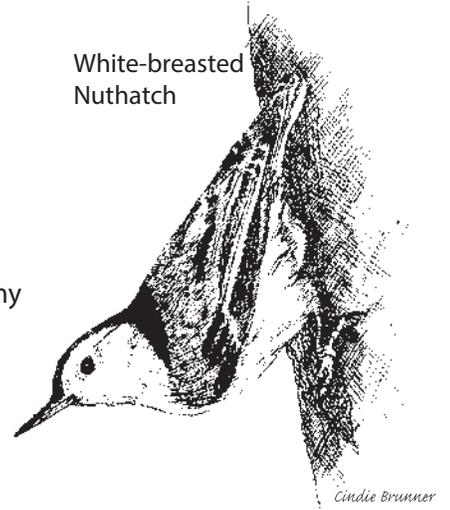


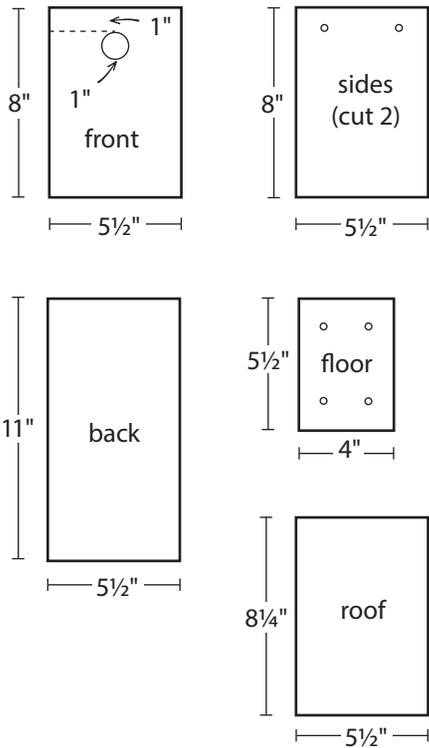
# Nest Box

House and Bewick's Wrens; Black-capped, Mountain, Boreal, Chestnut-backed, and Carolina Chickadees; Juniper, Black-crested, Oak, Tufted, and Bridled Titmice; Pygmy, White-breasted, Red-breasted, and Brown-headed Nuthatches; Prothonotary Warblers; and Flying Squirrels

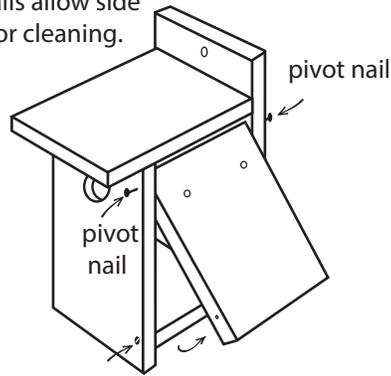
White-breasted Nuthatch



Note: Entrance hole diameter is 1" for House Wrens, Brown-headed Nuthatches, and Pygmy Nuthatches. Use 1 1/8" diameter for all chickadees and Bewick's Wren. Use 1/4" diameter for White-breasted Nuthatch, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Prothonotary Warbler, all titmouse species, and Flying Squirrel. Entrance holes 1/4" and larger will admit House Sparrows so only use the larger diameter in heavily-wooded areas where there are few House Sparrows.

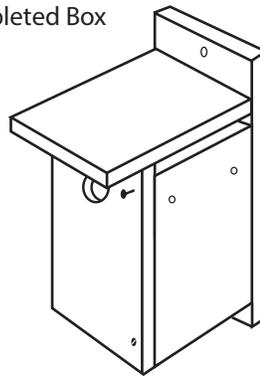


Two "pivot" nails allow side to swing out for cleaning.



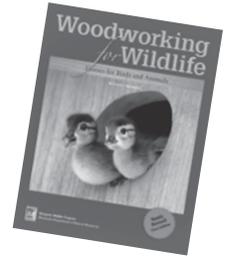
Use a nail or screw at bottom to keep side closed.

