

Complete plans for our alternative design (shown above) will appear in the June 1989 issue.

Build Our Garden SHED

BY GARY WALCHUK

Our cover feature this month is a storage shed for all your gardening and landscaping needs. Designed and built by Gary Walchuk, our shed has a host of added architectural details that give it a cheerful Scandinavian look, including a cupola and a small-scale window-box. You'll have to watch that the kids don't take over this project...

Next month, we'll feature plans for building Don Boufford's version of an outdoor shed. (See photo this page.) Don's plans include a double door entry for easy access, and a half greenhouse wall for those who

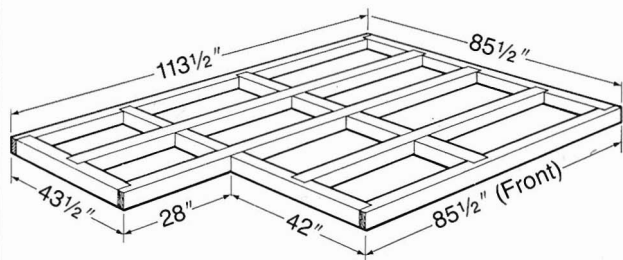


like to get an early start with seedlings. Watch for the June issue for complete construction details.

Our garden shed was constructed using standard house framing techniques – it's only the finishing touches that set it apart from other self-built or kit form sheds that you can buy. Any changes to the design such as a different size, color, or ornamentation will give your project its own personal flair – even a whole different look. It's best to plan your shed from start to finish to ensure you get exactly what you want in the final product.

