Simple Birdhouse Plans

Carolina Chickadee nest box | all dimensions in inches

Design specifications

Intended species: Carolina Chickadee. Entrance diameter: 1 1/8. No perch.

Clear interior floor: 4 x 4. Untreated 3/4-inch cedar or pine; leave interior unfinished.

Body outside footprint: 5 1/2 x 5 1/2. Sloped roof: rise 1 across 5 1/2.

Removable right side for cleaning; back extends 2 below box for mounting.

Cut list - finished pieces

PART	QTY	DIMENSIONS / CUT DETAIL
Front	1	5 1/2 W x 9 H; bevel top 10.3 deg
Back	1	5 1/2 W x 12 H; bevel top 10.3 deg
Fixed left side	1	4 D; top heights 9.136 to 9.864
Removable right side	1	4 D; bottom raised 1/8; tapered top
Floor	1	4 x 4 x 3/4
Roof	1	7 W x 7 9/16 along roof slope

Materials and tools

#6 x 1 1/4 exterior-rated screws; pilot drill and countersink; saw with bevel capability;

1 1/8-inch hole saw or Forstner bit; 1/4-inch drill; measuring tools; sandpaper.

Predrill narrow edges. No glue on cleanout side. No paint or preservative inside.

Construction datums - controlling geometry

x: left to right, 0 to 5 1/2. y: front to rear, 0 to 5 1/2. z: vertical.

Front y=0 to 3/4, z=0 to 9. Back y=4 3/4 to 5 1/2, z=-2 to 10.

Left side x=0 to 3/4; right side x=4 3/4 to 5 1/2. Both y=3/4 to 4 3/4.

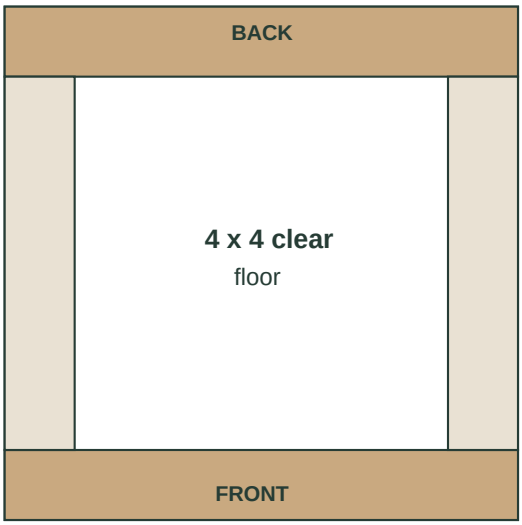
Floor x=3/4 to 4 3/4, y=3/4 to 4 3/4, z=0 to 3/4.

Roof underside plane z=9+y/5.5. Bevel front/back tops to match plane.

Dimensioned assembly views

Top view, front elevation and roof profile | schematic not to scale

A. Top view - roof removed



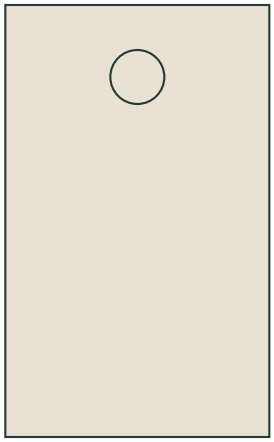
5 1/2 exterior width

Left fixed side

Right removable side

Front and back cover both side ends.

B. Front elevation



Front: 5 1/2 W x 9 H

Hole: 1 1/8 diameter

Center x=2 3/4

Center z=7 1/2

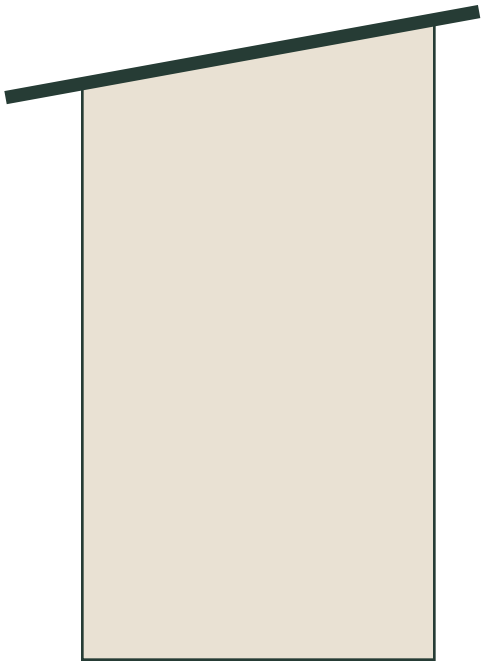
No perch

Entrance lower edge: 7 1/2 - 9/16 - 3/4 = 6 3/16 above floor.

Roof, side profile and openings

Exact slope and clearances | roof attaches only to fixed members

C. Side elevation / roof slope



Front y=0 Back y=5 1/2

Roof plane: z = 9 + y/5.5

Pitch about 10.3 degrees

Front overhang ~1.2 horizontal

Rear overhang ~0.7 horizontal

Roof: 7 wide, 7 9/16
long along slope; trim to fit.

Ventilation, drainage, and removable door

Entrance: front x=2 3/4, z=7 1/2, diameter 1 1/8.

Drainage: four 1/4 holes in floor at x=1 1/2 and 4; y=1 1/2 and 4.

Ventilation: two 1/4 holes per side at y=1 3/4 and 3 3/4, z=8 1/4.

Right cleanout side: bottom at z=1/8, top follows roof plane; four removable wall screws only. Do not glue or screw roof to cleanout panel.

Side panel cutting heights

Fixed side top at front y=3/4: z=9.136; rear y=4 3/4: z=9.864.

Fixed side bottom z=0. Removable side bottom z=1/8; top same plane.

Thus removable side cut heights: 9.011 at front and 9.739 at rear.

Assembly and fastening schedule

One controlling schedule - supersedes V1.3, V1.4 and V1.5

Step-by-step assembly

1. Cut pieces and bevel front/back tops to roof slope; dry-fit 4 x 4 floor.
2. Drill entrance, floor drainage and side ventilation; smooth splinters.
3. Screw front/back to fixed left side; predrill all end-grain connections.
4. Screw floor through front and back; never attach floor to removable side.
5. Install removable right side with four screws; no glue.
6. Dry-fit roof; center across box, confirm overhang and door clearance.
7. Screw roof into front, back and fixed left side only.
8. Inspect for exposed tips, splitting, blocked vents and trapped water.

#6 x 1 1/4 exterior screw schedule

CONNECTION	COUNT	SCREW CENTER / DIRECTION
Front to left side	2	x=3/8; z=2, 7 1/2; drive +y
Back to left side	2	x=3/8; z=2, 7 1/2; drive -y
Front to right side	2	x=5 1/8; z=2, 7 1/2; drive +y
Back to right side	2	x=5 1/8; z=2, 7 1/2; drive -y
Front to floor	2	x=1 3/4, 3 3/4; z=3/8; +y
Back to floor	2	x=1 3/4, 3 3/4; z=3/8; -y
Roof to front	2	x=1 3/4, 3 3/4; y=3/8
Roof to back	2	x=1 3/4, 3 3/4; y=5 1/8
Roof to left side	2	x=3/8; y=1 3/4, 3 3/4

Final clearance and use notes

Roof screws drive perpendicular to roof into beveled receiving edges.

Nominal embedment: 1 1/4 - 3/4 = 1/2. Predrill; use a depth stop.

Roof never fastens to right cleanout side; remove its four screws to clean.

This design is dimensionally coordinated, but not physically built or weather-tested.

Check regional nest-box placement, predator protection and cleaning guidance.

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