

Home Made Cat Enclosures:

Many people enjoy designing & building their own cat enclosure. The benefit of this is it is custom designed by you, to suit your individual needs. Once designed, the cat enclosure can either be made by yourselves, if you are handy people, or put together by a carpenter, handyman or builder.

Specially designed cat run netting from a commercial supplier or you can use products from your local DIY shop.

Marianna's stud has his own specially built house in the garage, photos of his stud house will be included on our "Stud Houses" page, the picture below is his play area which leads off the stud house. This play area has a tunnel which runs across the centre of the garden to a cubby house.



The next cat enclosure belongs to Hilde.

It is enclosed with timber trellis and the cats love it as they can climb up and down the trellis. There's even a hammock they can only get to by climbing. It's high enough for the cats to be able to spy on the neighbours. The roof lets through light but is heat and UV resistant.



The following photos were sent to me by Adrian:

The cat run was originally built for two longhair tabbies one ginger and white (Tim) and one tortoise shell (Tam) Brother and Sister respectively. The shade clothed fernery was originally installed to keep the sun of the house in the afternoon but was easily converted to a run by installing a gate at the southern end (as seen in the photo's). The northern end currently has a cat door into the garage which in-turn is attached to the house via a standard door (no cat door due to the house alarm). From that it has grown to a caged run along the fence which also consisted of two small cubby style house one of which has now been replaced by a large Avery style caged area (as seen in the photo's). This came about due to a recent addition to the family a Birman by the name of Rascal. There are more plans to redo the back yard which will include some more extensions to the existing run.







Sheila recently sent me the following photos of her cat enclosure along with a description. It measures 32x16 and the area under the house with the lattice work is enclosed and has a concrete slab with electrical outlets and warm beds for the wilder ones in the winter. It measures 43x24. They also have an indoor room that is climate controlled. The more tame cats will come into this room. The litter tray consists of a 5x5 ft area filled with cypress mulch and about 10,00 Texas Red Wrigglers. (worms) The cypress kills odours, the worms break down the stool and the whole thing is changed out 3-4 times a year. The old "mulch" is put on to my flower beds. No odours.



Below is the enclosure Jan had built by enclosing her pergola. She had a carpenter do the uprights & attach the wiring. Jan is doing the painting & landscaping herself.

The approximate cost for this enclosure is: \$574.00 for the carpenter, \$120.00 for the pond and plants around \$100.00.



The next enclosure was sent in by Marina who has explained the procedure...

We used treated pine pieces of wood to hold the netting up and then placed shade cloth over about half of the length of the whole cat enclosure (over top of the netting underneath). A hammer drill was used to fasten wooded pieces to the house to use as a bracket for the wire to attach to on the ends of the enclosure and for the gate to attach to. The furniture was added. Logs, shelves attached to the fence with book shelf brackets, tunnel made out of left over wire and covered in left over shade cloth, and cubby house built at the end with a litter tray in it.

This enclosure was sent by Sarah who says:

They started the platforms based on our ideas and we added on to it. Without them putting in the platforms we wouldn't have been able to extend on it. They put in the "v" area and two long walkways. We put in the steps in the "v", we added the two major ramps, the walkway above the "v" and the small walkway across to the large shelf.

The ground was cement and we laid marine carpet which can get wet and makes a softer place for them to lie and play. Also it stays cooler in summer and warmer in winter.

In hindsight though, we wouldn't have used shadecloth on the top but rather tinted Perspex to make it reasonably weatherproof. I hate seeing their little sad faces when it rains and they can't go into their enclosure.





back veranda looking back to back-door