

Construction of a fixed photo hide.

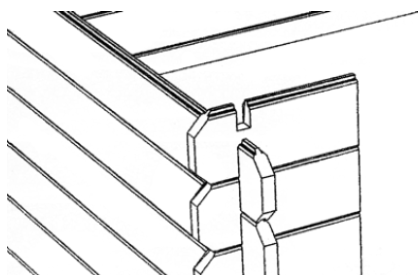
How to build a custom wooden hide for your drink station.



After the construction of the drink station and its installation in the garden ([you can find all the instructions for its realization here](#)), the question of the hide naturally arose. So I decided to set up a tent more or less permanently. This is a Wildlife C30 that I already owned for a long time. Its modest dimensions of 1.20 meters side for a height of 1.35 meters make it a model a little cramped perhaps but well suited to accommodate a single photographer. After leaving it outside all summer, the effects of the sun's rays were soon felt and it very strongly discolored, tarnishing the colors of the tent. In addition, the fabric began to deteriorate to the point that some repairs were necessary. So I decided to build a fixed hide.

It will be built of wood with interior dimensions of 130 x 160 centimeters and a sloping roof with a ridge perpendicular to the large side facing the drink station. The height will be 130 cm and 142 cm under the ridge.

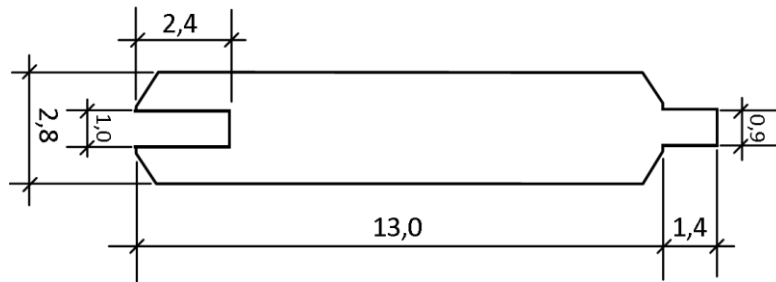
To do this, I opted for a construction inspired by that used for garden sheds sold as a kit commercially. They use grooved boards, the section of which is shown below. You will easily find this material in any DIY store worthy of the name. Few tools will be needed for this realization. However, your task will be greatly facilitated if you own or rent an electric plane, a jigsaw, circular saw, electric miter saw, a drill – screwdriver and a router.



Typical construction of a garden shed by interlocking grooved boards



Cross section of grooved board



Naturally, in addition to the grooved boards that will make up the walls, doors and windows of the hide, you will need other boards, posts, rafters and cleats for the construction of doors and windows and their frames as well as that of the roof. The latter will be covered with roofing. Finally, it will be necessary to plan for the purchase of hardware for the fixing of these doors and windows and the assembly of the various elements.

I did not opt for salvaged equipment such as recycled or used wooden pallets in order to keep me as close as possible to the dimensions I have set for myself. This option will be a little more expensive. You can obviously adjust some dimensions and opt for the use of reclaimed wood.

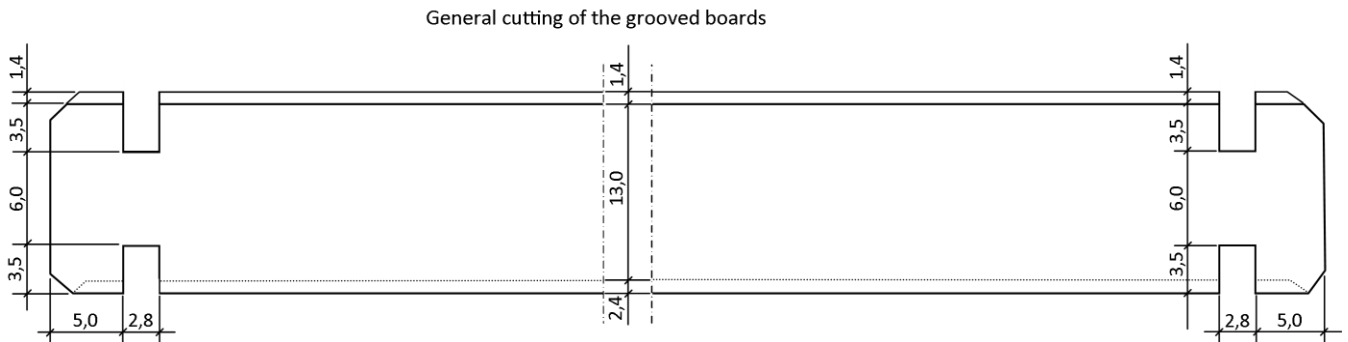
You will find below a list of supplies to buy with their prices. I advise you to inquire with several large DIY stores (via their website, it's easier) to find the best possible prices.

BRAKE DOWN OF THE SUPPLIES					
Item	Dimensions H x l x L in cm	Quantity	Price per item	Total price	Remarks
WOOD					
Grooved boards	2,8x14,5x240	12	9,24	110,88	Hide walls (1)
	2,8x14,5x180	20	7,09	141,80	Hide walls (2)
Poles	7,0x7,0x180	4	10,29	41,16	Hide corners reinforcement
Cleats—rafter	5,4x3,5x180	4	10,39	41,56	Door and windows openings frames
	5,5x3,5x180	3	10,50	31,50	Roof frames
	4,2x1,2x210	5	5,49	27,45	Door and windows exterior frames
	2,7x1,2x210	3	5,09	15,27	Door and windows interior frames
	9,2x1,2x210	4	9,39	37,56	Roof borders
	0,7x0,7x120	1	3,05	3,05	Support for back door window plexiglass
Boards	19,0x1,8x210	8	22,87	182,96	Roof
TOTAL WOOD				633,19	
OTHER SUPPLIES					
Roofing	6mx1m	1	112,00	112,00	Roof cover and waterproofing
Plexiglas	50,0x50,0x0,3	1	18,59	18,59	Back door window
TOTAL OTHER SUPPLIES				130,59	
HARDWARE					
Hinges		5	3,69	18,45	Door and windows hinges - Need 9 - Sold per 2
Small locks		2	6,10	12,20	Windows locking - Need 4 - Sold per 2
Brass locks		2	5,49	10,98	Back door locking
Lag screws	8x60 mm	1	8,49	8,49	Fixing of walls to corner reinforcement - Need 8 - Sold per 18
Screws	PZ2 40x3,5 mm	1	6,19	6,19	Fixing door and windows frames - 200 ea
	PZ2 50x4,0 mm	1	9,49	9,49	Fixing roof onto roof frames- 200 ea
TOTAL HARDWARE				65,80	
OVERALL TOTAL				829,58	

