

Plant stand

Build a stand of treated pine

An exterior plant stand is a great way to display a collection of special plants for maximum visible benefit. The stand includes a built-in gravel filled tray which holds water to provide high humidity for plants which need extra moisture.

Here's how

1 Cut legs and rails to length (A, B, C). Set them out on a table with the rails crossing the legs. The lower rails are positioned 70mm from the base of the legs. Scribe where each member crosses the other to mark in the housings for the halved joints. Make a series of 17mm deep cuts on the waste side of each line for each halved joint and chisel out the waste. Fit the rails and legs together again. Use a sharp chisel to adjust the depth of housings so the rails and legs are flush fitting. Join them by drilling a 6mm hole and insert a cup head bolt, washer and nut (D).

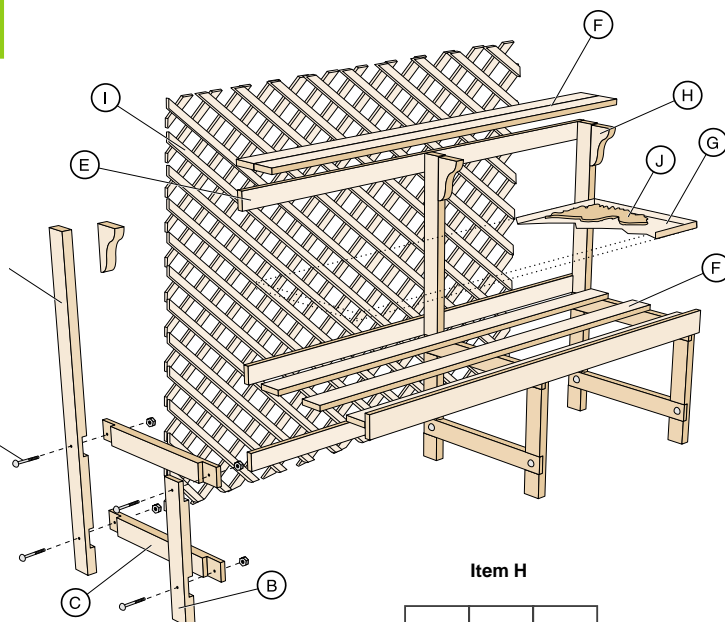
2 Join the two end frame assemblies with the back rails (E). They are screwed

to the back of the rear legs, with the bottom edge aligned with the top of the leg rails and the top one flush with the top of the back legs. Centre the middle frame assembly between the sides and screw in place.

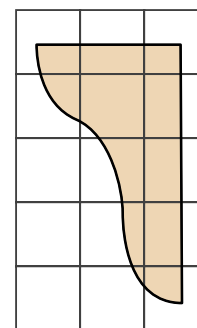
3 Add three of the slats (F) spaced equally across the top rail to support the metal tray (G), and add the fourth to the front of the frame with its edge projecting 25mm above the front slat so the tray does not slide off.

4 Cut out three small brackets (H) by expanding the template supplied. Screw to the face of the frame at the top. Add the last two slats (F) to form a top shelf.

5 Nail lattice (I) onto the back of the unit, checking



Item H



(One square = 40 x 40mm)

that the plant stand is square. If your lattice is too high leave it in place to act as a backdrop to the pots on the upper shelf.

6 Place the metal tray on the slats and fill with 25kg of 10mm rounded river gravel. Then bring on the plants and arrange them in an attractive display. .

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

Item	Part	Size	Material
A	Rear legs (3)	70 x 35 x 1200mm	Treated pine
B	Front legs (3)	70 x 35 x 500mm	Treated pine
C	Rails (6)	70 x 35 x 600mm	Treated pine
D	Cup head bolts (12)	50 x 6mm	Galvanised steel
E	Back rails (3)	70 x 22 x 1700mm	Pine decking
F	Slats (6)	90 x 22 x 1700mm	Pine decking
G	Tray	1700 x 450 x 25 x 2mm	Aluminium
H	Brackets (3)	90 x 35 x 160mm	Treated pine
I	Lattice	1200 x 1800mm	Treated pine
J	Pebbles	10mm x 25kg	River gravel

As we are using treated pine, use galvanised hardware throughout. The aluminium tray was made by a local sheet metal fabricator at a cost of \$95. To save money, it would be cheaper to make it from galvanised steel. Adjust the size of the stand to suit a tray of different size.