

Outdoor Living Today Assembly Manual

Revision #3
Nov 1, 2008

Thank you for purchasing a 6x6 Little Squirt Playhouse. Please take the time to identify all the parts prior to assembly.

Safety Points and Other Considerations

Our products are built for use based on proper installation and normal residential use, on level ground. Please follow the instruction manual when building your Playhouse and retain the manual for future maintenance purposes.

Some of the safety and usage measures you may wish to consider include:

- snow load ratings vary by geographical location. If heavy or wet snowfall occurs, it is advisable to sweep the snow off the roof(s)
- if the product is elevated, any structural and building code requirements are solely the customer's responsibility, and should be abided by
- in high or gusty wind conditions it is advisable to keep the structure securely grounded
- have a regular maintenance plan to ensure screws, doors, windows and parts are tight

Customers agree to hold Outdoor Living Today and any Authorized Dealers free of any liability for improper installation, maintenance and repair of any products sold by Outdoor Living Today.

In the event of a missing or broken piece, simply call the Outdoor Living Today Customer Support Line @ 1-888-658-1658 within 30 days of the delivery of your purchase. It is our commitment to you to courier replacement parts, free of charge, within 10 business days of this notification. Replacement parts will not be provided free of charge after the 30 day grace period.



**Thank you for purchasing one of our 6x6 Little Squirt Playhouses.
Please take the time to identify all the parts prior to assembly.**

Parts Lists:

A. Floor Section

- 2 - Floor Frame Sections - 35" x 75" (2x4's)
- 4 - Floor Joists - 72" (2x4's)
- 4 - Floor Runners - 70" (2x4's)
- 1 - Plywood Floor - 5/8" x 45 1/2" x 75"
- 14 - Deck Boards - 3/4" x 24" (12 @ 5 3/8" & 2 @ 4 1/2")

B. Wall Section

- 2 - Solid Backwall Panels - 35" x 60"
- 2 - Bottom Wall Plates - 1 1/2" x 2 1/2" x 35"
(for Backwall Panels)
- 2 - Gable Side Window Wall Panels - 45 1/2" x 74 1/2"
(at peak)
- 1 - Front Window Wall Panel - 35" x 60"
- 1 - Narrow Front Wall Panel - 10" x 58 1/2"
- 1 - Right Side Door Jamb - 1 1/2" x 2 1/2" x 58 1/2"
- 1 - Door Header - 1 1/2" x 2 1/2" x 35"
- 1 - Roof Ridge Beam - 1 1/2" x 2 1/2" x 70"
- 2 - Plywood Ridge Beam Supports - 5/8" x 3 1/2" x 6"

C. Porch Section

- 3 - Porch Posts - 3 1/2" x 3 1/2" x 52 1/2"
(cut 13.5 degrees on top end)
- 3 - Porch Rafters - 3/4" x 3 1/2" x 27"
- 1 - Front Porch Railing - 41 1/2" x 23"
- 2 - Side Porch Railings - 20" x 23"
- 1 - Left Front Corner Filler Trim - 1/2" x 2 1/2" x 59"
- 1 - Right Front Corner Filler Trim - 1/2" x 4 1/2" x 59"
- 2 - Front Corner Wide Trims - 1/2" x 4 1/2" x 56 3/4"
- 1 - Door Stop Trim - 1/2" x 2 1/2" x 56 3/4"
(also used to support Center Porch Rafter)
- 1 - Above Door Trim - 1/2" x 1 1/2" x 33 1/2"
- 1 - Porch Narrow Trim - 1/2" x 2 1/2" x 59"

D. Roof Section

- 3 - Roof Panels - 30" x 81"

E. Miscellaneous Section

Trims

- 2 - Rear Corner Filler Trims - 1/2" x 2 1/2" x 58 3/4"
- 2 - Rear Corner Wide Trims - 1/2" x 4 1/2" x 64"
- 5 - Wall Narrow Trims - 1/2" x 2 1/2" x 64"

Facia

- 4 - Side Facia Trims - 1/2" x 1 1/2" x 28 5/8"
(angled on both ends)
- 2 - Porch Facia Trims - 1/2" x 1 1/2" x 28"

Misc. Continued

Skirting

- 2 - Front & Rear Bottom Skirtings - 1/2" x 3 1/2" x 76"
- 2 - Side Bottom Skirtings - 1/2" x 3 1/2" x 70"
- 12 - Porch Post Base Trims - 1/2" x 1 1/2" x 4"

Doors and Windows

- 1 - Bottom Door - 23" x 32 1/2"
- 3 - Window Inserts
- 1 - Top Door (**Optional) - 23" x 25"
(Top Door Includes: 2 Door Hinges, Thumb Latch, & Hardware)

Miscellaneous

- 12 - Shingle Ridge Caps for Roof
- 2 - Flower Boxes
- 1 - Kids Table and 2 Chairs - complete in box
(assembly required)
- 1 pc - Spare Wall Siding
- 2 - Spare Shingles - used to shim door, etc

Hardware Package

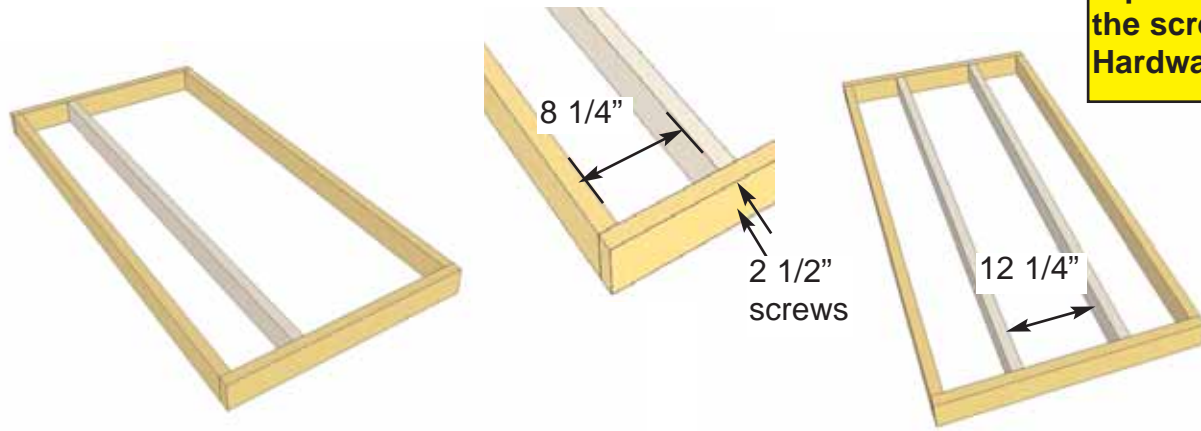
- 3" Screws
- 2 1/2" Screws
- 1 1/4" Screws
- 1" Screws
- 1 1/2" Deck Nails
- 1 1/4" Finishing Nails
- 1 1/2" Shingle Nails
- 2 - Door Hinges with 3/4" Silver Screws (8)
- 1 - Black Door Handle with Black Screws
- 1 - Silver Barrel Bolt and Hardware
- 5 - Simpson Strong Ties
- 1 - Square Drive Bit for Screw Gun

Tools Required:

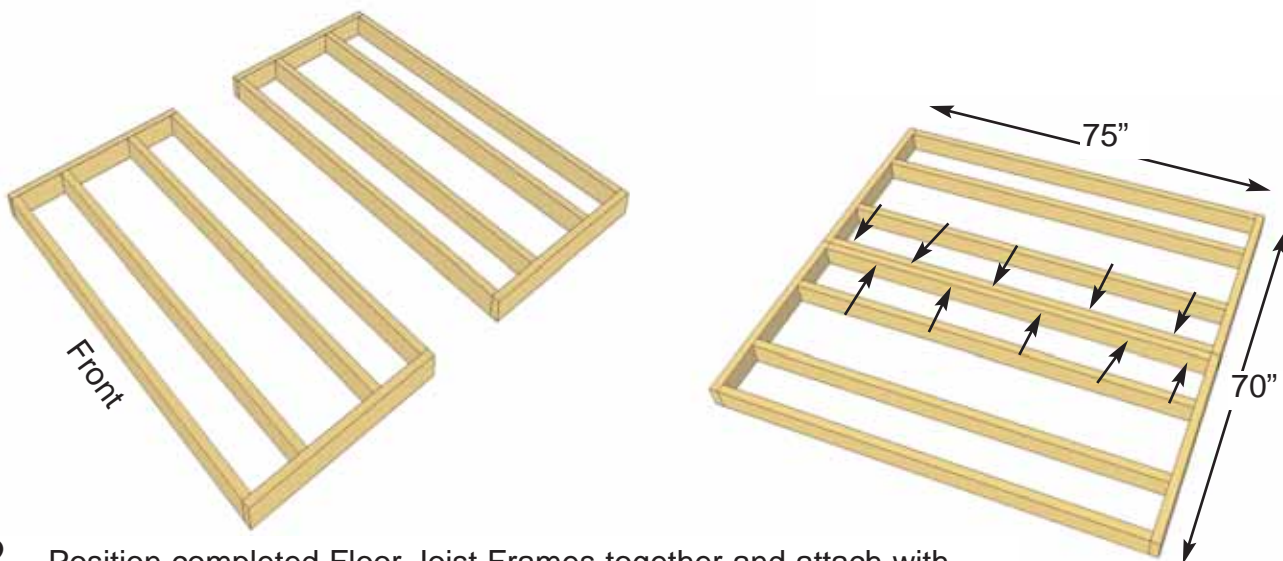
- Work Gloves and Safety Glasses
- Screw Gun
- Level
- 2 Large Ladders
- Hammer
- Wood Clamps
- 1/8" Drill Bit for Pilot Holes

A. Floor Section

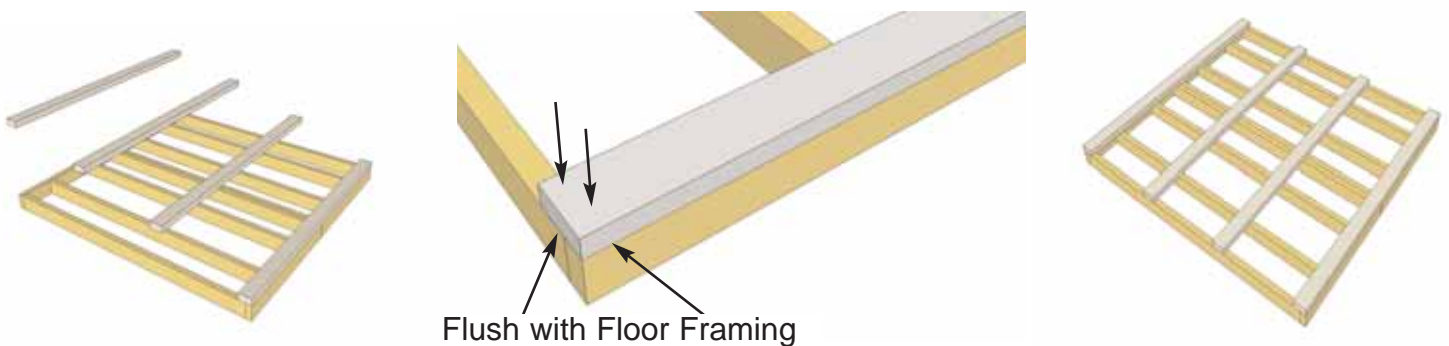
You can find the Square Drive Bit for the screws in with the Hardware Kit Bag.



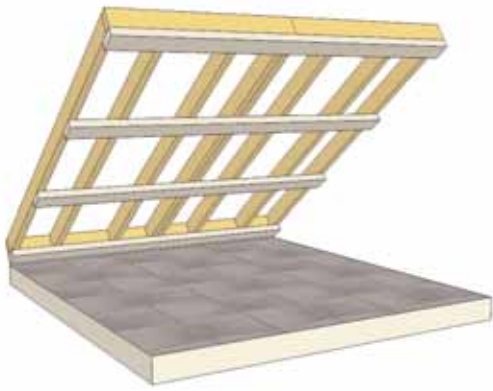
1. Complete **Floor Joist Frames**. Frames require two interior Floor Joist attachments. Measure joist (8 1/4") from inside of Floor Joist Frame to inside of Floor Joist and attach with 2 - 2 1/2" screws per end. Complete attachments of both Floor Joists and both Floor Joist Frames.



2. Position completed Floor Joist Frames together and attach with 5 - 2 1/2" screws per section. Attached together, your Floor Joist section should be **75" wide x 70" deep**.



3. Attach **Floor Runners** to completed Floor Frame. There are two Floor Runners per 70" side and four completed runners in total. Use 6 - 2 1/2" screws per Runner to secure.

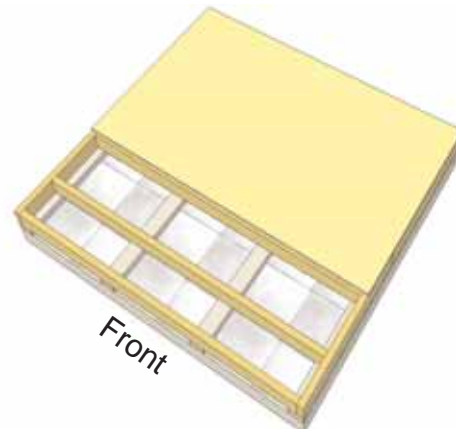
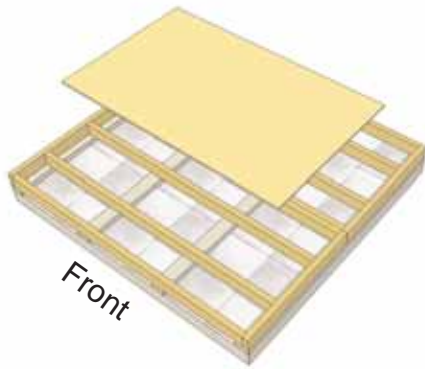


4. With Floor Runners attached, carefully flip the floor over and place on your foundation.

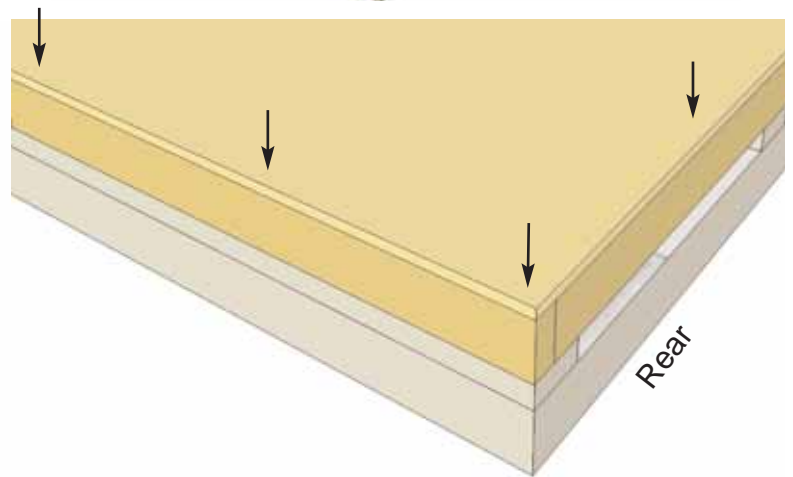
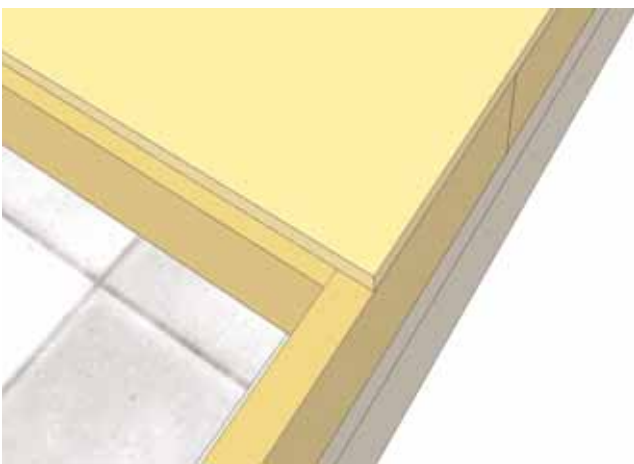
CAUTION: You will need two people to assist you. Be careful not to bend or twist the floor when laying floor down. When in place, level floor completely.

