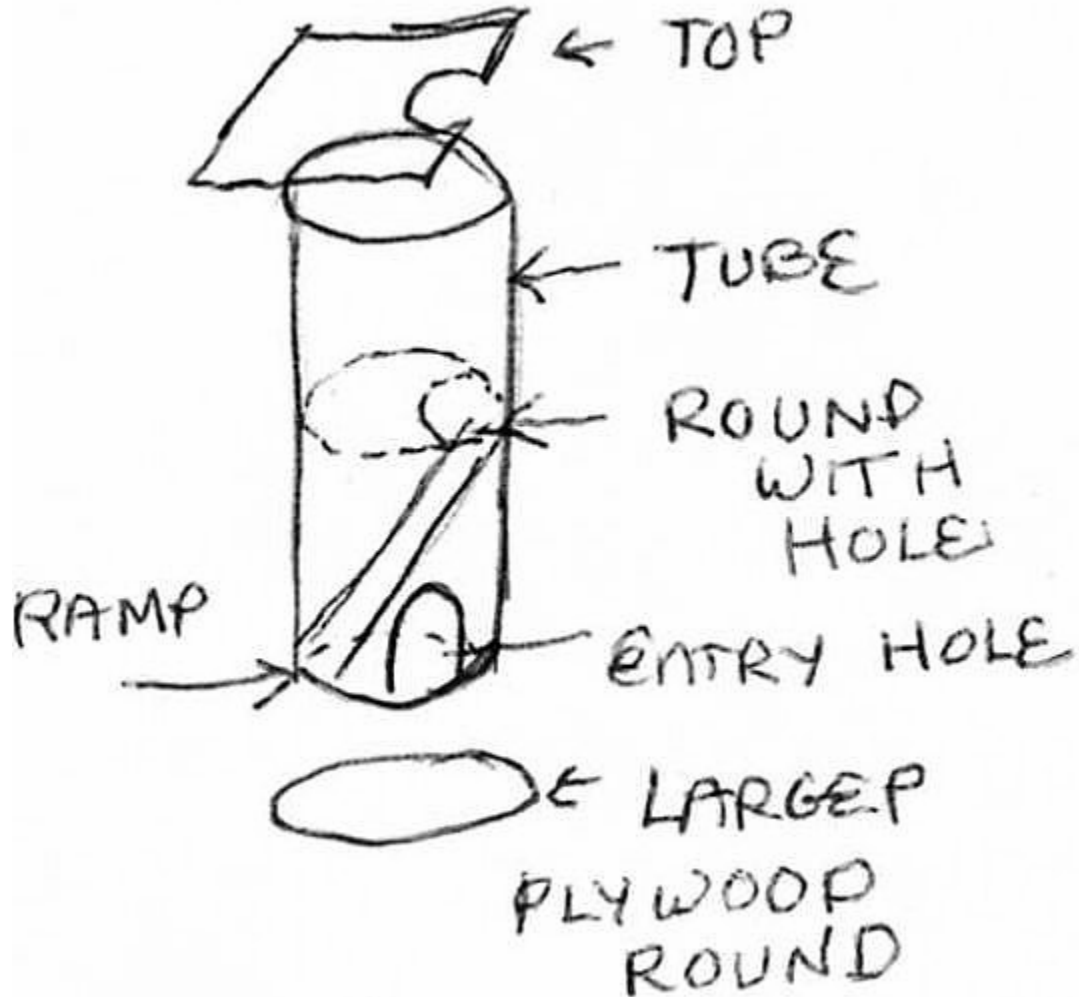


How to Build a Cat Play House

1. Step 1



Choose the size solar tube you want to work with. These are heavy cardboard forms that are used for pouring concrete columns. They are inexpensive and come in an assortment of sizes.

2. Step 2



SOLAR
TUBE

Cut a large mouse-hole entry at the bottom of the tube large enough for a cat to slip in and out of. Then cut a bigger hole in the front of the tube about $\frac{2}{3}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way up as a big window/doorway.

3. Step 3



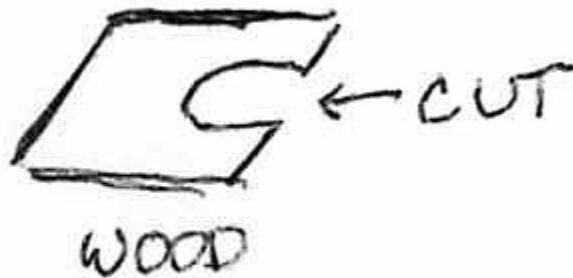
PLYWOOD
ROUND

Buy one plywood round the same diameter as your tube. Cut a passage 'bite' out of it. This will be the 'floor' of the upper interior level.

4. Step 4

The cat can come in the bottom, climb a ramp through the notch in the upper 'floor' or he/she can enter by the big window/doorway cut into the upper part of the tube. Nail several small pieces of 1 x 1" wood around the interior of the tube where you want the circular 'floor' of your cat house to sit. Then slide the cut wooden disk down the top of the tube so it sits comfortably on the nailed-in wooden-pieced supports. I covered my plywood round with carpeting first. You can slip it back out the top if you want to clean or repair it in the future.

5. Step 5



The top panel is just a piece of square plywood covered, again, in carpet scraps. It, too, has a hole in it so the cat can climb through the interior of the tube right out the top and sit high (like cats like to do!). I just sit this on top so it can be removed at any time.

6. Step 6

In the bottom interior of the tube I slide in a 'ramp' which is nothing but a plank of wood covered with heavy fabric. As I said, the cat can go in the bottom entry, climb the plank through the hole to the first 'floor'.

7. Step 7

Optionally you can carpet the interior of the top floor or add a piece of tree branch, or add another, smaller ramp to lead up from the circular interior upper 'floor' to the hole out the square top.

8. Step 8



You can cover your cat playhouse decoratively with scraps of carpet, heavy fabric, screening, rope or other materials that will make it attractive to the eye, yet wonderful for cat claws to scratch on and climb. I leave a couple of ends of rope dangling for more play. And I painted the uncovered areas. In time, the paint has scratched off, but you can always give it another coat.

9. Step 9



I mount the whole play tube on the larger (painted) plywood round as a base and final bottom 'floor'.