Please retain product label and instructions for future reference





44MM LOG CABIN, CURVED ROOF, NO EXTRAS, 4M X 3M, HALF GLAZED DOUBLE DOORS, THREE SHORT WINDOW.

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 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 guaran-

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 building's should be erected by two adults



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



For ease of assembly, you MUST pilot drill all screw holes and ensure all screw heads are countersunk.



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.



For ease of assembly use a rubber mallet to fit the log boards. Do NOT use a heavy hammer.



Ensure to measure and check before cutting



It is advisable to use a hand saw when cutting roof and floor boards.



To ensure log boards are even, use a spirit level to check each layer has been installed correctly.

Screws & Nails

Measure overall length

Bolts Measure under the head

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



REGISTER FOR YOUR ANTI-ROT GUARANTEE TODAY



In all instances for assistance with your product, please contact customer care on : 01636 821215 or customerservice@merciagp.co.uk

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



NOTES



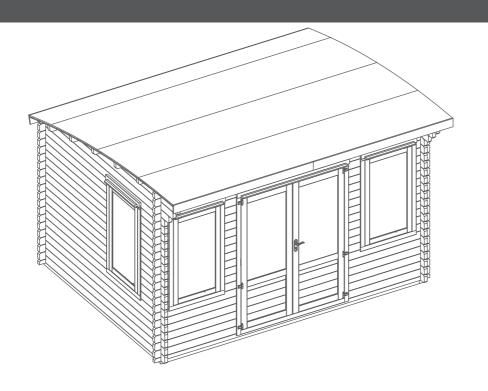
TO [OO LIST		
	Find a suitable location to build (see front cover for further information).		
	Build a base (see front cover for further information).		
	Check the base is flat, level, clear of debris and has 60cm clearance on all sides.		
	Check you have the required equipment.		
	Check you have all the product items listed (if you have missing or damaged parts please contact the customer services department, see front cover for contact details).		
	Install the product as per the step by step instructions within this pack.		
	Prepare the product ready for treatment.		
	Apply a preserving and a waterproofing treatment within 14 days (weather permitting) of installation.		
	Register for your anti rot guarantee (scan the QR below).		
	Tidy the build area and dispose of any remaining parts responsibly.		
	Maintain your building (see the manufacturers recommendations at the back of this pack).		
EQUIPMENT LIST		NEED EXTRA SUPPORT	
	Hammer Mallet 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. Alternatively, you can visit our website or MGP Logistics	
	Drill Bit Set Phillips and Slotted Bit Sets	Online Portal for some further sheducation.	
	Tape Measure	Website: https://www.merciagardenproducts.co.uk/sheducation	
	Hand Saw Spirit Level Ladders/Steps	MGP Logistics Online Portal: https://www.mgplogistics.co.uk/	
	Stanley Knife/Cutting Tool Sand Paper Gloves	Here you will find plenty of useful information that'll help with most pre-installation and maintenance queries.	
	Silicone (For Windows Only) Wood Filler (Optional)		
	Timber Preservative Treatment Timber Water Proofing Treatment Treatment Mixing Stick Paint Brush/Sprayer/Roller	ANY QUESTIONS? CONTACT US ON 01636 821215	



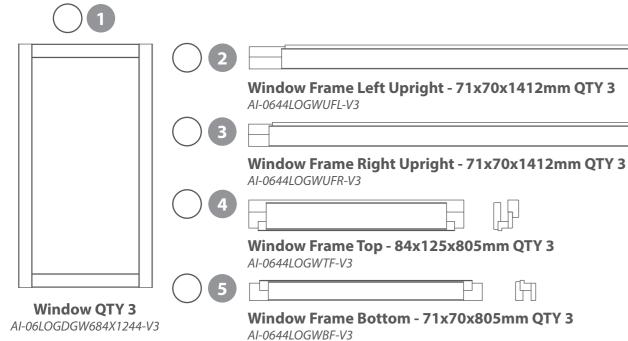


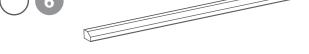
Overall Dimensions: Base Dimensions: Width = 4064mm

Depth = 3486mm Height = 2600mm Width = 3818mm Depth = 2817mm



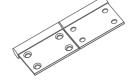
Window Content:





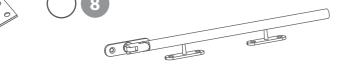
Rain Guard QTY 3 RG2844-710MM (28x44x710mm)





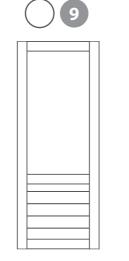




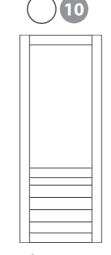


Casement Stay QTY 3 PI-07-0187









Secondary DoorQTY 1 AI-06LOGDGSD750X1900-V3



















h







RG2844-1520MM (28x44x1520mm)



