01DTPRMSHDB1008DDOP-V2

10X8 PREMIUM DUTCH BARN.

BEFORE YOU START PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

- Check the pack and make sure you have all the items listed in the parts list provided.
- When you are ready to start, make sure you have the right tools at hand (not supplied see the equipment list on next
- Ensure there is plenty of space and a clean dry area for assembly.
- Ensure you have enough time to build the product to ensure the building is water tight.

LOCATION FOR YOUR GARDEN BUILDING

A minimum of 600mm should be left around the perimeter of your garden building to allow access for maintenance, annual treatment and to allow air flow around the building.

Where possible you should avoid placing your garden building underneath large trees to prevent the tree causing damage to the building.

TIMBER

As with all natural materials, timber can be affected during various weather conditions. For the duration of heavy or extended periods of rain, swelling of the wood panels may occur. Warping of the wood may also occur during excessive dry spells due to an interior moisture loss. Unfortunately, these processes cannot be avoided but can be helped. It is suggested that the outdoor building is sprayed with water during extended periods of warm sunshine and sheltered as much as possible during rain or snow.

Once your garden building has been installed it will need to be treated within 14 days (weather permitting) and annually to prevent the timber from deteriorating and to waterproof it. This is required to maintain the anti-rot guarantee.

Dip Treated buildings - Require a preservative treatment to protect against rot and decay and a waterproof treatment to prevent water ingress

Pressure Treated buildings - Require a waterproof treatment to prevent water ingress

Log Cabins/Insulated Garden Rooms - Are supplied untreated and require a preservative and waterproofing treatment.

BUILDING A BASE

When thinking about where the building and where the base is going to be constructed: Ensure that there will be access to all sides for maintenance work and annual treatment.

Ensure the base is level and is built on firm ground, to prevent distortion. Refer to diagrams for the base dimensions, The base should be slightly smaller than the external measurement of the building, i.e. The cladding should overlap the base, creating a run off for water. It is also recommended that the floor be at least 25mm above the surrounding ground level to avoid flooding.

TYPES OF BASE

- Concrete 75mm laid on top of 75mm hard-core.
- Slabs laid on 50mm of sharp sand.
- Wooden base.

Whilst all products manufactured are made to the highest standards of safety and in the case of children's products independently tested to EN71 level, we cannot accept responsibility for your safety whilst erecting or using this product.



All buildings should be erected by two adults



Winter = High Moisture = Expansion Summer = Low Moisture = Contraction



CAUTION

Every effort has been made during the manufacturing process to eliminate the prospect of splinters on rough surfaces of the timber. You are strongly advised to wear gloves when working with or handling rough sawn timber.



2mm Drill bit

For ease of assembly, you will need a tape measure to check dimensions of components.

For ease of assembly, you

MUST pilot drill all screw

heads are countersunk.

holes and ensure all screw



Bolts To identify the fixings required for each step use a measuring tape.

Protim Aquatan T5 (621)

Your building has been dip treated with Aquatan.

Aquatan is a water-based concentrate which is diluted with water, the building as been treated by the correct application of Aquatan solution and then allowed to dry.

Aquatan is a decorative finish to colour the wood, which is applied industrially to timber fence panels and garden buildings.

Aquatan undiluted contains: boric acid, sodium hydroxide 32% solution, aqueos mixture of sodium dioctyl sulphosuccinat and alcohols: 2, 4, 6-trichlorophenol.



In all instances for assistance with your product, please contact us via our customer portal: https://www.mgplogistics.co.uk/.

Mercia Garden Products Limited, Sutton On Trent, Newark, Nottinghamshire, NG23 6QN



☐ Paint Brush/Sprayer/Roller

NOTES



TO DO LIST		
	Find a suitable location to build (see front cover for furt	her information).
	Build a base (see front cover for further information).	
	Check the base is flat, level, clear of debris and has	60cm clearance on all sides.
	Check you have the required equipment.	
	Check you have all the product items listed (if you had department, see front cover for contact details).	ave missing or damaged parts please contact the customer services
	Install the product as per the step by step instruction	ons within this pack.
	Prepare the product ready for treatment.	
	Apply a preserving and a waterproofing treatment treated products do not require a preserver).	within 14 days (weather permitting) of installation (pressure
	Register for your anti rot guarantee (scan the QR below	<i>ı</i>).
	Tidy the build area and dispose of any remaining parts responsibly.	
	Maintain your building (see the manufacturers recommen	ndations at the back of this pack).
EQUIPMENT LIST NEED EXTRA SUPPORT		
	Hammer Flat Head Screwdriver Drill	If you are unsure that your base preparation will be suitable, please contact us on 01636 821215 to discuss this further.
	Drill Bit Set Phillips and Slotted Bit Sets	Alternatively, you can visit our website or MGP Logistics Online Portal for some further sheducation.
	Tape Measure Hand Saw	Website: https://www.merciagardenproducts.co.uk/sheducation
	Spirit Level Ladders/Steps	MGP Logistics Online Portal: https://www.mgplogistics.co.uk/
	Stanley Knife/Cutting Tool Sand Paper	Here you will find plenty of useful information that'll help with most pre-installation and maintenance
	Gloves Silicone (For Windows Only)	queries.
	Wood Filler (Optional)	
	Timber Preservative Treatment (not pressure	PLEASE SCAN HERE: ANY QUESTIONS?
	treated products)	Scan the QR code to
	Timber Water Proofing Treatment Treatment Mixing Stick	Scan the QR code to contact us via our customer portal.



ACCESSING VIDEO GUIDES...

Some steps within this set of instructions come with an added video guide for your convenience. These can be accessed via the QR code and used to aid you in constructing that step. See below for how to use.

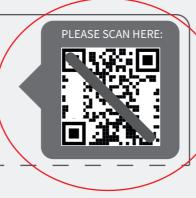
You can also find all the videos on our youtube channel: https://www.youtube.com/@merciagardenproducts8716/videos

1. Find the QR code within the instruction step...

Step.....

Parts Needed- No. QTY 1 No. OTY 1

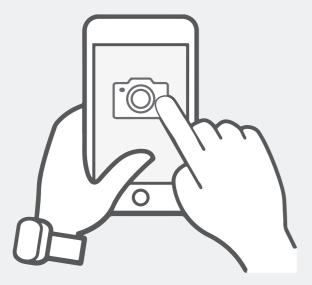
No. QTY 1



Within the instruction step, there will be an icon in the top right that has a QR code in. This is where the video can be accessed from.

Please note: not every step has a video guide.

2. Open camera app...



On your personal smart device (phone, tablet etc), open your camera app or QR code scanner app.

ACCESSING VIDEO GUIDES...

3. Scan QR code...



To scan the QR code, hold the camera over the QR code so that it can be seen on the screen. Once the QR code has been registered, follow the prompts on your device to open the video. (This will vary depending on your device.)

Please note: Ensure to use the back camera of your smart device as this will scan the QR code more accurately.

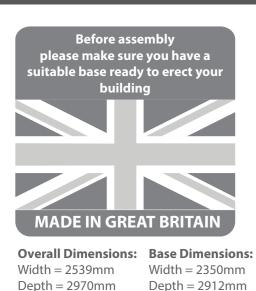
4. Watch the video...



The video guide will now be displayed on your smart device.

Disclaimer: The garden building constructed in the video guides may be constructed differently to your building. Please ensure to read your instructions carefully to avoid error.