Foundations

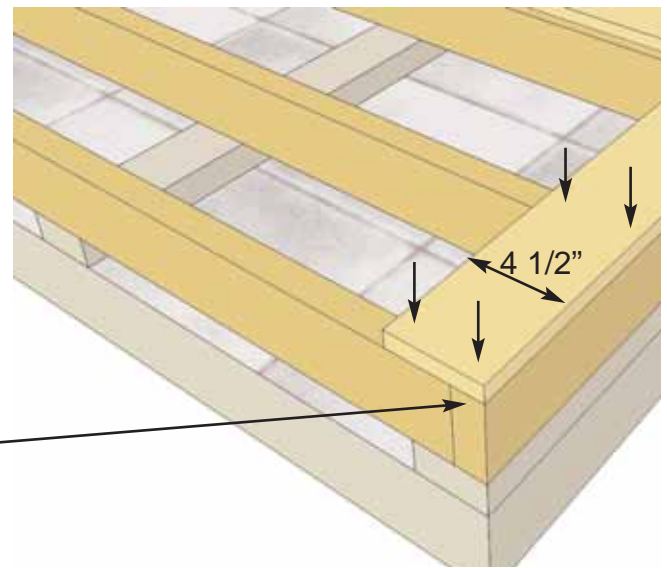
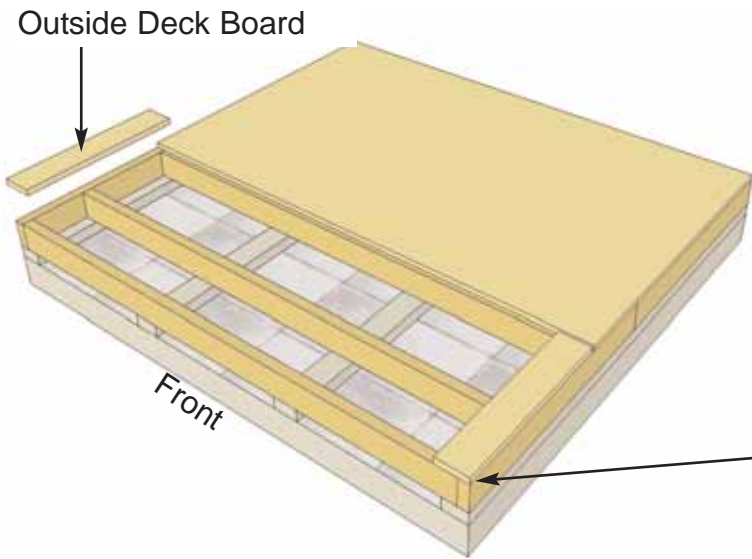
NOTE: The floor will be flipped over and Floor Runners will sit on your foundation. It is important to note that having a level foundation is critical. Choosing a foundation will vary between regions. Typical foundations can be concrete pads or patio stones positioned underneath the floor runners.



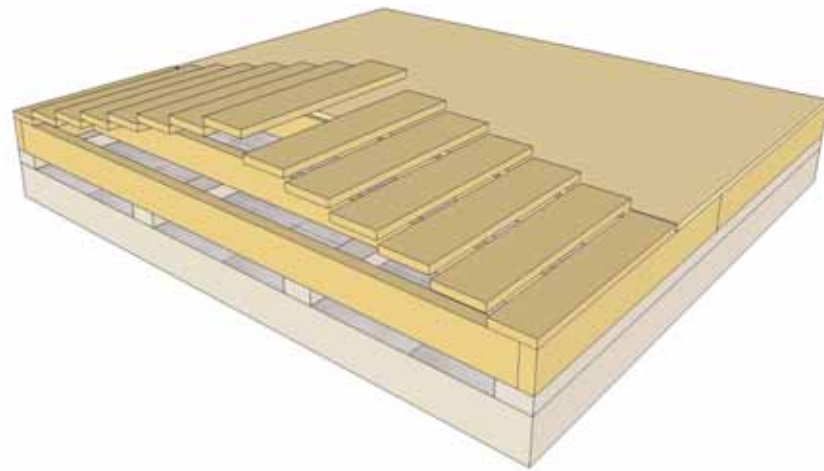
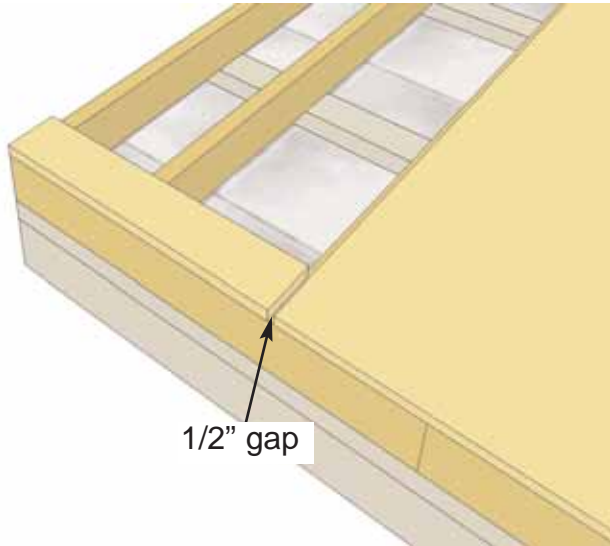
5. Position **Plywood Floor** piece on top of completed Floor Joists. Plywood will sit flush with outside of Floor Joist Frame.



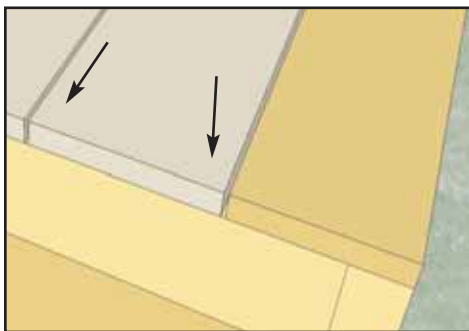
6. When Plywood Floor is correctly positioned, attach with 1 1/4" screws. Use screws every 16".



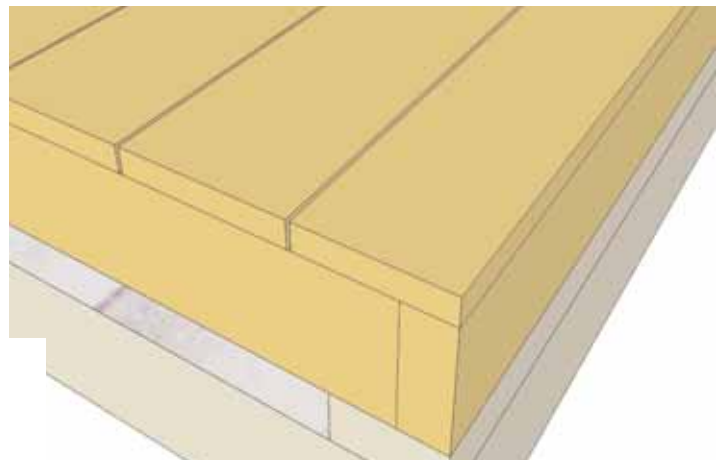
7. Locate **Deck Boards** (12 @ 5 3/8" x 3/4" x 24" and 2 @ 4 1/2" x 3/4" x 24"). Start by positioning both 4 1/2" wide Deck Boards to the outside of Floor Framing flush to the front. A 1/2" gap will exist between Plywood Floor and Deck Boards. When correctly positioned, attach both outside boards with 6 - 1 1/2" Deck Nails.



8. Position remaining interior Deck Boards (12 at 5 3/8" wide) between outside Deck Boards.

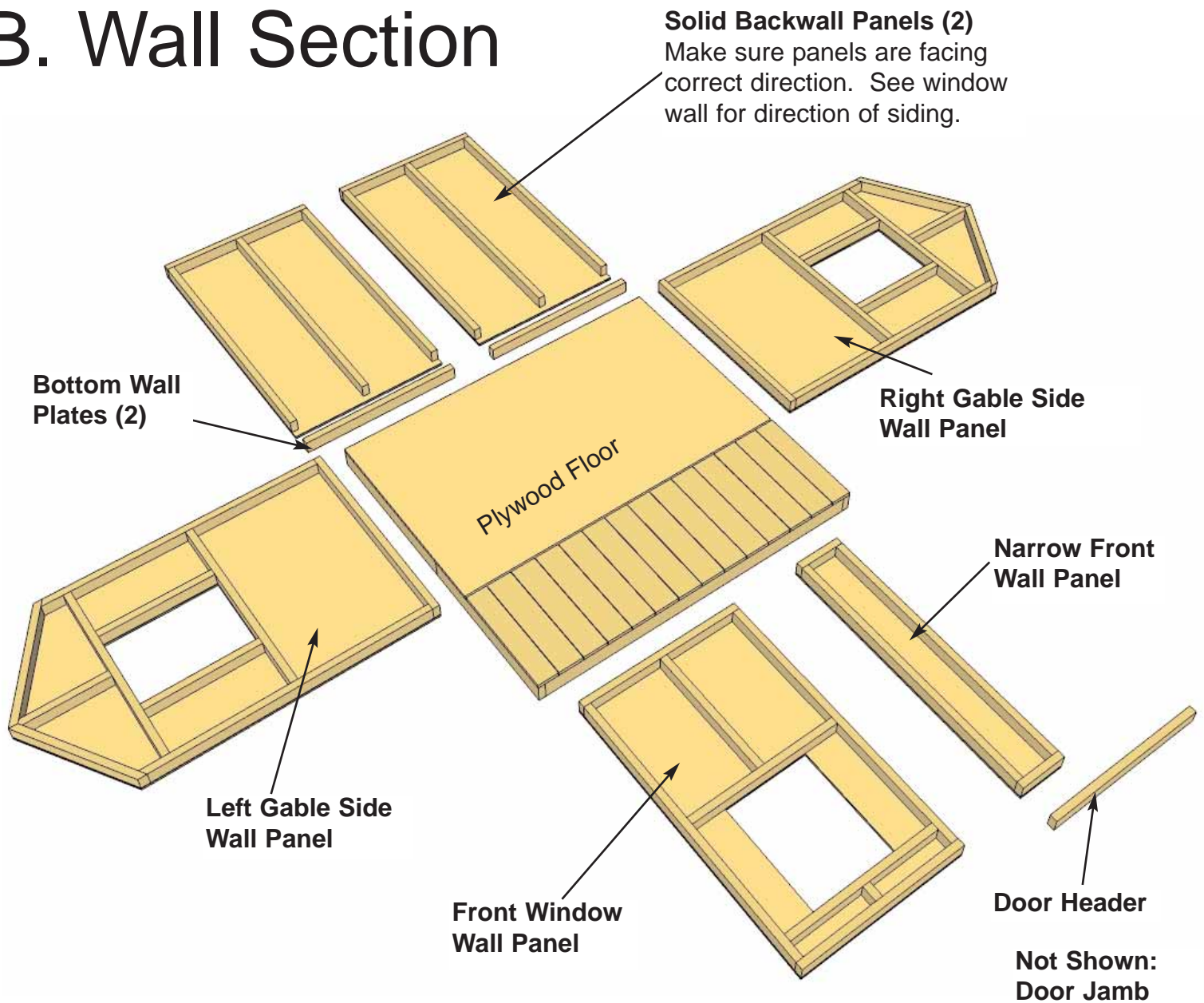


9. Space Deck Boards so there is approximately an 1/8" gap between boards and attach with 6 - 1 1/2" Deck Nails per piece.

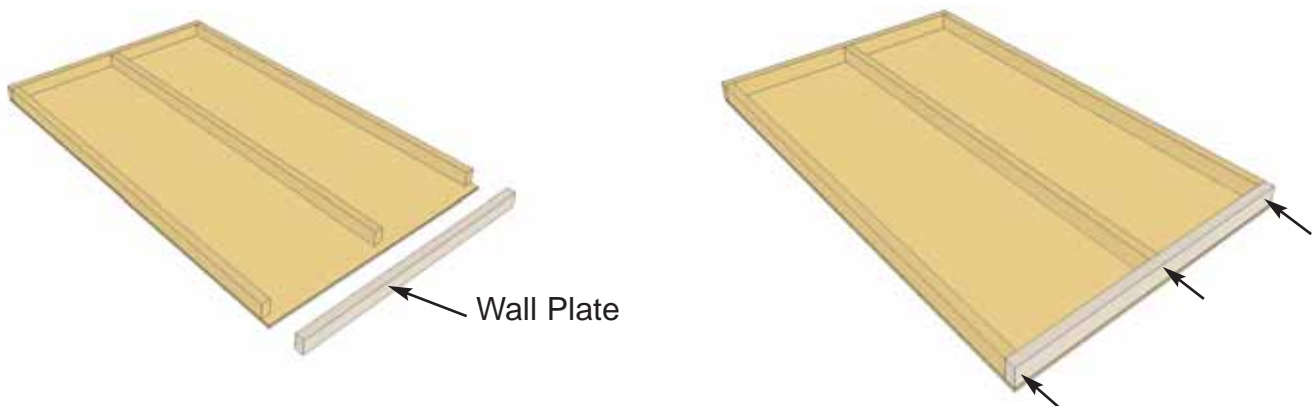


NOTE: When floor is completed, make sure the floor is still level and make adjustments if required.

