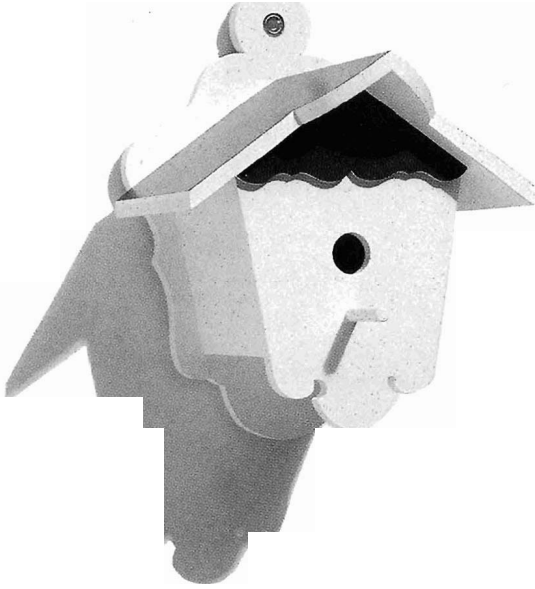


● EASY HEIRLOOMS



WREN HOUSE

BY GARY WALCHUK

MATERIALS

ROUGH CUT SIZE

3 sq. ft. – 1/2" plywood
3" x 7" – 1/4" plywood
2" x 3/8" dowel

FINISHED CUT SIZE

(number in brackets is number of pieces needed)

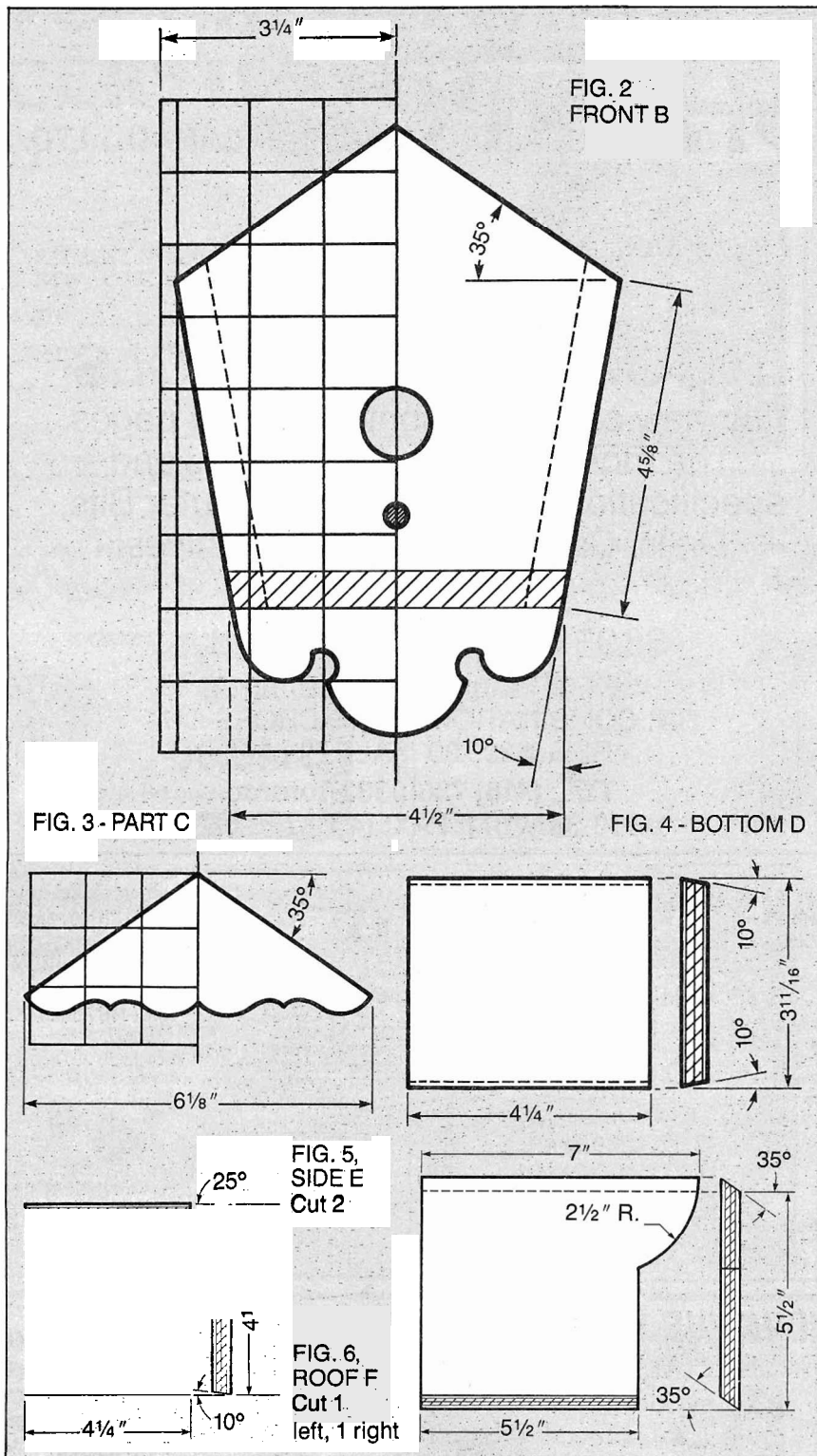
(Pattern provided for each piece)
(1) 9" x 12" x 1/2" plywood – A
(1) 6 1/8" x 9" x 1/2" plywood – B
(1) 2 1/2" x 6 1/8" x 1/4" plywood – C
(1) 3 1/16" x 4 1/4" x 1/2" plywood – D
(2) 4 15/16" x 4 1/4" x 1/2" plywood – E
(2) 5 1/2" x 7" x 1/2" plywood – F
(1) 2" x 3/8" dowel

