Bike sheds

Please see Figures 8.1 through 8.12 for bike shed details

I'm including this section because I get a lot of interest on my compact vertical bike shed plans but they aren't large enough for many bikes. So this will give you some ideas for using these plans to build a larger bike shed.



Does this look familiar?

Any shed can serve as a bike shed. The bigger the shed the more bikes you can put into it and the more bike related stuff you can store. A big shed will also give you a place to service your bike out of the weather.

An ideal bike shed would have enough room to stand up in, so at least 6 to 7 ft vertical clearance. And a few feet on either side of the bike so you can walk it in and sit it on it's kickstand. Then you need a few feet behind to walk around it and get to the other side or out the door.

6 feet wide would do for a bike shed if you store a bike on either wall with walking room between them. If you want to park them side by side and walk on either side of both bikes you will need more like 8 ft wide shed. Plus about 3 feet behind to walk and get to the door.

So an ideal size for a 2 bike shed would be either 8x6 or 8x8. A ready made shed this size will cost a minimum of \$1,000 and up to \$3,000 for something really nice.

Another way to control the cost is to make your bike shed smaller. You can do this by parking your bikes vertical and storing your accessories on a shelf or hooks. You can store 2 bikes vertically in a smaller space and still have room for accessories. You will not be able to get in the shed and service your bike but you can do that under the back porch or in the garage, then return the bike to the shed for the night. By vertical I don't mean hanging it. I mean rolling the front wheel up the rear wall and parking the bike standing on it's back wheel. This way you will not have to lift but a fraction of the bikes total weight. Just enough to get it rolling up the wall. Then hook the wheel around a nail or peg and lean it against the sidewall.

It will stay in place nicely and take up less than half the space of standing horizontally on both wheels. And you can do all this just standing in the doorway of the shed. So you don't need to walk around the sides of the bike. This will save another 50 % of the space requirement.

So rather than needing an 8x8 shed you can store 2 bikes vertically in a 4x4 or 4x8 shed.

Ease Of Construction

The only real option most people have is to build a bike shed out of wood. Metal takes special tools and the components are not readily available. However building a bike shed from wood only takes common hand tools that most people have in their garage or they can borrow from a friend or neighbor.

And any Home Depot or Lowes has all the necessary components to build a wooden bike shed.

A good bicycle storage shed will serve numerous functions including:

- Security against theft
- Protection from the elements
- Free up valuable space in your garage, on the back porch or from behind your couch
- Make your bike convenient and easy to use
- Must be attractive to the neighborhood
- Somewhat invisible and not stand out or call attention to its self

Security

Let's begin with the first thing that most people ask of their bike shed, to protect it against theft. There are several levels of security for your bike. The first line of defense is to keep it out of sight. If people don't know you have a bike then they will not be inclined to steal it. But if they know you have one then you need to plan on physical security.

The weakest point of a bike shed is usually the door. Either the door its self, the hinges or the lock or the door hasp.

Door

If your bike shed is metal like an arrow shed you have no security because

someone can just lift the door off the tracks and set it aside. Or else they would just have to lean against it hard to push it in.

Hinges

Many sheds are built with screws holding the hinges on so all you would need to get in is a screw driver. So your bike shed should have carriage bolts holding the hinges and hasp on. This way no one can screw them out and take the door off.

Hasp

If your hasp is fixed and doesn't rotate then it can easily be defeated by putting a tire iron through the padlock and twisting it off. This is very silent and easy to do. But if you have a rotating hasp then this will not be an issue. But weakness will be an issue because then all you will need to do is take that same tire iron, put it through the padlock or behind the hasp and pry it off. Even if you have carriage bolts the hasp can easily be torn away with a little leverage from a tire iron.

Lock

Even a good lock can be cut with a set of bolt cutters. But a good lock will at least look tough and might deter the casual bike thief.

Location

Where you put your bicycle storage shed will have a major impact on security. If it's in the back yard behind a locked gate and out of site you will have fewer problems. But this might make it more difficult to access your bike so it will be a trade off.

If the shed is lit at night this will further deter thieves, as well as locating it under your bedroom window where you can hear if someone is tampering with it during the night.

Protection Against The Elements

Rain and sunshine can damage your bike so a bike shed should protect against both by simply being enclosed.

Free Up Other Space

Having a dedicated bike storage shed will free up space in your garage, under your back porch or from behind your couch so you can use it for other more valuable uses.