B. Wall Section

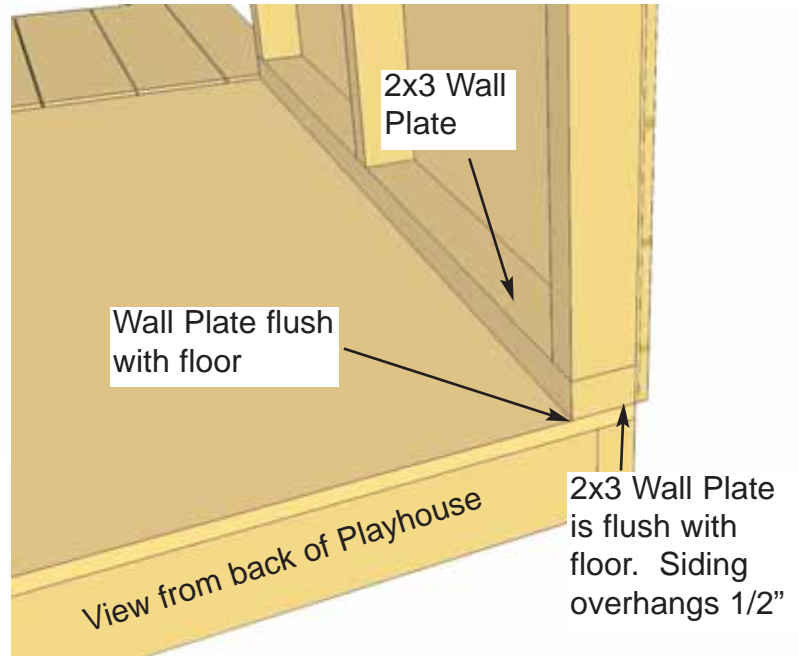
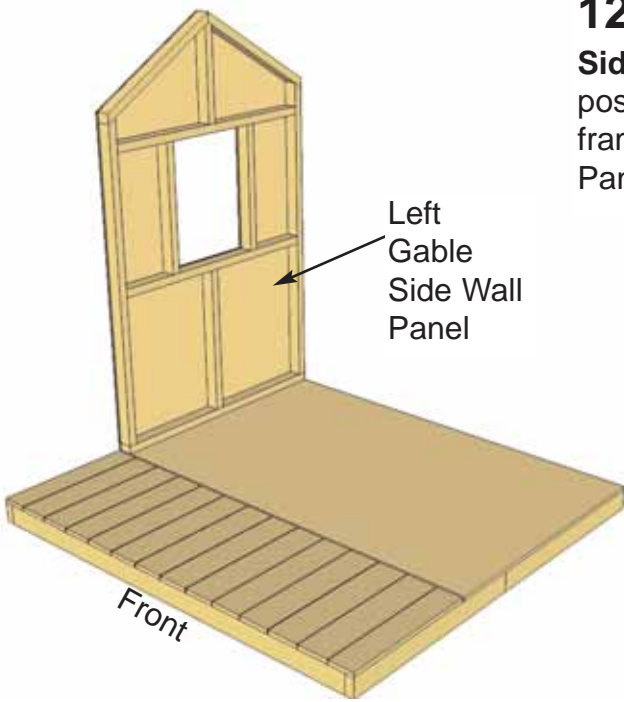


10. Lay out all the **Wall Panels** and become familiar with their location.

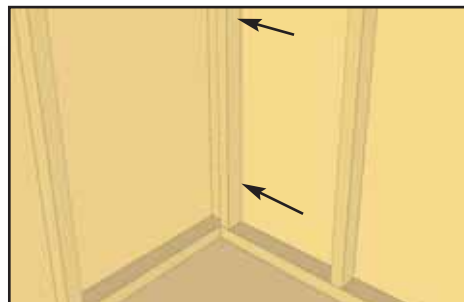
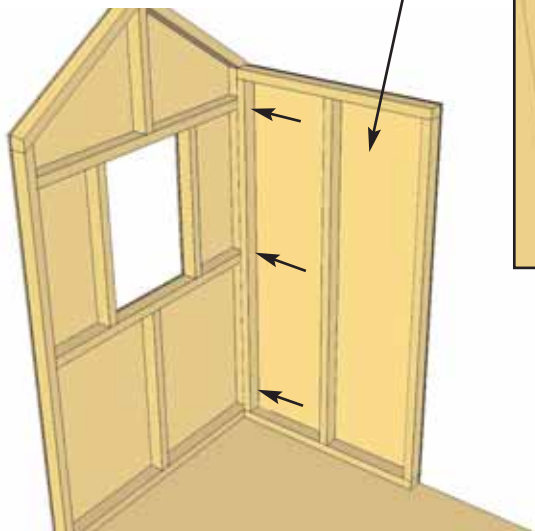
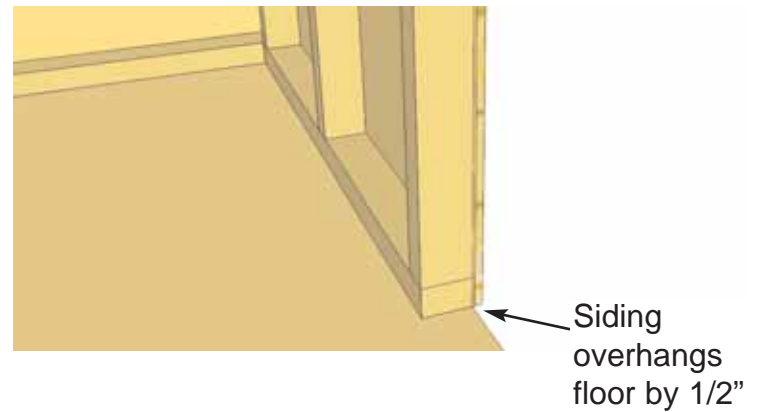
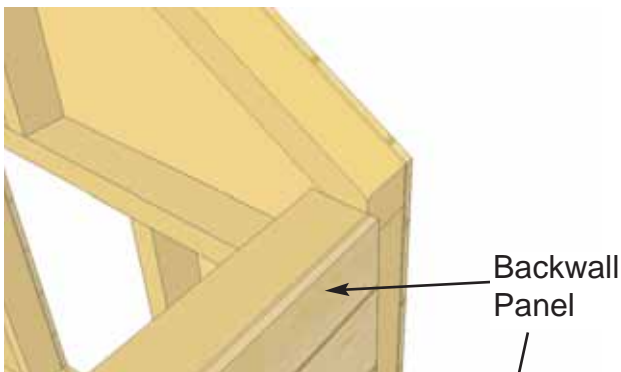


11. Starting with **Solid Backwall Panels**, carefully lay panel face down. Position and attach **Bottom Wall Plate** to bottom of wall studs of each wall panel with 3 - 2 1/2" screws. Position so Wall Plates are flush with framing.

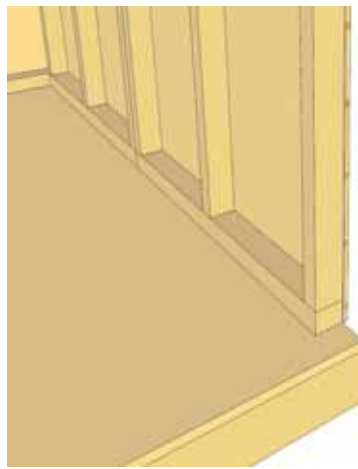
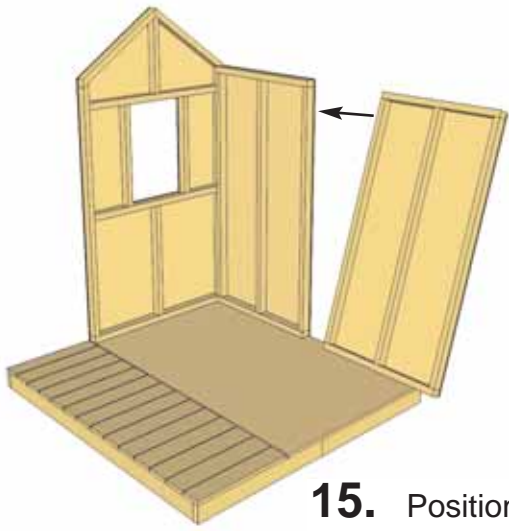
12. Starting at the left rear corner, move the **Left Gable Side Window Wall Panel** into place on floor. Proper wall positioning is important. From the rear, make sure wall framing sits flush on the floor. **NOTE:** Do Not Screw Wall Panel to Floor At This Stage.



13. Position first Solid Backwall Panel in the corner next to Left Gable Sidewall Panel.



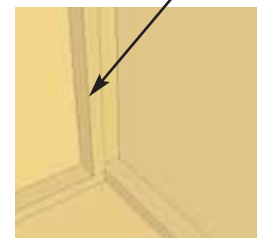
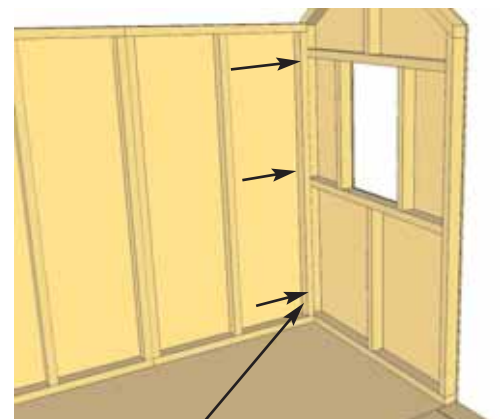
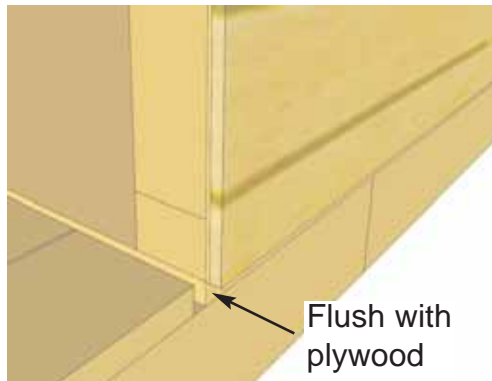
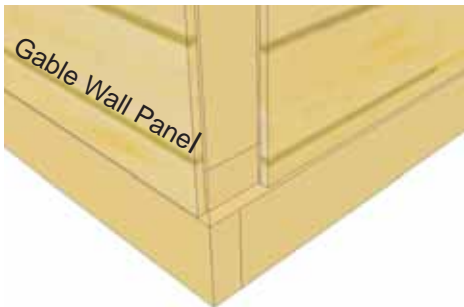
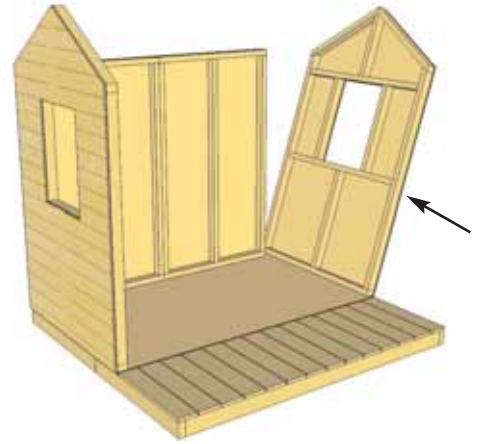
14. Align the Solid Backwall Panel Bottom Wall Plate flush with the floor. When positioned correctly, screw both panels together with 3 - 2 1/2" screws into vertical studs at the bottom, middle and top locations.



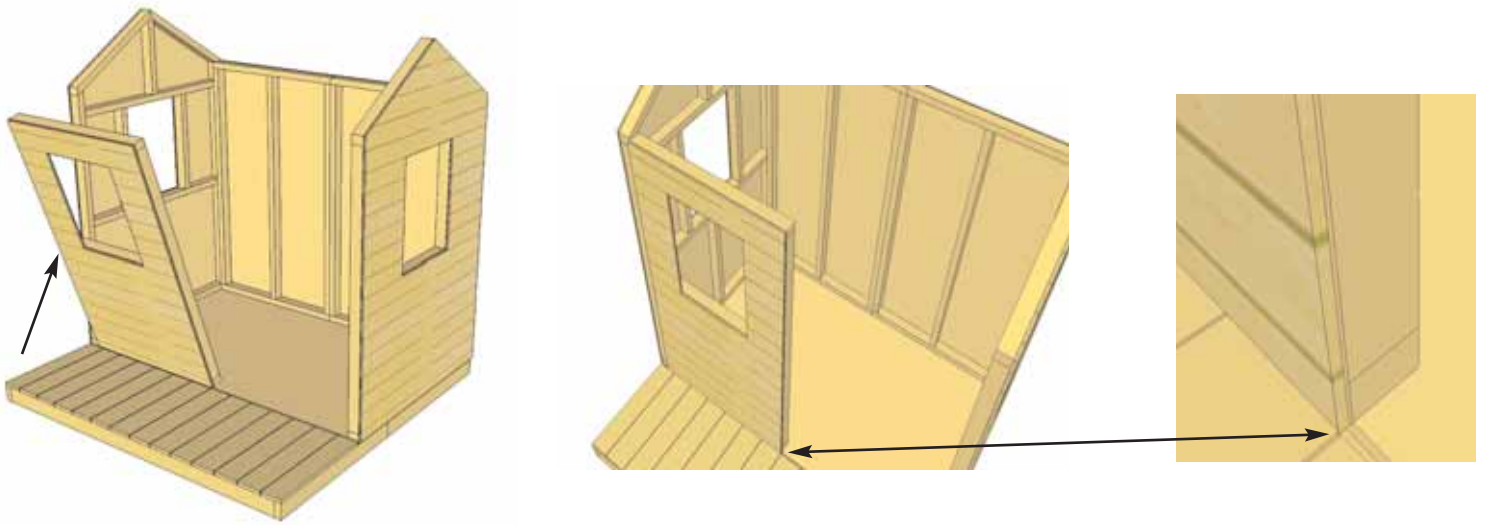
15. Position second Solid Backwall Panel on floor and align vertical studs of both Solid Backwall Panels.



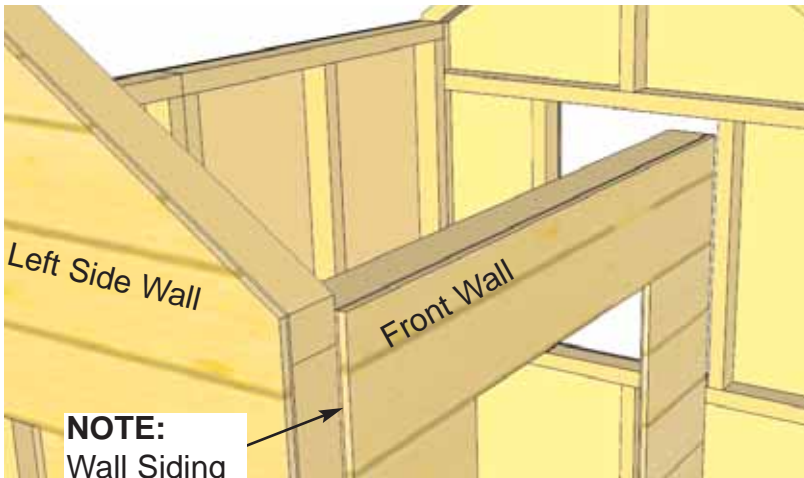
16. The top wall framing of both Solid Backwall Panels should also align with each other. With Solid Backwall Panels correctly aligned, attach vertical studs together with 3 - 2 1/2" screws. Locate and position **Right Gable Side Window Wall Panel**.