(1) Will be used to cut 10 boards of 145,6 cm (8) (10) (11) (12)
 20 boards of 45,3 cm (4)
 8 boards of 57,8 cm (9)

(2) Will be used to cut 8 boards of 145,6 cm (8) (10) (11) (12)
 12 boards of 175,6 cm (1) (2) (3) (5) (6)

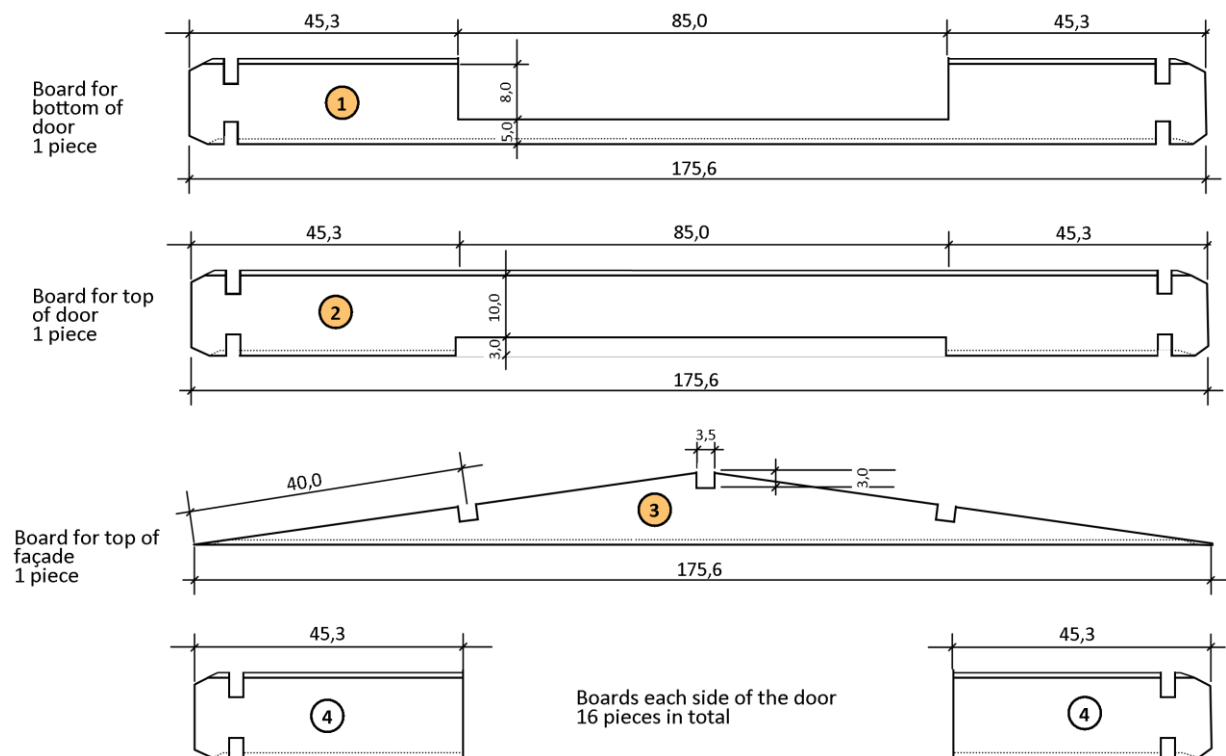
Realization of the structure of the blind

