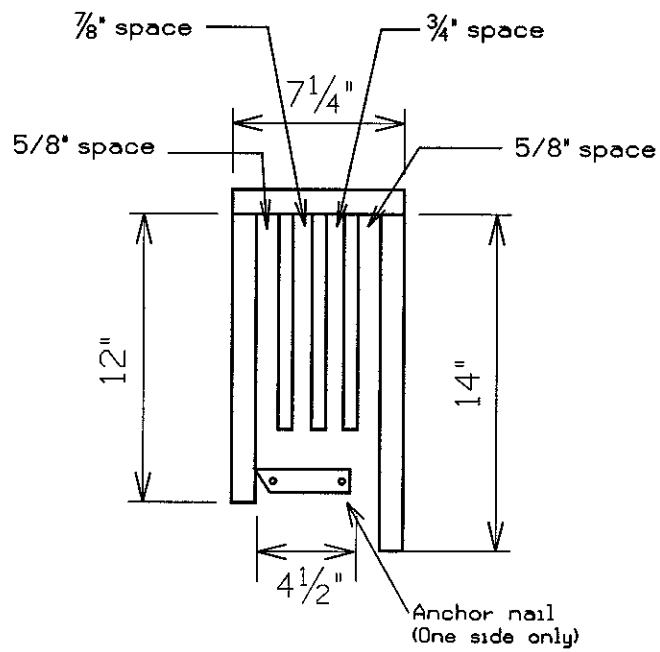
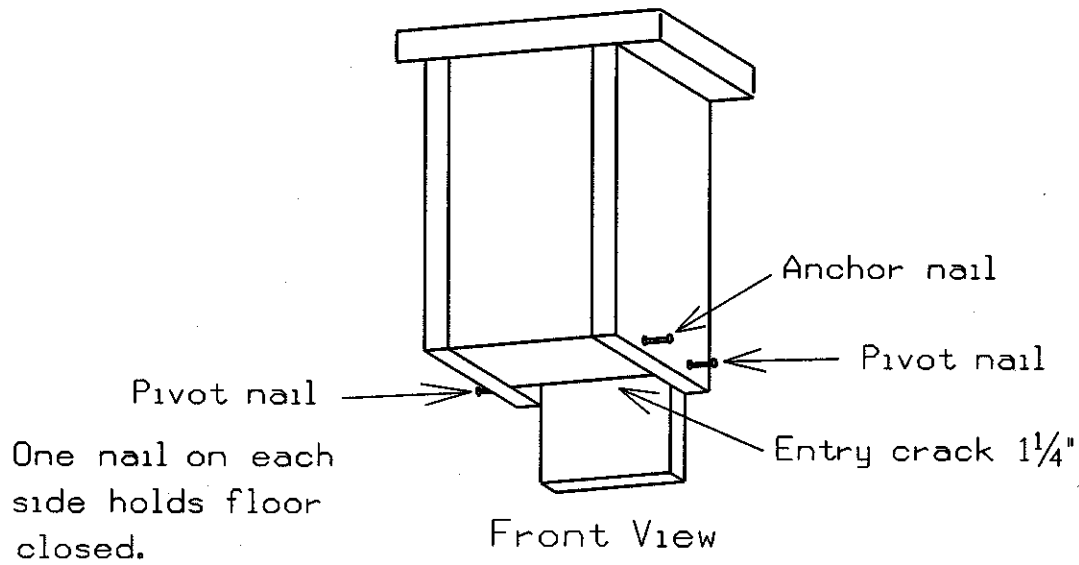


Small Bat House



Lumber: 1" x 8" x 8' (Rough sawn)

Note: To achieve proper temperature in the house,
cover the top and possibly the front with tar paper.

Installing and Caring for Bat Houses

Having a successful bat colony in your bat house may take a lot of work but it will provide you with an educational and enjoyable experience!

A Note About Bats

Unknown to many, bats have many desirable qualities, which make them welcome residents of your yard. A single big brown bat can eat up to 7,000 insects each night, which is one of their most desirable qualities.

Bats are agile fliers and do not get caught in hair. And they're no more prone to carry rabies than other mammals. (For your own safety, never handle any animal that is found sick or dead.)

House Placement

Bats need very hot temperatures inside their house (80 to 90 degrees). You may need to paint your bat house a dark color or cover it with a layer of tar paper to attain the optimal temperature.

Attach your bat house to a tree or building. The house should be approximately 12 to 15 feet above the ground. Because the critical element of a successful bat house is the temperature, place the house where it receives the morning sun and is shaded during the afternoon.

Siting the house near large supplies of insects is preferred, because the bats feed on insects.

Source: Carrol L. Henderson, "Woodworking for Wildlife, Homes for Birds and Mammals," State of Minnesota, Department of Natural Resources, 1992.

*Building plans for bat houses
now available online at
www.wisconsinpublicservice.com*



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