17. Align Right Gable Side Window Wall as per **Step 12**. Attach wall framing with 3 - 2 1/2" screws.



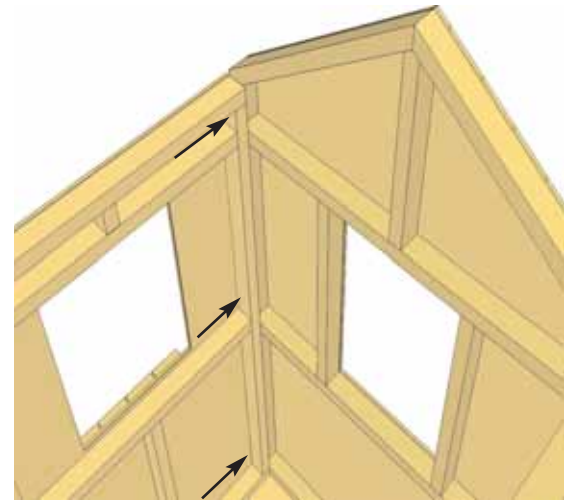
18. Position **Front Window Wall Panel** in the left front corner. Align bottom wall framing flush with Plywood Floor (siding overhanging once again).



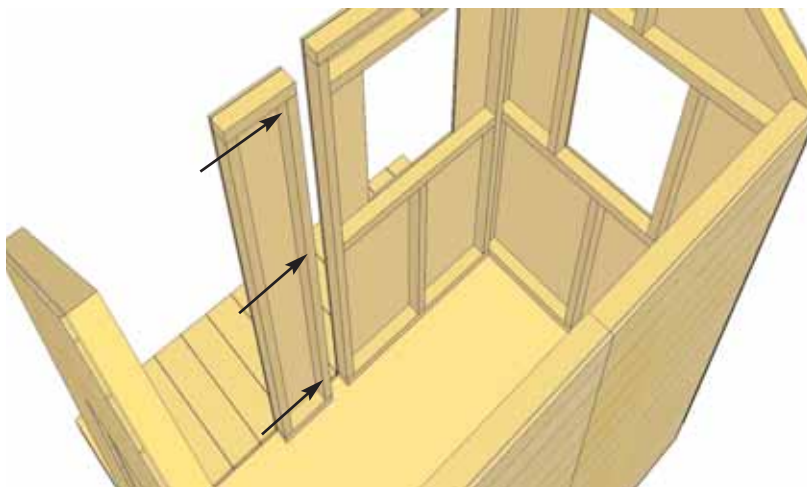
Left Side Wall

Front Wall

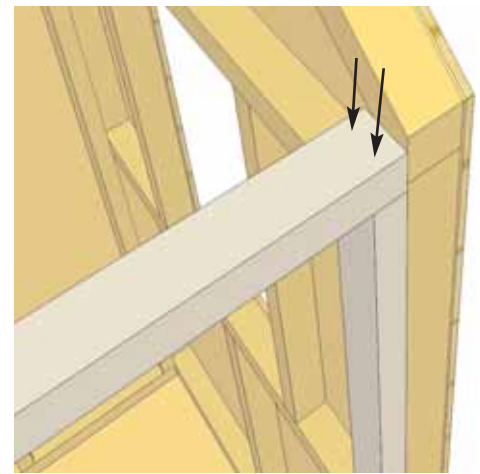
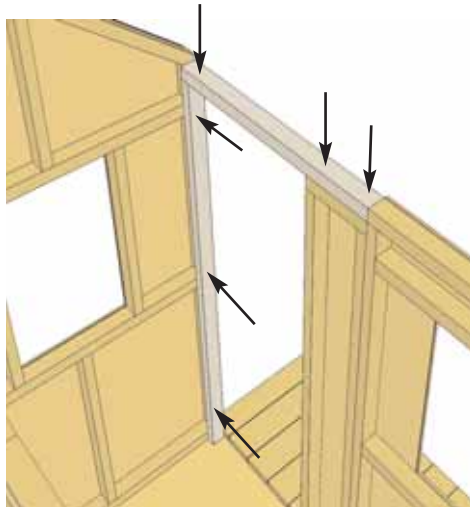
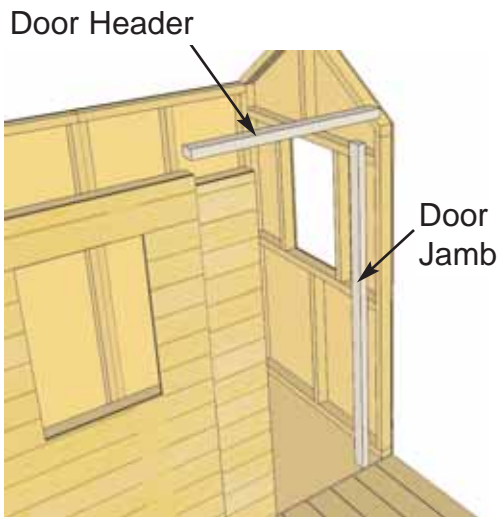
NOTE:
Wall Siding
overhangs
1/2"



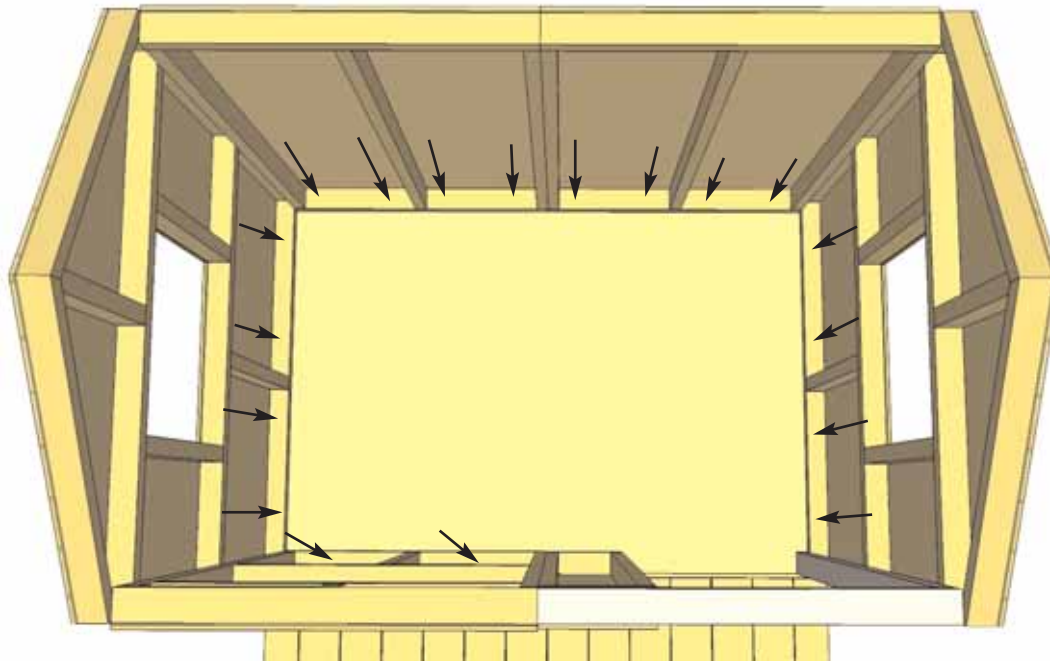
19. With Front Window Wall Panel aligned correctly, attach vertical wall studs with 3 - 2 1/2" screws.



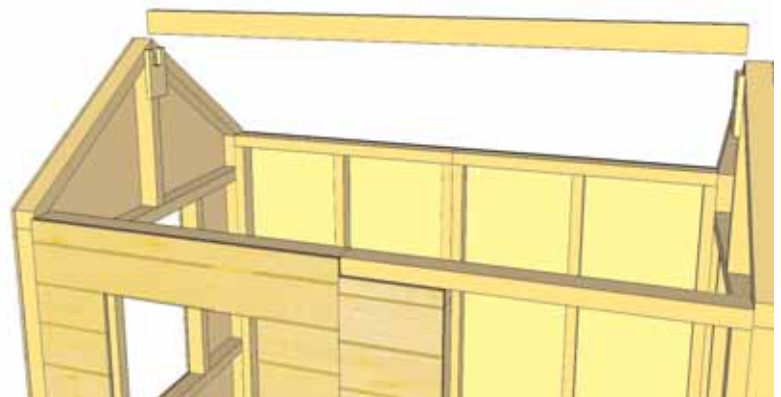
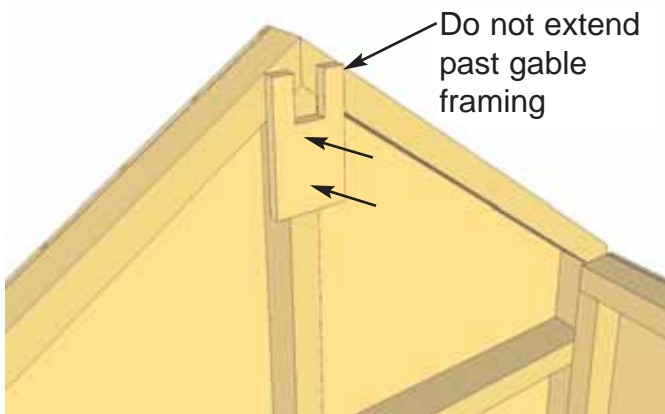
20. Position **Narrow Front Wall Panel** adjacent to Front Window Wall Panel. Line up vertical wall studs. **NOTE:** Narrow Front Wall height is only 58 1/2". Attach together with 3 - 2 1/2" screws.



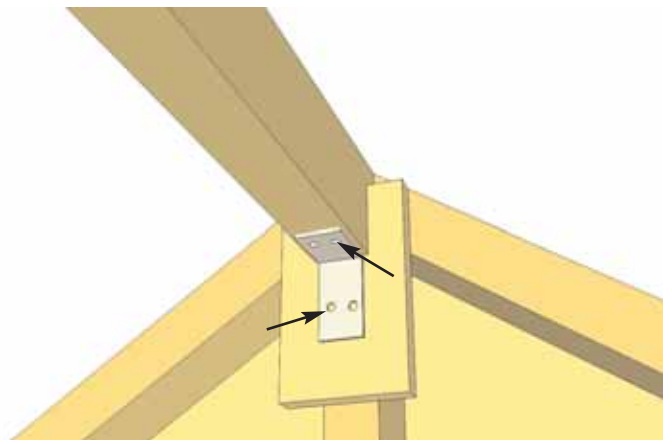
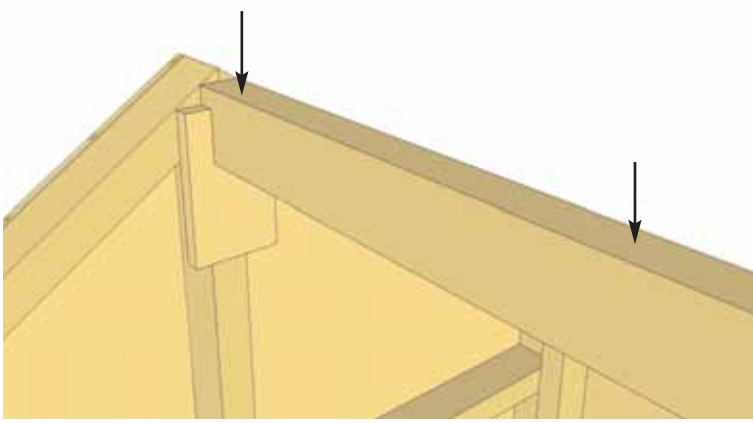
21. Attach the **Right Side Door Jamb** to Right Side Gable Window Wall Panel stud. Make sure Door Jamb is flush with floor and flush with wall stud. Use 3 - 2 1/2" screws to secure. Next, attach the **Door Header** to Door Jamb and Top Plate of Narrow Wall. Use 3 - 2 1/2" screws to secure.



22. Before fastening walls to floor, check wall alignment. Once again, the walls 2x3 bottom framing should sit flush on outside of floor with wall siding overhanging by 1/2". When positioned correctly, attach walls to floor with 4 - 2 1/2" screws per panel. Screw from bottom wall framing into floor. **IMPORTANT:** Check door opening measurement at top and bottom. It should be **23 1/2"**.

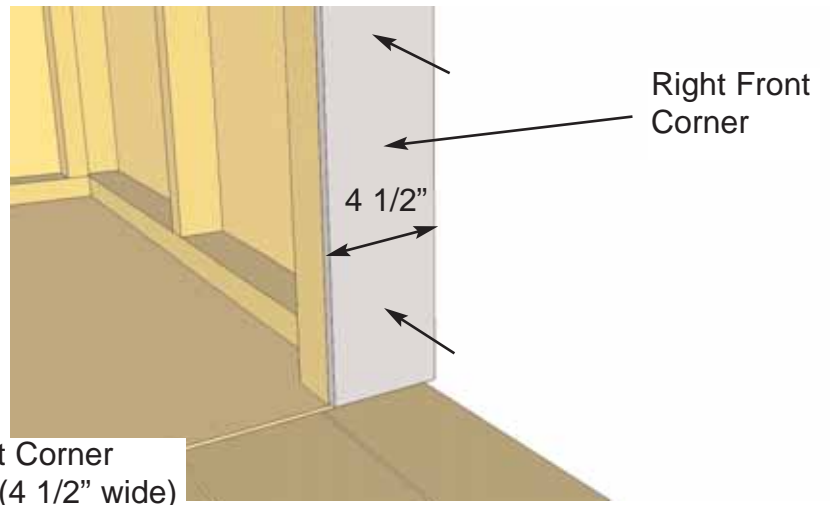
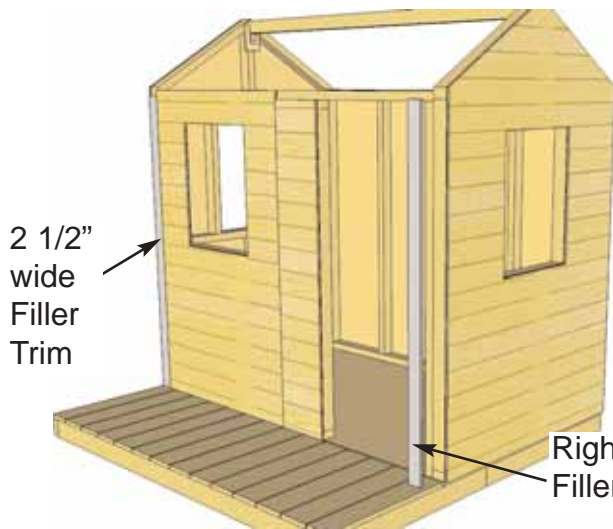


23. Locate and attach **Plywood Ridge Beam Supports** to gable peaks with 2 - 1 1/4" screws. Place **Roof Ridge Beam** between gables into Ridge Beam Support pocket.