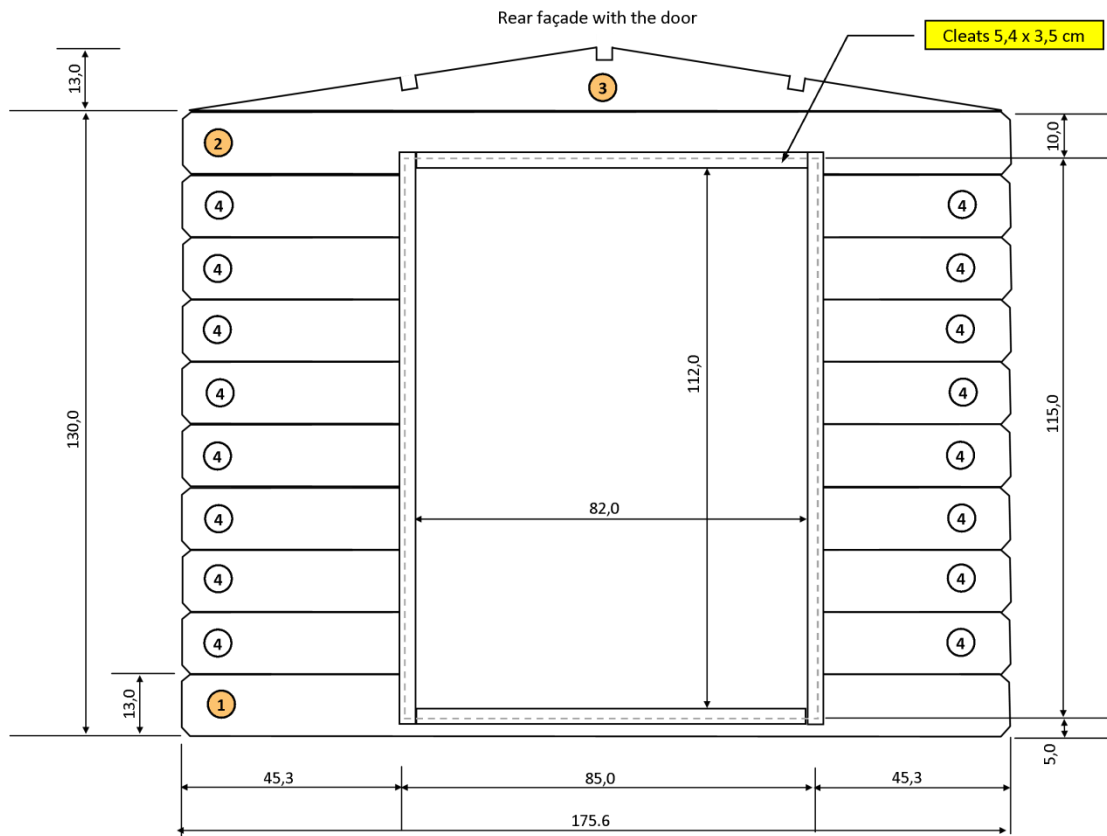


Grooved boards can be prepared as described above. Attention some boards will not be used on their full width and will require additional cuts; These are boards number 1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 11 and 12.

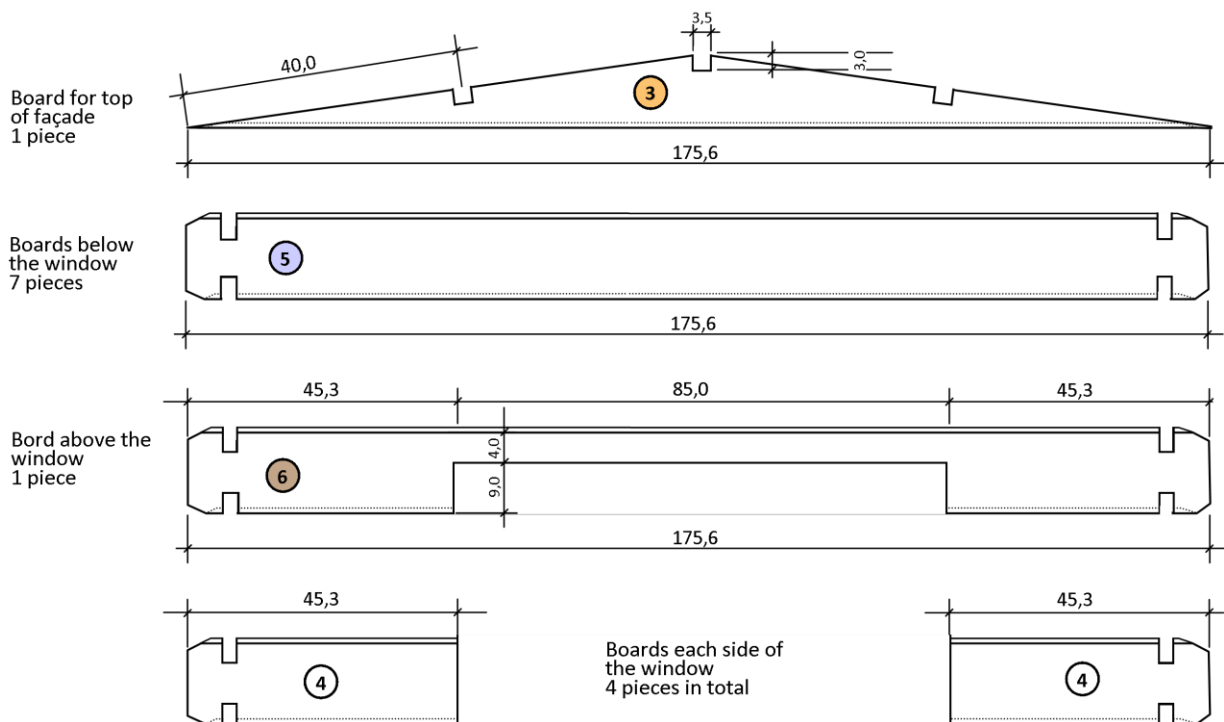
Here are the cutting and assembly plans for each of the four façades of the blind.