PI-07-0188

Handles (Pair) QTY 1

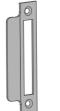


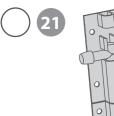


PI-07-0017

Mortice Lock QTY 1



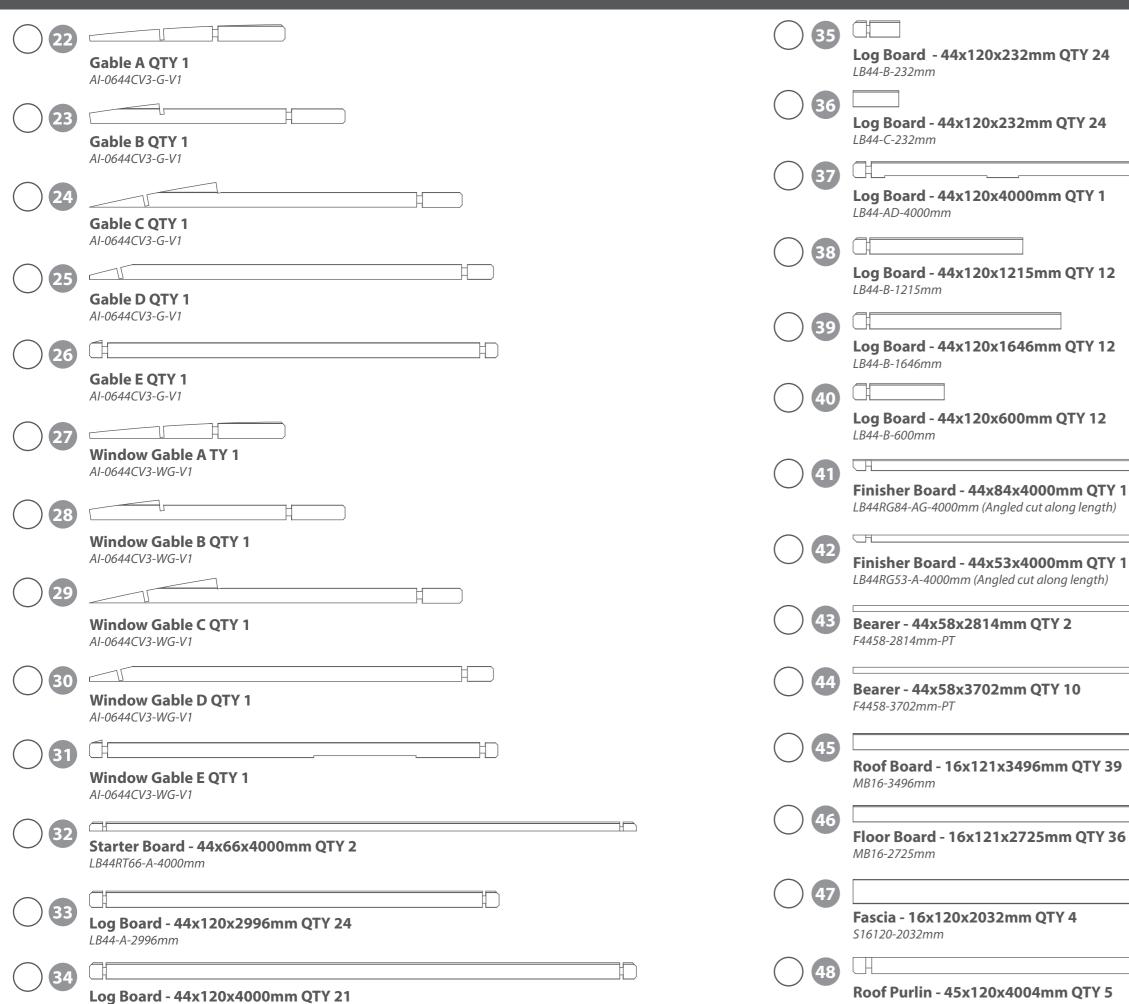




Key Plate QTY 1 PI-07-0017

Tower Bolt QTY 2 PI-07-0114





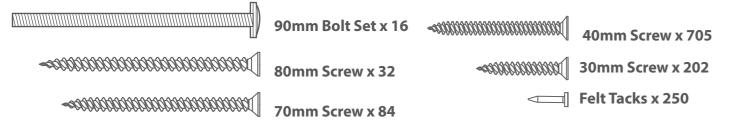
F45120-A-4004mm



49	Back Eaves Frame - 27x44x4004mm QTY 1 F2744-4004mm
50	Front Eaves Frame - 44x58x3730mm QTY 1 F4458-3730mm
51	Roof Trim - 16x30x3492mm QTY 2 S1630-3.492mm
52	Storm Brace - 27x44x2000mm QTY 8 F2744-2000mm
53	Closure Trim - 16x28x2400mm (approx length) QTY 12 S1628-2400mm
54	Felt
55	
	Roof Spacers QTY 5 <i>PI-07-0208 (20x100x2mm)</i>

Nail Bag

There may be extra screws present in the nail bag

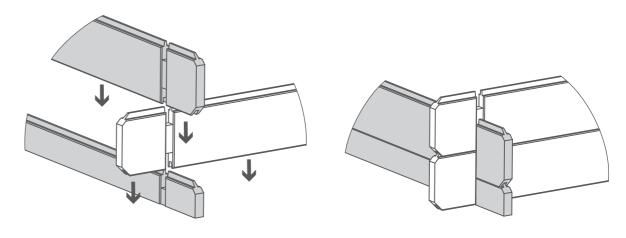


Pre-assembly

*Please note:

Each board interlocks at either end in a staggered pattern.

Before securing ensure that the boards are fitted properly in their respective tongues and grooves.





Step 1 Parts Needed - No. 43 QTY 2 No. 44 QTY 2

Lay the bearers (No. 43 & 44) onto a firm and level surface (free from areas where standing water can collect) as shown in the illustration.

Fix the bearers together at each corner using 2x70mm screws, ensuring the bearers are flush.

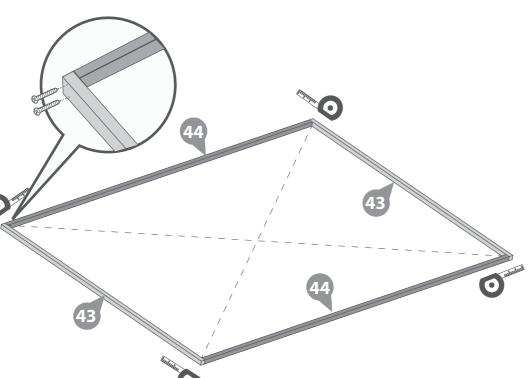
Once fully assembled, ensure the bearers are square by measuring from corner to corner as illustrated, making sure the measurements are equal.

If the bearers are not aligned equally, unscrew, adjust and re-align accordingly.

8x70mm Screws



IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



Step 2 Parts Needed - No. 44 QTY 8

Arrange the remaining bearers (No.44) inside the assembled frame, as shown.

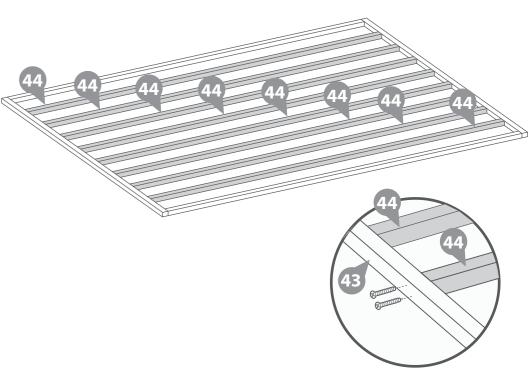
*Ensure there is an equal amount of space between each bearer.

Secure each end of the bearers in place using 2x70mm screws per end, ensuring the bearers remain level.