Make Your Bike Convenient And Easy To Use

If you have to dig your bike out every time you need it you will not be so anxious to use it. But if it is convenient and accessible you will likely use it more often and can get to it quicker. You can locate your bike shed close to a gate and you will not have to worry about carrying dirt into the house from the tires. Also a bike shed should allow a place to store bike accessories like helmet, gloves, shoes and water bottles etc.

You don't want to have to lift your bike up either. A small person might not have the strength to lift a bike overhead to hang it up on a wall or ceiling hook. So you want to be able to roll it in and park it.

Attractive To The Neighbors

Many homeowners associations specify that any accessory structures blend in with the look of your house. Also you don't want your neighbors complaining about an ugly bike shed so it could be made of similar materials as your house and painted to match. This way no one will complain about it looking ugly or out of place.

Invisible

A bike shed should not stand out or call attention to its self. This is another security feature. Make it blend in with the look of your house and paint it one color without a trim color so it doesn't draw the eye.

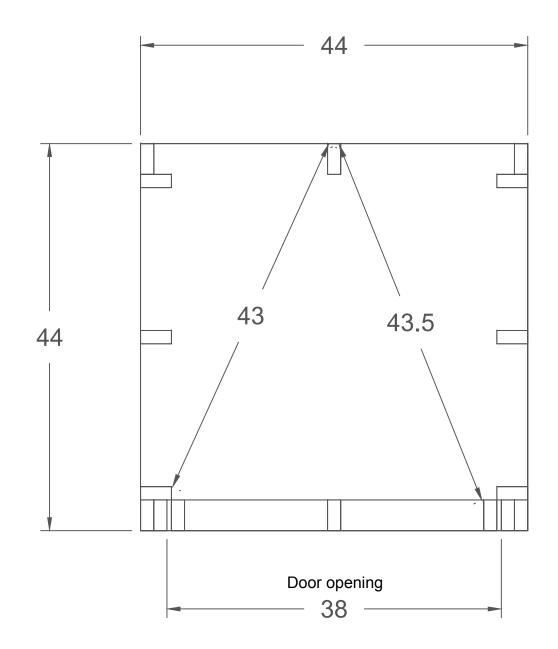
You might even disguise it by putting some vents on it to make it look like a hot water heater shed. Maybe even add a short stove pipe coming out of the top for maximum effect.



My original \$5.94 bike shed plans, that the website tutorial and videos are based on

Interior dimensions of my original bike shed.

Hang the front tire of 2 bikes on a nail in the center rear stud and they will lean to either side to make room for the handlebars.



The following 2 bike sheds will be part of my single slope lean-to style shed plans that will be ready by the end of May 2014.

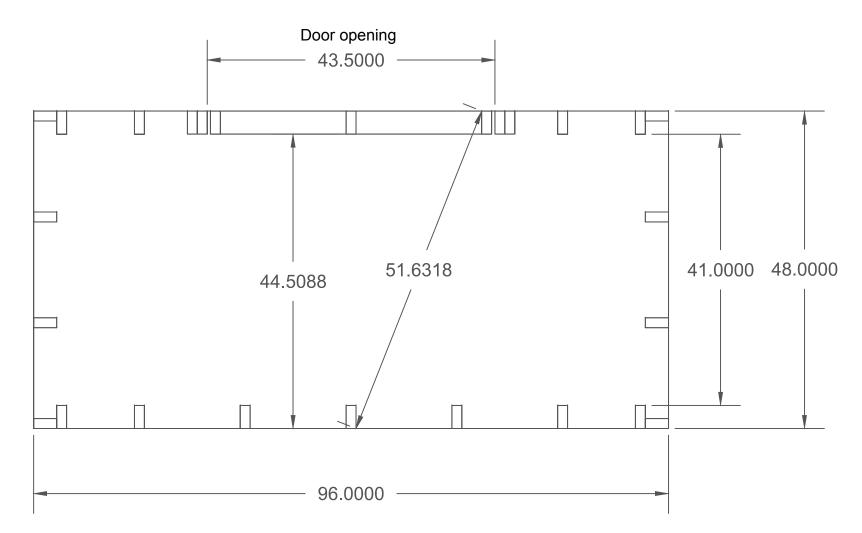


4x8x8 tall bike shed holds 2 bikes vertically, with room for shelves or storage on either side.