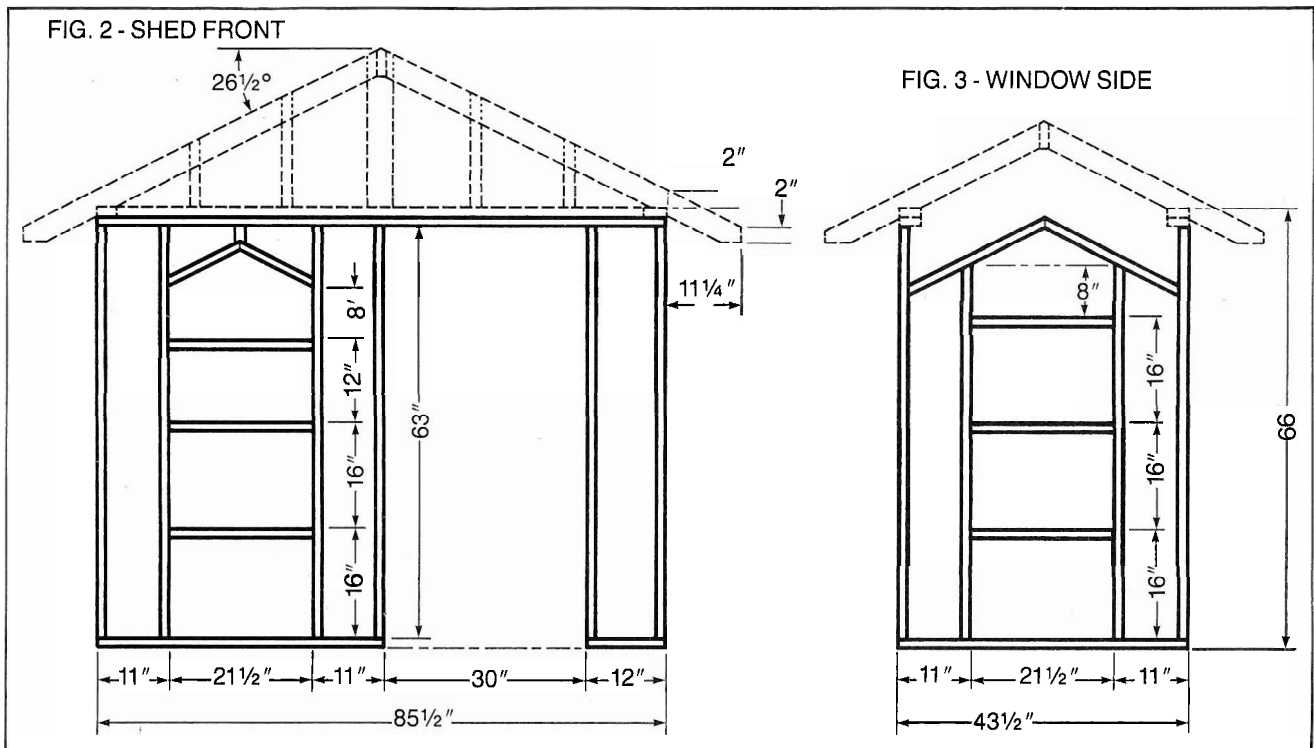


FIG. 1 - BASE



The ornament trimmings on our example were shop-built on rainy days, painted and ready to go before the shed itself was even started. Once the first days of spring arrived, we chose the perfect backyard location and our shed quickly took shape. I found the trickiest part was framing the roof as I had never built one with valley and jack rafters. However, armed with a good book on roof framing which illustrates how to lay out and cut the rafters, I was able to complete the job.

Another big difference you'll see in these plans is that while most buildings of this type have 16" or 24" centres, (stud to stud), this shed has 14" centres, including the rafters. Since the main part of the shed would measure 7' by 7', 14" centres would work out evenly. On a shed of this size, the extra cutting and waste of sheathing and roofing plywood was minimal. On a larger structure it is, of course, best to build using standard sizes.



Building the Base

Because of the shed's small size and the fact that our backyard is not accessible to any large vehicle, we chose to build a pressure-treated wood base rather than pour a concrete slab for the floor. The wood floor would be quicker for us to build and more economical.

Decide where and which way you want your shed to face, then begin. Our floor framework was built with pressure-treated 4" x 4"s to the dimensions shown in Fig. 1. Approximately 4" of dirt was removed (where the base would sit) and replaced with about 2" of gravel. (Be sure the placement of your shed will always have good drainage.) This framework was then dropped in place, levelled, and covered edge-to-edge with 5/8" pressure-treated waferboard.

Wall Framing

The complete framework is constructed with standard 2" x 4"s throughout. The walls, at a total height of 5' 6", require each regular stud to be cut at 5' 1 1/2", (5' 6" minus 1 1/2" for the sill and 3" for the double top plate = 5' 1 1/2"). Construct the front and windowed end as shown in Figs. 2 and 3 (indicated by the solid lines), then construct the remaining side walls using 14" centres. The dotted lines in Figs. 2 and 3 show how these two sides will eventually look with rafters in place.

Roof Framing

Carefully study Figures 2, 3, 4 and 5 to see how the roofing framework is constructed. Basically, the rafters are cut at a 6 in 12 pitch (6" in height for every 12" of roof run). The proper cutting angle is 26 1/2°. Rafters are spaced 14" apart with the exception of the very end (overhanging) ones which allow for a 12" overhang, (see Fig. 2 and 5). The dotted lines in Fig. 5 represent a top view of the shed walls. Fig. 2 also shows that rafter ends are cut with an 11 1/4" overhang. After being capped with a 3/4" fascia board, the overhang will be 12" also (see Fig. 5).

Closing In

Except for the door opening, the walls were then sheathed with 5/16" waferboard. The two window openings were then cut out, but you may cut the waferboard to size before nailing in place. The roof was sheathed with 3/8" construction grade plywood – (plywood overhangs the roof edges approximately 1" all the way around). I then built an imitation cupola from 1/2" plywood and 1" wide window moulding (see Fig. 6). The cupola was toenailed in place, then the entire roof was shingled.