32x70mm Screws









Step 3 Parts Needed - No. 32 QTY 2 No. 33 QTY 2 **IMPORTANT:** *Pre-drill before fixing screws.*

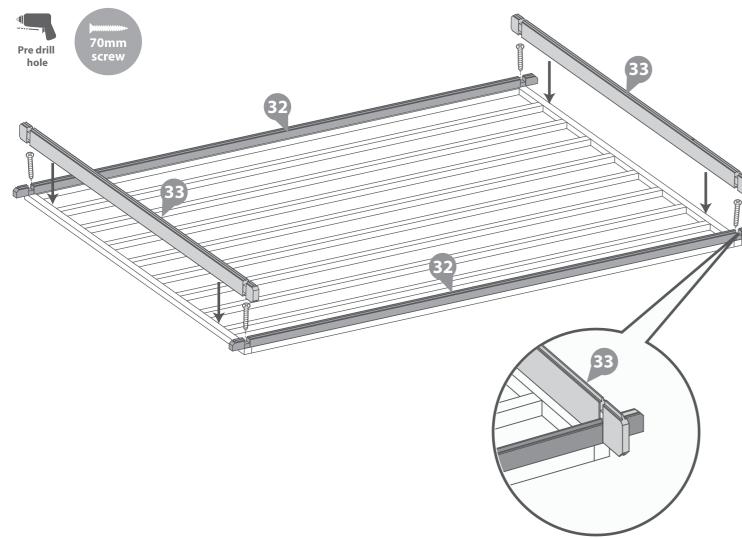
Place the starter boards (No. 32) on to assembled base frame along the longest sides and place the first two log boards (No. 33) in the notches as shown.

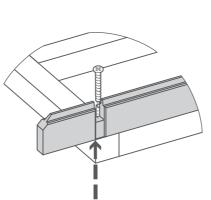
Ensure the boards sit square on the base using the same method used in Step 1. Measure corner to corner, making sure the measurements are equal.

Once the boards are square, lift up the log board (No.33) and fix the starter boards in place.

Fix each of the starter boards to the frame by screwing through the notch into the frame as shown in the illustration.

4x70mm Screws





Step 4

Parts needed - No. 33 QTY 11

No. 34 QTY 6

No. 38 QTY 12

No. 39 QTY 1

No. 40 QTY 1

Following the method shown in the illustration, lay the first 6 boards (No. 33, 34, 38, 39 & 40)

Start by placing the front and back boards, interlocking them with the side boards. Then place the next side boards, interlocking with the front and back boards. Continue this method until you have placed 6 boards off of the starter boards on each side, as shown in the illustration.

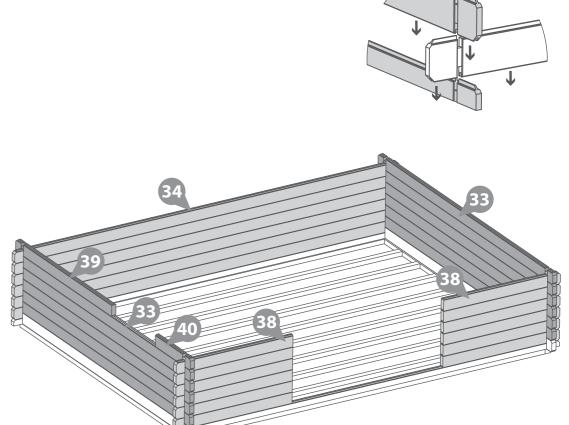
This will create your first level.

*Ensure that the boards are level and flush with each other as you lay each one.

Please Note: The short boards at the front of the building (either side of the door opening) can be placed either side depending on your needs.



Rubber Mallet may be required to fit parts.





Step 5 **IMPORTANT**: Pre-drill before fixing screws. Parts Needed - No. 11 QTY 1 No. 12 QTY 1 No. 13 QTY 1 No. 14 QTY 1 Arrange the left, right, top & bottom door frames (No. 11, 12, 13 & 14) onto a level surface. Secure the top and bottom frames to the uprights using 2x80mm screw per corner, ensuring the screws do **NOT** protrude through the front of the door framing. 8x80mm Screws The internal lip of the door frame should be positioned on the inside of the building.

Step 6 Parts Needed - No. 9 QTY 1 No. 10 QTY 1 No. 17 QTY 6

a The Adjustable Door Hinge (No.17) comes in three parts.

Fasten No. 17a into 17b as shown in the illustration.

b Place the master and secondary doors (No. 9 & 10) onto a flat surface and fix the Adjustable door hinge (No.17c) to the doors using 3x30mm screws per hinge.

Fix 3 x Adjustable Door Hinges (No. 17a & b) into position onto the door frame using 4x30mm screws per hinge.

*Ensure the hinges are fitted to the external of the door frame so the doors open outwards from the log cabin.

Locate the doors into the hinges ensuring there is equal spacing on each side between the doors and door frame, and that the doors open & close freely without restriction.

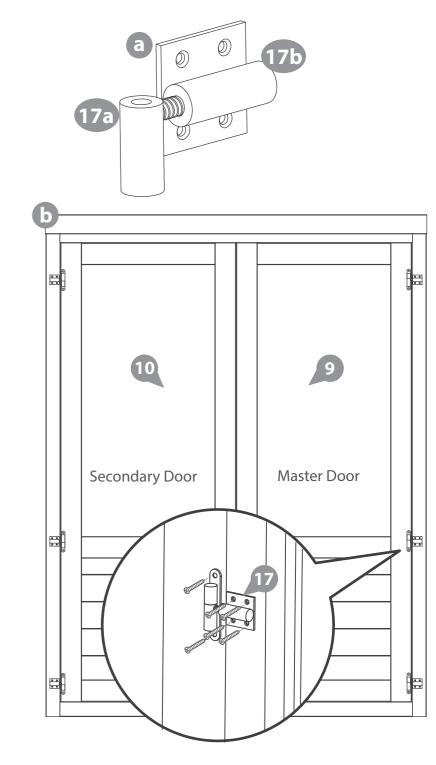
It is important to fit the doors within the frames at this stage so that you can establish the position of the hinges. The hinges come in three parts. Remove the doors from the frame after fitting.

