

2020-21 Little Lending Libraries (LLL) Challenge

From the outset of this 2020-21 Rotary year, Governor Frank Adamson has been urging clubs in District 7090 to find ways to increase Rotary's presence in their communities. As one way to do this, he offered his **Little Lending Libraries (LLL) Challenge**. This involves each club investing a few dollars and some sweat equity to build and decorate at least one Rotary-branded little library for installation in its community. LLL are weather-proof structures that make a small collection of books available 24/7 to children and families. **Take a book, leave a book, and spread the word that literacy is important for all.**

District 7090's **LLL Challenge** is modelled on the **Little Free Library** phenomenon that began in 2009 in Wisconsin with Rotarian Todd Bol, who built the original library in the shape of a one-room schoolhouse in honor of his mother, a retired teacher. In the March 2014 issue of The Rotarian, there was a substantial article entitled, "Do-It-Yourself Libraries: Coming to a Neighborhood Near You" by Diana Schoberg. It features the Little Free Library "international movement", which in just 4 years had spread to 55 countries.

<https://www.rotary.org/en/do-it-yourself-libraries>

Several Rotary Clubs in District 7090 have already risen to the **LLL Challenge**! In keeping with Rotary International's **Basic Education & Literacy** area of focus, these clubs have crafted and installed Rotary-branded little libraries or little shelves in their immediate communities for the benefit of all. Here's a sampling of these LLL projects...

RC Waterdown, ON

[Waterdown's Little Free Library promotes a love of reading](#)

September 2019



Project Lead:

Brenda Jefferies

jefferies39@gmail.com | 289-684-3416

RC Amherst South, NY

<https://www.facebook.com/Amherst-South-Rotary-531669696877178/>

November 2019



Project Lead:

Scott Marcin, Club President

sdmarcin@gmail.com | 716-650-6455

RC Jamestown, NY

[Rotary Club of Jamestown Places Books for Children in City Laundromats](#)

January 2021



Project Lead:

Diana Meckley, Chair, Literacy Committee

DianaMeckley@windstream.net | 716-763-8270

ATTENTION CLUBS THAT HAVE NOT YET TAKEN UP THE 2020-21 LLL CHALLENGE...THERE'S TIME!

JUMP ON BOARD



There are many great plans available for these little structures and clubs are urged to be resourceful and creative just like the 3 clubs featured on page 1 and the **Rotary Club of Lincoln**.

Lincoln Rotarians David Wood & John Kralt (*l.to r.*) took a simple design, which they sourced online, and adapted it for relatively easy duplication! Total maximum cost to purchase new materials required for the project = \$75.00 CAD

FULL INSTRUCTIONS on the following pages

Project Lead: John Kralt - jakralt@cogeco.ca | 905-328-5774



LET'S GET BUILDING...Recruit someone skilled in woodworking with suitable carpentry tools who can help oversee the project. Secure required building materials; organize a work party of 2 or 3 people; schedule a few hours over 3-4 days; HAVE FUN. Completion date is Monday, March 8, 2021.

A highlight of the District 7090 2020-21 Virtual Conference will be the **Little Lending Libraries Showcase** scheduled on Monday evening, March 15, 2021. **We can't wait to feature the results of your club's labors in the showcase line-up.**

How to Build a Little Free Library *by David J. Brooks*

<https://scoutlife.org/hobbies-projects/projects/146078/how-to-build-a-little-free-library/>