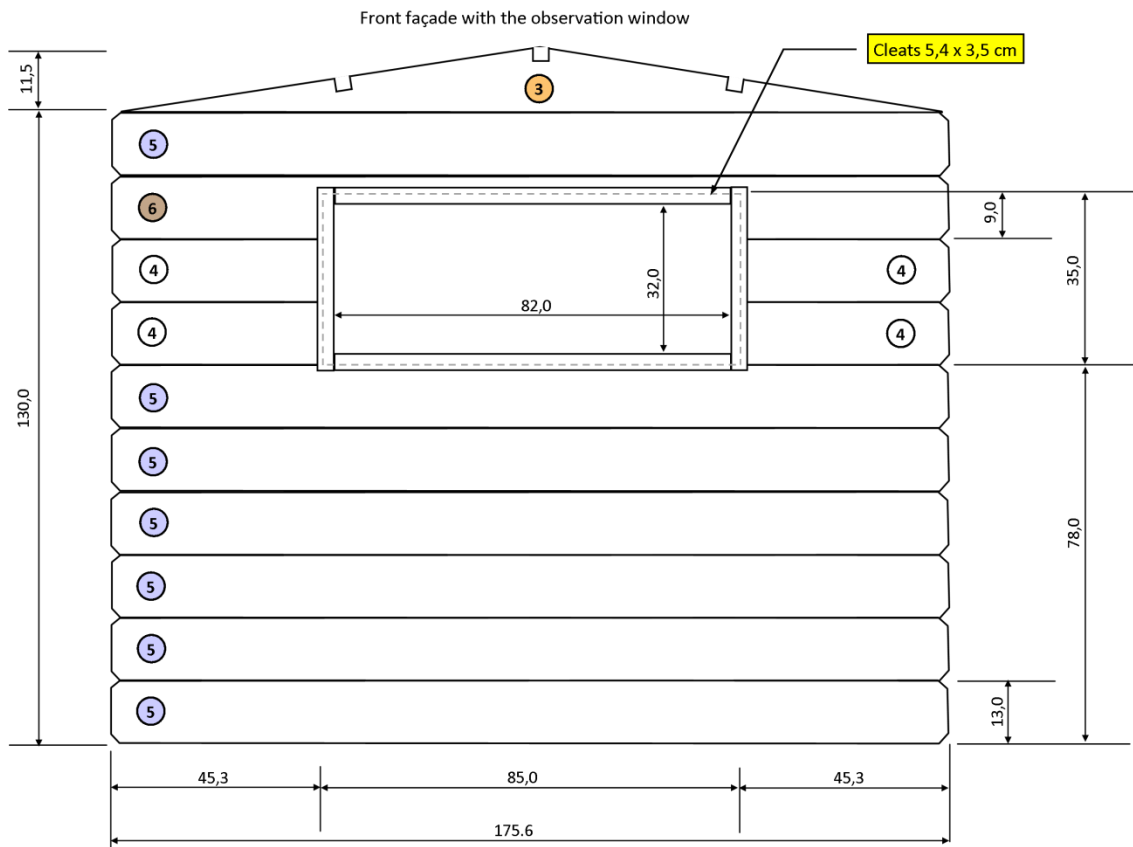
Rear facade with the entrance door



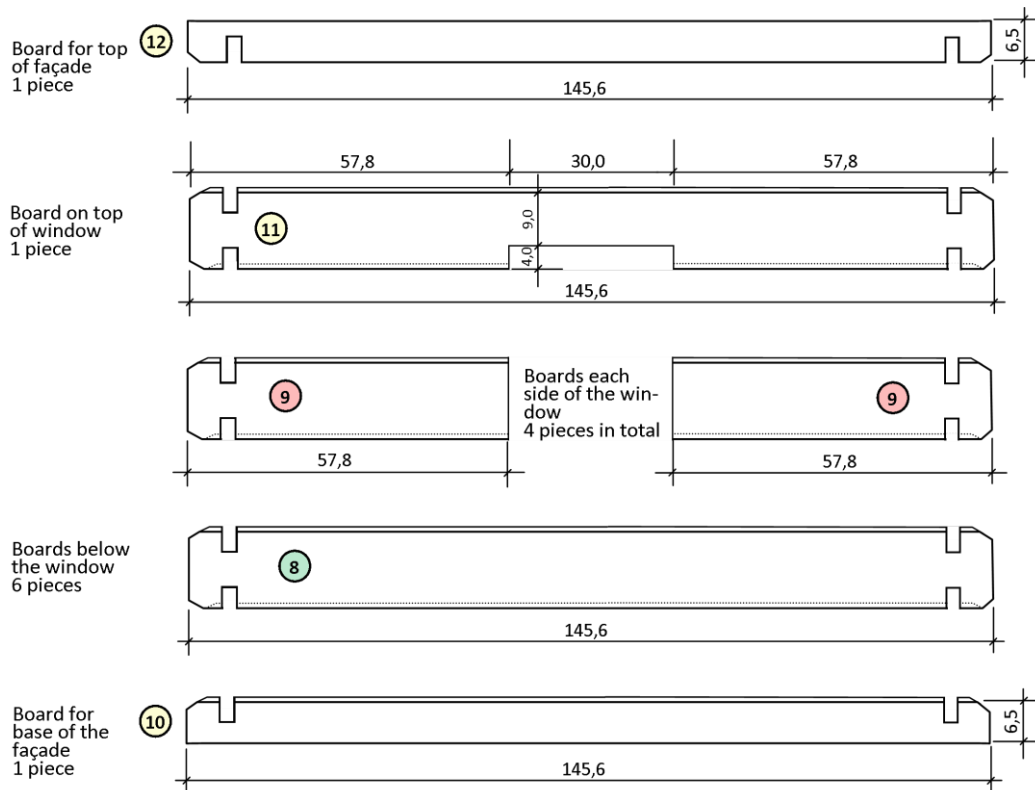


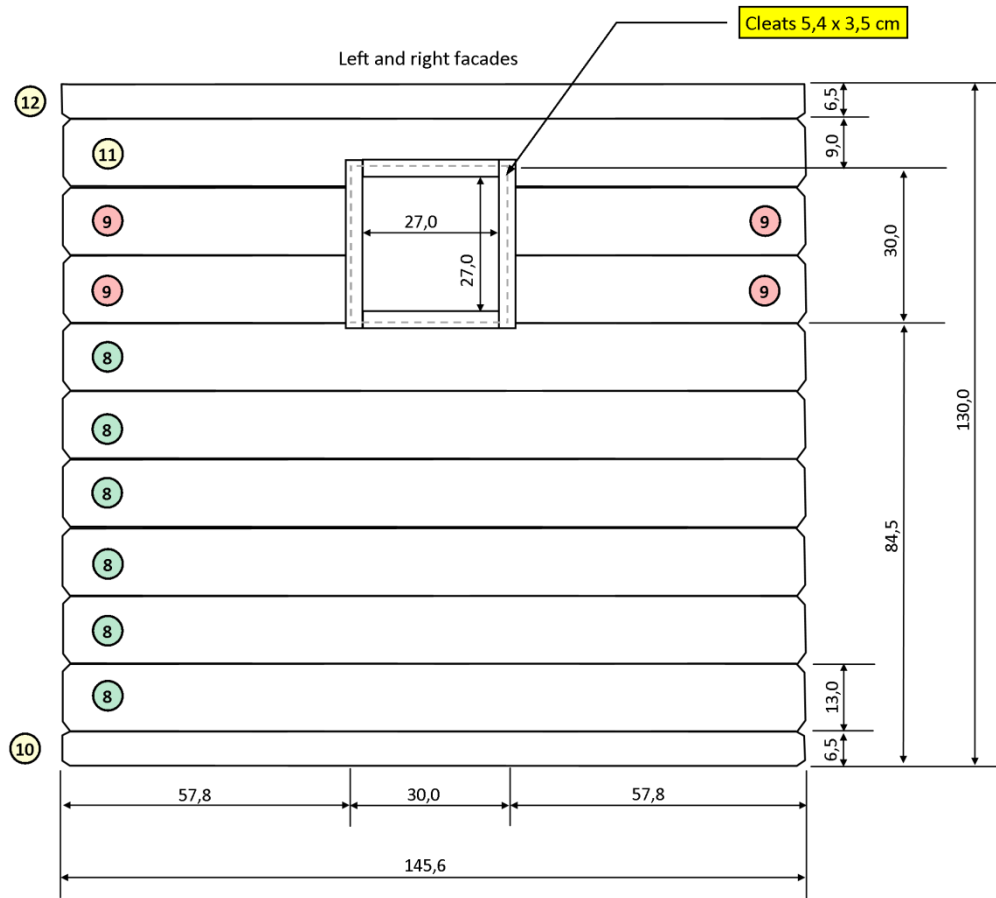
Front façade with the observation window





Right and left facades



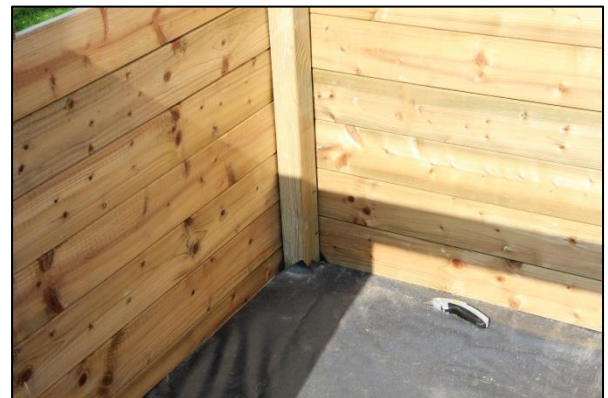


To begin, mark the location of the hide. For my part I used to do this what was remaining from the liner I used to seal the drink station. Then, fitting them into each other, mount the first two or three rows of grooved board, making sure to respect a right angle in the corners. It is also imperative to ensure that the boards are perfectly horizontal.

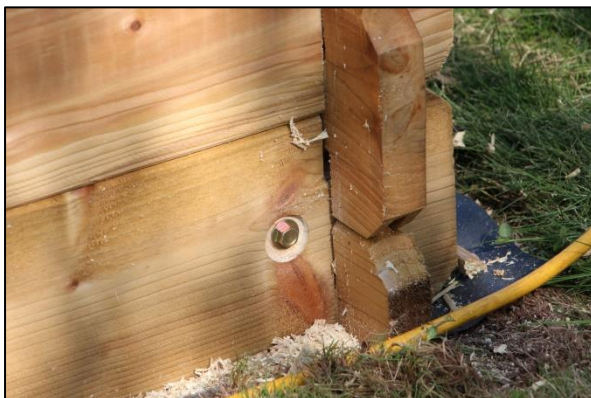




Continue building the facades up to and including boards No. 5 of the front façade, No. 2 of the rear façade and boards No. 12 of the left and right facades. Although the whole thing is already very heavy and relatively stable on the ground, I wanted to make sure that it withstands the strong gusts of wind that we sometimes