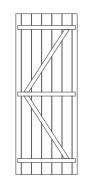


Height = 2626mm



Floor QTY 4 AI-S21MBF1456X1175-V2





Door QTY 2 AI-S21FBMBZBD676X1770-V1

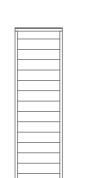


Top Roof QTY 4 AI-S21MBDBR1473X654-V1





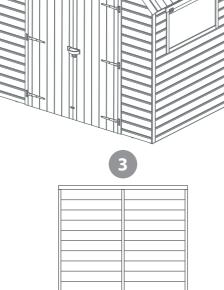
Back Panel Width 1180mmQTY 2 AI-S21SHPP1180X1796-V1



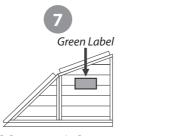
Front Panel QTY 2 AI-S21SHPPTOV512X1761-V1



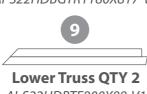
Bottom Roof QTY 4 AI-S21MBDBR1473X898-V1



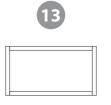
Side Panel Width 1417mm QTY 2 AI-S21SHPP1417X1814-V1



Gable Top Right QTY 2 AI-S22HDBGTR1180X817-V1



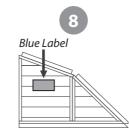
AI-S22HDBTF800X88-V1



Window QTY 2 AI-FW1000X540-V1



Window Panel QTY 2 AI-01S21SH1LFW1417X1814-V1



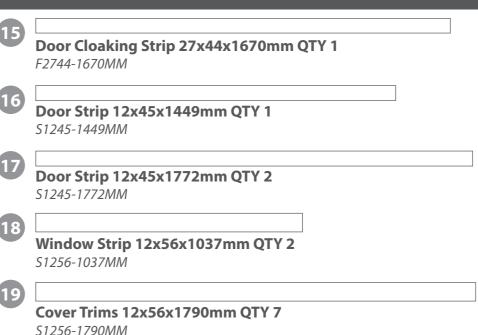
Gable Top Left QTY 2 AI-S22HDBGTL1180X817-V1



Upper Truss QTY 2 AI-S22HDBTF629X88-V1



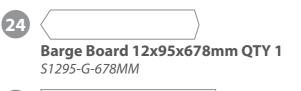
Floor Blocks 27x44x400mm QTY 8 F2744-400MM



	Cover Trims 12x56x1790mm QTY 7 S1256-1790MM
20	Gable Cover Trims 12x56x710mm QTY 1 S1256-710MM
21	







25	Fascia 12x95x900mm QTY 4
	S1295-G-900MM

26		
	Barge Board 12 S1295-G-734MM	2x95x734mm QTY 2

27	
	F : 12 05 (62 OTV/
	Fascia 12x95x662mm QTY 4
	S1295-G-662MM

WB-2090MM

(28)	
	Gable Strip 12x121x2090mm QTY 2





Truss Brace 27x44x1640mm QTY 2 F2744-G-1680MM



Door Blocks 27x44x150mm QTY 2 F2744-150MM



Truss Blocks 27x44x150mm QTY 2 F2744-G-170MM





Casement Stay QTY 2





Hasp and Staple Lock QTY 1 PI-07-0221







Weatherproof Lock QTY 1

Butt Hinge QTY 4





T Hinge QTY 6 PI-07-0021

PI-07-0007





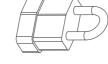
PI-07-0066





U Channel QTY 4

Tower Bolt QTY 2 PI-07-0030



PI-07-0222



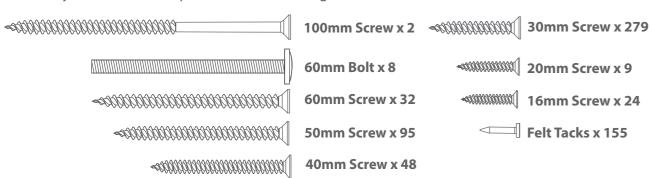
Joining Plates QTY 6 PI-07-0220



Turn Button QTY 2 PI-07-0034

Nail Bag

There may be extra screws present in the nail bag



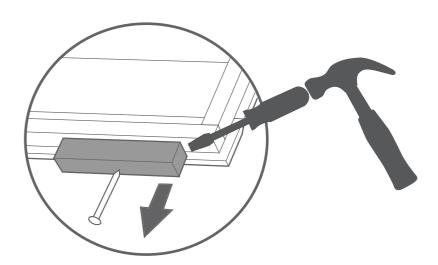
Pre Assembly

Before assembling remove the transportation blocks from the bottom of each panel.

Take care removing the blocks as to not damage the panels. Tap with a flat headed screwdriver and hammer.







Step 1 Parts Needed- No.1 QTY 4

Place the floor panels (No.1) onto a firm and level base. Ensure the base has suitable drainage, free from areas where standing water can collect.

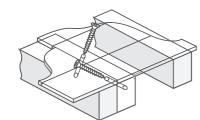
Secure the floors together using 8x50mm screws through the floor bearers in an alternating pattern.

Repeat the step to create two floor assemblies.

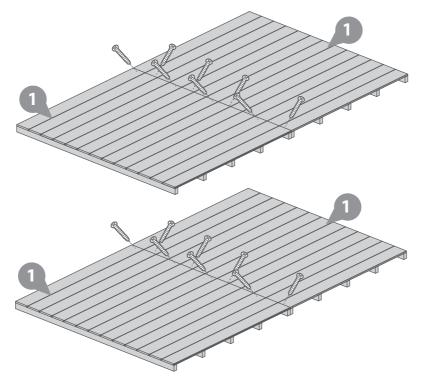
16x50mm Screws







IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



Step 3

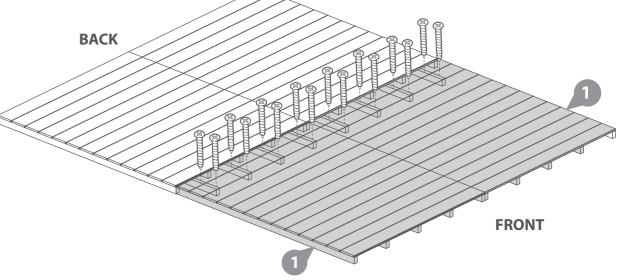
Locate the second floor assembly along side the first floor assembly.

Secure to the floor using 2x40mm screws per block, going through the floor cladding and into the floor blocks below.

16x40mm Screws







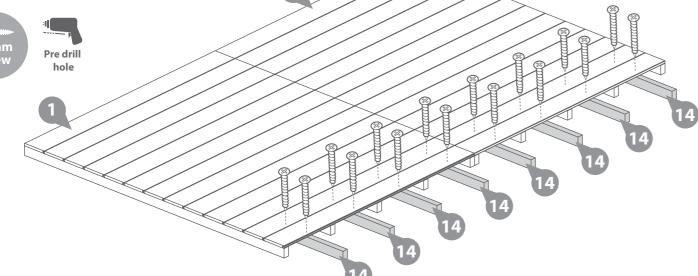
Step 2 Parts Needed-No.14 QTY 8

Locate the Floor Blocks (No.14) between the floor framing, ensuring they are spaced equally.

Secure to the floor using 2x40mm screws per block, going through the floor cladding and into the floor blocks below.

16x40mm Screws





IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws. Step 4

Parts Needed-No.2 QTY 1 - No.3, (or 4) QTY 1

Please note: These side panels are interchangeable. Decide which layout works best for you before assembly.

Locate the Back Panel (No.2) and the Side panel (No.3) (or Window Panel) onto the floor, ensuring there is equal spacing.

Secure the panels at the corner using 3x50mm screws.