**Ensure to screw into the framing and not into the channel.

42x30mm Screws



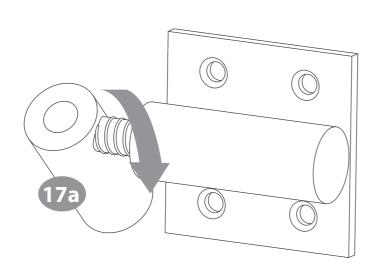






Step 7 To adjust and align your doors:

- 1. Lift up the doors to separate the two parts of the hinge.
- 2. Turn the rotating barrel (No.17a) in / out to move the postion of the doors either in or away from each other.
- 3. You can then place the door(s) back on to the hinge and check whether they require more / less adjustments, if further adjustments are required repeat number 2.

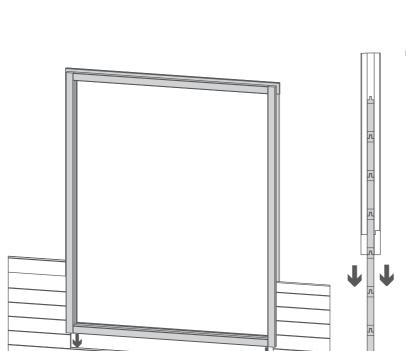


Step 8

Once you have laid 6 log boards (off of the starter) up the door section, slide the assembled door frame over the boards, resting the frame on top of the starter board (if you have not yet assembled the door frame refer to step 5).

*Please note: This image is for illustrative purposes and may differ from your choice in product (**Regarding door position**). Nevertheless the process of fitting the door frame is the same.

**Please Note: The short boards at the front of the building (either side of the door and window opening's) can be placed either side depending on your needs.



Step 9

Parts needed - No. 33 QTY 6

No. 34 QTY 6

No. 35 QTY 12

No. 36 QTY 12

No. 39 QTY 6

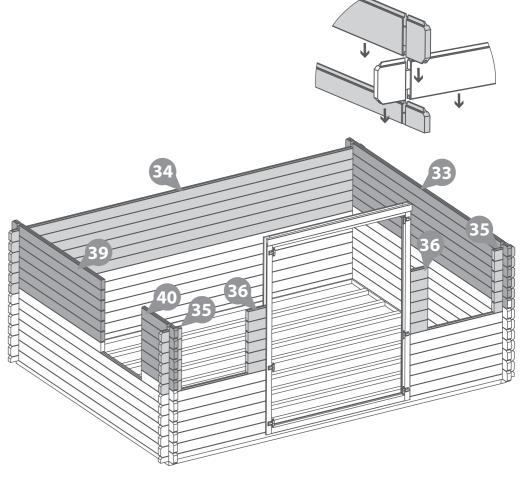
No. 40 QTY 6

Following the method shown in the illustration, lay the next 6 boards (No.33, 34, 35, 36, 39 & 40) onto the log cabin to create your second level.

*Ensure that the boards are level and flush with each other as you lay each

*Please Note: The short boards placed to create the opening's for the doors & windows can be placed either side depending on your needs.







Step 10 Parts Needed - No. 2 QTY 3

No. 3 QTY 3

No. 4 QTY 3

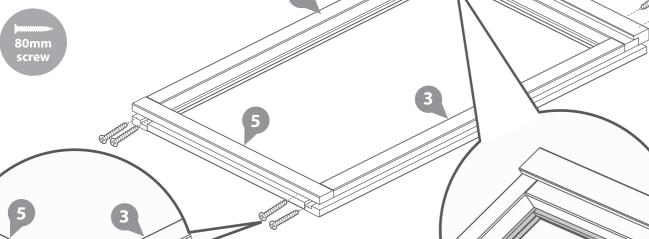
No. 5 QTY 3

Arrange the left, right, top & bottom window frames (No. 2, 3, 4,& 5) onto a firm and level surface. Secure the top and bottom frames to the uprights using 2x80mm screw per corner, ensuring the screws do **NOT** protrude through the front of the window framing.

Repeat to construct three window frames.







IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws. Step 11

The internal lip of the window frame should be positioned on the inside of the building.

Parts Needed - No. 1 QTY 3 **No. 7 QTY 6**

Position the window (No. 1) so that it sits centrally within the window frame. Fix the female part of the flag hinge (No. 7) to the window using 4x30mm screws, attach the male part of the flag hinge (No. 7) to the window frame using 4x30mm screws ensuring that the window can open and close freely.

Ensure to attach the hinge to the horizontal frame of the window

Repeat this method for all three windows

**It is important to fit the windows within the frame at this stage so that you can establish the position of the hinges. The hinges come in two parts. Remove the window from the frame after fitting.

48x30mm Screws



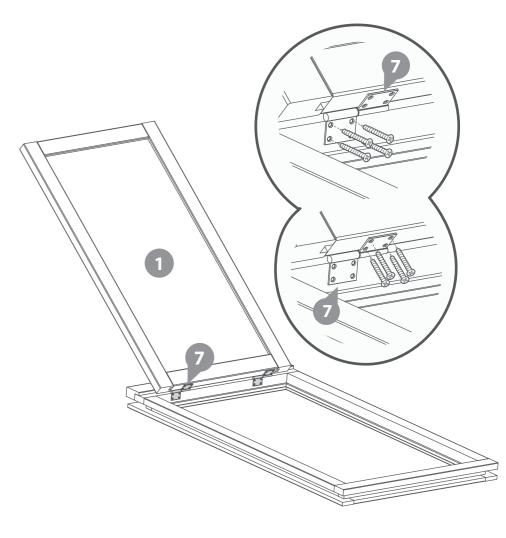


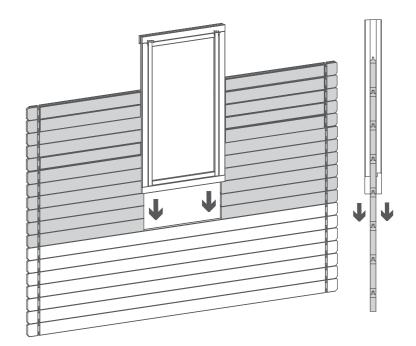
Step 12

Once you have laid the second level of boards onto the log cabin slide the windows between the smaller boards and rest on to the longer board (if you have not yet assembled the window frames refer to step 10)

*Ensure the boards are level with each end.

