $25\frac{1}{2}$  in
- 2 x Wood Board 6 in x in –  $10\frac{1}{2}$  in long
- 4 x Wood Board 6 in x in –  $9\frac{1}{2}$  in long
- 2 x Wood Board 6 in x in –  $16\frac{1}{2}$  in long
- 1 x Wood Board 6 in x in –  $14\frac{1}{4}$  in long
- 1 x Wood Board 6 in x in –  $10\frac{1}{2}$  in long
- 6 x Wood Board 6 in x in –  $102\frac{3}{8}$  in long
- $39\frac{3}{8}$  ft of wire netting
- 6 hinges
- 2 x wood protection oil
- $102\frac{3}{8}$  in x  $78\frac{1}{2}$  in of onduline
- 3 door locks
- Iron nails
- “U” form iron nails
- Screws
- A brush

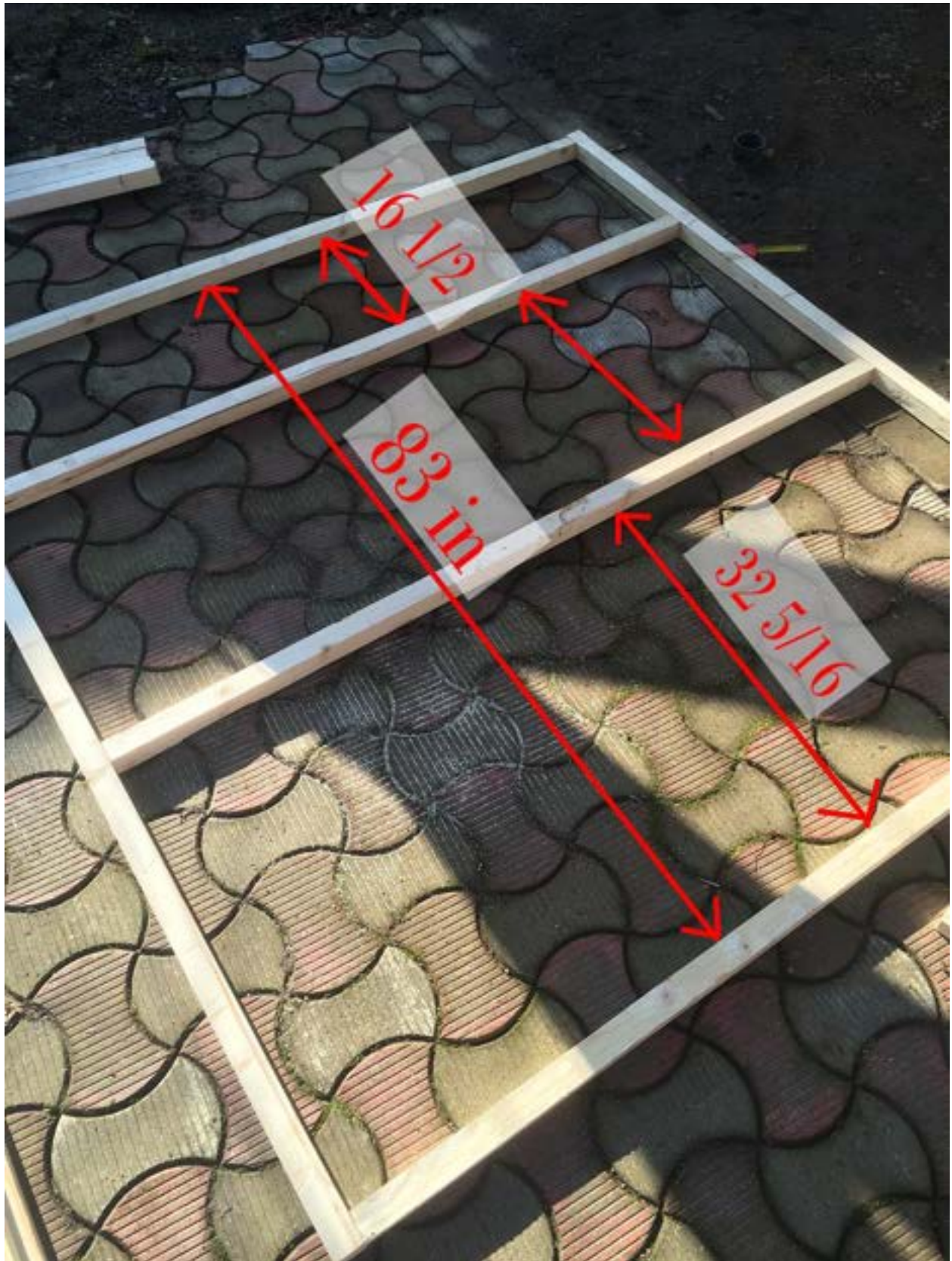
When it comes to the tools you will need, this is the list:

- A ruler
- A hammer
- A plier
- A jigsaw
- A drill

### **Step #1 - Building the front panel**

We will start by building the front panel. For this step, we will need two Wood Beams - 83 inches long, and 4 Wood Beams – 75 inches long. Using screws, we will join the pieces together as seen in the images below. Please note that in the image is pointed out the interior space.