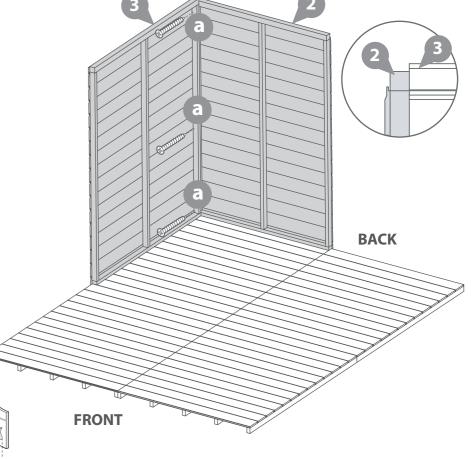
Do not secure the building to the floor until the roof is fitted.

Please note: The Side Panels are slightly higher than the back panels.

3x50mm Screws









Step 5 Parts Needed-No.2 QTY 1 - No.3, (or 4) QTY 1

Locate the Second Back Panel (No.2) and Side panel (No.3) (or Window Panel) onto the floor, ensuring there is equal spacing.

Secure the panels at the joins using 3x50mm screws per join in an alternating pattern.

Do not secure the building to the floor until the roof is fitted.

Please note: The Side Panels are slightly higher than the back panels.

6x50mm Screws





Locate the Window Panel (No.4) (or Side Panel) onto the floor, ensuring there is equal spacing.

Secure the panels at the corner using 3x50mm screws.

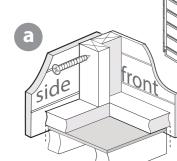
Do not secure the building to the floor until the roof is fitted.

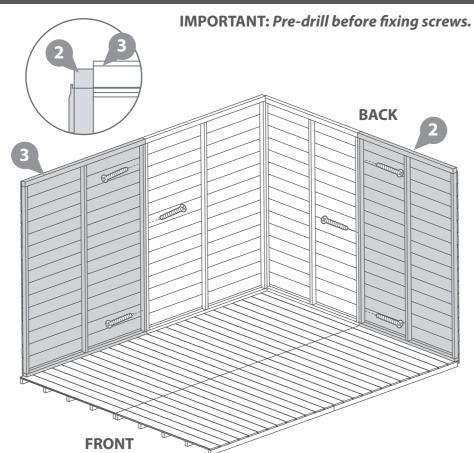
Please note: The Side Panels are slightly higher than the back panels.

3x50mm Screws

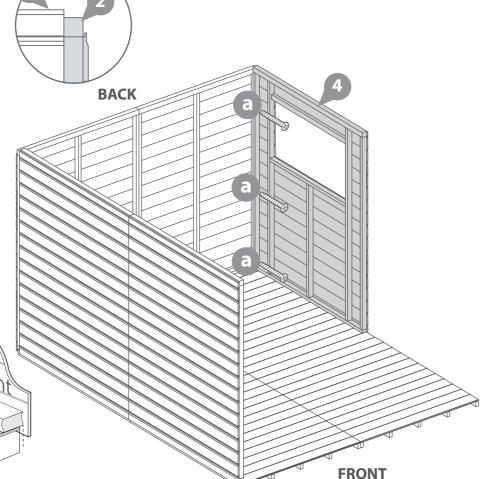








IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



Step 7 Parts Needed-No.4, (or 3) QTY 1

Locate the Second Window Panel (No.4) (or Side Panel) onto the floor, ensuring there is equal spacing.

Secure the panels at the joins using 3x50mm screws per join in an alternating pattern.

Do not secure the building to the floor until the roof is fitted.

Please note: The Side Panels are slightly higher than the back panels.

3x50mm Screws



Step 8 Parts Needed- No.6 QTY 2

Locate the Front Panels (No.6) onto the floor, ensuring there is equal spacing.

Secure the panels at the corners using 3x50mm screws per join.

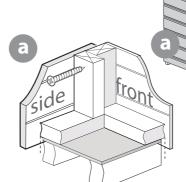
Do not secure the building to the floor until the roof is fitted.

Please note: The Front Panels are slightly lower than the side panels.

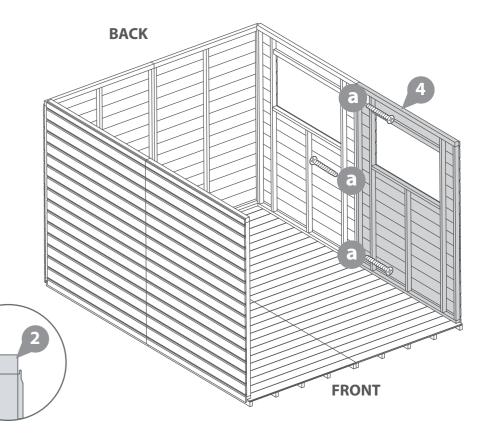
6x50mm Screws

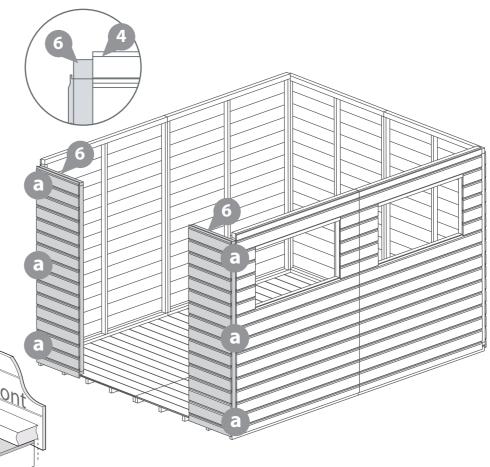






IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.







Parts Needed-No.21 QTY 2

- No.22 QTY 1

- No.23 QTY 1

Locate the Top Door Framings (No.21 & 22) onto the top of the front panels, the framing should be really flush to the back edges of the framing within front panels.

Secure the framing using 8x60mm screws, ensuring to go through the top door framing, and into the front panel framing.

Locate the Bottom Door Framing (No.23) between the front panels. Do Not secure the Bottom Door Framing to the floor until the roof is fitted.

Please note: The Front Panels are slightly lower than the side panels.







IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.

SIDE

FRONT PANEL

PANEL

Step 10

Parts Needed- No.7 QTY 2 - No.8 QTY 2

Lay the Gable tops (No.7 and No.8) along side each other, ensure they are flush at the bottom. Secure together using 4x50mm screws in an alternating pattern.

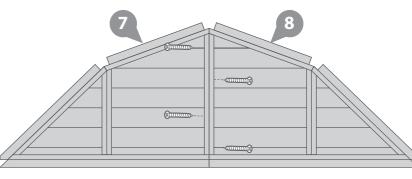
Repeat step to create a second assembly.

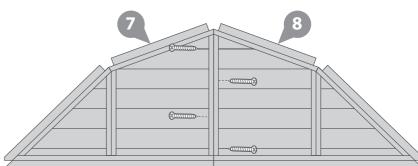
8x50mm Screws



IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.

IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.





Step 11

Locate the Gable tops (No.7 & 8) onto the top of the front and back panels. Slot the groove of the boarding within the Gable Tops on to the tongues within the plain panels below.

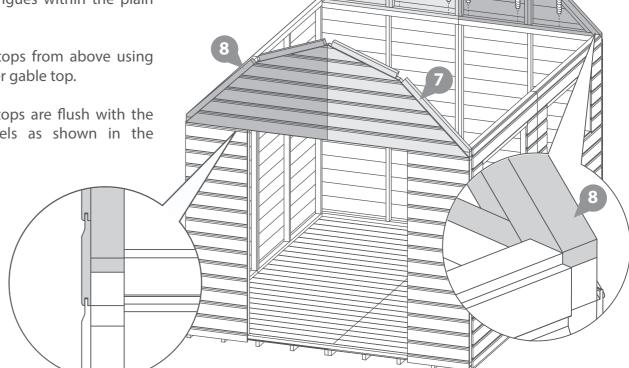
Secure the gable tops from above using 6x50mm screws per gable top.