INSTRUCTIONS

Cutting

1. Choose a smooth surface, top quality plywood (such as birch) for this project. Begin by making templates for the back A, the front B, and the decorative gable C, then cut





$\frac{3}{8}$ " deep, $\frac{1}{4}$ " below the centre of the entrance hole. This is for gluing in the dowel or perch later.

4. Cut parts D, E and F to size. Be sure to cut one left and one right of roof parts F.

Assembly

1. Use 1" finishing nails and an outdoor type glue, (waterproof), for assembly. First, centre one end of the bottom D into the dado of front B. Glue and nail A into D.

2. Glue and nail sides E to B and D. Front edges of E fit into rabbeted sides of B; the bottom edges of E should be flush with the bottom D.

3. Lie the back edges of this assembly on a flat surface. This will allow the back edges of the roof parts F to be flush with the back edges of sides E during assembly. Glue and nail roof parts F to front B and sides E.

4. At this point, refer back to Fig.1, the back - part A. The dotted lines indicate placement of the assembled wren house onto the back. With house in place on A, trace this pencil line around the outside of house onto A. Remove the house and drill the eight holes as shown. These are $\frac{1}{8}$ " holes drilled through A, $\frac{1}{4}$ " in from the pencil line. The holes are for screwing the back A to the wren house from the back. Countersink these holes on the back side of A for the screwheads. Place the house back on A and mark (through the holes) onto the back edges of parts D, E, and F. Because plywood is very easy to split when screws are driven into the edge, it is important to pre-drill holes into these back edges. Using $1\frac{1}{4}$ " drywall screws works very well - pre-drill the holes just slightly smaller than the diameter of the screws, then attach A to the back edges of the completed wren house. Do not use glue as you may wish to someday remove the back to clean out the wren house.

5. Countersink nails, fill holes and sand entire project.

6. Glue the 2" by $\frac{3}{8}$ " dowel into hole on front B.

7. Paint or finish as you desire. Our example was painted with one coat of exterior latex undercoat, then two coats of exterior latex paint, with decorative painting as the finishing touch. □

WREN HOUSE

one of each shape. Part C is cut from $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick plywood.

2. Rout $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide by $\frac{1}{4}$ " deep on the inside

of part B, as shown in Fig.2 (indicated by the shaded area). Rout the same dimensions along the inside of each side as shown by the dotted lines. (Note that the rabbet on each side ends at the dado that you've routed first.)

3. From the front of part B, drill a 1" hole for the wren house entrance. Drill a $\frac{3}{8}$ " hole,