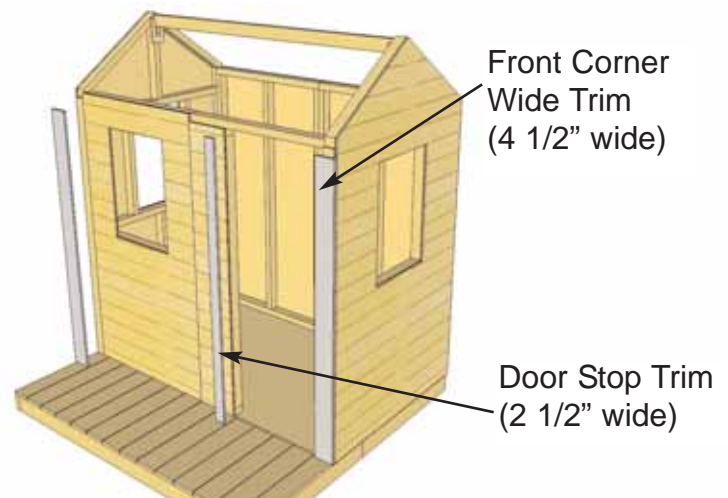
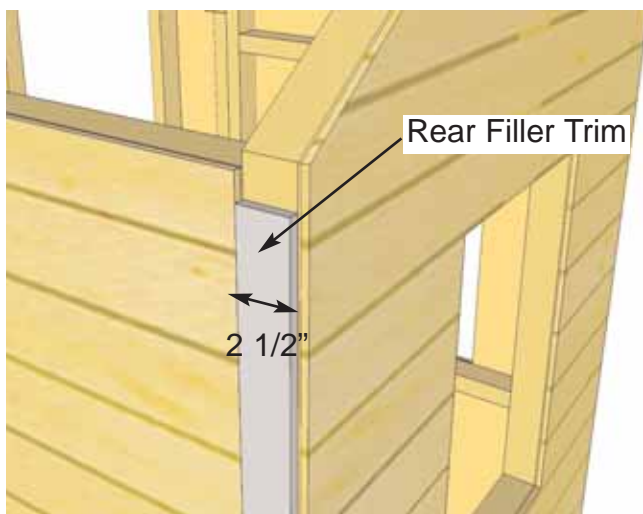


24. Push Roof Ridge Beam down into support pocket, making sure beam does not extend higher than gable framing. Attach with two Simpson Strong Ties using 4 - 1 1/4" screws per side.

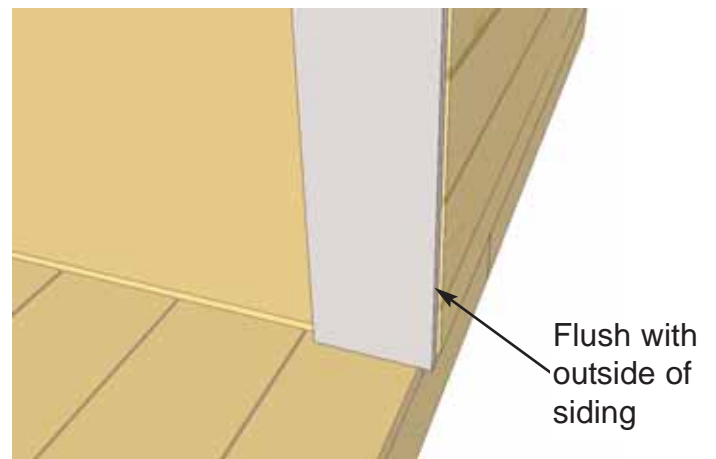
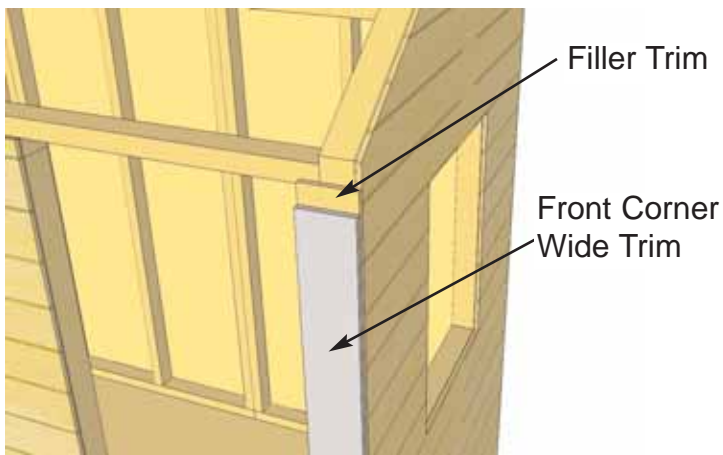
C. Porch Section



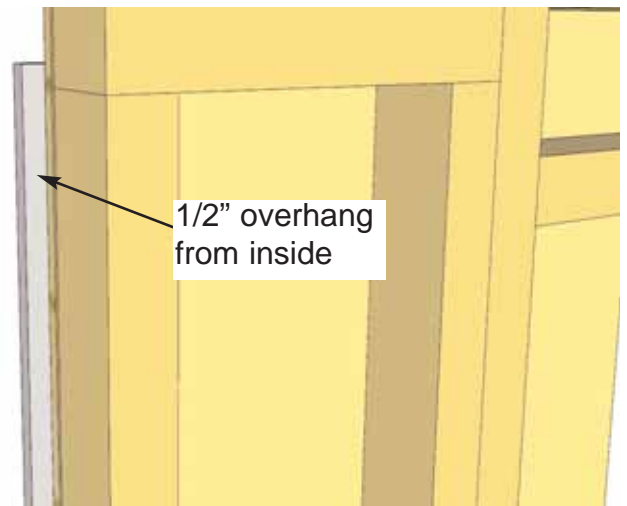
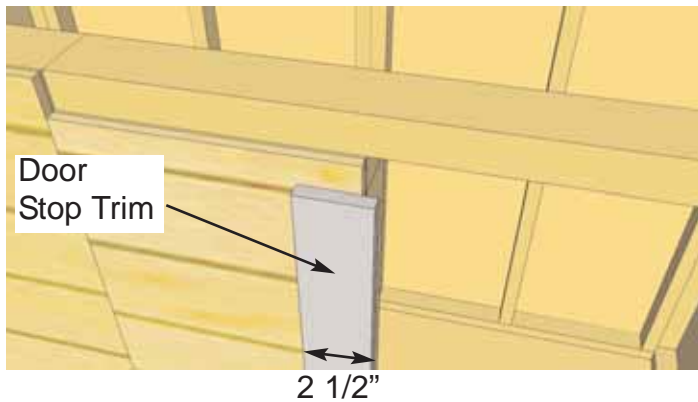
25. Locate all **Corner Filler Trims**. Filler Trims will be positioned in each corner. Filler Trims are 2 1/2" wide except for the **Right Front Corner**, which will be 4 1/2" wide. Attach each with 6 - finishing nails.



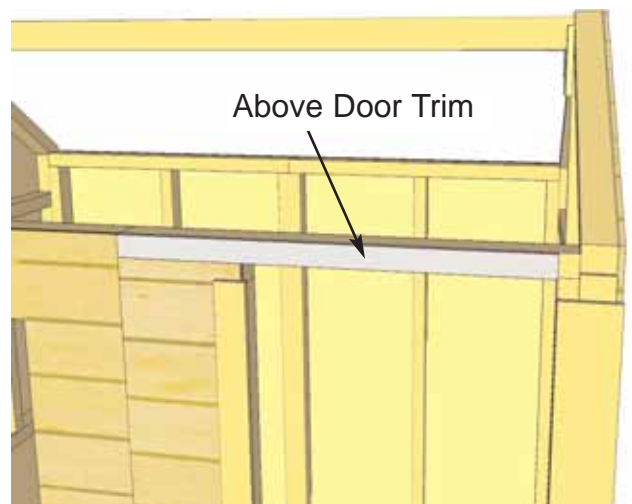
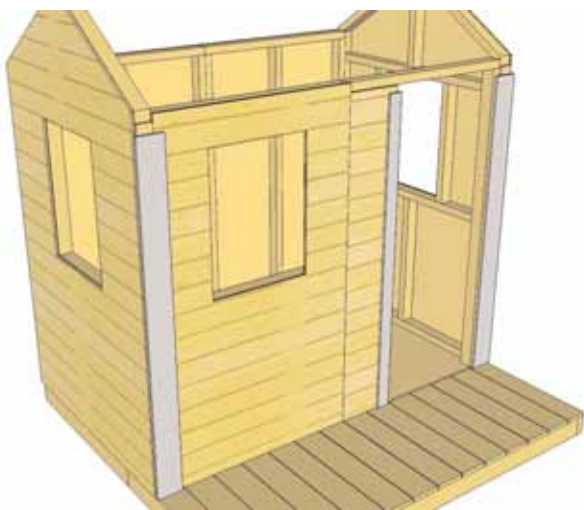
26. Attach **Rear Corner Filler Trims** (both are 2 1/2" wide) using 6 finishing nails per piece. Locate **Front Corner Wide Trim** and **Door Stop Trim**.



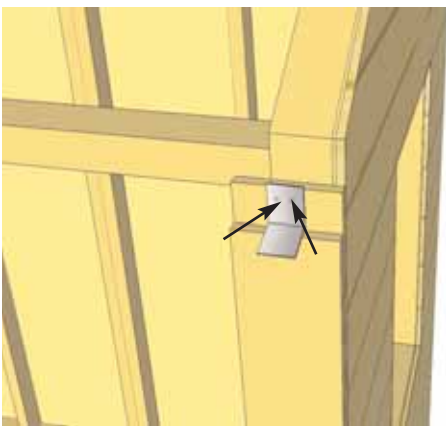
27. Attach both **Outside Front Corner Wide Trims** with 6 finishing nails per piece. Align flush with outside of wall siding. Complete **Rear Corner Wide Trims** as per front. **NOTE:** Rear Corner Wide Trims are 64" long.



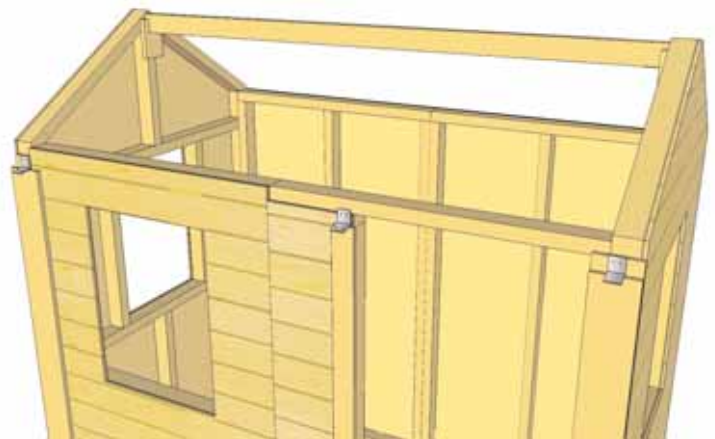
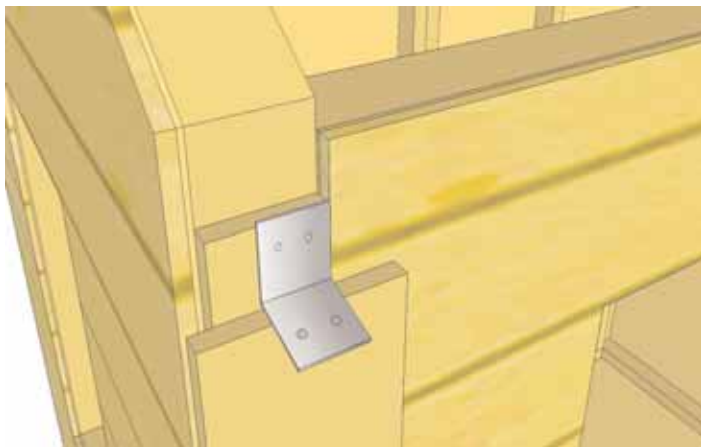
28. Attach **Door Stop Trim** to left side of door opening with 6 finishing nails. Position trim so it overhangs vertical framing 1/2" on inside.



29. To complete Porch Trim, attach the **Left Side Corner Trim** over the Left Side Filler Piece. Position so Corner Trim is flush to the outside of the siding on the outside and flush to the floor. When positioned correctly, secure with 6 finishing nails. Attach **Above Door Trim** on Door Header with 4 finishing nails.

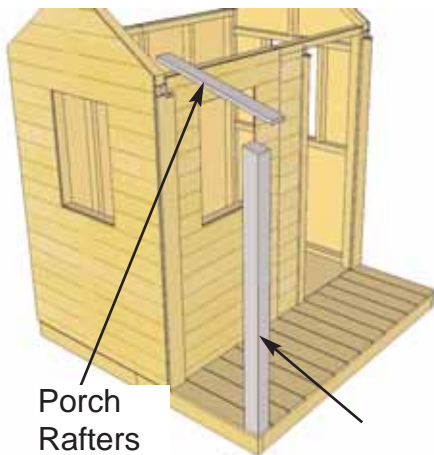


30. Attach **Simpson Strong Tie** to Right Filler Trim with 2 - 1 1/4" screws. Make sure Tie is evenly positioned and sitting on the Front Corner Wide Trim. Attach second Simpson Strong Tie on top of Door Stop Trim. Equally space Tie on Trim and screw directly into Wall Panel/Door Header.

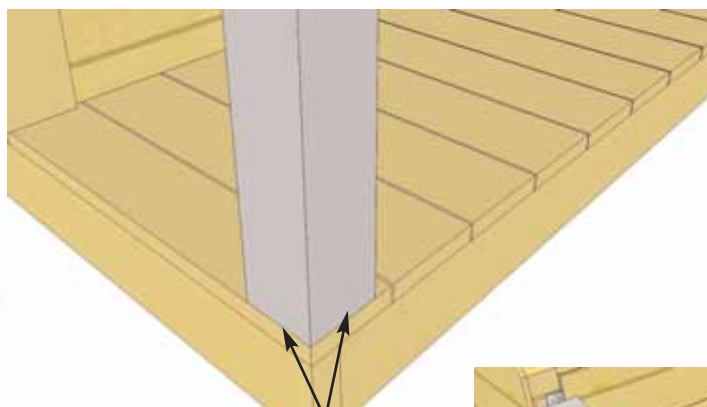


31. Complete Left Side Simpson Strong Tie attachment as shown above using 2 - 1 1/4" screws. Once again, equally space Tie on Front Corner Wide Trim.

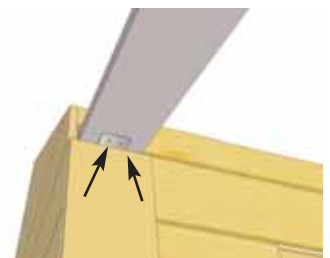
IMPORTANT: Be careful of protruding Simpson Strong Ties until **Step 33** is completed.