*Please note: This image is for illustrative purposes and may differ from your choice in product (regarding window position). Nevertheless the process of fitting the window is the same







IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



Part needed - No. 26 QTY 1

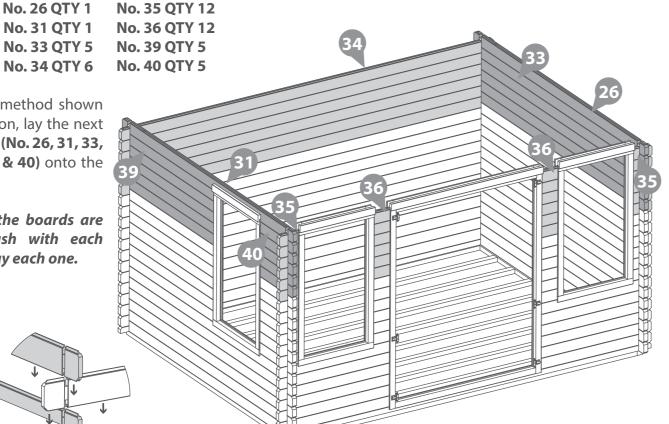
No. 31 QTY 1 No. 33 QTY 5

Following the method shown in the illustration, lay the next layer of boards (No. 26, 31, 33, **34, 35, 36, 39 & 40)** onto the log cabin.

*Ensure that the boards are level and flush with each other as you lay each one.



Rubber Mallet may be required to fit parts.



Step 15 Parts needed - No. 41 QTY 1 No. 42 QTY 2

Lay the finisher boards (No. 41 & 42) onto the front and back of the log cabin.

Secure the boards into position by screwing through the notches as shown in the illustration, using 1x70mm screw per end.

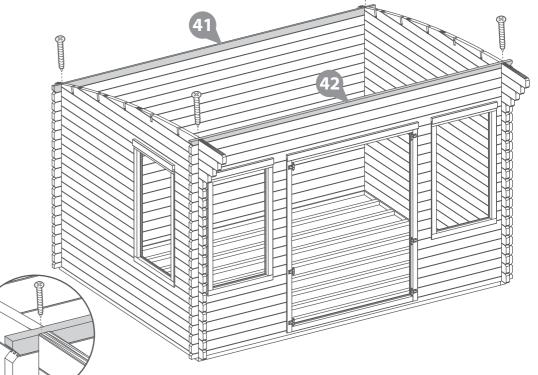
*Ensure that the boards are level and flush with each other as you lay each one.

4x70mm Screws









Step 14

Part needed - No. 22 QTY 1 No. 28 QTY 1

No. 23 QTY 1 No. 29 QTY 1 No. 24 QTY 1 No. 30 QTY 1

No. 25 QTY 1 No. 34 QTY 3

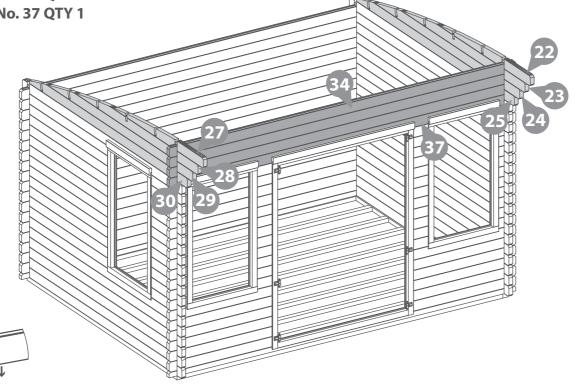
No. 27 QTY 1 No. 37 QTY 1

Following the same method, lay the final layer of boards (No. 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30 ,34 & 37) onto the log cabin, ensuring to create a staggered overhang at the front of the log cabin.

*Ensure that the boards are level and flush with each other as you lay each one.









Step 16 Parts needed - No. 48 QTY 5

- Align the Roof Purlin(s) (No. 48) into the cut out slots on each gable, ensuring each purlin interlocks the boards.
- Secure the purlins at each end by screwing through the bars into the boards (ensure to pre-drill to avoid the boards splitting) using 4x70mm screws per purlin.

*Please note: The gable shown is for illustrative purposes and may differ in width from your choice in product. Nevertheless, despite any differences the process of fixing the purlins is the same.

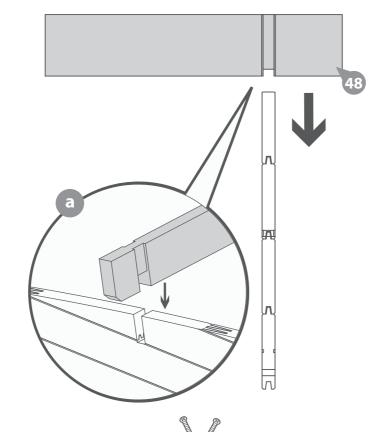
20x70mm Screws

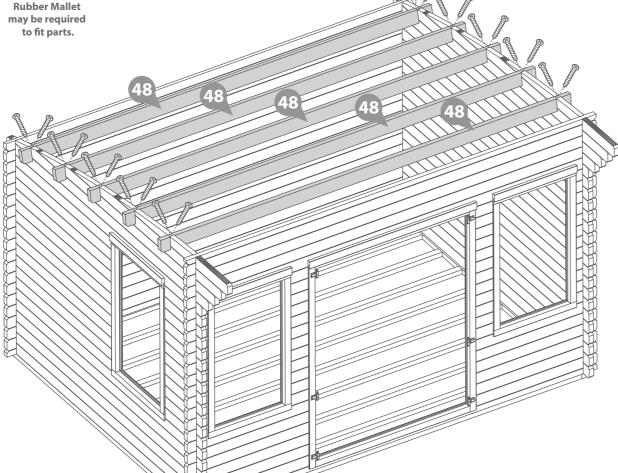












Step 17 Parts needed - No. 50 QTY 1

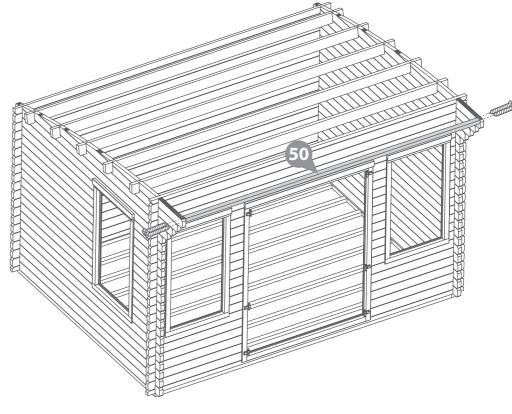
Locate the Front Eaves Frame (No.50) between the top most Gable boards, as shown. Ensure the Framing is flush to the front and top of the boards.