Apply Soffit and Trim

Figures 7 and 8 show how the roof overhang is soffit, using 3/8" plywood – G1S. Fig. 7 is a cross-section of how to soffit the rafter ends while Fig. 8 shows how to box in the gable ends. There are six boxed-in gable ends – the two on the front side, two on the back of the shed directly opposite the front ones and the two on the small gabled side (with window). The boxed ends require a 4" piece of 2" x 4" nailed directly under the top plate (nailed to the shed, over the

Materials Required

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| (70') | 4" x 4" pressure-treated – Base |
| (2) | 4' x 8' x 5/8" pressure-treated waferboard – Base |
| (25) | 2" x 4" x 16' – Framing |
| (6) | 4' x 8' x 5/16" waferboard – Sheathing |
| (5) | 4' x 8' x 3/8" plywood – Roof |
| (2) | 4' x 8' x 1/2" plywood G1S – Trim and Cupola |
| (3) | bundles of shingles |
| (2) | 4' x 8' x 3/8" G1S plywood – Soffit |
| (100') | 1" x 3" pine – Trim |
| (60') | 1/2" quarter-round – Windows and Trim |
| (40') | 1" x 2" – Soffit |
| (2) | 1/4" glass – Windows |
| 200 sq. ft. | – siding |
| (1) | 30" x 63" x 3/4" plywood – Door |

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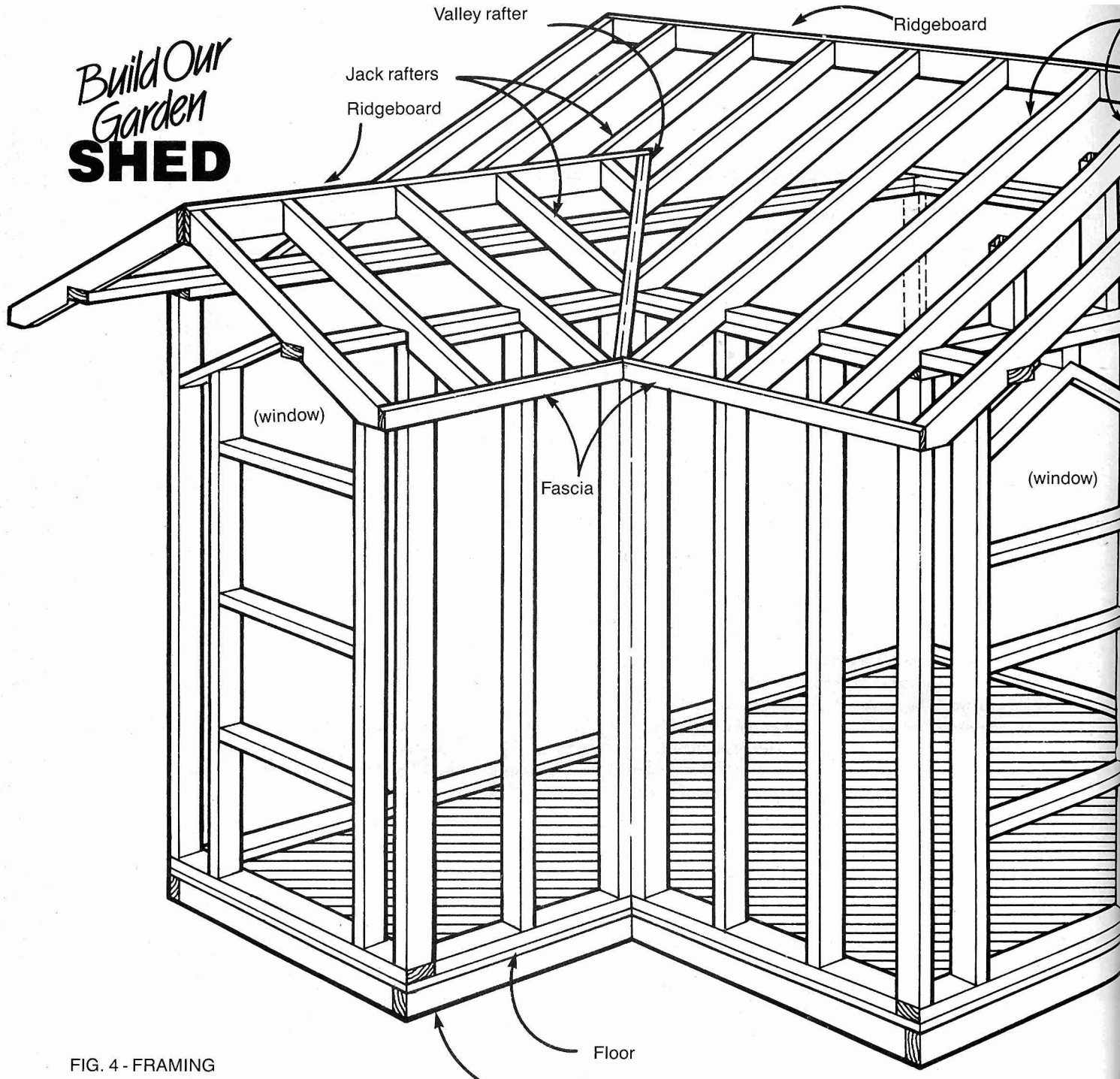