Porch Rafters

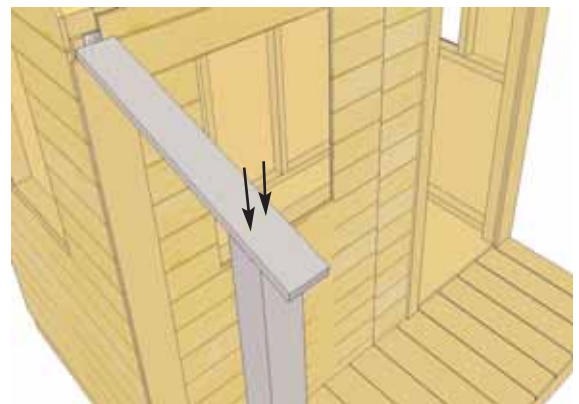


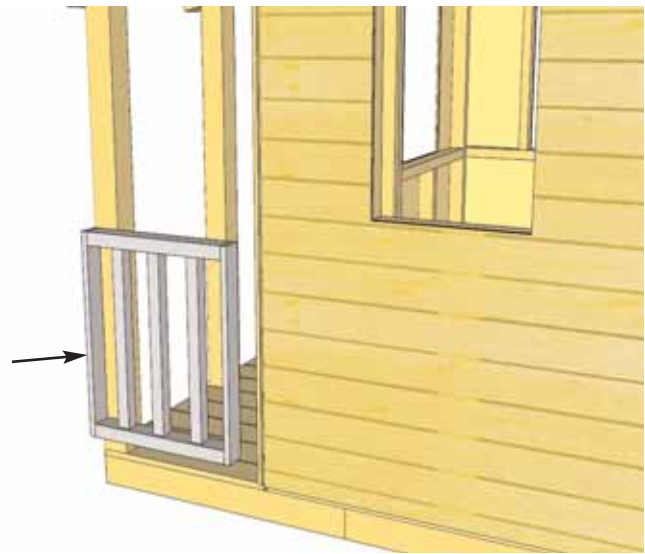
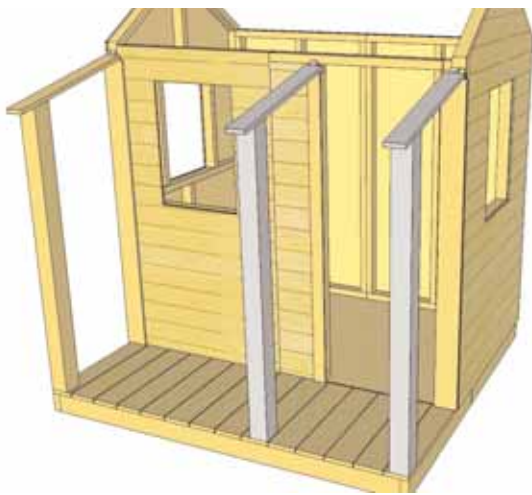
Flush with Deck Boards



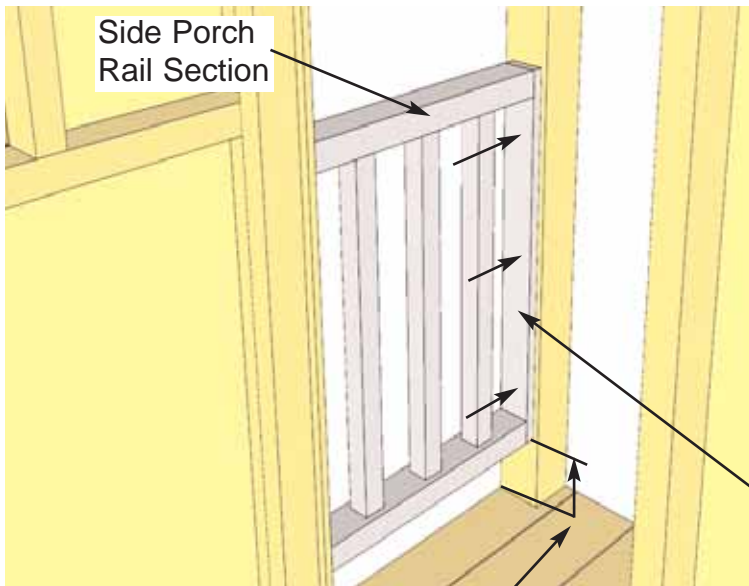
32. Locate **Porch Rafters (3)** and **Porch Posts (3)**.

Starting with left side, have helper position Porch Post flush to outside of Deck Boards in corner. Position Porch Rafter on Strong Tie and attach from underneath with 2 - 3/4" screws. Use level to square Porch Post and attach Porch Rafter from top into Post Post with 2 - 1 1/2" screws.

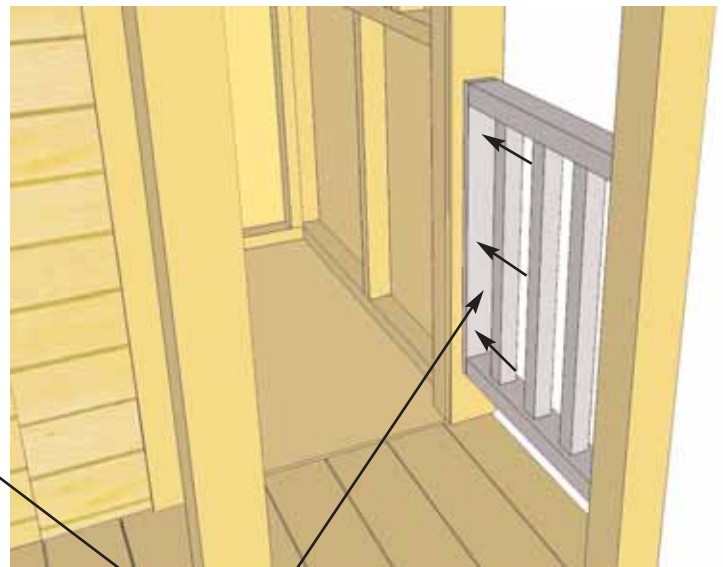




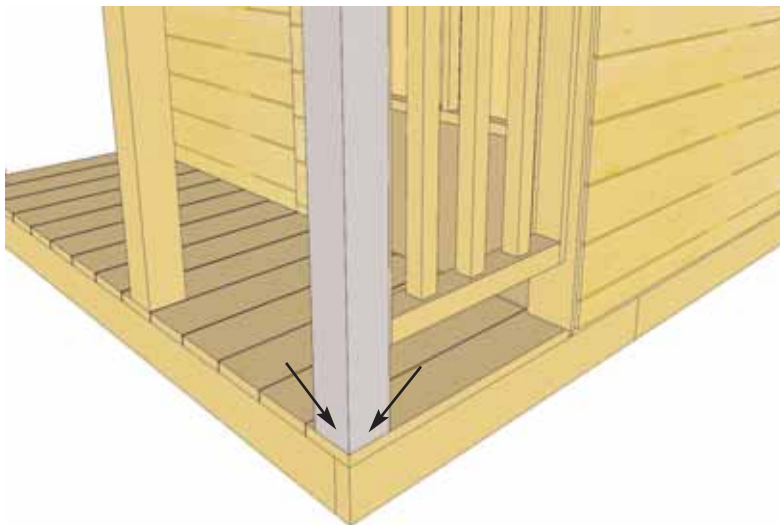
33. Complete all three Porch Rafter/Post assemblies as per Step 32.



Rail should be positioned 3 1/2" from floor

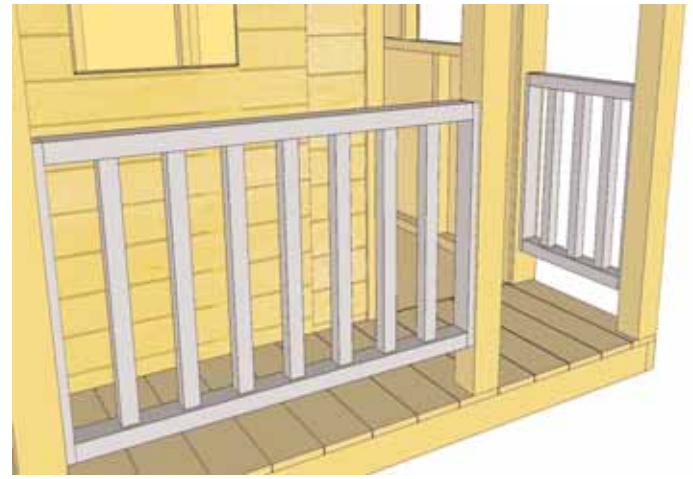
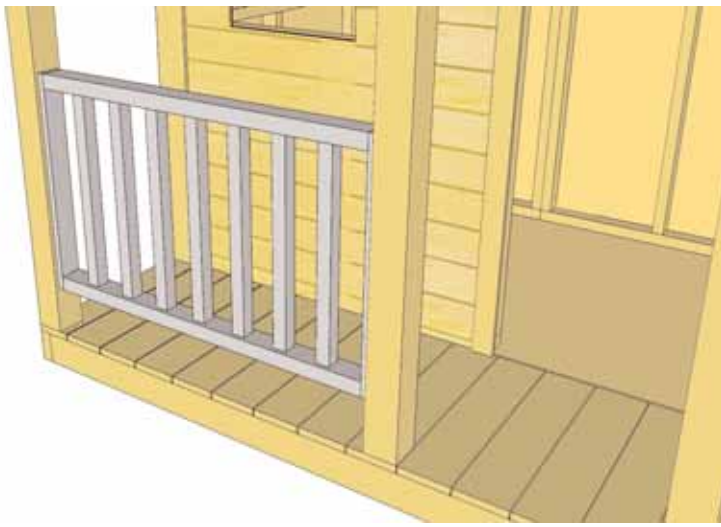


3 - 1 1/2" screws



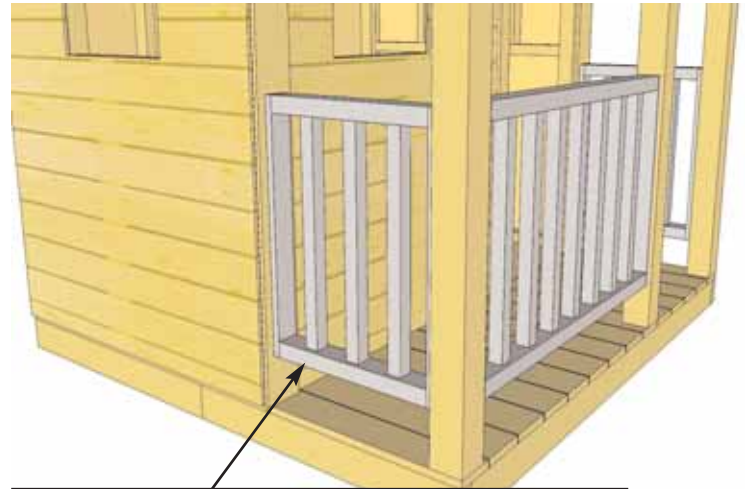
34. Position **Side Porch Rail** on the Porch Post 3 1/2" up from the floor. Attach to Porch Post with 3 - 1 1/2" screws making sure to position Rail evenly on Porch Post. Attach Porch Rail to Corner Wide Trim with 3 - 1 1/2" screws, once again aligning evenly on Corner Trim.

Secure Porch Posts to floor by toe-nailing or angle screwing 4 - 3" screws on an angle from Porch Post into Floor. Drill pilot holes to prevent wood from splitting. Porch Post should sit flush with outside of Deck Boards (some variation may occur).



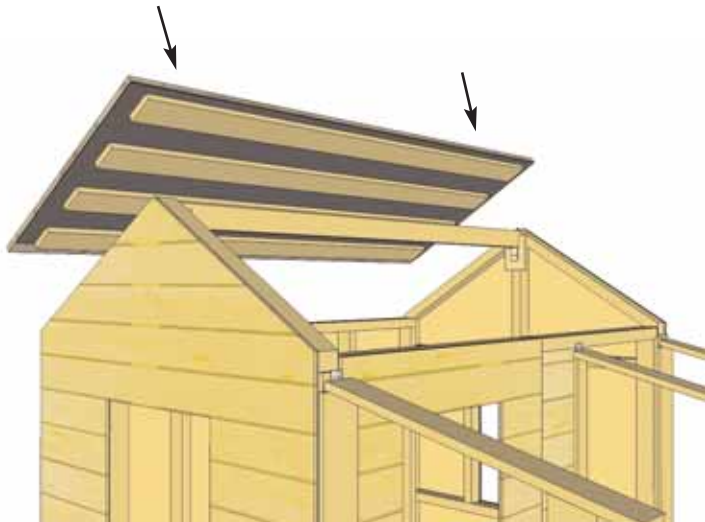
35. Position and attach **Front and Left Side Porch Railing** similar to **Step 34**. Use a level to confirm both Railing and Porch Posts are square.

If building a Little Squirt Playhouse with Elevated Platform for Sandbox **DO NOT INSTALL Left Side Porch Railing**.

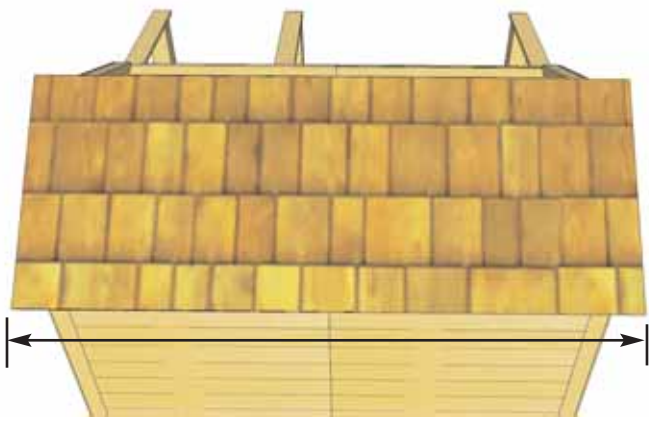


IMPORTANT:
Do not install Left Side Porch Railing on Kits with Elevated Platform for Sandbox.

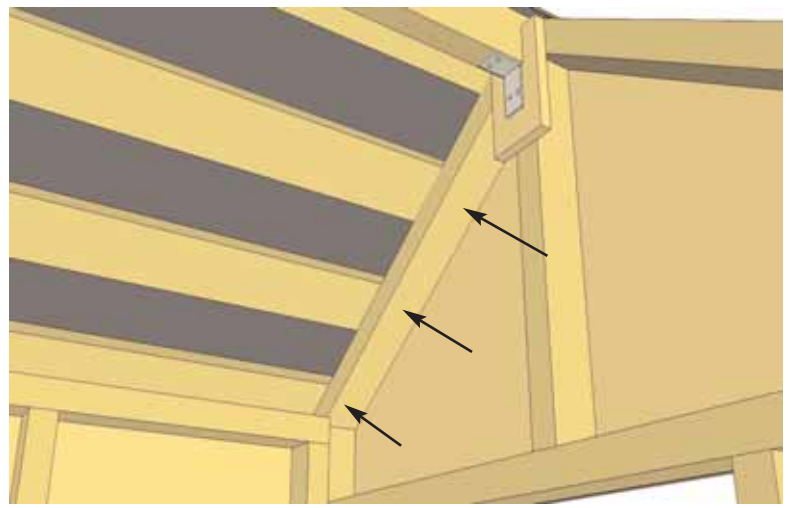
D. Roof Section



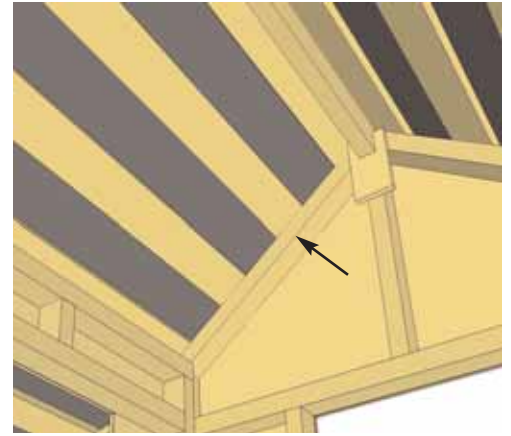
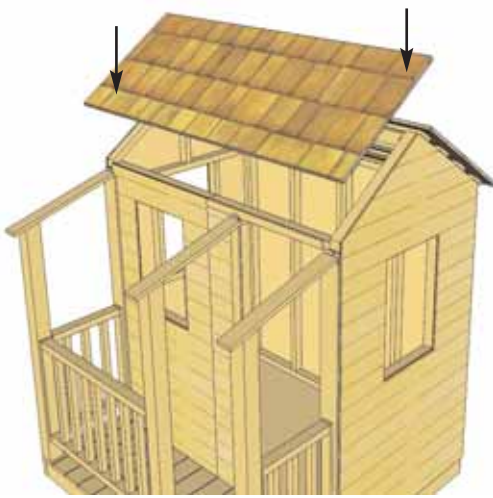
36. Starting at the rear, locate one of the **Roof Panels** (Roof Panels are all identical). Place on Gable Wall framing evenly from left to right. At top, Roof Panel should not exceed past the center of apex.



