



FIELD TO SCHOOL

Making wooden planter boxes to sell at markets

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Wooden planter boxes for selling at markets

The boxes can be made by the students themselves and filled with soil for sowing. In boxes like these, the plants do not dry out as fast as in plug trays and have more soil to grow in.

Here we will show how to build these boxes.





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Material and tools to build planter boxes

Tools

- Hammer and drill
- Measuring tape
- Carpenter's square
- Pencil
- Saw
- 2 mm drill bit

Materials

- 10cm wide x 1.5cm thick board for the sides of the boxes
- 3cm wide x 1cm thick boards for the bottom slats
- 3.5cm nails or screws

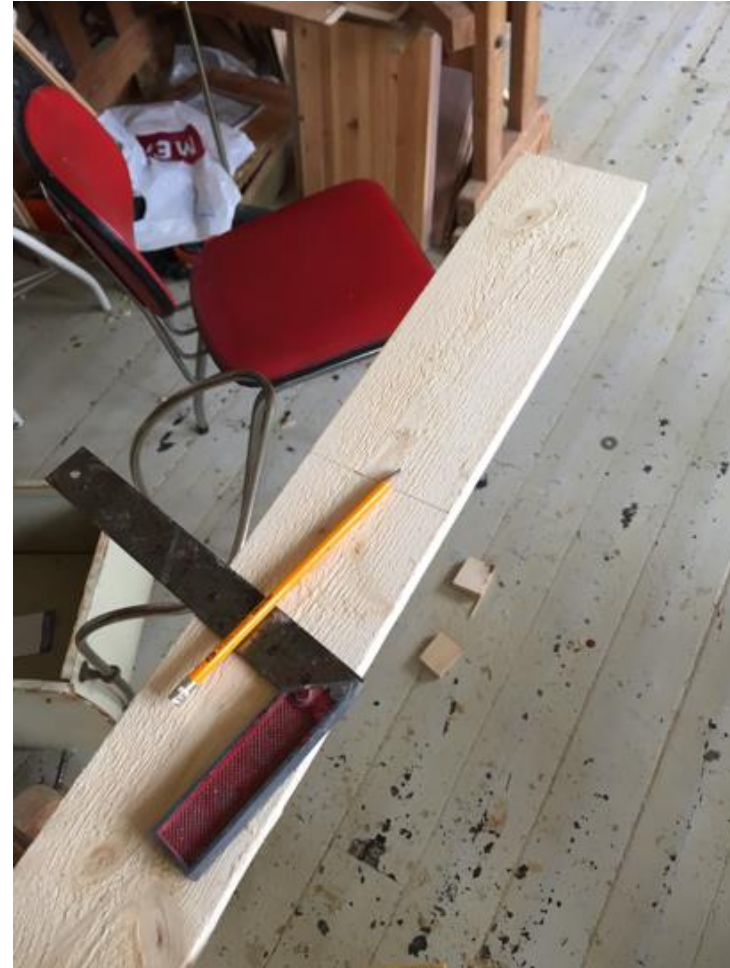




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STEP 1

- Saw the 4 sides in the length you want.
- A standard size of 40cm x 60cm is good.
- You can half the sizes to create smaller boxes.





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STEP 2

Screw or nail the four sides together to create a frame. Two well-placed nails/screws in each corner should do the job.

Remember to drill a hole first (preferably with a hand drill with the students), so the wood doesn't split.





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HANDY MATHEMATICAL TIP!

When the frame is finished and before you put the slats on the bottom of the box, you can check if the angles are exact.

You can do this by measuring 30cm along the short side and 40cm along the long side. Put a mark at each point. The distance between the two marks would be 50 cm. You can also check if the two diagonals are the same length. If not the frame can be bent in to 90 degree angles. Pythagoras in practice!





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STEP 3

Measure the length of the bottom slats so that they are the width of the box. Drill holes and attach with nails or screws.

The box is finished and ready to use!

TIPS

The bottom can be covered with a thin layer of newspaper to prevent the soil from running through the slats. The paper will decompose after a short time, but by then the roots will have grown enough to bind the soil.





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STEP 4

Once complete, plant up the boxes with plants of your choosing. You could use decorative flowers or vegetable seedlings.

These can then be sold at your market.

Have fun!