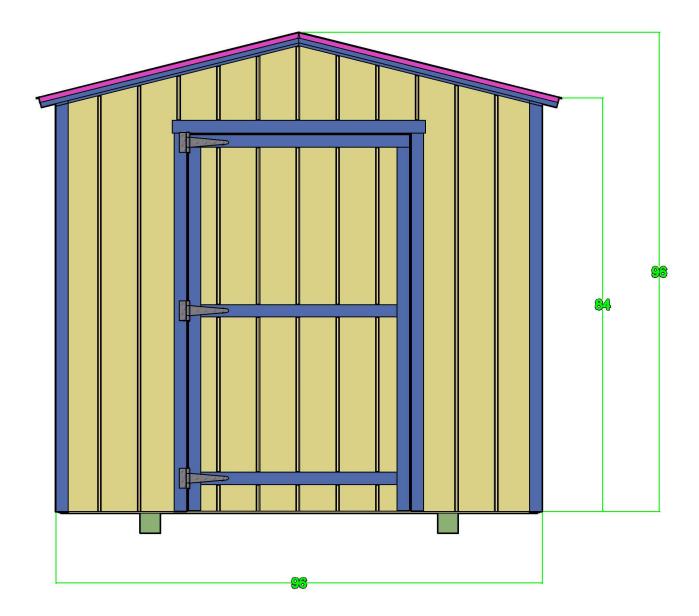
Same 4x8x8 tall shed with the door on the low side and no overhang on back so you can sit it flush against a wall.

Interior dimensions for 4x8 vertical bike shed. You can easily make the door wider if necessary.



Hang the bikes front tire on the back wall center stud with a nail

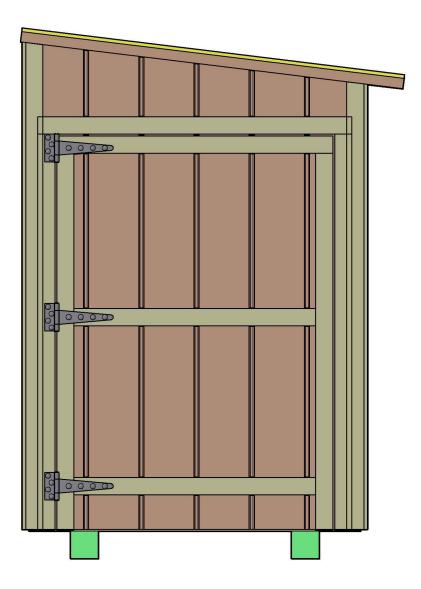
and the bikes will lean a little to either side to provide additional clearance for the handlebars.



This 4x8x8 tall gable roof shed has the same interior dimensions as the previous sheds and can be built using my \$7.95 plans.



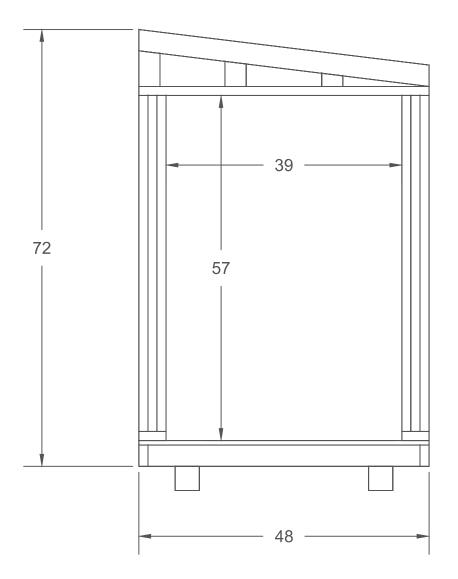
This is the low profile bike shed, 4ft wide and 6 or 8 ft long, or any thing you want. This height is 6ft but you can make it taller or shorter just by changing the stud height.



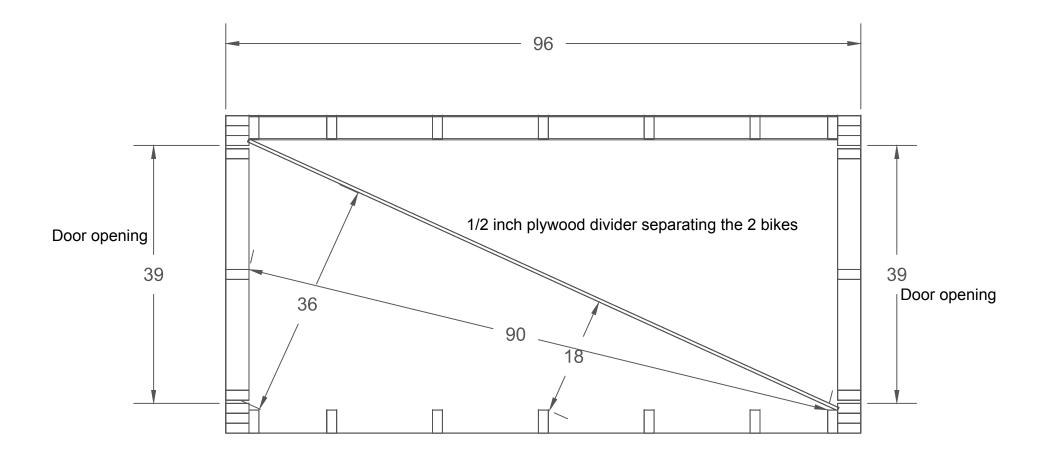
This is an end view of the 6ft low profile bike shed. It's designed to sit flush right up to a wall. Or you can put overhang on both sides for a free standing shed.