suffer. This is why the four corners will be reinforced by the 7x7x180 cm poles. Making sure that they are perfectly inserted and vertical, push one of these poles of about forty centimeters into the ground in each corner of the blind. Then attach the first and last board of each façade to these poles using the lag screws.



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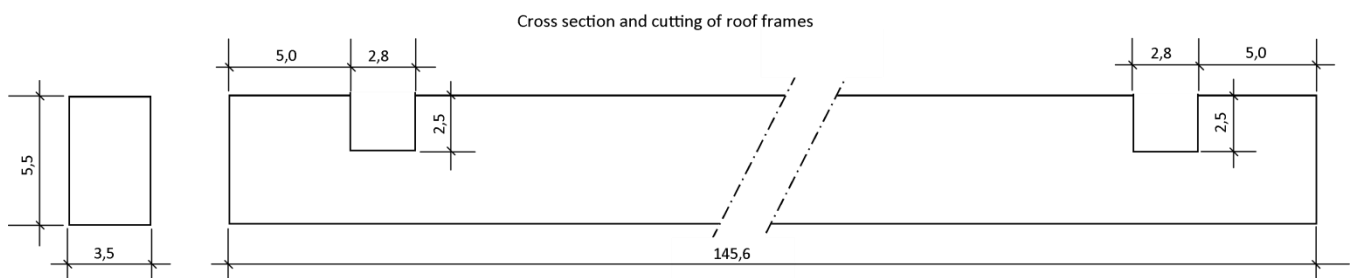


Now place the last grooved boards, namely, the ridge boards n ° 3 at the front and the back and finally the boards n ° 12 on the left and right. Cut the excessive poles by following the angle of slope of the roof (which is actually the angle of board n°3). Finally, using a plane, adjust the top of boards No. 12 to follow this same angle



Realization of the roof

First, cut out three roof supports (frame) in the rafters of 5.5x3.5 centimeters. Then insert them into the notches made in the No. 3 planks, making sure that they do not stick out and are at the same level to them.