Adaptations by John Kralt & David Wood, Rotary Club of Lincoln

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

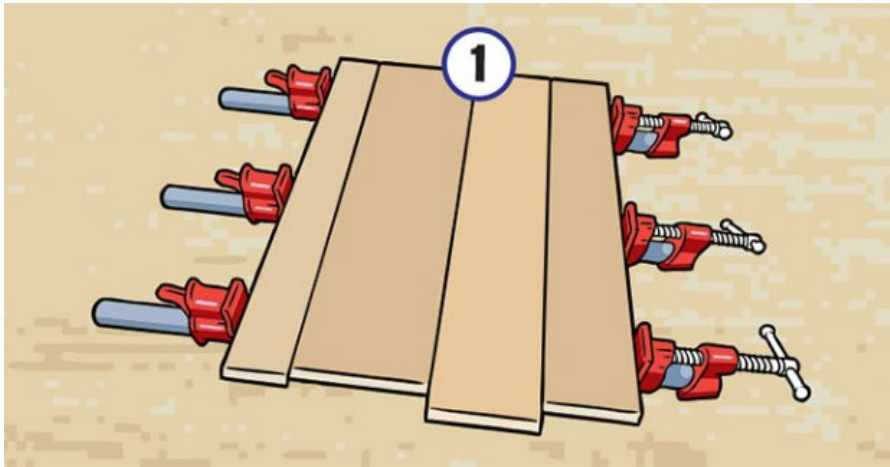
- An unfinished pine frame with an inside measurement of 8" x 10". This will become the door.
- Pallets, or old discarded fencing or wood. This will make up the walls, roof and floor. The wood should be the same thickness, no less than 3/4". *Don't use old wood that has been painted. (Old paint might contain lead and is a health hazard.) To take apart pallet wood, you will need work gloves, safety goggles, a flat pry bar, a claw hammer and a crowbar for stubborn nails.*
- 2" x 2" x 11" board for the roof cleat
- Pocketknife
- Waterproof carpenter glue
- Pipe clamps, for gluing the recycled boards together
- Two self-closing overlay hinges
- Cabinet knob
- A sheet of clear acrylic, large enough to be cut to fit into the groove in the back of the frame
- Very fine-toothed saw (or utility knife if your acrylic is thin)
- If your wood is 3/4" thick, you will need 60 1 1/4" exterior wood screws.
- Drill and drill bits for predrilling lag bolts and screws
- Crosscut saw and rip saw
- 1/4" drill bit for vent holes
- Sandpaper
- Exterior paint

Purchase two lengths of new 1" x 12" knotty pine plank as an alternative to using discarded lumber & unfinished pine frame.

Approximate cost to purchase new lumber = \$25 CAD



WHAT YOU'LL DO



1. Collect more than enough boards to build the library, because some of the recycled wood will not be usable. Choose the cleanest wood from your pile. Remove any nails and cut off any unusable wood.

Cut the remaining boards to a rough length. The boards should not be too long when gluing and clamping them together. Sand all the edges and any rough spots.

Choose several boards close to the same length. Apply a thin layer of glue to all the edges and clamp them tightly together as shown. Allow each panel to dry overnight. Clamp and glue together enough panels to make all the parts of the library.

Cut across and rip down the length of the pine planks. Rip boards should be no more than 4" wide to avoid warping when glued together.

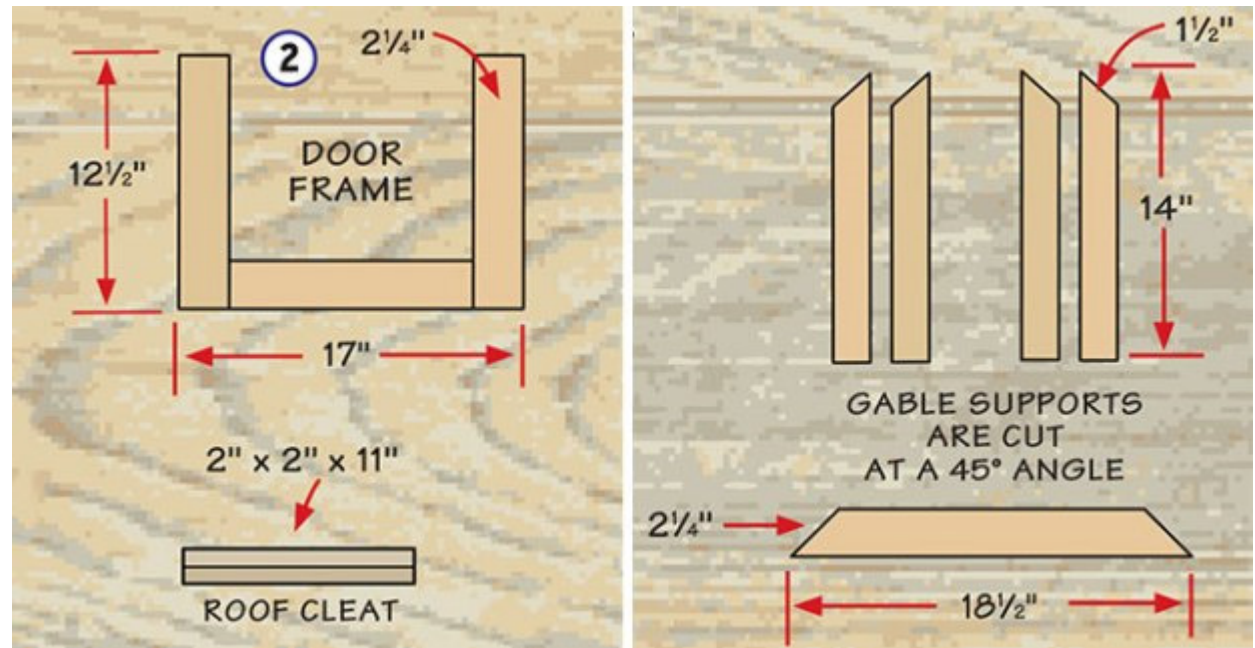
Glue together 6 panels re: Illustration #1 that are slightly larger than the dimensions re: Illustrations #3, 4 & 5 for 2 sides, 2 roof pieces, floor, & back.