The high side is 72 inches, which gives a door opening of 57 inches.

If you made the high side 60 inches you would have a door opening of 45 inches. Or anything in between.

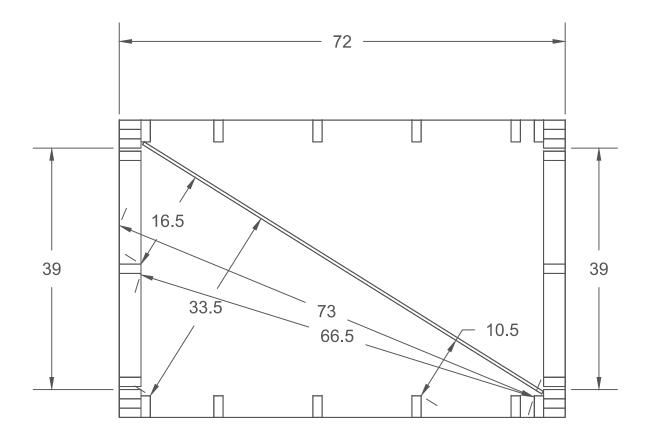


Interior dimensions for 96 inch long low profile bike shed



This shed has a door on either end. Back your bike in and the plywood divider guides it in at an angle to keep it separate from the bike on the other side.

Interior dimensions for 72 inch long low profile bike shed. If 8 ft is too long and 6 ft is too short, you can make it any length you want.



Plans from CheapSheds.com

- Single slope lean to style shed plans with porch in 45 sizes
- Deluxe gable roof shed plans with loft in 31 sizes
- Tall barn style shed plans with loft in 31 sizes
- Gable roof shed plans in 21 sizes
- Compact vertical bike shed plan
- How To Build a 1-2-3 Car Garage, Garage Plans
- How To Start A Business e-Book

All plans and e-books are in PDF format Available by instant download from <u>CheapSheds.com</u>

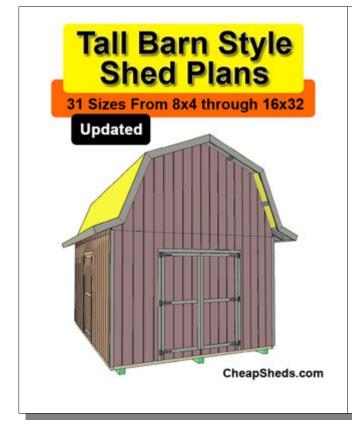
Single Slope Lean To Style Shed Plans With Porch



Deluxe Style Shed Plans With Loft



Tall Barn Style Shed Plans With Overhang and Loft



- Cost: \$9.97
- 31 Sizes from 8x4 to 16x32
- 80 + Pages of detailed instructions, figures and tables
- Roof line: Barn style Gambrel
- Wall height: 8ft tall
- Includes instructions for a loft
- Construction: Double top plates and corner studs
- Spacing: floor 12" O.C., walls 16" O.C.

Available on my website here...

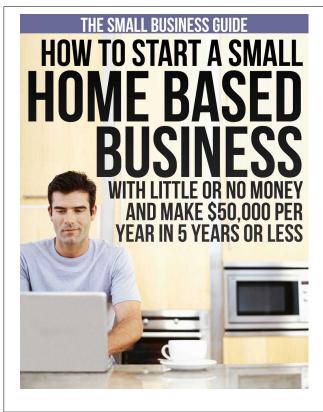
Gable Roof Shed Plans, 21 sizes



Bike Shed Or Small Garden Shed Plans



How To Start A Business e-Book



- Cost: \$2.99
- Based on my experiences starting and running my shed business for 20 years
- 60 pages
- 5 chapters
- Available in PDF format or in kindle format from amazon.com

Available on my website here..