

Better Homes and Gardens
TV's Adam Dovile gets
acquainted with the beautiful
king parrot Harley, a much-
loved pet bird who now enjoys
his meals in grand style.



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feed *the* birds

Recreate *Angry Birds* movie magic in your backyard with this feeder

Australia is blessed with a wide variety of bird life, and you can attract feathered buddies to your garden with this clever bird feeder made from PVC pipe. Inspired by Red's house in the new *Angry Birds* movie, this feeder is easy to build and will transform your place into a favourite stopover for these wonderful creatures – who are guaranteed *not* to be angry with their cool new hangout!

steps



BIRD FEEDER

Gather your supplies

- 1 sheet (1220 x 610) 6mm exterior plywood
- 335 x 45mm dia. pine dowel
- 335 x 150mm dia. PVC pipe
- Cap (2) To suit 150mm dia. PVC pipe
- 300 x 9.5mm dia. Tasmanian oak dowel
- Rod (12) 130 x 9.5mm dia. Tasmanian oak dowel

Cut plywood into the following components

- **Base** 400 x 400 x 6mm exterior plywood
- **Long side** (2) 406 x 30 x 6mm exterior plywood
- **Left side** 256 x 30 x 6mm exterior plywood
- **Right side** 250 x 30 x 6mm exterior plywood

You'll also need

Measuring tape; pencil; power saw; 15mm nails; hammer; PVA glue; combination square; 5, 3, 11 and 10mm drill bits; various dia. hole saws; jigsaw; masking tape; stringline; countersink bit; 60mm screws; sandpaper; paintbrush; low sheen exterior acrylic (we used Dulux Weathershield in Whisper White and Gunmetal Beige); artist's brush; 6mm rope; large cup hook

Here's how

STEP 1 On base, measure 150mm along both edges from one corner and mark. Draw a line to join these marks, then use a power saw to cut off this corner.

STEP 2 Along one long edge of right side, tap in 15mm nails 3mm from edge. Spread PVA glue along edge of base on the right side of the corner cut off in Step 1. Place right side on this edge so long edge with nails is flush with face of base. Make end of right side meet corner where angled cut starts. Drive home nails to join right side to base.

STEP 3 Repeat Step 2 to attach left side and both long sides to base.

STEP 4 Use combination square to mark diagonals of base to find centre. Drill 5mm clearance hole through centre.

STEP 5 Drill 3mm pilot hole in centre of one end of centre pole. Place against base and screw through base into centre pole to join.

FEEDING TIPS

Vary the times you feed and the types of food you offer, so the birds will still maintain their natural feeding behaviour and enjoy a more balanced diet. Don't put a lot of food out at one time, and never put meat out because this attracts large, aggressive birds, such as currawongs and kookaburras, which will drive away smaller birds.



STEP 6



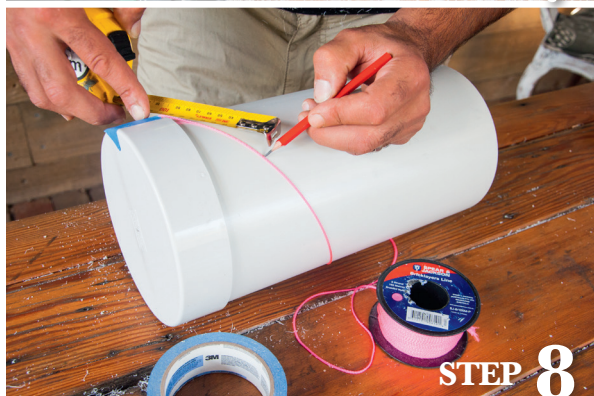
STEP 9



STEP 7



STEP 10



STEP 8



STEP 11

STEP 6 Use hole saws of various diameters to drill holes randomly around body.

STEP 7 Use jigsaw to turn one of the holes into an arch-shaped window toward the top of the body. Create an arch-shaped door at the bottom of the body 90mm wide and 75mm high. Cut out with jigsaw.

STEP 8 Glue first cap to top of body. Mark side of cap for hole to fit hanging rod a quarter of the way around the body from the door. Tape stringline to this mark and spiral it around body to bottom, going around body one-and-a-half times. Mark points for rods on body following the stringline, randomly spaced between 50 and 80mm apart.

STEP 9 Drill 11mm holes through cap for hanging rod and through body for other rods.

STEP 10 Place body over centre pole so door is facing the cut-off corner of the base. Centre body on base.

STEP 11 Drill a second 11mm hole through cap for hanging rod. Make it directly opposite the other

hole drilled in cap for the hanging rod and the same distance from the top of the cap. Continue drilling hole through centre pole, keeping drill level so hole lines up with first hole drilled for hanging rod.

STEP 12 Insert hanging rod in one of the cap holes, then through centre pole and out the other side of the cap. Make sure rod is sticking out of each side of cap equally.



STEP 12



STEP 13



STEP 16



STEP 14



STEP 17



STEP 15



STEP 18

STEP 13 Glue second pipe cap to top of first, upside down. Drill a pilot hole through centre of this cap down into centre rod and through the hanging rod. Countersink hole. Screw down through this hole to secure hanging rod in place. Use 60mm screw.

STEP 14 Put a 10mm drill bit through each of the holes for rods around the pipe and drill a hole in centre pole 10mm deep.

STEP 15 Sand pipe and caps to roughen surface. Apply two coats exterior acrylic to entire feeder, allowing to dry after each coat. As you don't need much paint, only buy sample pots.

STEP 16 Around arch-shaped window and door, plus all holes in the body, use artist's brush to

apply short brush strokes out from opening to resemble stone blocks around these openings.

STEP 17 Inset rods into holes around body and corresponding holes in centre pole.

STEP 18 Create loops in ends of ropes and slip over hanging rod ends. Hang feeder off a large cup hook screwed into your selected position.

STOCKISTS

Power tools, **Bosch Australia**, 1300 307 044, bosch.com.au. 1220 x 610 x 6mm plywood, \$19. 9.5mm Tasmanian oak dowel, \$3.55/1.8m. 45mm pine dowel, \$58.86/2.4m. 150mm PVC push-on cap, \$7.90. 150mm PVC pipe, \$29.60/1m. **Bunnings Warehouse**, (03) 8831 9777, bunnings.com.au. Weathershield low sheen acrylic sample pots, **Dulux**, 13 25 25, dulux.com.au. Hand tools, **Stanley**, 1800 338 002, stanleytools.com.au.