Leave overnight for glue to set.

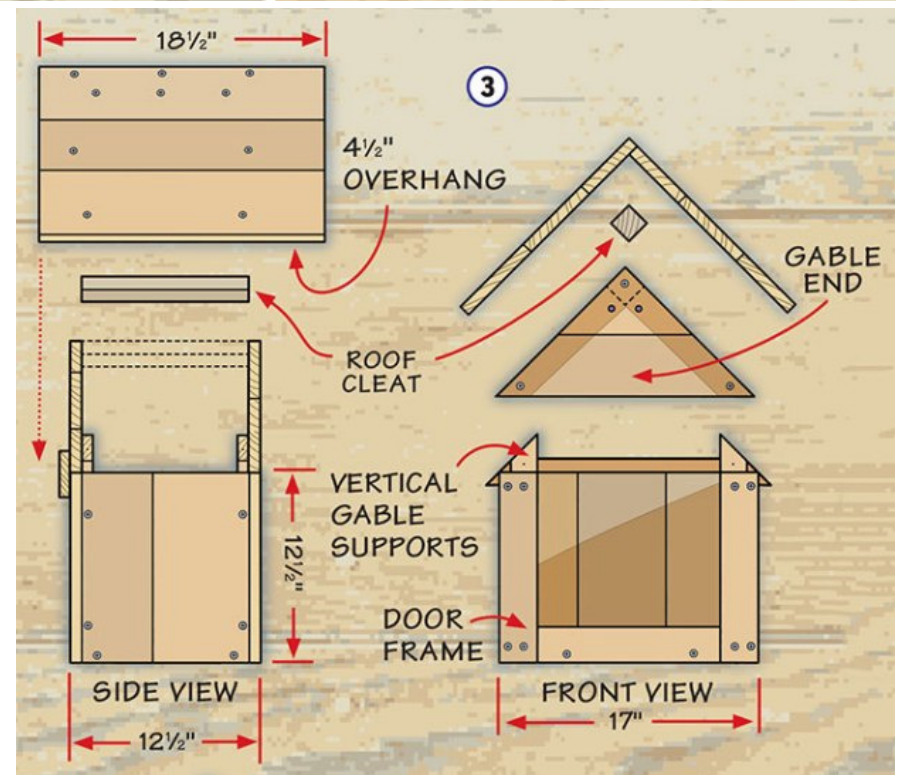
From remaining pieces of planks, cut/glue gable ends, door frame, door & supports for walls & roof re: Illustration #2.