Ensure the gable tops are flush with the ends of the panels as shown in the diagram.

12x50mm Screws









Step 12

Parts Needed- No.28 QTY 2

Locate the Gable Strips (No.28) onto the join of the gable tops and front/back panels, secure the gable strips using 4x30mm screws per strip in an alternating pattern. Do not fix into the gap between the panels.

8x30mm Screws





Step 13

Parts Needed- No.9 QTY 2

- No.10 QTY 2
- No.29 QTY 2
- No.41 QTY 6
- Place all of the required parts together on the floor in the correct layout as shown in the illustration. Secure the Joining plates (No.41) to both sides of the truss along the framing joins with 5x30mm screws per plate, ensuring the screws are staggered to avoid collision.
- Secure the Truss Brace (No.29) to both sides of the Lower Trusses, making sure to stagger the 4x40mm screws at each end. The truss brace should finish flush with the edge of the lower truss.

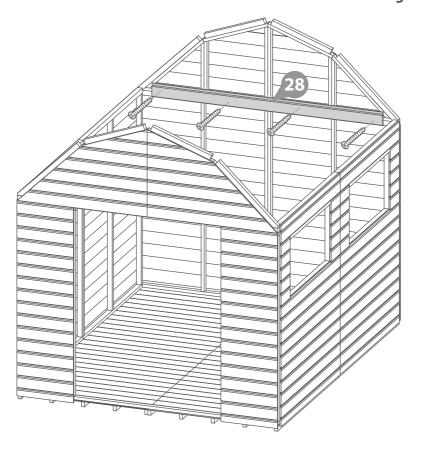
30x30mm Screws 8x40mm Screws



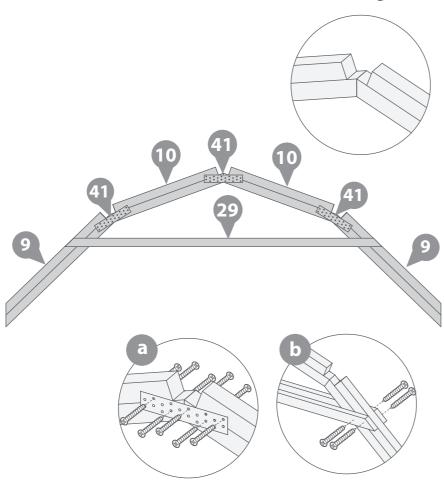




IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



Step 14

Parts Needed-No.31 QTY 2

Measure and mark 42mm from the top corner of the truss.

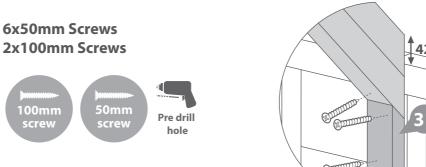
Place the Truss in position with a 42mm gap from the top corner of the truss to the top of the side panel.

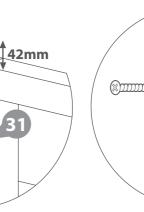
Locate the Truss Blocks (No.31) onto each side of the building, then use the measurement made when together with the truss to determine the height of the Truss blocks and mark the position.

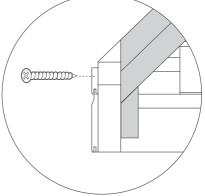
Secure the truss blocks in an alternating pattern using 2x50mm screws per block, ensuring to go through to the panel framing behind. Do not fix into the gap between the panels.

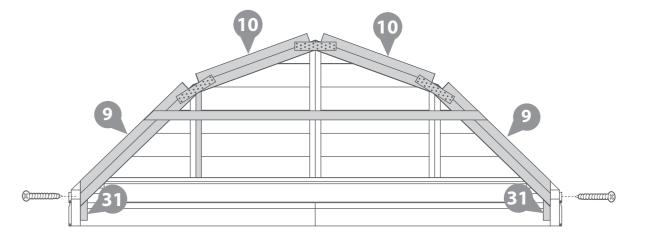
Fix the truss to the side panels using 1x50mm screw per side making sure that you go into the panel framing behind.

Fix a further 100mm screw to each side from the exterior of the building into the truss on the inside.











Step 15 Parts Needed-No.12 QTY 4 - No.40 QTY 2

Locate the Bottom roof panels (No.12) and secure the roof panels together using a U channel (No.40) on to the top framing pieces. Ensure the U channel (No.40) is equally spaced over the roof panel framing. Secure the U channels using 10x30mm screws per channel.

Repeat the step to create a second assembly.

20x30mm Screws





Step 16 Parts Needed-No.11 QTY 4 - No.40 QTY 2

Locate the Top roof panels (No.11) and secure the roof panels together using a U channel (No.40) on to the top framing pieces.

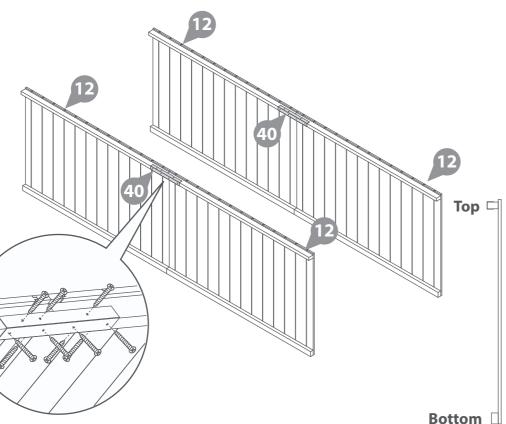
Make sure that the U channel is on the framing within the roof panel where there is the 16mm gap between the top of the framing and the edge of the roof cladding. Ensure the U channel (No.40) is equally spaced over the roof panel framing. Secure the U channels using 10x30mm screws per channel.

Repeat the step to create a second assembly.

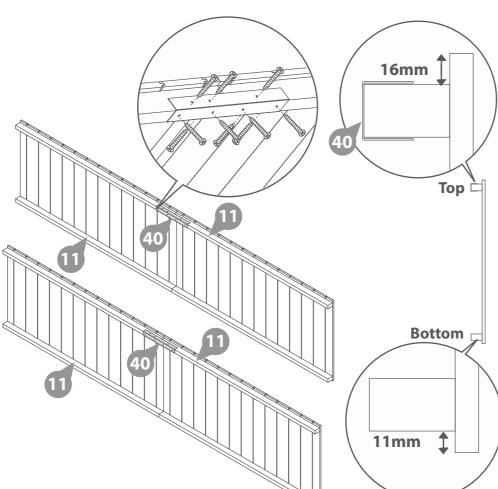
20x30mm Screws



IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws. Step 17

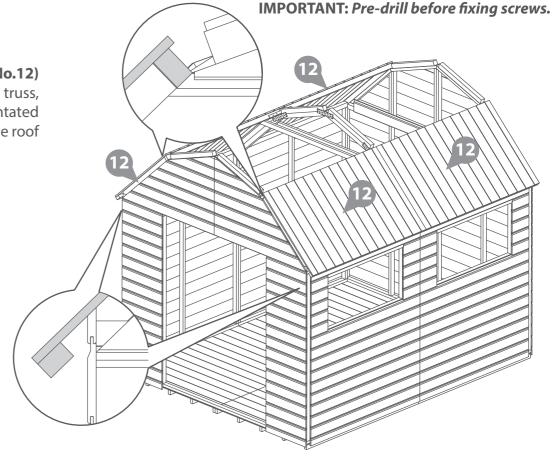


IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



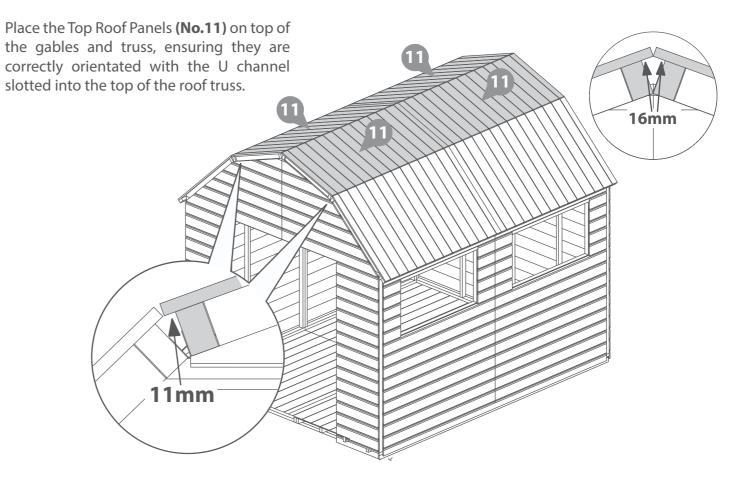
Parts Needed-No.12 QTY 4

Place the Bottom roof panels (No.12) on top of the gables and truss, ensuring they are correctly orientated with the U channel slotted into the roof truss.



IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.

Step 18



Secure the Roofs internally, using 4x60mm screws per roof panel join. Ensuring to go through one roof panel framing and into the other. This will pull the two roof panels together.

Position the panels so there is equal spacing.

Make sure that the edges of the framing within the roof panels are flush with the outer cladding on the front and back panels.

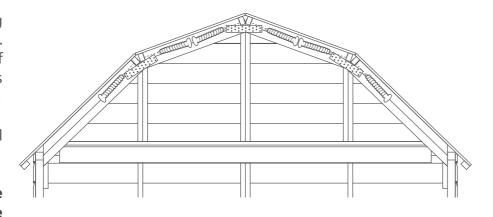
Do not secure the building to the floor until the roof is fitted.

24x60mm Screws

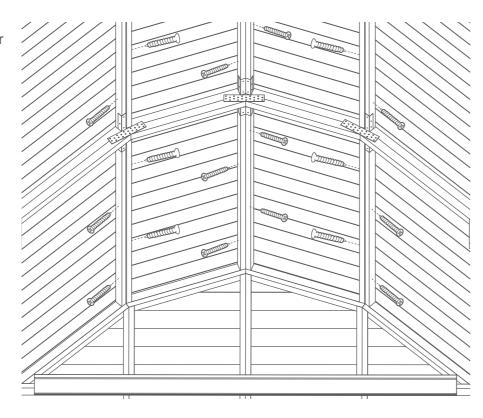




IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



INTERNAL VIEWS



Step 20

Further secure each Roof in place using 30mm screws, ensuring they are no more than 300mm apart. Make sure to screw through the cladding into the panel and truss framing below.

Do not secure the building to the Floor until the roof is fitted.

60x30mm Screws





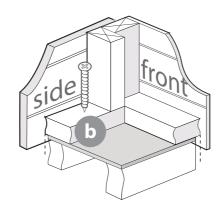
Step 21

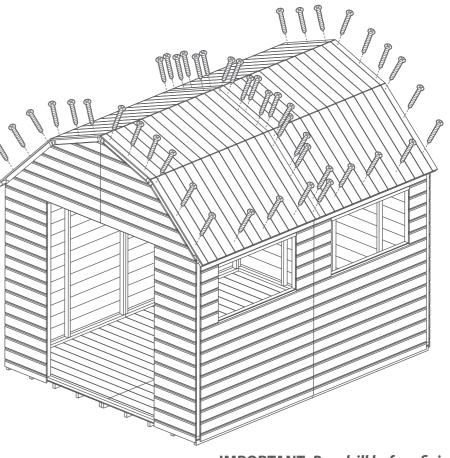
Once the roof is fixed, attach the building to the Floor with 50mm screws.

Ensure the screws go through the panel into the Floor framing.

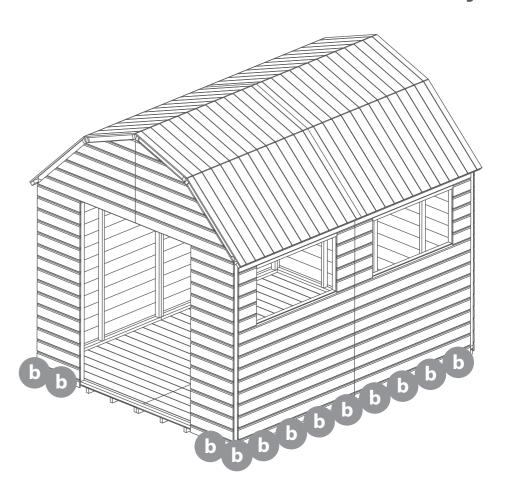
28x50mm Screws







IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.





Make sure that the Bottom Door Framing (No.23) is flush with the framing within the front panels. Fix the Bottom Door Framing to the floor ensuring that you go into the framing below.

4x50mm Screws

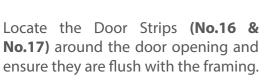


Step 23





IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



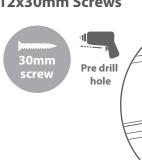
- No.17 QTY 2

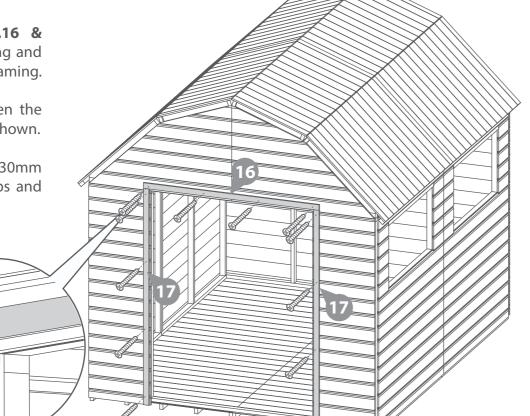
Parts Needed- No.16 QTY 1

There should be a gap between the strips and the door opening as shown.

Secure each strip with 4x30mm screws, going through the strips and into the door panel cladding.

12x30mm Screws





Step 24

Parts Needed- No.5 QTY 2 - No.33 QTY 6

Fix 3 Hinges (No.33) to each Door (No.5) securing with 4x30mm screws per hinge and position as shown.

Fix each Door to the building with 3x30mm screws per hinge. Make sure that the inside view of the door looks like it does on the illustration.

Ensure the doors open and close freely.

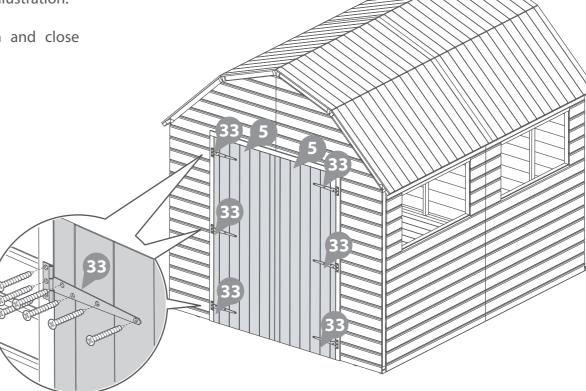
42x30mm Screws



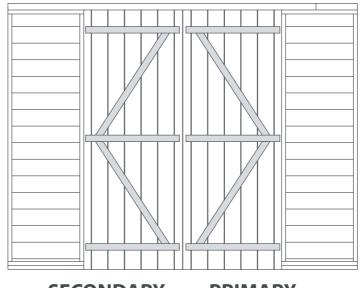








Inside View



SECONDARY PRIMARY



Step 25 Parts Needed- No.15 QTY 1 - No.30 QTY 2

Place the Door Blocks (No.30) onto the top of the door framing and ensure that they are flush with the ends of the framing. Secure using 2x30mm screws per block, going through the front of the door cladding and into the door block.

