

One Sheet of Plywood Design

Another very popular easy do it yourself design is the dog house made from a few 2″ X 4″ ‘s, 2″ X 6″ ‘s, one 8′ X 4’ – 1/4″ sheet of plywood, torx screws and paint. We have some houses in the yard that are 6 years old and have held up well. The only mods and improvements I’ve made to the houses is adding a 3/4″ treated plywood roof with 2″ X 4″ ‘s to hold it on vs the standard 2″ X 2″ most mushers use. The dogs jump up on the roof quite a bit and tend to knock it off from time to time. The improved design provides weight, durability, and holds it on much better. We also use 2″ X 6″ ‘s for the doors it adds a little more protection from the elements and prevents male dogs from peeing into the house.

Construction Tips

* Be consistent in the plywood cuts allowing 1/8″ for the circular saw blade
* Use construction adhesive to strengthen the assembly
* Use clamps to help hold thing together prior to screwing
* Use a square
* Work on level ground
* Use caulk on the inside edges for weather proofing

Materials Needed for 1 Dog House

[](http://www.endurancekennels.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/one-sheet-of-plywood-dog-house-design3.pdf)

* 1 – 4′ X 8′ – 1/4″ Sheet of Plywood
* 2 – 8′ – Treated 2″ X 4″ ‘s
* 2 – 8′ – construction 2″ X 4″ ‘s
* 1 – 8′ – construction 2″ X 6″ – you only need 4′ so you will have extra for another house
* 1 – 8′ – 2″ X 2″
* 2″ t-25 torx deck screws
* 3.5″ t-25 torx deck screws

Step 1 – Make Initial Cuts

Cut the 8′ treated 2″ X 4″ ‘s in half so you have 4 – 4’ 2″ X 4″ legs. These will need to be trimmed again based upon your desired house height, 28-30″ is recommended.

Cut the plywood, see diagram 3 for measurements.

Cut the roof top 2″ X 4″ ‘s.

* 2 -39″ long
* 2 – 23″ long
* Save extra for the door if you chose to not use the 2″ X 6″ ‘s for the door

Cut the inside bottom support 2″ X 2″ ‘s.

* 2 – 18.5″ long
* 2 – 27.5″ long

Cut the door frame.

* 2 – 11″ long
* 2 – 14″ long

Step 2 – Attach Leg 2″ X 4″ ‘s

Screw in the cut 28-30″, 4′ legs, 2 on the front sheet and 2 on the back sheet, offset to the inside by 1/4″ to allow for the sides to attach. Note the bottom sheet cutouts so you place them properly.

Step 3 – Screw the Side Sheets On

[](http://www.endurancekennels.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/plywood-house-1.jpg)

Now you have a box with no top and no bottom and 4 legs. Use a square to keep everything neat and tight while you are screwing it together.

Step 4 – Frame the Bottom

Flip the house bottom side up and screw in the 27.5″ – 2″ X 2″ ‘s allowing 1/4″ from the bottom for the bottom sheet to sit flush. Same with the 18.5″ – 2″ X 2″ bottom supports.

Screw in the bottom sheet.

Step 5 – Frame the Roof

Allow a tiny bit of space so you can easily get the roof on and off. Screw the 39″ – 2″ X 4″ ‘s on first then test the spacing by putting it on the house. It should go on easy with little or no friction. If it’s too tight now is the time to adjust the placement. Screw in the 23″ – 2″ X 4″ ‘s to the top and test again. Screw the 2″ X 4″ ‘s to each other at the end.

Step 6 – Cut Out the Door and Frame It

[](http://www.endurancekennels.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/plywood-house-2.jpg)

Screw the 11″ and 14″ door frame together. Cut out the 11″ X 11″ door noting the placement of the leg allow at least 4.5 inches from the side. Screw the door frame to the front from the inside of the dog house.

That’s it!

I would suggest two good coats of paint and high traffic deck paint on the roof. Three coats of a good polyurethane on the inside will also extend the life of your doghouse.