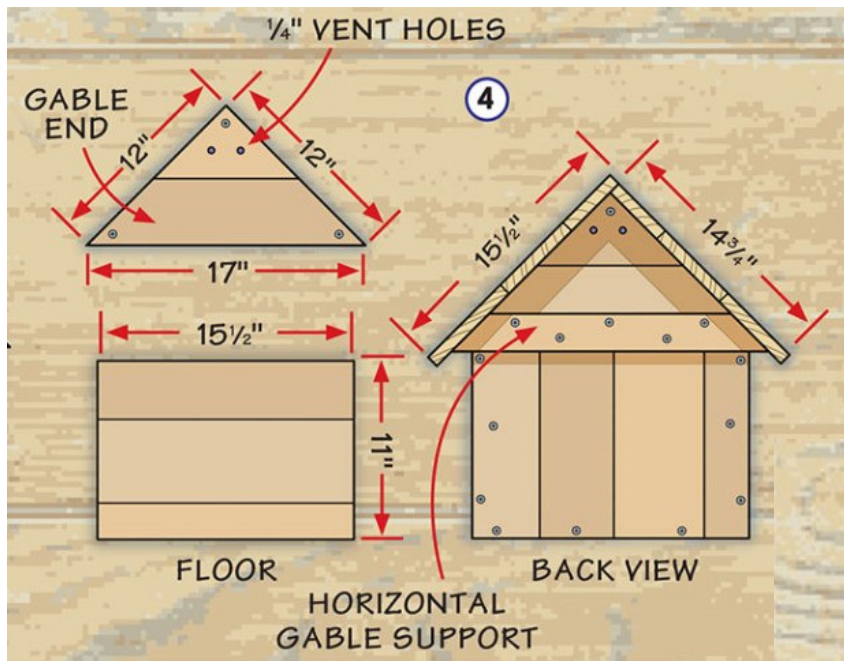


2. Use the drawings as a guide to cut to size the door frame, gable end supports and roof cleat.



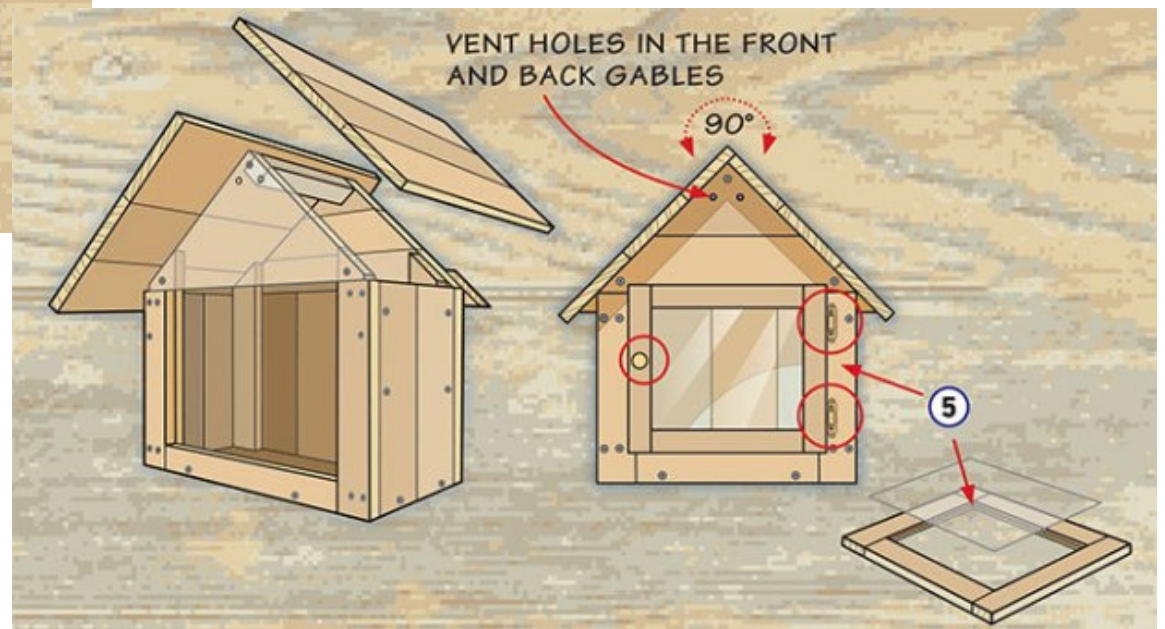
3. Use the drawings as a guide to cut to size the roof, walls, floor and gable end sections. Glue and screw the walls, floor, door frame and gable end supports together.





4. Glue and screw the gable ends to the supports. Screw the roof cleat to the inside of the gable ends. Glue and screw the roof in place. Drill two 1/4" holes at the top of each gable end for ventilation.

5. Cut and fasten the acrylic window inside the door. Hinge the door to the door frame, and screw on the cabinet knob.



Before assembling, paint all pieces except for surfaces to be glued. Use oil-based rust paint to protect against weathering or any high quality oil-based external paint.

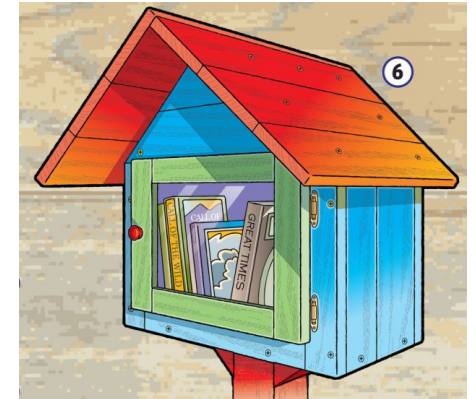
Assemble by gluing every joint and reinforce using a combination of air nails & wood screws. Use spring hinges to attach door. Once assembly is complete, touch up the paint & customize with a Rotary brand - e.g. club logo, Rotary wheel

Approximate cost to purchase new glue, paint, acrylic pane & hardware = \$50 CAD

6. Paint the library any colors you wish. Mount your library on a post (4" x 4" x 5') buried 2' in the ground. Fill it with books, and your library is complete.

Painting & decorating with the Rotary brand can be completed once your library is constructed.

STAY TUNED for MOUNTING/INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS to be distributed in APRIL 2021.



To meet the **2020-21 Little Lending Libraries (LLL) Challenge** in time for being featured during the **LLL Showcase** (March 15, 2021) at District 7090's Virtual Conference, please complete the construction of your LLL by **Monday, March 8, 2021.**

Contact: Margaret Andrewes, Chair, District 7090 Literacy Committee
905-563-4639 | andrewes@sympatico.ca