Locate the Door Cloaking Strip (No.15) between the door framing and ensure that it is equally spaced. Secure to the secondary door using 4x30mm screws, going through the front of the door cladding and into the Door Cloaking Strip.

8x30mm Screws





Step 26 Parts Needed-No.34 QTY 2

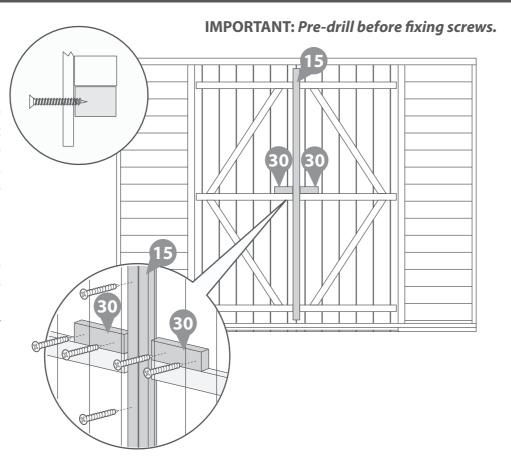
Align the tower bolts (No.34) onto the door cloaking strip, secure the bolts to the top and bottom using 6x30mm screws per tower bolt.

Mark the position of the bolt & drill a hole above and below for the bolt to catch in to.

12x30mm Screws







IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.

Step 27 Parts Needed- No.39 QTY 2

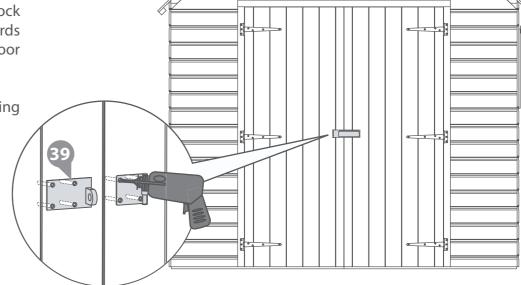
Align the lock (No.39) to the door, ensuring equal spacing across the doors and in line with the door framing.

Measure and mark the holes of the lock (No.39) and drill through the boards and through the framing and door blocks.

Fix the lock onto the door using 8x60mm Carriage Bolts and Nuts

8x60mm Carriage Bolts







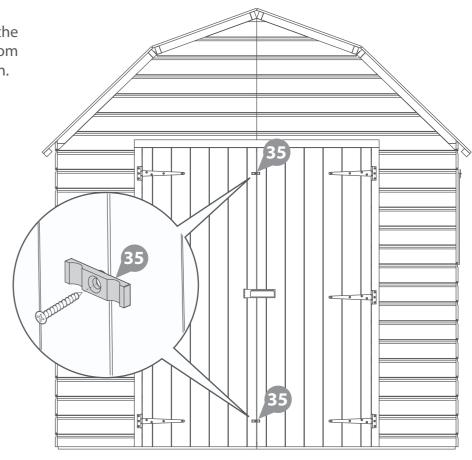
Step 28 Parts Needed-No.35 QTY 2

Attach the turn buttons (No.35) to the secondary door at the top and bottom using 1x30mm screw per turn button.

2x30mm Screws









IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.

Step 29

Parts Needed- No.13 QTY 2

- No.18 QTY 2
- No.36 QTY 4

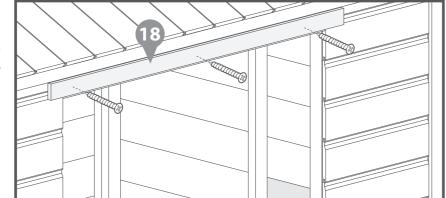
Place the Window Strip (No.18) 11mm above the window gap in the window panel and fix with 3x30mm screws per strip.

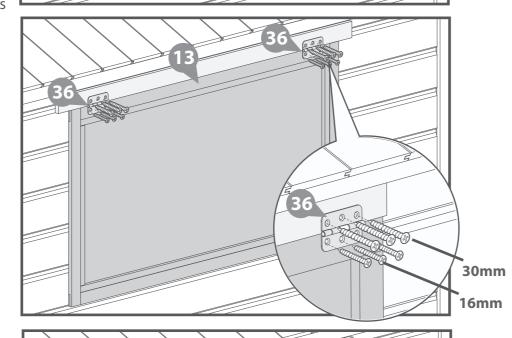
6x30mm Screws

Opening Window

If you would like the windows to be opening use the Butt Hinges (No.36) to attach to the window strip and the Window (No.13) together. Use 30mm screws to fix the butt hinge to the Window Strip and 16mm screws to fix it to the Window.

12x30mm Screws 12x16mm Screws





Fixed Window

If you want to fix the windows, instead of fixing butt hinges to the opening window, use 4x30mm screws to attach the window (No.13) to the window side panel as shown in the diagram.

8x30mm Screws







IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.

Step 30 Parts Needed- No.32 QTY 2

Fix the Casement Stay (No.32) to the opening window then align the fixings onto the window panel frame.

Ensure the casement stay fits into fixings when closed before screwing them down using 6x16mm screws per casement stay.

12x16mm Screws





Step 31

Parts Needed-No.19 QTY 7 - No.20 QTY 1

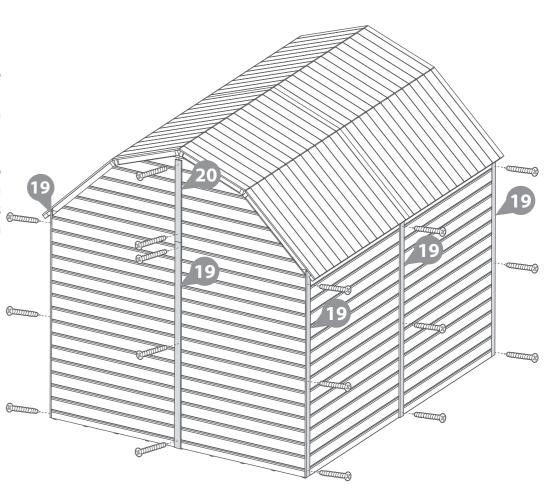
Fit the Cover Trims (No.19) to the building at each corner and panel join, secure in place with 3x30mm screws per cover trim.

Fix the gable cover trim (No.20) to the back of the building using 2x30mm screws, ensuring it sits flush with the fitted cover trim below.

23x30mm Screws







Parts Needed- No.37 QTY 1

Cut the felt (No.37) into four strips measuring:

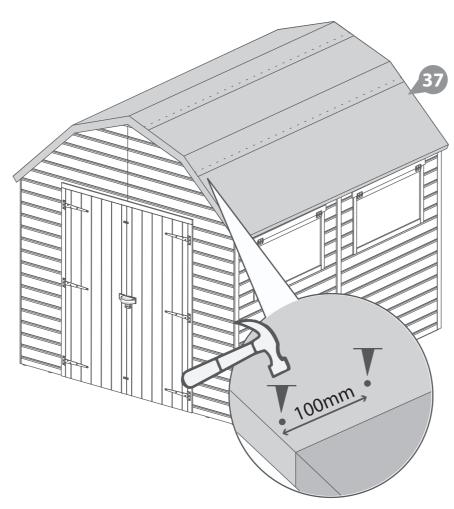
3050mm (L) X 1000mm (W).