Secure the framing into position by screwing through the Log Boards and into the framing using 2x70mm screws per end.

4x70mm Screws









Step 18 Parts needed - No. 45 QTY 39

IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.

Using a straight edge and a pencil, measure 76mm from the tongue edge of one Roof board (No.45). Cut along the pencil mark, ensuring that the 76mm side has the tongue remaining and remove the excess.

Place the cut down Roof Board (**No.45**) onto the log cabin, making sure the straight edge of the board is **30mm away from the end of the roof purlin**, as shown. Once in position, fix to each purlin, the front and back log boards and the front eaves frame using 8x40mm screws.

Continue to add the roof boards along the roof, fixing each one into position using 8x40mm screws, making sure that each board is interlocked.

To ensure the roof boards are not laid too close together, use the spacers (**No.55**) provided to create a 2mm gap. Adjusting the spacing between the boards allows the wood to swell in damp weather.

You have been issued with 39 roof boards, however you may only need to use 38.

*Please note the boards will need bending to fit the curve of the roof.

The last board will overhang past the end of the purlins. Using a straight edge and a pencil, mark out a line on the board **30mm away from the end of the purlin** as a guide.

Cut along the pencil mark, ensuring the groove is remaining and remove the excess. Place the cut down board back onto the roof, ensuring there is at least 30mm overhanging past the end of the purlin and secure into place using 8x40mm screws per board.

Important note:

The last Roof Board is required to overhang the edge of the purlin by 30mm and fix into the purlin. If the gap from the last full Roof Board to the end of the purlin is less than 10mm, then adjustment is required to increase this space.

To do this, please take note of the moisture content of the roof boards. *If the boards are wet or damp,* then unscrew the boards and push them closer together until the final fits correctly. A rubber mallet may be required to do so.

If the roof boards are dry, then unscrew the boards and space them further apart until the final board fits correctly.

Taking into account the moisture contents is important to ensure the longevity of your log cabin roof. The moisture content of the timber will change throughout the year and the boards will move. Adjusting them accordingly allows the boards to shrink and swell without hindering the structural integrity of the building.

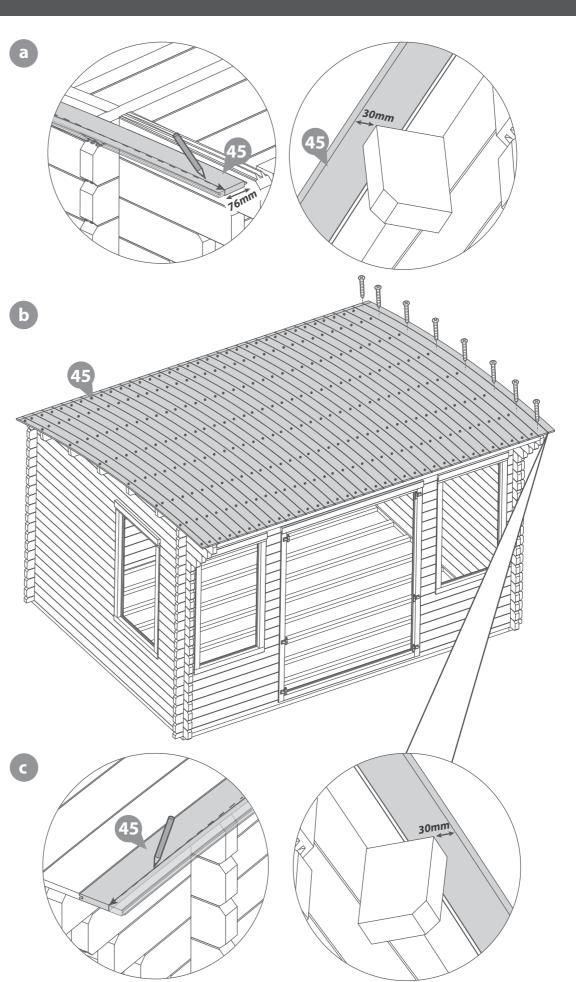
If unscrewing and adjusting the boards positions doesn't work, the first and final board may need re-measuring and cutting.

312x40mm Screws











Step 19 Parts needed - No. 49 QTY 1

Ensuring the roof boards are flush at the front and back of the building, locate the Back Eaves Frame (No.49) to the underside of the roof boards at the back of the building. Ensure the eaves frame is positioned centrally to the building and that there is a 30mm gap on each side.

Secure in place using 9x40mm screws, as shown in the illustration

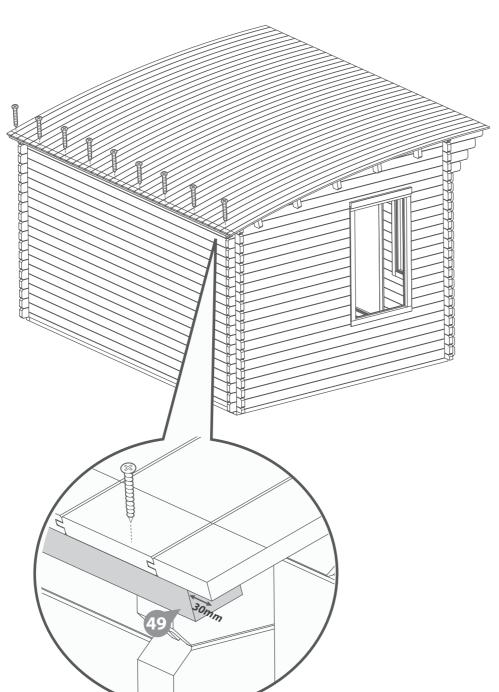
*Please Note: This image is for illustrative purposes and may differ from your choice in product. Nevertheless the process of fixing the eaves frames is the same.

9x40mm Screws





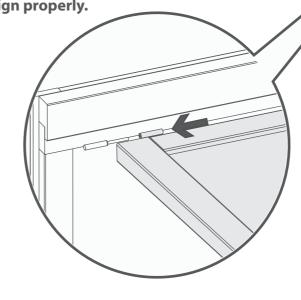
IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.