## **Step #2 - Building the back panel**

You will need 3 wood beams of 75 in long and 2 wood beams of 83 inches.

The back panel should look similar to the front panel, except that it has only one wood beam from the upper part to the bottom. Also, the height of the back panel is only 75 in, not 83 inches like it was for the front panel. The difference is because we want to get drain angle for the roof. After this step, you should have a panel like in the image:





### Step #3 - Adding strength to the panels

In this step we will add some metal corners to give some extra strength to the panels. Add the corners like in the next image



Now, we have to add two wood beams, parallel with bottom and upper beam. They have to be  $32\frac{5}{16}$  in long, and the one in the front should be placed at a distance of  $32\frac{5}{16}$  in under the top. The one in the back should be placed exactly over the one in the front, like in the image.



## Step #4 - Adding wood boards

On the back side of the back panel, we have to nail the boards. We will need 5 wood boards, 44 in long and 6 in wide.

On the front side, we should nail 4 wood beams, beginning from the top, so in the end there should be enough space for another two boards to fit. There, we will build a door.



## Step #5 - Joining the front and the back panels together

At this step, our wood will start looking like a cage. For this step, we will need 2 wood beams of  $53\frac{1}{2}$  in. Now we need to lift the front and the back panels and there should be a distance of  $53\frac{1}{2}$  in between them. Then, we need to add metal corners in all four corners from the bottom. Using two temporary wood boards, we have to fix the top part at the distance of  $53\frac{1}{2}$  in as seen in the image below:



## Step #6 - Nailing wood boards on the exterior of the cage

Before starting this step, we need to nail, on the top of the cage, 3 wood beams  $78\frac{3}{4}$  in long. Two of them will be placed on the outside, over the side beam, and one over the beams that support the boards.

After this, we will need 6 wood boards 59 in long. We will start nailing from the bottom to the top. Using a jigsaw, we will cut the last board to fit the remained space.





After doing this, we will now nail the boards in the bottom of the box. For this, we will need 4 boards 58 in long and 2 wood beams  $32\frac{5}{16}$  in long. We will nail two beams for a side of the box, and the other two for the other side, because right in the middle we will have the access door. Using the jigsaw cut the corners of the boards, so the board and the beam fit perfectly. I attached an image, this is how it should look.



After this, measure 29 in from the back wood beam to the front of the cage, and under the boards nail a  $32\frac{5}{16}$  in long wood beam. Then, measure 28 in from the front to the bottom of the box, and do the same.

**This is what we should have by now:**





## Step #7 - Building & fixing the side door

For this step, we will need two 2 wood boards 59 in long and wood boards  $9\frac{1}{2}$  in long. What we have to do can be seen in the image.



After this, using two hinges, we will fix the door on the interior side of the box, like in the image below.



Then, we have to nail up the other boards over the door. We will need 4 more wood boards 59 in long. What remains now, is to fix the locker.









## Step #8 - Building the bottom door

For this step, we will need 2 pieces of wood rail,  $26\frac{3}{8}$  in long and a OSB panel of 13 in x  $25\frac{1}{2}$  in. We have to fix the rail in the inside, in order to fit the OSB panel, like in the image.



## Step #9 - Building the front door

For this, we will need 4 wood boards  $9\frac{1}{2}$  in long, 2 wood boards  $16\frac{1}{2}$  in long, 2 wood boards  $10\frac{3}{4}$  in long and 2 wood beams  $13\frac{7}{8}$  in long.

We will start by fixing the wood beams at a distance of 6 in from the margins, like in the image below:





Now, we will fix the  $9\frac{1}{2}$  in long wood boards on the sides. You can see below the result.



Using the boards  $10\frac{1}{2}$  in long, we will fix together those two wood boards  $16\frac{1}{2}$  in long in order to build the door. After this, using 2 hinges and a locker, we will fix the door up.



**Here is the result:**



Now, that we finished this step too, we only have 3 steps remained.

## Step #10 - Building the access door

For this step, we will need 2 wood board pieces 75 in long, and two wood pieces  $27\frac{1}{2}$  in long. We will nail the pieces together, in order to create a door. After this, using “u” nails, we should fix the wire netting over it.



Now, using two 2 hinges and a locker we can fix the door up.

## Step #11 - Varnishing the wood

At this step, we will need two liters of wood protection oil and a brush. Spread the protection oil all over the wood surface. Let it dry for two hours and apply another layer. This will make our cage waterproof and will assure a long life for it.



## Step #12 - Fixing the wire netting

At this step, we only need “u” form nails and the wire netting. Start from the access door and go around the cage, fixing the wire netting in nails at every corner, at a distance of 2-3 inches.



Do the same for the bottom part.

## Step #13 – Building the roof

At this step, we will need to fix 6 wood boards  $102\frac{3}{8}$  in long perpendicular to the wood beams over the cage. It should look like in the image below:



Now, using nails, the only thing remained to do is to fix the onduline over it.

**This is how it should look now:**