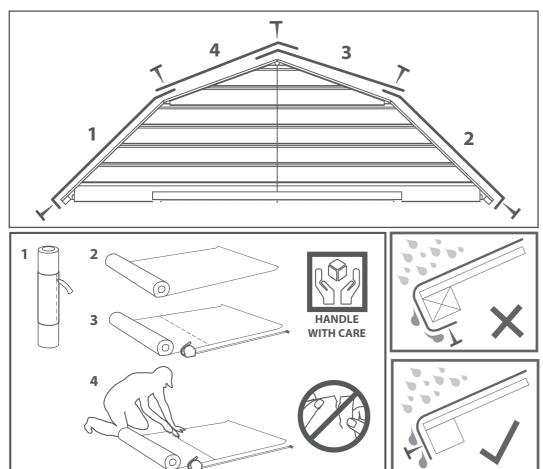
Lay the felt flat onto the roof in the order stated on the diagram below ensuring there is a 50mm overhang over each side and the felt sheets overlap by 100mm.

Once the sheets are laid out, fix them onto the roof using felt tacks 100mm apart.

155 x Felt tack







Step 33

Parts Needed-No.25 QTY 4 - No.27 QTY 4

Fix the Fascias (No.25 & 27) to the front and rear of the building using 3x30mm screws per fascia.

Ensure to screw through the boards into the framing.

24x30mm Screws





Step 34 Parts Needed- No.24 QTY 1 - No.26 QTY 2

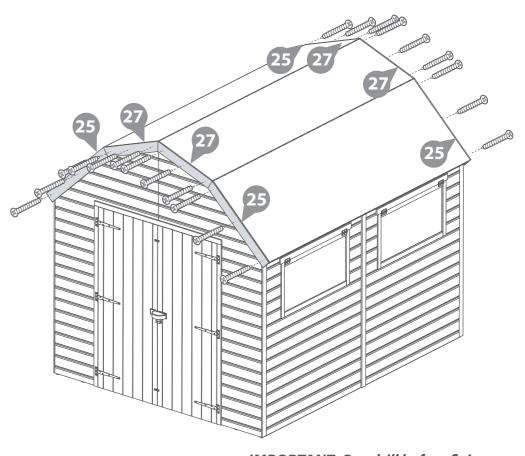
Fix the Barge Board (No.24 and No.26) to the front of the building using 3x30mm screws per Barge Board.

Ensure to screw through the boards into the Gable top cladding.

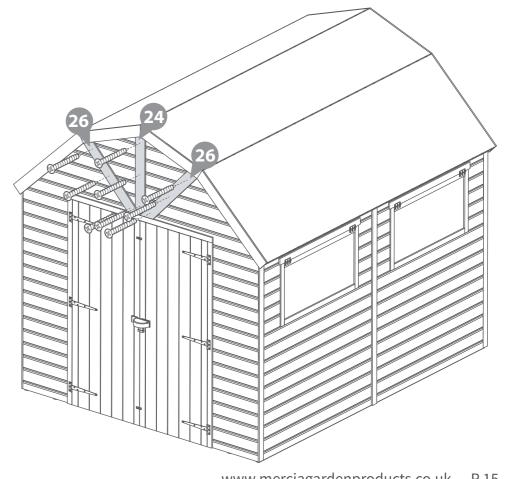
9x20mm Screws



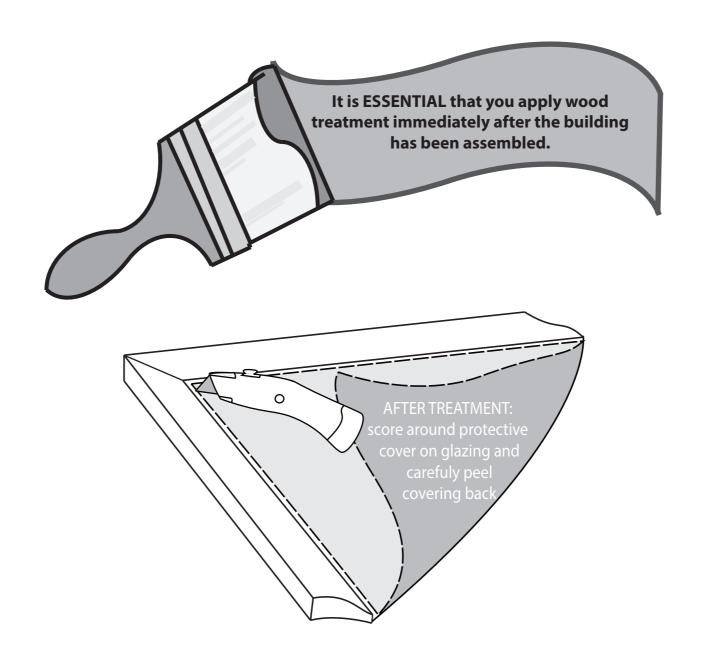




IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.











TREATING YOUR GARDEN BUILDING

Preservation of wood that's outdoors is vital. A little early care will help protect your garden building, improve its appearance and ensure maximum longevity. Insects, moisture, salt, and changing weather can have dramatic effects on the stability and appearance of your garden building. Once your building is installed, you've checked it over and you're happy with it, you can take a few basic precautions to prepare it for the elements. Treating your garden building helps prevent decay and, by repelling water, discourages the growth of moulds and fungi that could jeopardise the structural integrity of the wood.

Dip Treated buildings - Require a preservative treatment to protect against rot and decay and a waterproof treatment to prevent water ingress **Pressure Treated buildings** - Require a waterproof treatment to prevent water ingress Log Cabins/Insulated Garden Rooms - Are supplied untreated and require a preservative and waterproofing treatment.



ANY QUESTIONS? Scan the QR code to contact us via our customer

To apply a preservative and water proofing treatment (pressure treated products do not require a preserver), follow the manufacturer's instructions but in principle, stick to the following steps:

- ✓ Wear latex or rubber gloves, eye protection and (if spraying) a mask.
- Prepare the wood, by sanding down any ridges or inconsistencies in the wood, smoothing out knots and end-cuts.
- Choose a dry day to treat your garden building. If you're spraying rather than brushing paint on, avoid a windy day.
- Be sure you can safely reach all the sections you need to paint and if you need a ladder, make sure it's safely positioned before climbing. Lay dust sheets around to avoid paint splatters on your base or surrounding plants.

- ✓ Tape around windowpanes to avoid smears when you're painting the frames.
- Keep pets and small children out of the way. The last thing you want is to have fur on your garden building paint, or little painted footprints all over your garden and home.
- Fill any gaps in the building's body with caulk or wood filler to prevent water and draughts getting in. Silicone based caulk is flexible and will move with the timber when temperature and humidity change. Allow to dry completely before treating. A handy tip for finding gaps is to go into your garden building and look for light leaking through joins and frames. If light gets in, then so will water.
- ✓ Liberally apply at least two coats of the treatment products with a brush or spray, taking care to allow the first coat to completely dry before applying the second.
- ✓ Make sure the solution permeates the whole of the surface area, especially around natural cracks, end cuts and nail/screw holes.





Perimeter

Check around the perimeter of your product to ensure there are not trees or plants that are in contact with or overhanging the building. This can affect airflow and overhanging trees, or branches can damage the roof, it is advised to keep plants at a distance.

Repair

Inspect the interior and exterior of the product to look for splits, cracks, and holes. Although this is a natural occurrence it can be prevented. A wood filler can be used to close the splits, cracks, and holes.

Roof

Check your roof regularly for tears, splits, damaged wood and fallen debris. If you notice any of this immediate repair is critical.

Doors & Windows

Expansion and contraction can cause doors and windows to stick or become difficult to open. Small adjustments to the hinge position can be made to the doors and windows to allow free movement.

Hinges can seize up over time, apply lubricant to the hinges and locks annually.

Screws & Bolts

It is advised to check all screws and bolts and tighten any loose you might find. For log cabins specifically the storm braces will require loosening. During humidity and temperature changes (seasons) to allow expansion and contraction to prevent gaping, twisting, popping, and warping.