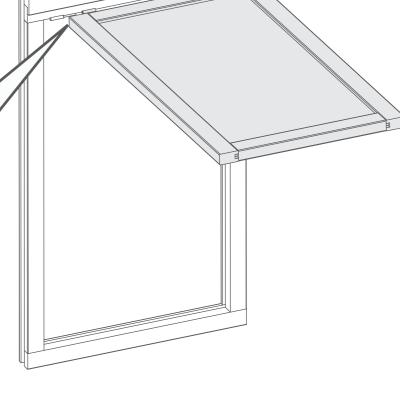


Step 20

Lift each window onto the already existing hooks on the window frame, ensuring the hook and bands connect.

*Some adjustment may be required to align properly.





Step 21 Parts Needed - No. 8 QTY 3

Fix the casement stay (No. 8) onto the window (No. 1) and the casement stay pins to the window framing using 6x30mm screws.

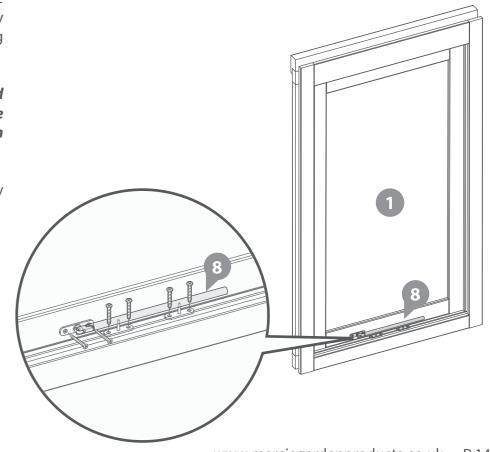
*Ensure the casement stay is centralised on the window and the pins are in line with the pin receivers before fixing in place.

Repeat this process to fix a casement stay to each window.

18x30mm Screws





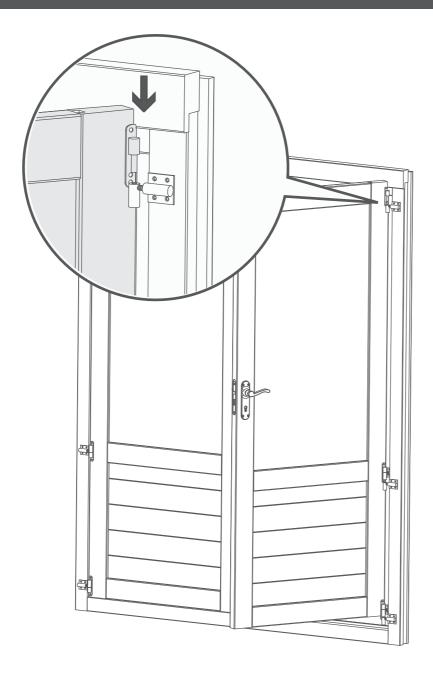




Step 22

Lift each door onto the already existing hooks on the door frame, ensuring the hook and bands connect.

*Some adjustment may be required to align properly.



Step 23

Parts Needed - No. 18 QTY 1

No. 19 QTY 1

No. 20 QTY 1

Fit the Mortice lock (No. 19) into the recess in the master door (No. 9) and secure using the screws provided. Attach the Key plate (No. 20) to the secondary door (No. 10) with 4x30mm screws.

Fit the door handles (No. 18) and connect with the metalbar to the mortice lock using 8x30mm screws. Ensure the lock mechanism closes correctly. If not, remove the lock and turn the catch around using the small grub screw.

*Please note: This image is for illustrative purposes and may differ from your choice in product (regarding ironmongery).

Nevertheless the process of fixing is the same. Once components have been fitted, try closing doors to ensure the doors can be closed and the lock works.

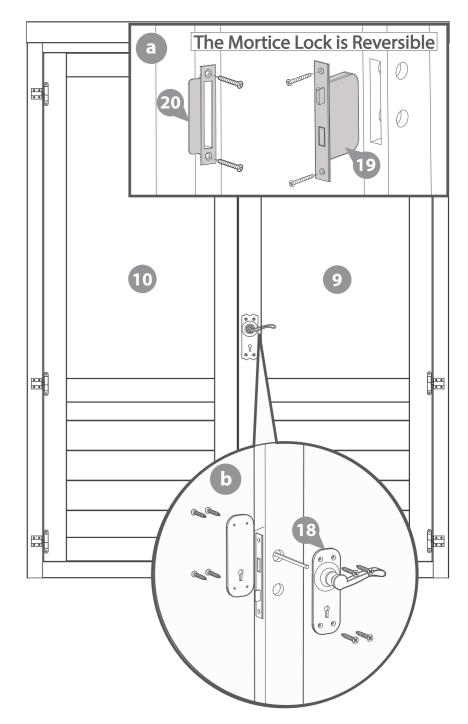
If your doors do need adjusting please refer to step 7.

12x30mm Screws





IMPORTANT: *Pre-drill before fixing screws*.





Step 24 Parts Needed - No. 15 QTY 1 No. 21 QTY 2

Attach the Door Strip (No. 15) to the back of the secondary door using 4x40mm screws as shown.

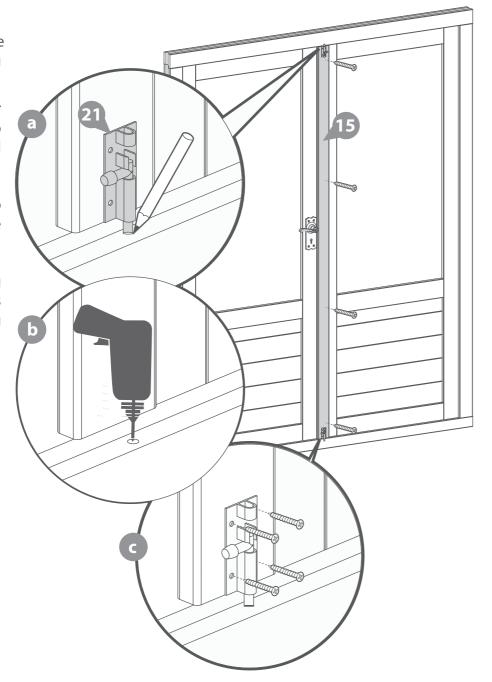
- Once fixed, place the Tower Bolts (No. 21) roughly into position and with a pencil mark the around the bolt.
- After marking the bolt onto the frame, drill a hole for the barrel bolt to locate into.
- Following the hole being drilled, place the tower bolts into position and secure using the screws provided.

12x40mm Screws





IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



Step 25 Parts needed - No. 46 QTY 36

Place the first floor board (No. 46) inside the building flush to the log board on the wall. Continue adding the floor boards (internally) making sure to interlock each individual board.