Again using a plane, adjust the top of the middle frame, the one at the top of the roof, so that it also outcrops plank No. 3. Cover the roof using 19x1.8x210 boards. Cut them to such a length that an overflow satisfying you is guaranteed. If you want to fine-tune the work, the cut at the top of the roof should not be made at right angles to ensure as close contact as possible with the board on the other side of the roof.



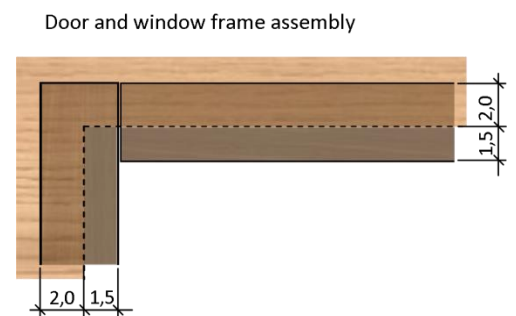
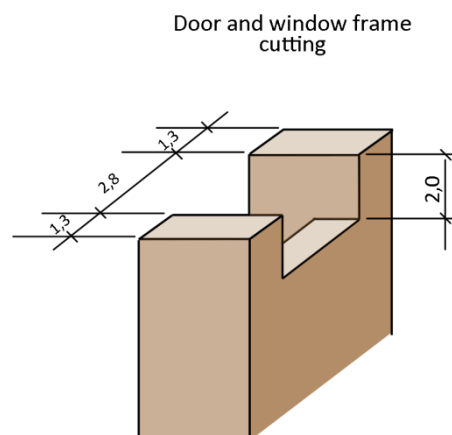
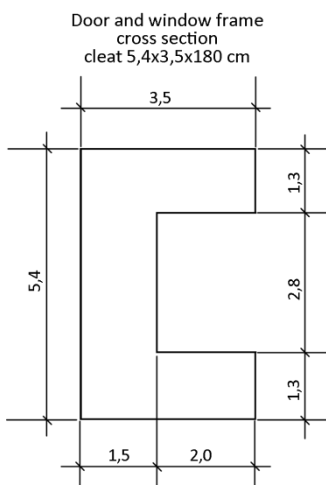


Use the 9.2x1.2x210 boards to finish the edges of the roof as shown below.



Realization of the doors and windows

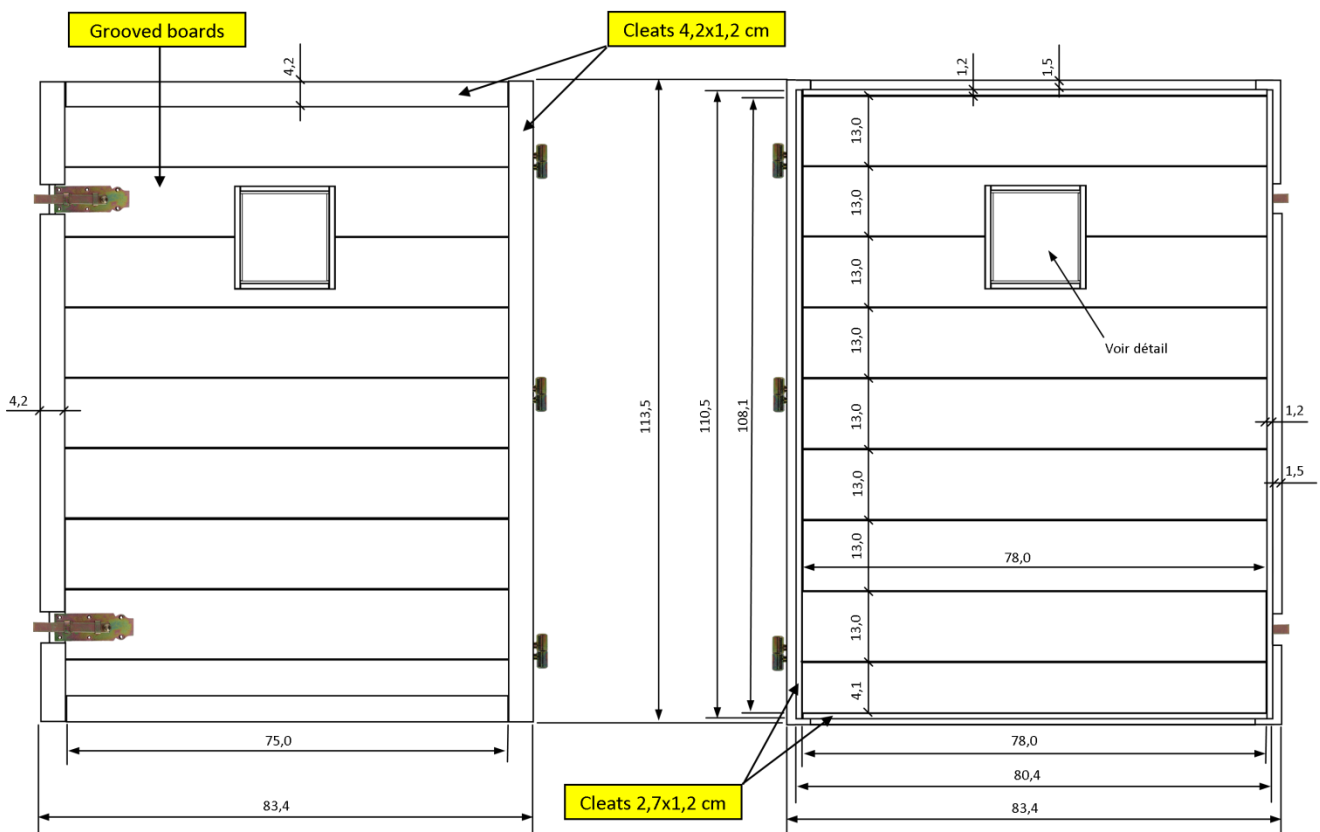
Start by framing doors and windows. For this you will use the cleats of section 5.4x3.5 cm that you will groove yourself using a router or let them be grooved as indicated below on the left. These grooves are intended to fit the frames on or in the boards constituting the structure of the blind. You can refer to the diagrams of the different facades above for the measurements of these cleats. Be careful, however, I advise you to cut them gradually to the exact dimensions on your blind structure to avoid unpleasant surprises (too short or too long ...).