Completed Box



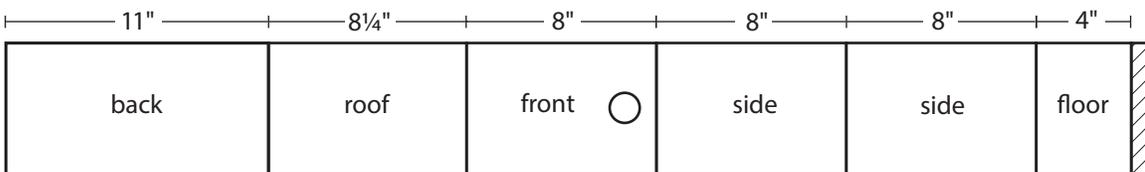
## Increase Your Chances of Nest Box Success!

Information on natural history, habitat, nest box placement, and management for Midwestern birds is available in *Woodworking for Wildlife*. Order at [minnesotasbookstore.com](http://minnesotasbookstore.com)

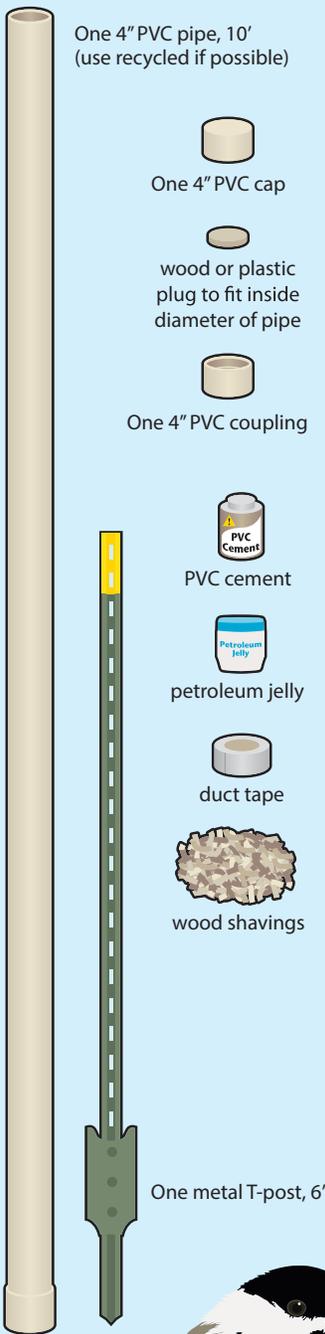
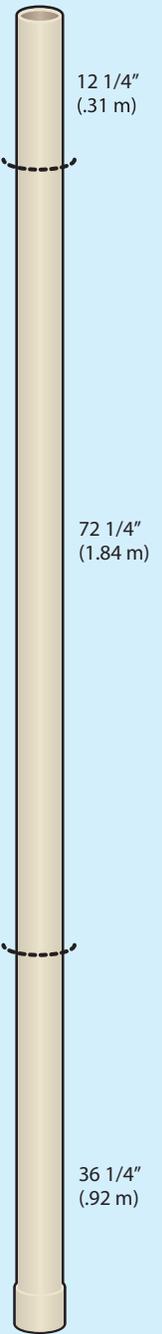
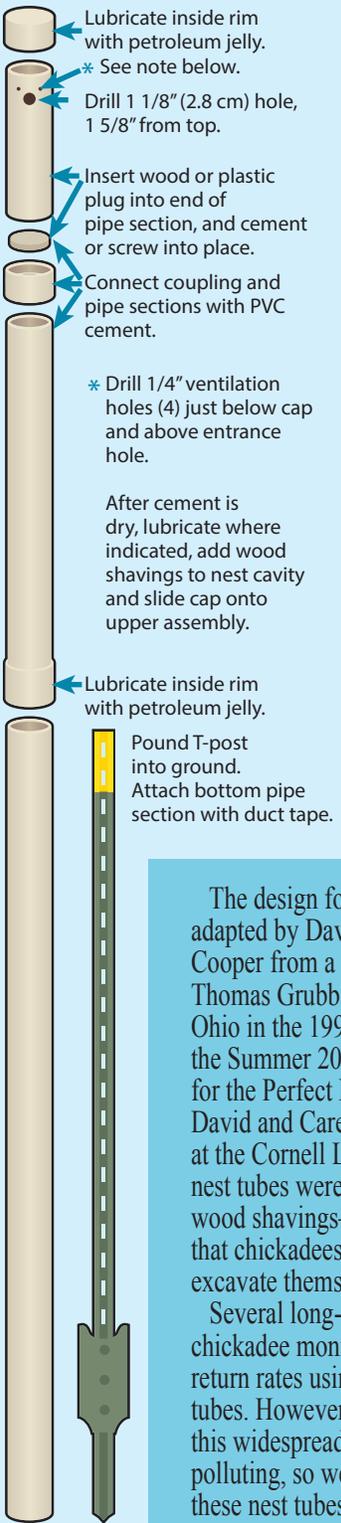
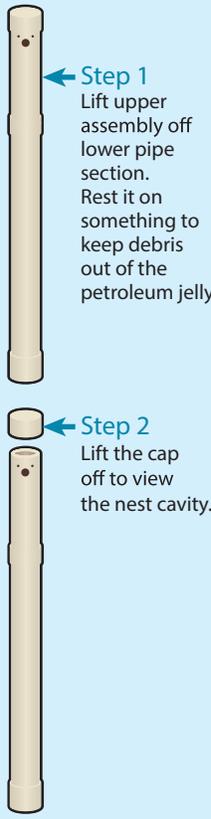