Wash

At least once a year, give the outside of you building a good wash, to remove cobwebs, leaves, or any other dirt that may accumulate on the exterior.

Airing

Airing your product regularly prevents the build up of condensation which can cause the timber to rot and mould. Condensation can build up over time or daily, it is caused by a rise and fall in temperature. Leaving doors and windows open regularly can help combat the natural moisture build up.

Clean & Tidy

It is good practice to clean the inside and outside of your product regularly. Clear out the contents, sweep the floor, remove dirt and cobwebs. Check for areas of damp and investigate the cause to remove and prevent future occurrences. Check the ground around your product for build up of debris such as leaves, remove and ensure there is clear ventilation underneath the floor.

Additional Playhouse Maintenance:

It is recommended that the following checks and maintenance are carried out at the beginning of each season as well as at regular intervals during the usage season.

- Check all nuts /bolts/ screws for tightness and tighten when required.
- Check for movement / opening of wood giving rise to protrusion of nail heads and tips.
- Check hinges.
- Replace defective parts in accordance with the manufacturers instructions.
- Check any crossbeams, suspensions and anchors.
- If a swing is included; check the swing seat, chains and ropes.

IF THESE CHECKS ARE NOT CARRIED OUT THE ACTIVITY TOY COULD BECOME A HAZARD



All our garden buildings have been designed and manufactured with care and attention to be the perfect addition to your outdoor space. To ensure you do get the best out of your new garden building and to increase the longevity we advise that you follow the product instructions and our manufacturer's recommendations as detailed below. Thank you for choosing a Mercia Garden product!

Choosing the most suitable location for your garden building...

A minimum of 60cm should be left around the perimeter of your garden building to allow access for maintenance, annual treatment and to allow air flow around the building.

Where possible you should avoid placing your garden building underneath large trees to prevent the tree causing damage to the building.

Preparing the base for your garden building...

All our buildings must be built on a firm, level base to ensure the longevity of the building and prevent the wood from distorting. We recommend either concrete, concrete slabs or a wooden base, such as our 'Portabase'.

The base should be slightly smaller than the external measurement of the building, i.e. the cladding should overlap the base, creating a run off for water and preventing water from pooling underneath the building.

We also recommend that the floor of the garden building is a minimum of 25mm above the surrounding ground level to avoid flooding.

After installation...

Once your garden building has been installed, it will need to be treated within 14 days (weather permitting) and annually to prevent the timber from deteriorating and to waterproof it. This is required to maintain the anti-rot guarantee.

Dip Treated buildings - Require a preservative treatment to protect against rot and decay

and a waterproof treatment to prevent water ingress.

Pressure Treated buildings - Require a waterproof treatment to prevent water

Log Cabins/Insulated Garden Rooms - Are supplied untreated and require a preservative and waterproofing treatment.

We also recommend using a silicon sealant on the inside and outside of the windows as soon as possible after assembly and treatment to fully seal the windows.

Roofing felt/covering should be checked annually and replaced or fixed accordingly.

General maintenance and wood characteristics

As wood is a natural material it may be affected by the following:

Shrinkage and warping - The timber used in the construction of your garden building will have retained some of its natural moisture content. The moisture content of the timber will vary, depending upon prevailing environmental conditions, which will result in the components either naturally expanding or contracting. As the components dry out, shrinkage may occur. A good waterproofing treatment from the start is the best protection to minimise the effect of moisture loss/intake.

In extended periods of very warm weather getting some moisture to the building will help the overall balance. You can do this by spraying it down lightly with a garden hose. In contrast, after snow fall try to remove the snow as best as possible from the roof to prevent moisture intake and to remove the extra weight.

Top tip - using a garden brush will help you to reach the highest part of the building to remove snow and any debris left from bad weather.

Damp and mould - During the winter months, cold and damp conditions can result in an increased amount of moisture within your garden building, especially when used infrequently. Condensation can form on the timber and other items stored within your garden building. If left this moisture is likely to cause mould and mildew.

To prevent the build-up of moisture, we recommend leaving the door or windows of your building open from time to time, to allow the fresh air to circulate. We also advise against storing wet or damp items in your garden building as this will also increase the level of moisture in the building. If mould or mildew does start to form within your building we recommend using an anti-mould cleaner to remove it and to prevent it spreading, which if left untreated could permanently damage your garden building.

Splits, cracks and knots - You may notice small splits and cracks in some components or holes may appear where knots shrink and fall out. This will not affect the structure of your Garden building however, if you wish to fill them this can be easily done using any good quality wood filler.

Sap - is naturally occurring in wood and may appear in some boards of your garden building. If you wish to remove the sap, we advise waiting until it is dry and then using a sharp knife to carefully remove it. If the removal of the sap causes a hole in the timber, we recommend using a good quality wood filler to fill it.

For more handy hints and tips on how to care and maintain your garden building please refer to the MGP Customer Portal at www.mgplogistics.co.uk

Any further questions?

Contact our Customer Service Team via the MGP Customer Portal at: www.mgplogistics.co.uk

Manufacturer's Warranty

All Mercia Garden Products are supplied with a 1 year warranty on all parts against manufacturing defects.

This warranty does not cover movement, warping or splitting of timber products over time.

This warranty will be voided if any of the following occur:

- 1. The building has been customised or modified/adapted in any way.
- 2. The person claiming is not the original purchaser of the building.
- 3. Any damage has been caused by or as a result of misuse.
- 4. The building has not been maintained and cared for in accordance to our advisories and manufacturer's recommendations.
- 5. The building has not been treated annually or as per the manufacturer's recommendations, please ensure receipts are kept to validate this claim.
- 6. The building has not been erected, fitted or installed as per the supplier instructions.
- 7. The building has not been erected on a suitable sized firm flat, solid level concrete/slab base or placed on pressure treated bearers.
- 8. The building is or has been placed with 2 feet (600mm) of any obstructions (walls, trees, plants, fences etc.) which can allow moisture to penetrate the timber.
- 9. The roofing felt has been incorrectly fitted or damaged, allowing water ingress, or has not been properly maintained.
- 10. Any windows and joints have not been sealed, inside and out, with silicone or other watertight sealant.
- 11. Any timber has been cut, pierced or drilled without subsequent application of approved cut-end treatment.





Anti-rot Guarantee

Mercia Garden Products offer a 10 year anti-rot guarantee on all dip treated (a preparatory treatment) and 15 years on all pressure treated products. This guarantee covers solid timber against rot, decay, blue stain and insect attacks.

To validate the guarantee, the building must be treated (as detailed within manufacturer's recommendations) within 14 days (weather permitting) of assembly and annually thereafter.

This guarantee does not cover movement, warping or splitting of timber products over time.

This guarantee will be voided if any of the following occur:

- 1. The building has been customised or modified/adapted in any way.
- 2. The person claiming is not the original purchaser of the building.
- 3. Any damage is caused by or as a result of misuse.
- 4. The building has not been maintained and cared for in accordance to our advisories and manufacturer's recommendations.
- 5. The building has not been treated annually or as per the manufacturer's recommendations, please ensure receipts are kept to validate this claim.
- 6. The building has not been erected, fitted or installed as per the supplier instructions.
- 7. The building has not been erected on a suitable sized firm flat, solid level concrete/slab base or placed on pressure treated bearers.
- 8. The building is or has been placed with 600mm of any obstructions (walls, trees, plants, fences etc.) which can allow moisture to penetrate the timber.
- 9. The roofing felt has been incorrectly fitted or damaged allowing water ingress, or has not been properly maintained.
- 10. Any windows and joints have not been sealed, inside and out, with silicone or other watertight sealant.
- 11. Any timber has been cut, pierced or drilled without subsequent application of approved cut-end treatment.