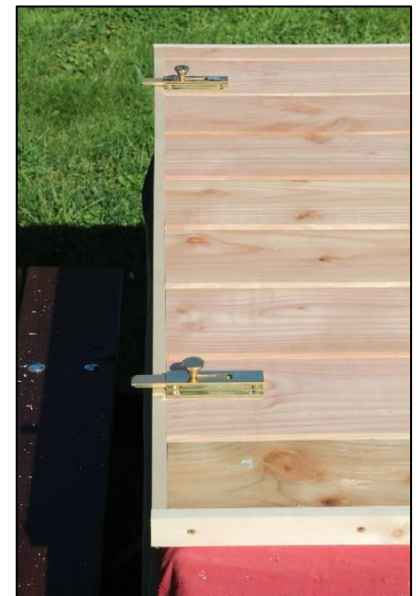
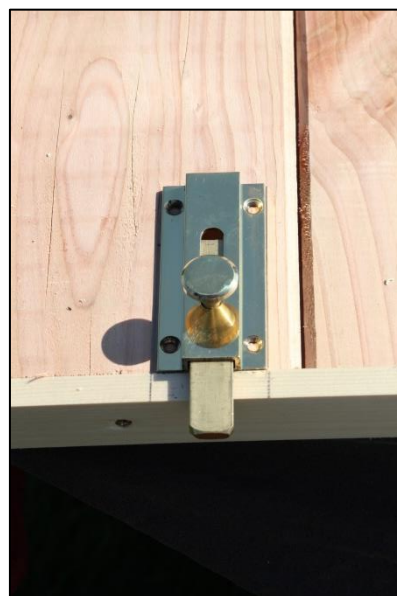
The ends of the vertical sections of the frame will be cut as you see above on the right to ensure a correct mounting of the corners (see photo below).



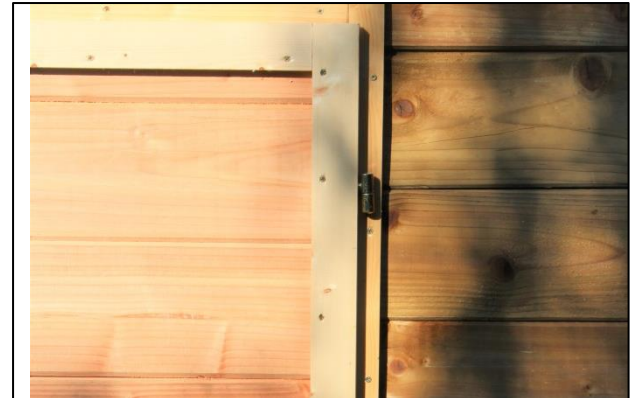
Entrance door on the rear façade



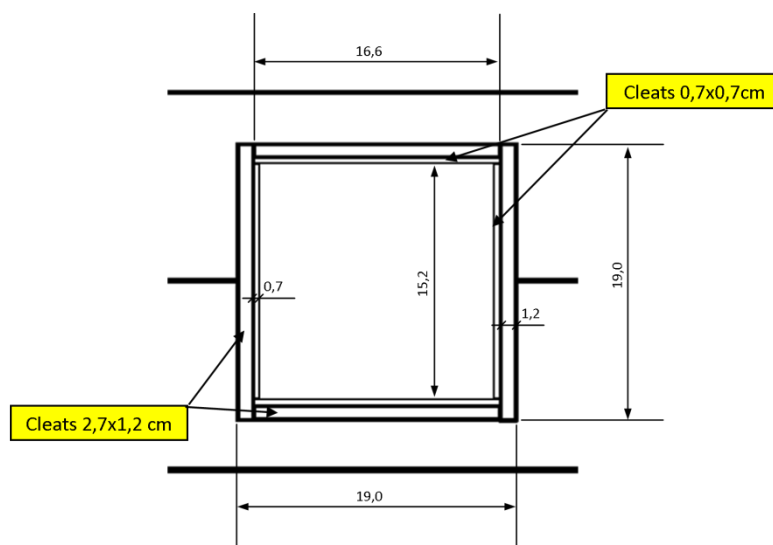
Start by fitting the nine grooved boards on a flat surface. Make sure the corners form a right angle. Then, form a door frame with the rafters of section 2.7x1.2 cm that you will screw on the edge of the boards, this in order to stiffen the door. Check again one last time that the corner angles are straight. Once this is done, using the rafters of section 4.2x1.2 cm form the outer frame that will prevent the door from closing inwards. On one of the long sides, mark the location of the two brass locks.



Attach the female part of the hinges to the other long side by pre-drilling a hole in the edge of the cleat constituting the outer frame. Be careful, this hole can neither be too wide (the hinge will not hold) nor too narrow (the cleat of the frame will split). The male part of the hinge will be attached to the structure door frame in the same way.

