

Plans Include:
I. Material list
2. Exterior elevations
3. Site preparation $\$$ base plan
4. Floor plan
5. Roof frame plan \& details
6. Section \& window detail
7. Rafter template

## Getting started:

Before building your playhouse, check with your local code officials to see if a building permit is required. Some neighborhoods also have requirements or guidelines that you must follow. Next, select the perfect site for your playhouse. Do you want the playhouse to be a main feature in your yard or a secret hideaway? If you have young children, consider keeping it close by where you can keep an eye on them.

A material list is included to help you get started, but this design allows for substituting your own material choices. Selecting materials is a fun way to personalize your playhouse and give it a style of your own. Salvaged or reclaimed materials can help reduce cost and also add character.

Put safety first. Inspect you playhouse after completion and periodically for safety hazards. Always remember, "If they can, they will." A playhouse is a place to play and explore, and you children will do just that. If they can climb it they will. If they can jump off of it, they will. If they can swing on it, they will.

## DIY Playhouse Material list

Prior to purchasing materials, thoroughly review the plans. This is an estimate and is only intended to be starting point. There are many ways to make your playhouse unique, and selecting different finish materials (floor, walls, and exterior siding) is just the beginning.

|  | QUANTITY | UNIT COST | TOTAL | NOTES |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Building Supplies |  |  |  |  |
| 8x8x16 Concrete blocks | 8 |  |  | Foundation |
| Gravel |  |  |  | As needed to level concrete blocks |
| 2x6x8 - TREATED | 13 |  |  | Base frame \& porch |
| 1x6x12 Deck board-TREATED | 6 |  |  | Front porch floor (6 @ 6'-2') |
| 3/4" Plywood -TREATED (4x8) | 2 |  |  | Subfloor |
| 2x4x8 | 48 |  |  | Wall frame \& blocking |
| 2x6x8 | 10 |  |  | Roof frame |
| 2x8x8 | 1 |  |  | Ridge beam (1@8'-0") |
| 1/2" Exterior sheathing (4x8) | 8 |  |  | Wall sheathing |
| 3/4" Exterior sheathing (4x8) | 4 |  |  | Roof sheathing |
| Bead board (4x8) | 10 |  |  | Interior wall \& ceiling finish |
| 1x6x16 Lap siding | 35 |  |  | Exterior siding ~560 linear feet |
| 1×4x8 | 31 |  |  | Exterior trim (15) \& Interior trim (16) |
| 1x6x8 | 5 |  |  | (4) Exterior trim, (1) Interior trim at ridge |
| 1x2x8 | 4 |  |  | Ext. gable trim (on top of 1x6) |
| Finish floor material | 54sf |  |  | Interior floor material |
| Felt paper | 1 roll |  |  | Roof |
| Shingles | 130 sf |  |  | Roof |
| Single-hung window | 2 |  |  | W 2'-0" x H 3'-0" |
| Door \& hardware | 1 |  |  | 2'-2" wide x 5'-8" high |
| Fasteners |  |  |  |  |
| Deck screws - 3" | 2 lb |  |  | Base |
| Framing nails - 3" | 3 lb |  |  | Wall \& roof frame |
| Siding nails - 1 1/2" 4d | 1.5 lb |  |  | Siding |
| Finish nails - 1 1/2" | 1 lb |  |  | Interior \& Exterior finishes |
| Plastic cap felting nails | small box |  |  | Roof felt |
| Misc. |  |  |  |  |
| Caulk - paintable | 1 tube |  |  | Interior \& Exterior where needed |
| Window installation materials |  |  |  | See manufacturers instillation guide. |
| Paint |  |  |  |  |
| Exterior paint \& primer in one | 1 gal . |  |  | Exterior siding |
| Exterior paint \& primer in one | 1 qt . |  |  | Exterior trim |
| Interior paint \& primer in one | 1 gal . |  |  | Interior walls |
| Interior paint \& primer in one | 1 qt . |  |  | Interior trim |
| Ceiling paint | 1 qt . |  |  | Ceiling |
| Polyurethane | 1 qt . |  |  | Finish for wood floors |

Notes: 1. Hardie Panel Cedarmill Vertical Siding may be substituted for lap siding (Nine $4 \times 8$ panels).
2. The door is not a standard size and will need to be special ordered. If building the door yourself, it may be easier to modify a solid core door.
3. V-groove plywood or tongue \& groove would look nice on the exposed eaves, and can be substituted for the $3 / 4$ " plywood roof sheathing.