FIG. 4 - FRAMING

waferboard – see Fig. 8). Cut soffit to fit as shown; the end of the soffit should be flush with the overhanging rafter. Nail soffit in place, then cut to size and nail under the gable ends (use 1" x 2", nailed to shed first – see Fig. 10). Refer back to Fig. 8, cut to size and nail the vertical piece of soffit that actually boxes in the gable ends. Use 1" x 1"s or 1" x 2"s where plywood edges meet to have more support for nailing together. (Fig. 10 is a cross-section of gable ends.)

The gable-end fascia boards are cut from a good-quality 1/2" plywood. These fascia boards cap off the gable ends, covering the overhang rafter and the boxed-in shape. However, before marking and cutting the fascia board to size the decorative trim should be at-

tached to the rafter ends (see Fig. 9). The decorative trim (Fig. 11) is cut to two different widths. You'll require 18' of 3 3/4" wide trim and 22' of 2 3/4" wide trim. (Trim was cut from top-quality plywood and painted before being attached.) The wide trim should be fastened first on the two short walls (see photo), the 9' span of roof on the opposite side, and the horizontal section on the back of the shed. In other words, the wider trim is nailed to the fascia board that you've put on to cap the rafter ends only (see Fig. 5).

With wide trim in place, the fascia boards (6) can now be cut to size and nailed in place on the gable ends. Once again, these are cut from 1/2" plywood. Simply hold a length of plywood against the