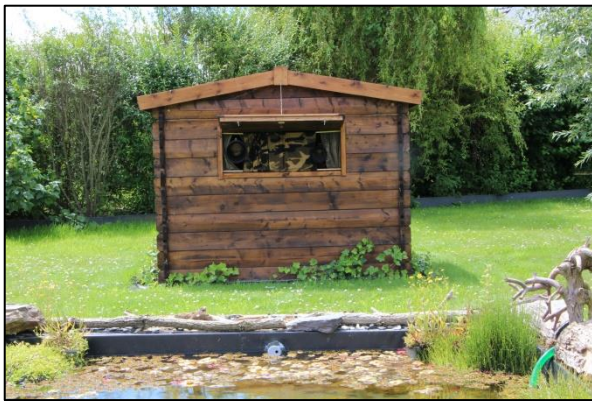
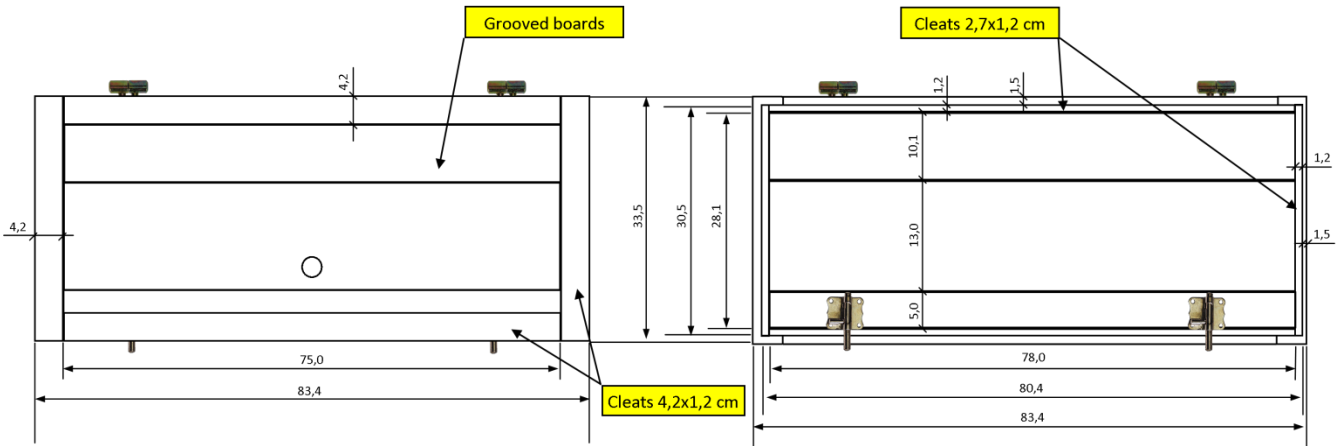


Using the jigsaw, cut out a window of 19x19 cm in the place you choose. Form an inner frame with the rafters of section 2.7x1.2 cm. Five mm from the edge of this frame, nail a rod of section 0.7x0.7 cm on all four sides. Cut a square of 19x19 cm in the Plexiglas and stick it against the sticks. Reattach rods against the Plexiglas to keep it perfectly in place.

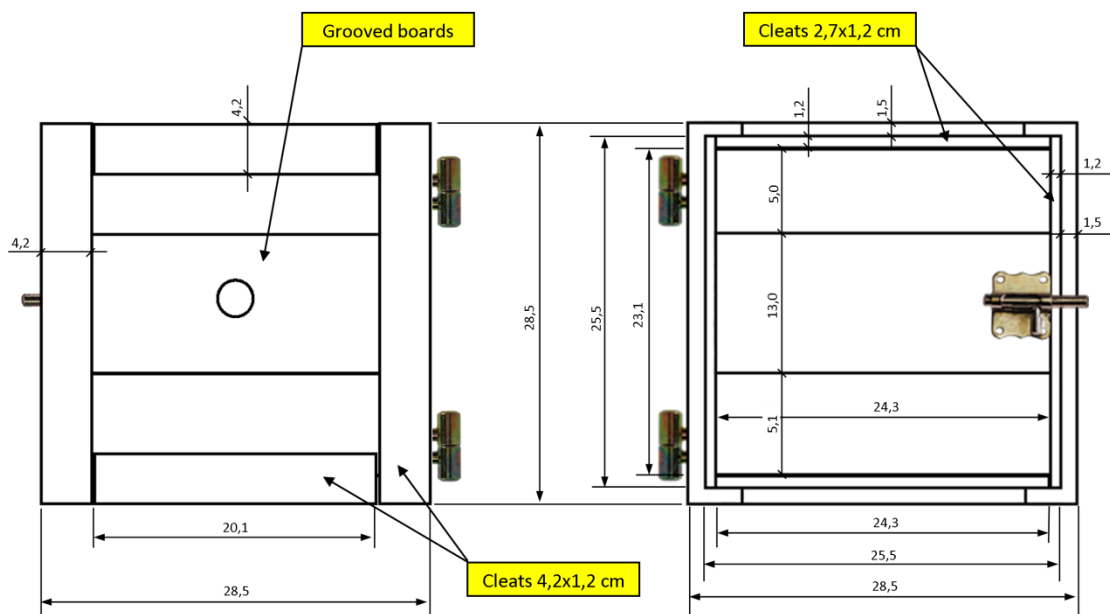


Proceed in the same way for the construction of windows. Be careful, the locks are placed this time inside.

Observation window on the front façade



Window on the right and left façade





Here is your finished photo hide!

All you have to do is carry out the interior design according to your tastes and needs. In the photos that follow, you will find a way to do it.





**HAVE FUN
AND
MAKE NICE PICTURES**