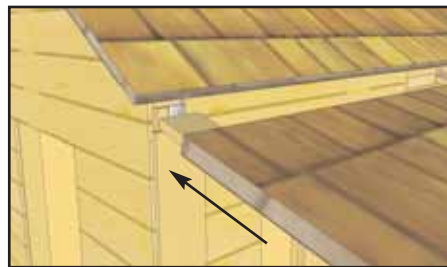
Evenly positioned left to right



37. With Rear Roof Panel evenly positioned on Gable Walls, tack Roof Panel down to framing from the inside with 3 - 2 1/2" screws per side (tack = don't screw completely, roof may need adjusting later)..

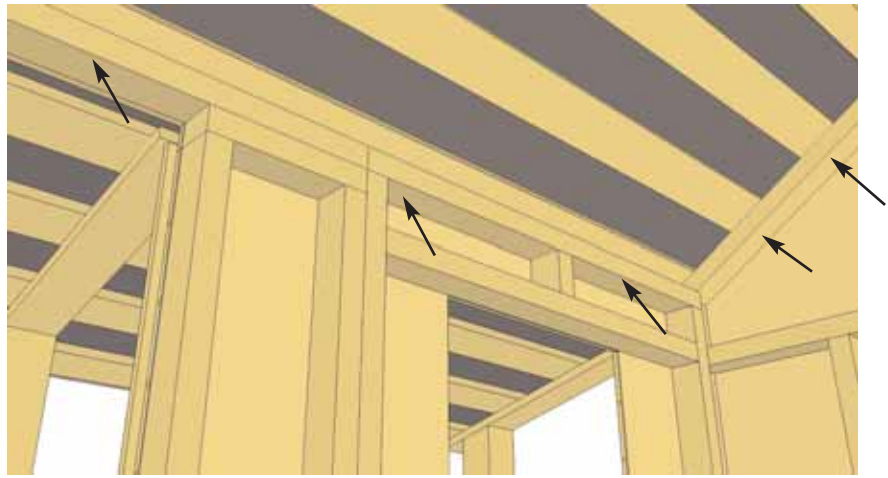


38. Position second Roof Panel evenly on front Gable Framing. Tack down with only 2 - 2 1/2" screws. Porch Roof may need to slide under Roof Panel and some play is required before completely securing.

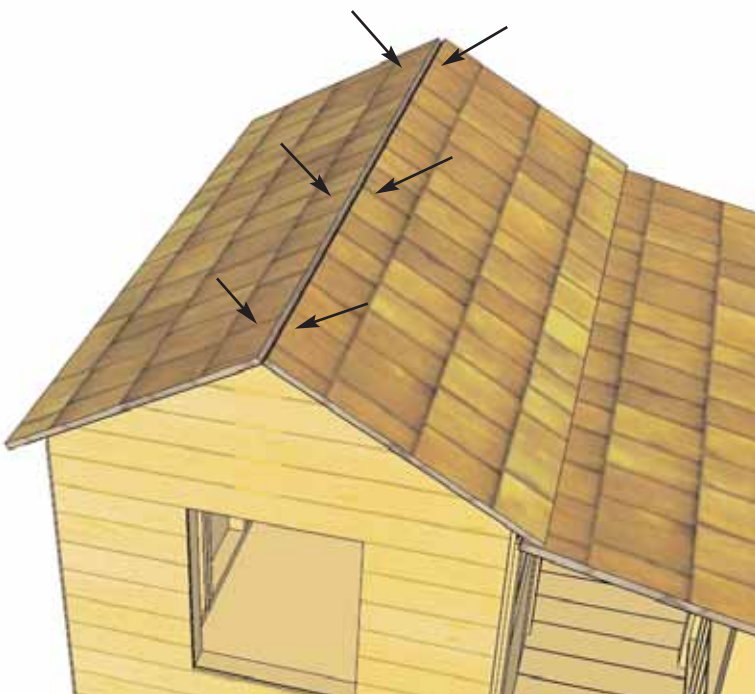


39. Place Porch Roof on Porch Rafters and slide up under Front Roof Panel until flush against playhouse wall. Make sure Porch Roof is evenly positioned from left to right as well.

40. From the inside of playhouse, complete securing the Front and Rear Roof Panels that were previously tacked down in **Steps 37-38**. Place 4 - 3" screws from top wall framing on an angle into roof battens per side.



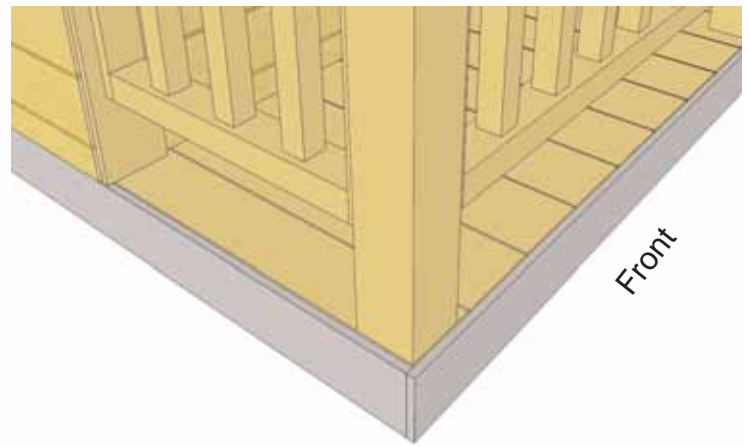
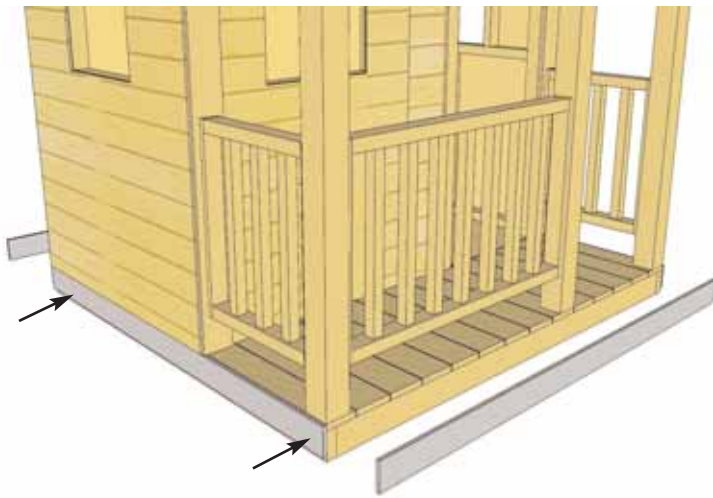
41. Using 1 1/2" screws, secure Porch Roof Panel to each Porch Rafter from underneath.



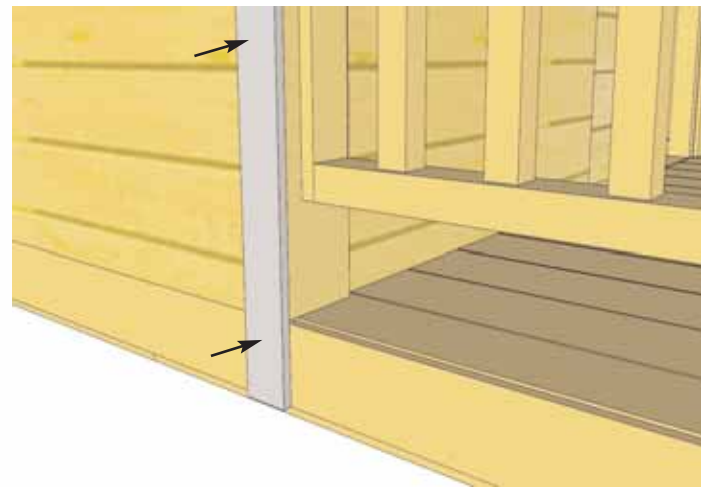
42. To complete Roof Section, attach Front and Rear Roof Panels from the top into the Roof Ridge Beam with 3 - 3" screws per panel.

IMPORTANT: Make sure screws are angled so they are concealed completely into the Ridge Beam. Exposed screws could seriously harm a child or adult while standing up inside unit. Do a physical inspection inside the playhouse for all exposed screws and remove as required at this point.

E. Miscellaneous Section



43. Attach **Bottom Skirting** around the base of the playhouse. There are **Front** and **Rear Skirting** pieces 76" long and **Side Skirting** pieces 70" long. Starting with Side Skirting, attach with 6 - 1 1/2" screws per piece. Position flush underneath Wall Siding. Complete Front and Rear Skirting with 6 screws also.



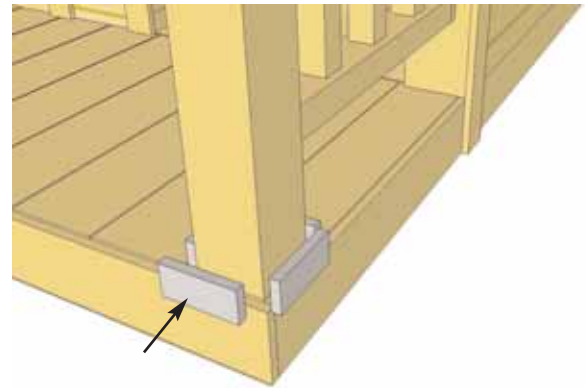
44. Attach **Narrow Wall Trims** on both Gable Side Window Wall Panels using 6 finishing nails per piece. Position Narrow Wall Trim so it caps Front Corner Wide Trim. See Step 46 for correct alignment.



45. Attach **Rear Narrow Wall Trims** (64" long) and **Porch Narrow Trim** (59" long) where seams of the walls come together. Use 6 finishing nails per piece to secure.

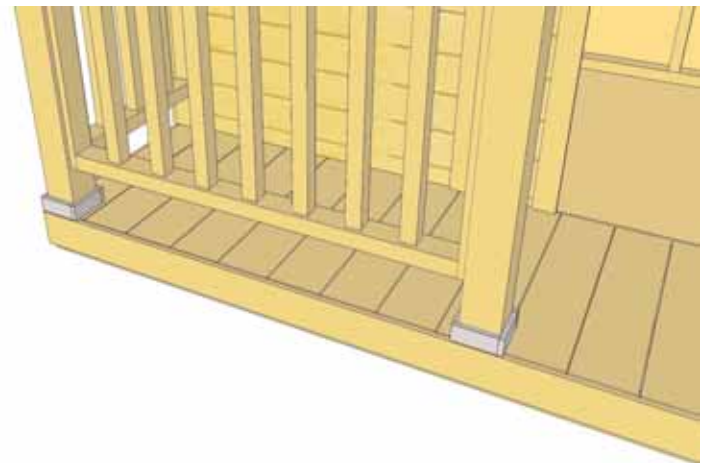
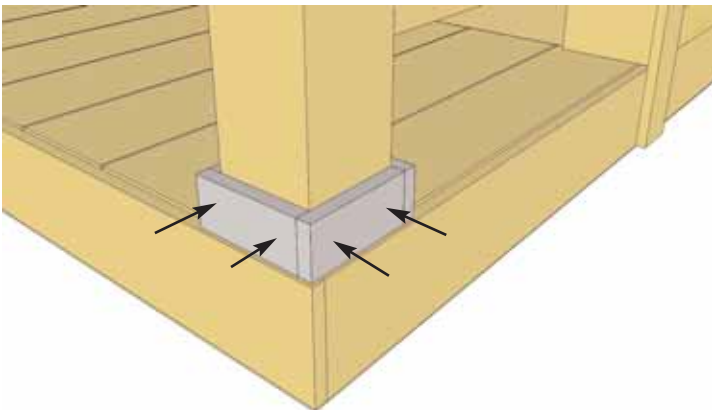


46. Position **Side Fascia Trims** on ends of roof battens. Align tight against roofing felt and so both Side Fascia Trims meet evenly at the peak. Attach with 4 finishing nails per piece.

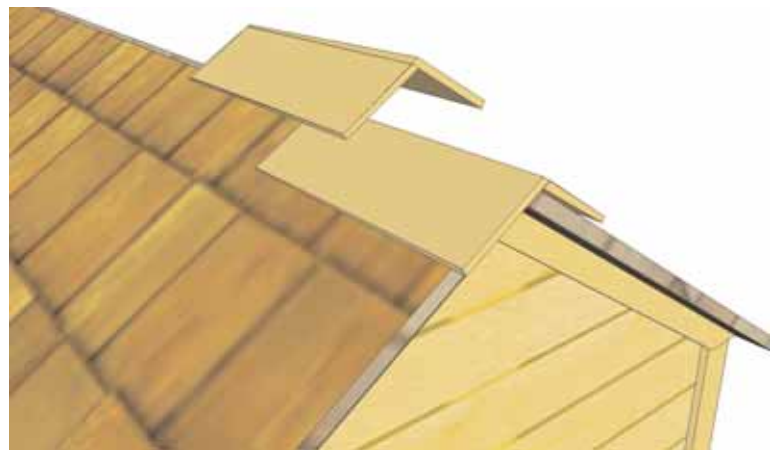
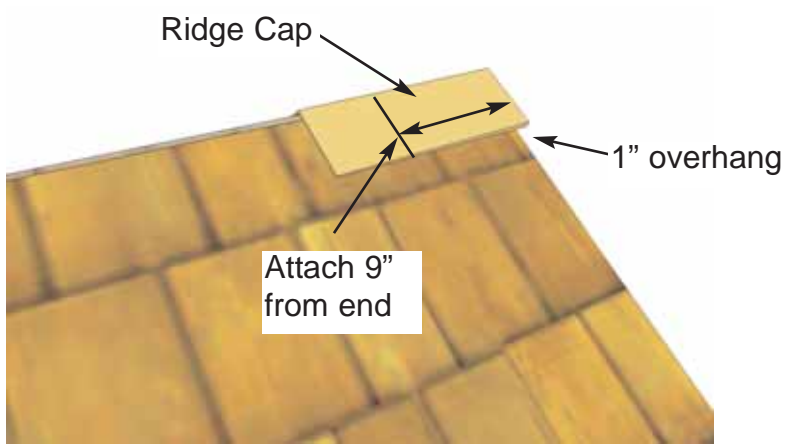


47. Position **Porch Fascia Trims** on ends of Porch roof battens. Align tight against roofing felt and flush with front batten. Attach with 4 finishing nails per piece.

