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Construct a Shed in Your Garden by Cole Max

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Is there so much stuff in your garage that your car won't fit in? Is it overflowing with gardening tools, bikes and tarpaulins? Building a shed can save you a lot of headache. It will give you the extra space you need so desperately.

You can choose to purchase a shed kit or build one on your own. Building a shed is not that hard if you have the proper shed plans.

Before you start construction, determine how exactly you are going to use the shed. Do you just want a storage shed or would you like to use it as extra living space? The use of the shed will greatly influence the design, size and shape of the shed. After you have a clear picture of the exact requirements, you can start looking for the actual shed blueprints.

Before beginning the construction of the shed, get your plans approved by the local building department and see if you are going to need any special building permits. Check with the zoning department on the rules for minimum distance from the boundary of your property. After the plans have been approved, you can begin construction.

Take your time in selecting the best design which suits your needs. Look at how much detail is available in the plans. Make sure it mentions exact measurements for all the components. It should have detailed step by step instructions for building each part. The blueprints should also have diagrams and elevations for the shed from various angles. It should also have a list of materials needed for construction and the specifications for the quality of the wood to be used. If you are new to woodworking don't go for elaborate designs with intricate patterns and designs. Stick with a simple style to make sure that you can actually finish the project on your own. If you get stuck at some point during construction, you can always ask your friends or neighbors for help and in the worse case, hire a professional to help you.

Mark the land on which you would be building the shed by driving stakes into the soil. Ensure that the site gets enough air and sunlight and does not have water collected on it. Moisture will make the shed foundation rot quickly. If the soil is not very firm, dig out a few inches of dirt and lay down gravel and concrete to build a solid foundation for the shed. After the foundation is completed, you should start building the frame. Make sure you choose good quality timber like cedar for building the posts and rafters. Use screws instead of nails to ensure that the pieces are firmly secured to each other.

Building the roof is the most challenging part. You can build a ridge beam and attach the joists to it or buy pre-constructed trusses. The roof should be accurate in measurement. If you are not a skilled craftsman, then it is better to purchase pre-constructed trusses. After the trusses have been fastened, attach the sheathing followed by the roofing felt and lastly attach the shingles. Lastly fix the doors and windows. You can also attach siding to the shed to make it waterproof.

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