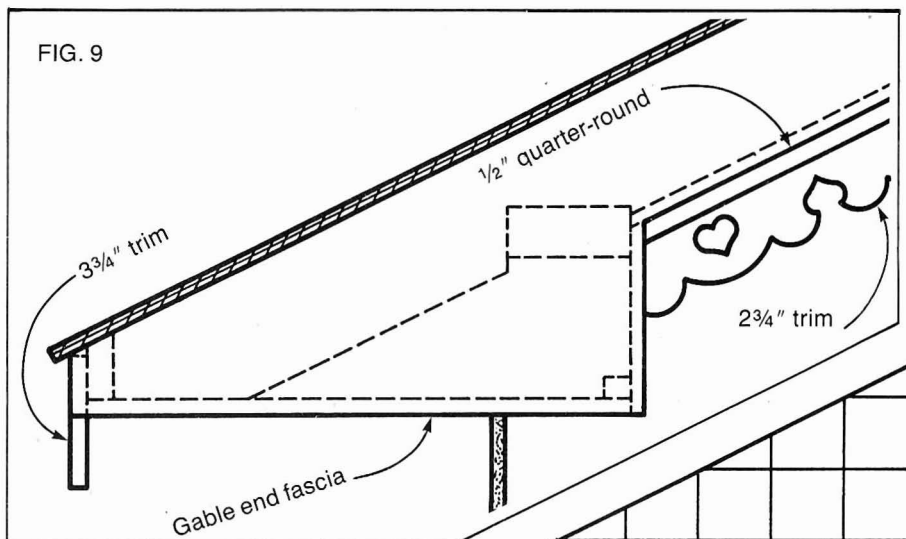
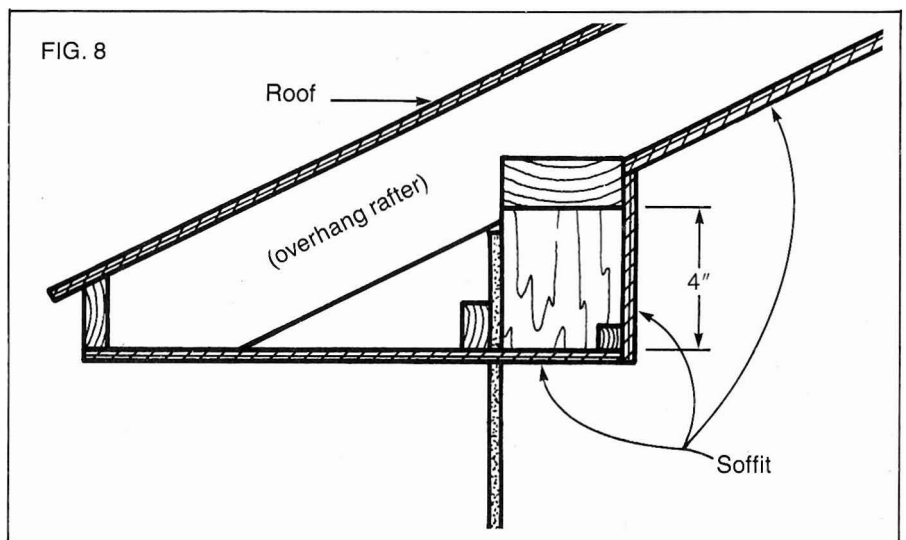
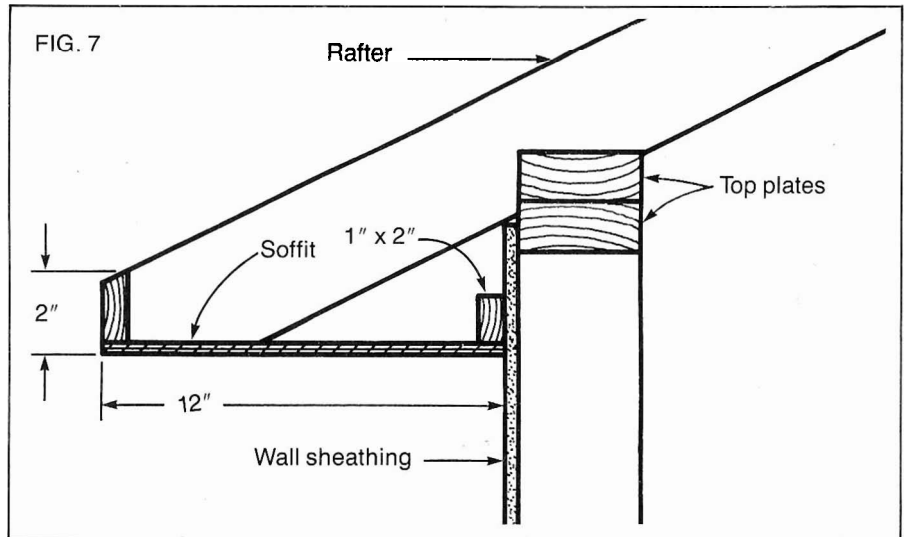
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the glass. Cut 1" x 3"s to frame the windows and apply the decorative trim to the window peaks.

Use 1" x 3"s to trim the outside corners of the shed – also the door frame. The door is 3/4" plywood, trimmed with 1" x 3"s. (All trimmings should be painted at this point.)