FRONT ELEVATION
SCALE: $3 / 8^{\prime \prime}=1^{\prime}-0$ "


SIDE ELEVATION
SCALE: $3 / 8^{\prime \prime}=1^{\prime}-0$ "


BACK ELEVATION
SCALE: $3 / 8^{\prime \prime}=1^{\prime}-0$ "


SIDE ELEVATION
SCALE: 3/8" = 1'-0"


FOUNDATION DETAIL
SCALE: $3 / 4^{\prime \prime}=1^{\prime}-0^{\prime \prime}$

* The picture above shows the base built on $4 \times 6$ skids, but they are not necessary if you do not plan on moving the playhouse.


## SITE PREPARATION

2X6 FLOOR JOIST
2X6 RIM JOIST

1. Determine the location of the structure.
2. Remove grass and debris from the area.
3. Place concrete masonry blocks in gravel filled holes at each corner. Use gravel to level. A minimum of 3 " should be above grade.

BUILD THE BASE:

1. Start by building a $6^{\prime}-0^{\prime \prime} \times 8^{\prime}-0^{\prime \prime}$ box. Use treated $2 \times 6$ s and secure them with $3^{\prime \prime}$ deck screws. 2. Make sure the base is level and square, before attaching the treated $2 \times 6$ floor joist.
2. Secure one $4 \times 8$ sheet of $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}$ treated plywood to the base. Measure, cut, and attach the remaining piece.


* After the base is complete, you will have a level work space to frame the walls.

CONCRETE

2X6 RIM JOIST

## BUILD THE PORCH:

1. The front porch is to be constructed independent of the base frame.
2. After framing the porch using treated $2 \times 6 \mathrm{~s}$, attach $1 \times 6$ treated decking.
3. Stain the deck to give it a more finished look.



BASE FRAME PLAN
SCALE: 1/2" = 1'-0"

FRAME THE WALLS:

1. Assemble the walls on a flat surface such as the base.
2. Start with the side wall that does not have a door or window. Space the studs at $16^{\prime \prime}$ on center. It takes a little planning ahead, but you will want a stud to fall in the center of the seam of the exerior sheathing. This will give you something solid to nail to.
3. Frame the rough opening for the windows and door according to the manufacturers dimensions. 4. After all of the walls are assembled, it is time to erect the walls. Brace the walls as you go. After they are all in place and square, nail them together at the corners. They should also be nailed to the base.
4. These plans call for a double top plate. Secure the $2 \times 4$ top plate overlaping it at the corners.


* The image above does not show the door or window headers yet. We did not have the door or windows at this time, and decided to wait until we did to secure the headers. Even though you do not install windows at this time, it is a good idea to go ahead and purchase them, so you will know what size to make the rough openings.


PLAN
SCALE: $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}=1^{\prime}-0^{\prime \prime}$


ROOF FRAME:

1. Cut (1) $8^{\prime}-0^{\prime \prime}$ ridge beam from a $2 \times 8$.
2. Cut (4) Type A rafters from $2 \times 6$ s and attach to ridge beam.
3. Secure the Type A rafters to the top plate of the walls. A $2 \times 4$ ridge support at both gable ends will help hold the ridge beam in place.
4. Cut and secure (6) Type B rafters to the ridge beam and top plate.


TYPE A
TYPEA

## ROOF FRAME PLAN

SCALE: $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}=1^{\prime}-0^{\prime \prime}$


## EXTERIOR SIDING AND TRIM:

1. First, nail $2 \times 4$ blocking to the top plate between the rafters. Blocking provides a solid surface to nail sheathing and siding to.
2. Also add $2 \times 4$ blocking to the under side of the rafters at the gable ends.
3. Next attach $1 / 2$ " sheathing to the exterior walls. The sheathing is not required on a project this small, but it does add a layer of protection from water.
4. Install windows and door according to the manufacturers instructions.
5. Cut and attach $1 \times 6$ trim pieces at the gable ends. The tails of the gable trim should match the curved rafter tails, (Angles are at 45 degrees).
6. Cut and attach $1 \times 2$ trim at the gable ends.
7. Cut and attach $1 \times 4$ trim at the corners, windows, and door.
8. Attach 6 " lap siding with siding nails starting at the bottom and working up.


WINDOW DETAIL


* Exterior sheathing was not used for the project pictured above because it was not in the budget. It is recommended though.


INTERIOR FINISHES:

1. Cut and attach beadboard panels to walls \& ceiling with finishing nails.
2. Install floors.
3. Measure, cut, and attach trim. Caulk if necessary.
4. Paint walls and ceiling.


SECTION
SCALE: $1 / 2^{\prime \prime}=1^{\prime}-0^{\prime \prime}$