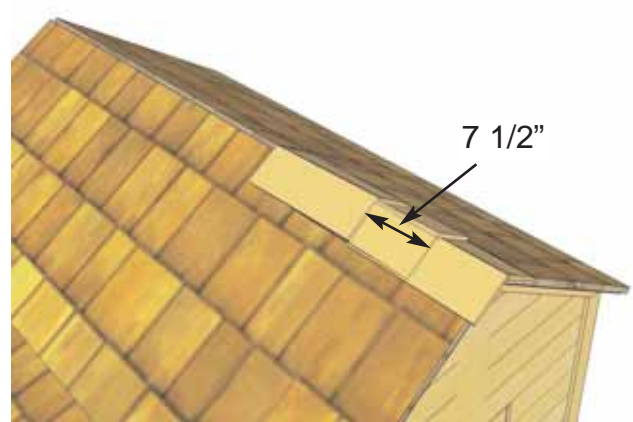
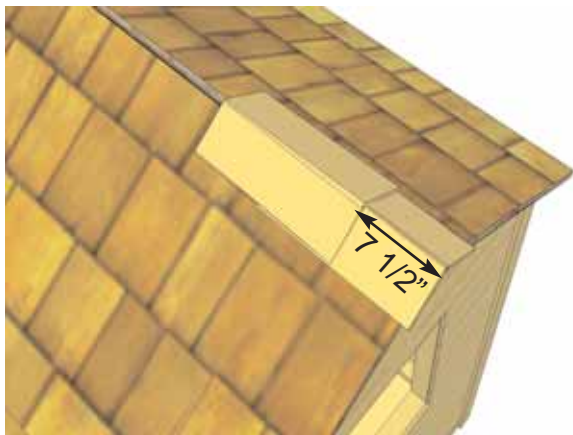
48. Locate **Porch Post Base Trims** (4 per Post) and position in a windmill fashion around the base of the posts.



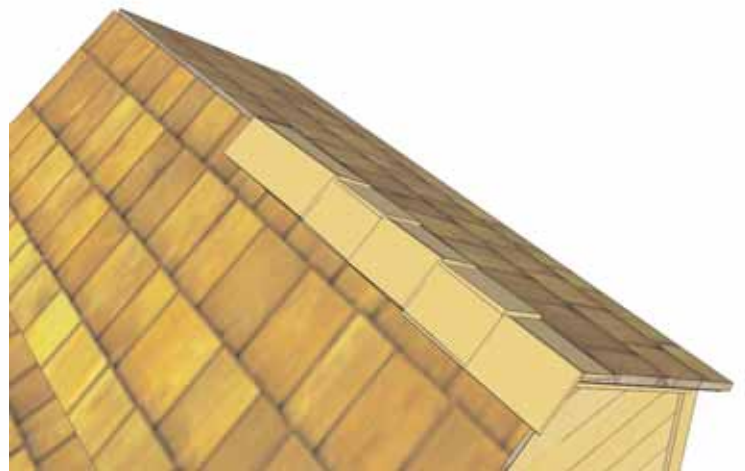
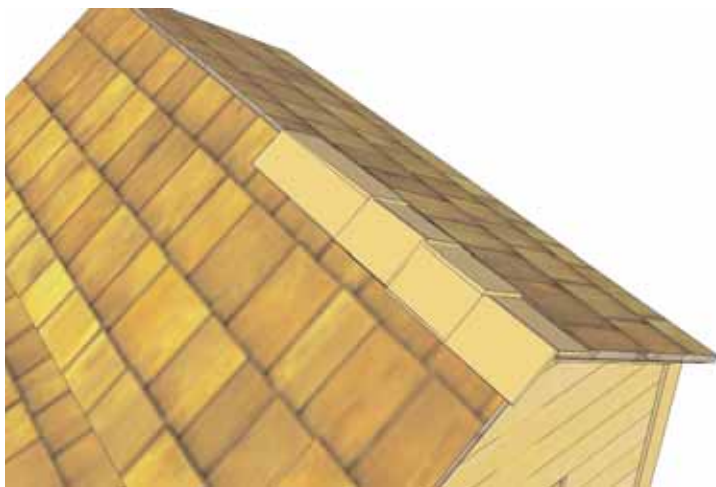
49. Attach Porch Post Base Trims with 2 finishing nails per piece. Complete all Porch Post Base Trims around all Porch Posts.



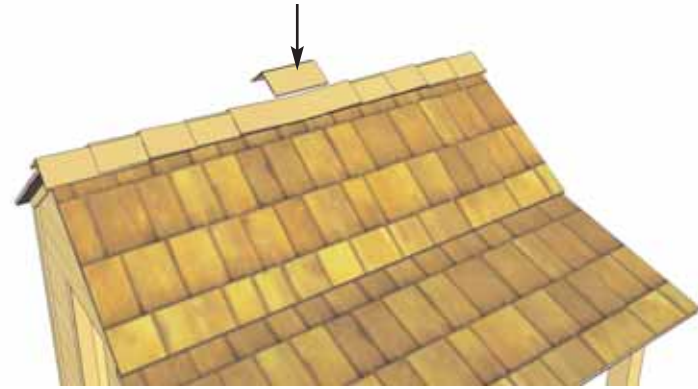
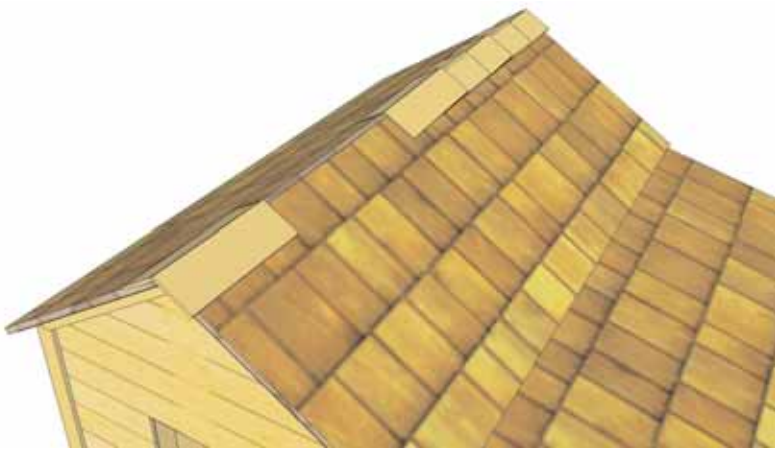
50. Place First **Roof Ridge Cap** on roof peak overhanging shingles by approximately 1". Attach with 2 - 1 1/2" Shingle Nails 9" from the end. Place second Ridge Cap on roof peak. There are left/right Ridge Caps, alternate each Ridge Cap as you proceed.



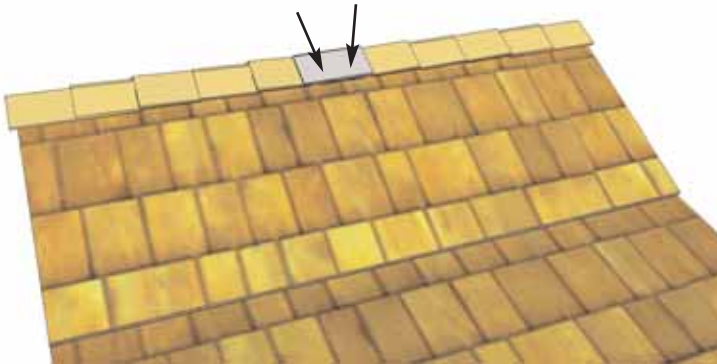
51. Attach second Ridge Cap 9" from end with 2 - 1 1/2" Shingle Nails. Place third Ridge Cap on Roof Peak and attach.



52. Continue to position and attach Ridge Caps as per **Steps 50 - 51** until half of the roof is complete.

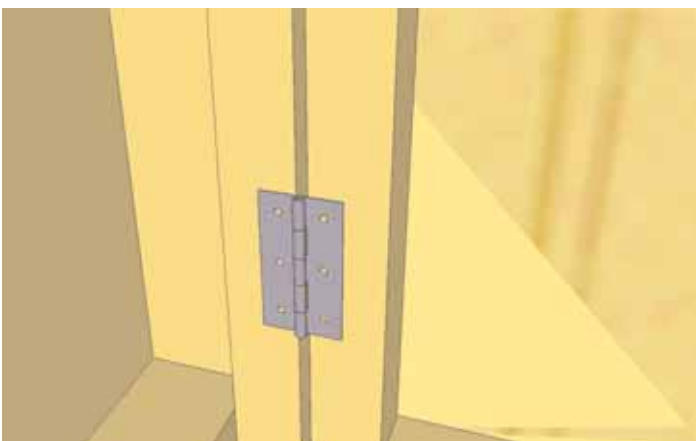


53. From opposite side, position and attach Ridge Caps as per **Steps 50 - 52**. Score/cut one Ridge Cap to 12" or to fit in the center of the roof.

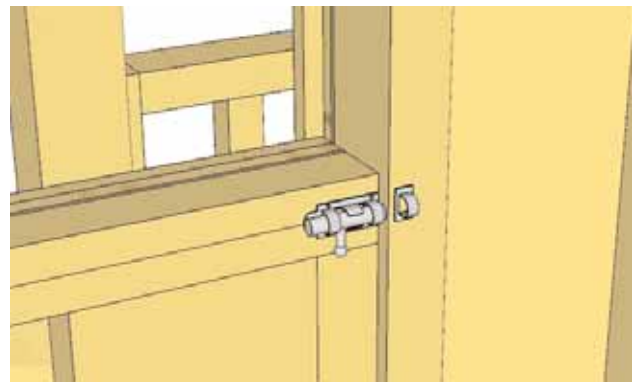


54. Attach center Ridge Cap with 4 - 1 1/2" Shingle Nails.

55. Position **Bottom Door Panel** in door opening. Framing of door should be flush with Door Jamb. Leave a 1/4" gap between floor and Bottom Door.

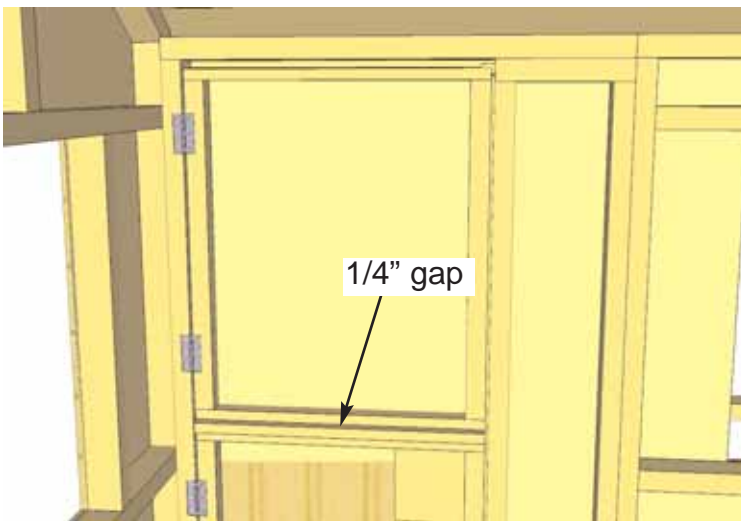


56. With Bottom Door correctly positioned, attach **Hinges** to Door Jamb and Door Framing with 3/4" Silver Screws. Before completely securing all screws, check door alignment by opening and closing door. Adjust hinges as necessary.

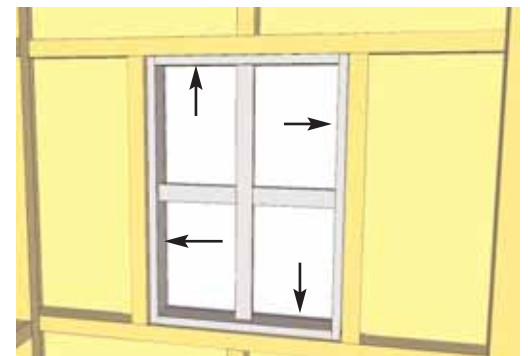


57. Attach **Door Handle**, and **Interior Barrel Bolt** to door with hardware provided. When mounting Interior Barrel Bolt, align door with Narrow Wall vertical wall framing and mark location. Drill with a 3/8" bit.

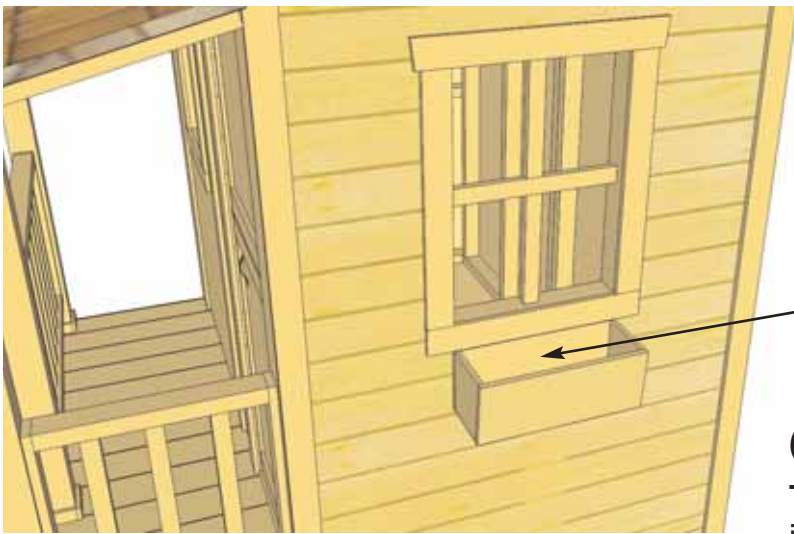
Optional Top Door Attachment



58. To attach **Optional Top Door**, follow same procedure as for Bottom Door. Leave 1/4" gap between doors. **NOTE:** To attach Door Hardware, follow instructions found in hardware kit. The Bottom Door has a pre-cut slot to accommodate the door handle thumb latch. When mounting Interior Barrel Bolt, align doors so they are in the proper closed position and mark location. Drill with a 3/8" bit. Use hardware provided in each kit.



59. Locate **Window Inserts**. Place Window Insert into wall opening tight to wall siding. On the inside, shim Window Insert evenly in cavity. Kits include one additional shingle for shimming of the window. When properly positioned, secure Window Insert to wall framing cavity with 4 - 1 1/2" screws.



60. Attach **Flower Boxes** below bottom of window frame with 2 - 2 1/2" screws per box. Screw from inside of box into the Center Wall stud. Attach second screw 2" below top screw.

2 - 2 1/2" screws in center wall stud

61. Finally, assemble your complimentary **Kids Table and Chairs**. Follow the detailed assembly instructions found in the table kit box.

Congratulations on building your 6x6 Little Squirt Playhouse!

We hope your experience constructing our **6x6 Little Squirt Playhouse** has been both positive and rewarding.

We value your feedback and would like to hear back from you on how well we are doing in the following areas:

1. Customer Service
2. On Time Shipping
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4. Quality of Materials
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