Install door, then apply siding of your choice. (In this case, Triple 3, Canoxel siding was used.) Sixteen pieces, 12" wide by 12' long were required. The entire shed was then caulked where the siding and trim meets to keep rain from the exposed ends of siding.

Six small vents were then cut into the horizontal soffit, three on each side of the shed in order to have some air-flow through the inside. A bit of surrounding landscaping, and at last it's done! □



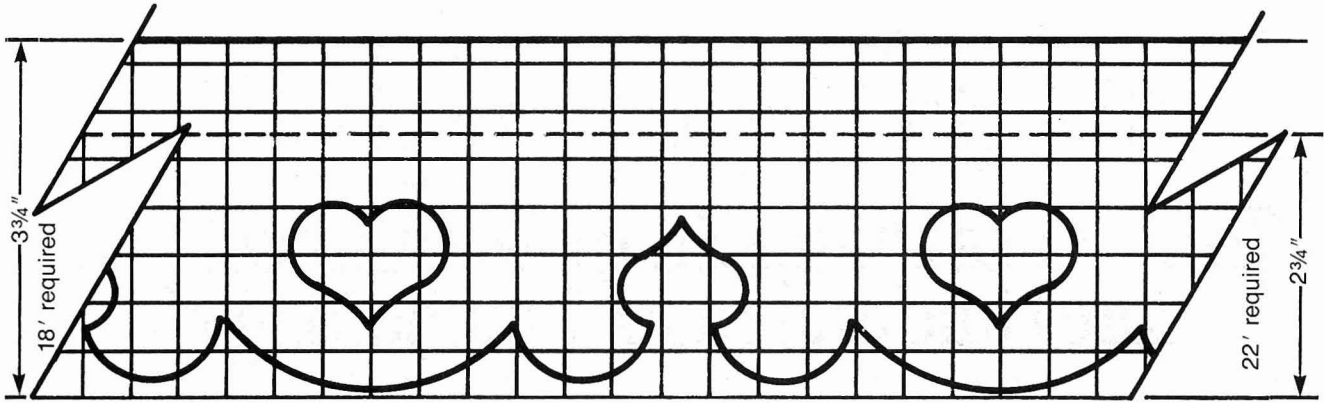


FIG. 11 - Trim
(1 SQ. = 1 SQ. IN.)

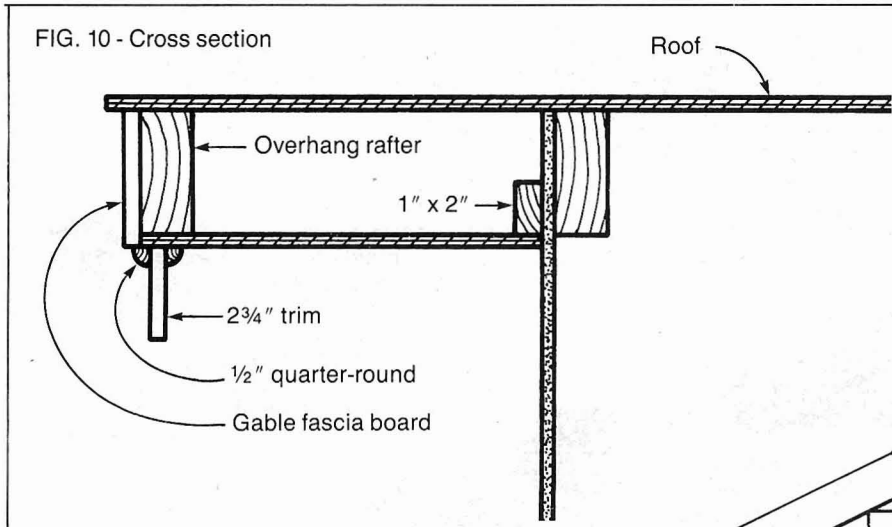


FIG. 12 - Gable end scrollwork
(1 SQ. = 1 SQ. IN.)