Note: these dimensions are for 3/4" thick board. Some cedar boards are 5/8" thick. If so, the floor must be 3 3/4" wide, not 4".

Lumber: 1" x 6" x 4'



# How to Make a Chickadee Nest Tube

| Materials  | Cutting  | Assembly and Installation  | Inspection   |
|--|--|--|--|
|  <p>One 4" PVC pipe, 10'<br/>(use recycled if possible)</p> <p>One 4" PVC cap</p> <p>wood or plastic<br/>plug to fit inside<br/>diameter of pipe</p> <p>One 4" PVC coupling</p> <p>PVC cement</p> <p>petroleum jelly</p> <p>duct tape</p> <p>wood shavings</p> <p>One metal T-post, 6'</p>  |  <p>12 1/4"<br/>(.31 m)</p> <p>72 1/4"<br/>(1.84 m)</p> <p>36 1/4"<br/>(.92 m)</p> |  <p>Lubricate inside rim<br/>with petroleum jelly.<br/>* See note below.</p> <p>Drill 1 1/8" (2.8 cm) hole,<br/>1 5/8" from top.</p> <p>Insert wood or plastic<br/>plug into end of<br/>pipe section, and cement<br/>or screw into place.</p> <p>Connect coupling and<br/>pipe sections with PVC<br/>cement.</p> <p>* Drill 1/4" ventilation<br/>holes (4) just below cap<br/>and above entrance<br/>hole.</p> <p>After cement is<br/>dry, lubricate where<br/>indicated, add wood<br/>shavings to nest cavity<br/>and slide cap onto<br/>upper assembly.</p> <p>Lubricate inside rim<br/>with petroleum jelly.</p> <p>Pound T-post<br/>into ground.<br/>Attach bottom pipe<br/>section with duct tape.</p> |  <p><b>Step 1</b><br/>Lift upper<br/>assembly off<br/>lower pipe<br/>section.<br/>Rest it on<br/>something to<br/>keep debris<br/>out of the<br/>petroleum jelly.</p> <p><b>Step 2</b><br/>Lift the cap<br/>off to view<br/>the nest cavity.</p> |

The design for this nest tube was adapted by David Bonter and Caren Cooper from a model developed by Thomas Grubb and C.L. Bronson in Ohio in the 1990s, as mentioned in the Summer 2008 BirdScope, "Looking for the Perfect Fixer-Upper." In David and Caren's chickadee studies at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, nest tubes were filled with wood shavings—studies indicate that chickadees prefer cavities they excavate themselves.

Several long-term bluebird and chickadee monitors have had excellent return rates using PVC nest tubes. However, the manufacture of this widespread material is highly polluting, so we recommend building these nest tubes from used and scrap PVC when possible.