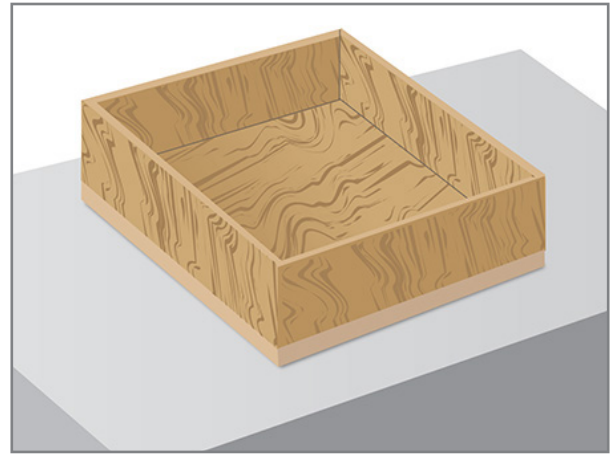


# Whelping Box Plans

## Supplies and Tools Needed

- One sheet of four by eight foot plywood in one-half inch thickness
- Two pieces of two by four foot lumber in eight foot length
- Two and one-half-inch long wood screws
- One-inch long wood screws
- Wood glue
- Sandpaper
- Wood stain or polyurethane
- Three-inch wide paintbrush
- Circular saw
- Screwdriver or drill



## Instructions to Build a Whelping Box

1. Measure and cut the wood into required lengths. The plywood should initially be cut in half so there are two pieces that measure four by four foot square. Set one aside for the bottom of the whelping box.

2. The other half should be cut into four pieces that measure one by four feet each. These will be the sides of the box. It is important to have sides low enough for the mother to be able to get out when needed but high enough for the puppies to remain inside. For small breed dogs, you may opt for lower sides by cutting the pieces in half again so they measure six inches by four feet each. Discard the extra pieces or reserve them for another project.

3. One piece of lumber should be cut in half so each piece measures four feet in length. Cut two lengths from the other piece of lumber that measure three feet, eight inches in length and discard the small leftover piece. These four pieces will form a square for the plywood bottom to rest upon.

4. Once the pieces are cut, sand any rough edges so the pieces will fit securely together. Lay them flat on a drop cloth or newspapers, then stain if desired. Once the stain has completely dried, follow up with a coat of polyurethane to waterproof. If you choose not to stain the whelping box, you should still apply the polyurethane because it helps protect the whelping box from the elements if the box will be outside.

5. Assemble the box by first attaching the lumber to the bottom of the plywood base with the two and one-half-inch long wood screws. Each lumber piece should be placed on the plywood so it is flush to the edge.

6. Attach to the plywood by drilling two screws on each end of the lumber so it is firmly secured. Start with one, four foot length and attach. One of the shorter pieces should be attached next at a 90 degree angle. The third piece should be the other four foot length which is placed parallel from the first four foot length then the final piece drilled into place in the remaining spot. The result should be a square frame.

7. Flip the the plywood over and attach each of the sides using the one inch screws. For sides over six inches, place screws at three-inch intervals to insure the sides will remain sturdy. For sides six inches or shorter, a screw at the bottom and the top are sufficient.

