

Plan 16 Gray Squirrel

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

Lumber: 1" X 10" X 6"
 Exterior Plywood: 3/4" X 12" X 12"
 Hook & Eye Hinge
 2 Lag Bolts 1/4" X 4"
 2 one-inch washers for bolts
 Exterior Stain
 10" Plastic wire
 1 1/2" Galvanized drywall screw

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS:

Unlike bird houses, the entrance to the box is next to the tree. This is more "natural" for squirrels.

The inside shelf is attached to the front and to the long side. The top of this shelf is level with the bottom of the 3" x 3" entrance hole. This shelf prevents predators like raccoons from reaching young squirrels.

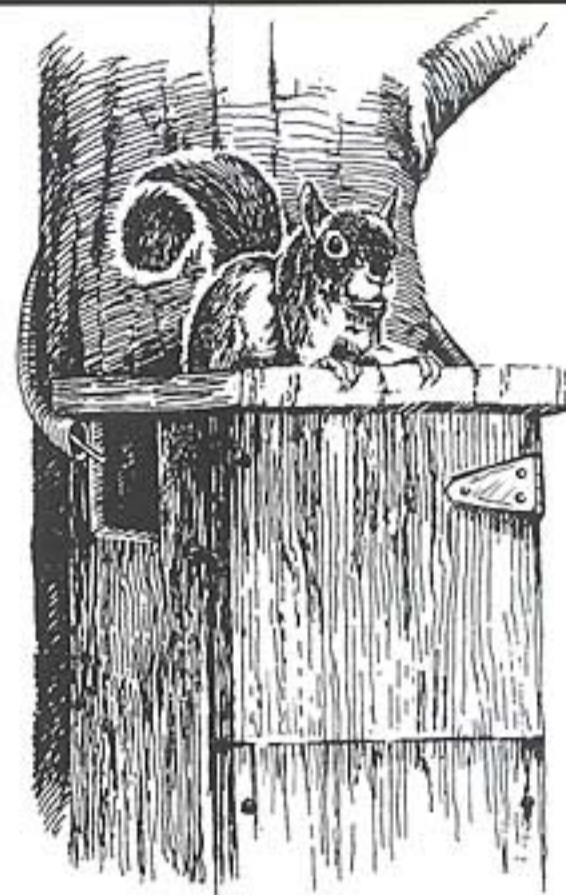
Because the long side is attached to the tree, the roof should not extend beyond the long side's edge by more than an 1".

The box should be stained on the outside with a wood preservative. Double preserve the long side because it is against the tree and more prone to retain moisture. To reduce vandalism, the stain should match the box to the tree's bark.

Mount the box on a tree 25" or more above the ground. Face the entrance away from prevailing winter winds. Tip: Deer archery hunters have climbing gear. Most of them will be willing to take the box up for you.

A plastic coated wire can be threaded through the box entrance and out the top back corner. The wire holds the box up while the lag bolts with 1" washers are used to fasten the box to the tree. Remove the wire.

A second mounting techniques uses the wire plus a single lag bolt. Simply loop the wire around the tree and over a limb on the backside of the tree. The box will hang loosely below and opposite the limb. A single lag bolt will steady the box. Caution, a tight wire can 'girdle' a growing tree.



Remove tree side corner of Back, wire will go through door (Front) and this hole.

