

wishing well

HOW TO BUILD A WISHING WELL (Metric and Imperial)



Fun to build!

This medium-size wishing well stands approximately 1400mm (4'-8") high and 600mm (2ft) wide. It is a cross between a small planter and a full-size wishing well, and can be used either as a planter box or a garden ornament. This wishing well is a lot of fun to build and even a DIY beginner should be able to knock it up without too much trouble.

About the timber

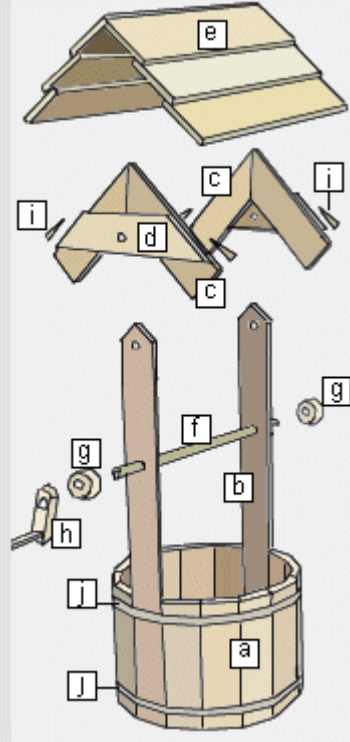
The timber used for this project is rough sawn pressure treated pine. Mostly 100x25 (1x4) is used, with the exception of the roof boards which are 150x25 (1x6) and the 'wind up' handle and spindle which are 25x25 (1x1). All timbers are common and readily available at most timber merchants. Rough sawn *means* rough sawn, so widths and thicknesses can vary from piece to piece.

What you will need

- 12 metres (40ft) of 100x25 (1x4) rough sawn pressure treated timber;
- 5 metres (17ft) 150x25 (1x6) rough sawn pressure treated timber;
- 1 metre (39") 25x25 (1x1) rough sawn pressure treated timber;
- 4 metres (13ft) of 35mm (1 1/2") galvanised metal strap;
- 40 stainless steel 50mm (2") long screws;
- two 10mm (3/8") galvanised bolts 60mm (2 1/2") long, and a handfull of 30mm (1 1/4") galvanised flathead nails.

The cutting list:

- a** **paling (14)** 14 pieces 100x25 (1x4) at 400mm (16") long. The palings along with the extended palings form the well wall.
- b** **extended paling (2)** 2 pieces 100x25 (1x4) at 1200mm (4ft) long overall, with a 45 degree point at one end. The extended palings continue up from the well wall and support the roof.
- c** **rafter (4)** 4 pieces 100x25 (1x4) at 400mm (16") long, cut back one end at a 45 degree angle.
- d** **collar tie (2)** 2 pieces 100x25 (1x4) at 400mm (16") long, cut back both ends at a 45 degree angle.
- e** **roof boards (6)** 6 pieces 150x25 (1x6) at 700mm (28") long. This size timber is commonly used for fence palings.
- f** 1 piece 25x25 (1x1) at 1000mm (39") long. Cut both the spindle and handle from this piece. This size timber is commonly used for lattice or trellis beading.
- g** 2 pieces 100x25 (1x4) at 100mm (4") long with a 35mm (1 3/8") hole in the centre of both pieces. These pieces can be cut from off-cuts and are used as washers on the spindle. They can be left square or rounded.
- h** 1 piece 50x25 (1x2) at 180mm (7") long with a 35mm (1 3/8") hole at each end. This piece fits on the spindle and takes the handle. It can be made from off-cuts.
- i** 4 wedges 0 to 20mm (0 to 3/4") thick and 120mm (5") long. These can be cut from off-cuts and are fixed to the topside ends of the rafters.
- j** 35mm (1 1/2") galvanised metal strap, commonly used for diagonal bracing on carport roofs and decks etc.



The Instructions

Step 1. Cut all the members

Cut out all the members (timber pieces) to the dimensions as explained in **The cutting list** above.

Step 2. Mark and lay out palings



Measure 40mm (1 1/2") down from the top and the same amount up from the bottom of all 14 palings (**a**) and mark a line. Also mark corresponding lines on the 2 extended palings (**b**), making a total of 16 marked boards altogether. Lay all the palings (**a**) and extended palings (**b**) next to one another on an even surface, with the bottoms against a straight edge to keep them in a straight line. When laying down, ensure (See diagram below.)