You have been issued with 36 floor boards, however you may only need to use 35.

*Do NOT secure the boards until the last board has been measured and cut.

Measure the gap between the bottom of the tongue (on the last board placed) and the log board.

Using a straight edge mark out the measurement onto the last floor board (No.46) and cut along the length removing the excess.

**Please note: Mark the final board 2mm under the measurement; This will allow the timber to expand and contract correctly.

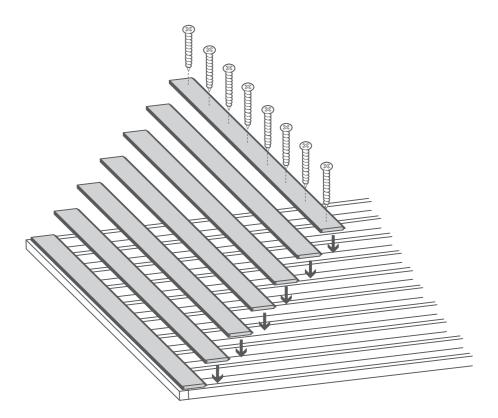
Once all the floor boards are in position secure each board into position using 10x40mm screws.

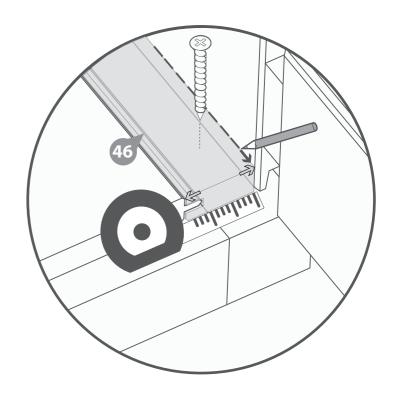
***Please Note: Ensure to screw through each of the floor boards into the floor bearers.

360x40mm Screw











Step 26 Parts needed - No. 53 QTY 6

Inside the building place the closure trim (No. 53) against the boarding and align with the roof as shown in the illustration.

*Measure and cut the closure trims to fit the internal space.

Once in position fix each trim into place by pre drilling a pilot hole and using 6x30mm screws per trim, equally spacing them along the face of the board.

36x30mm Screws







Step 27 Parts needed - No. 53 QTY 6

Once the floor has been laid arrange the closure trim (No. 53) around the outside edge of floor (*internally*), measure and cut down accordingly to best match the internal space.

Secure each trim section into place using 6x30mm spaced equally along the board as shown in the illustration.

*Do NOT fix the closure trim to the floor boards.

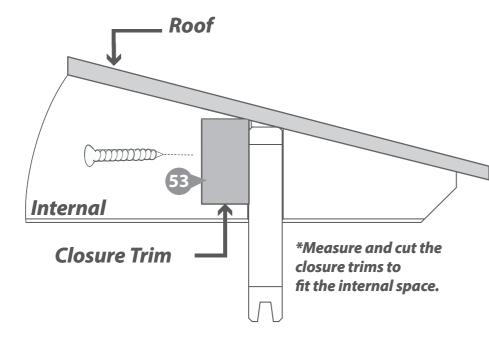
36x30mm Screws







IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



Step 28 Parts needed - No. 54

Cut the Felt (No. 54) into four strips measuring: 4170mm (L) X 1000mm (W).

Lay the sheet onto the roof in the order shown in the illustration.

*Ensure there is approximately 50mm of overhanging felt each side and that each sheets overlaps by 100mm.

Once the felt is laid out, fix to the roof using felt tacks at 100mm intervals.

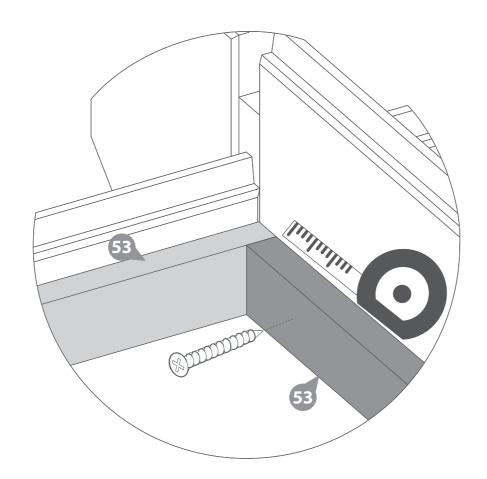
250 x Felt Tacks

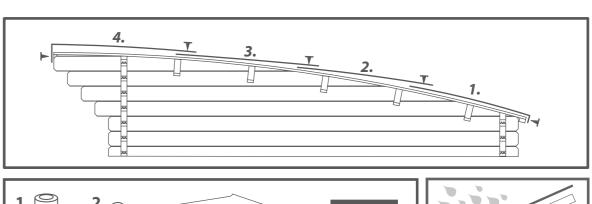




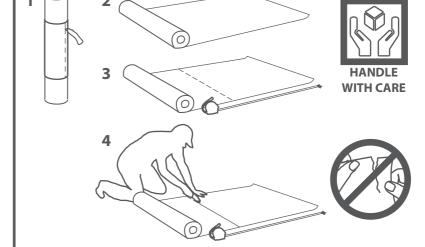








100mm









Step 29 Parts needed - No. 51 QTY 2

Locate the Roof Trims (No. 51) on the underside of the Roof at the sides, ensuring the trim is flush to the end of the purlins.

Make sure to trap the felt between the roof and the trim.

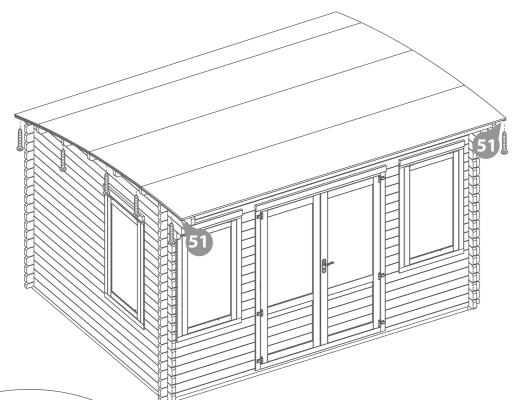
Secure the Roof Trims (No. 51) in place using 5x30mm screws per trim, ensuring to screw through the trim into the roof boards.

10x30mm Screws









Step 30 Parts needed - No. 47 QTY 4

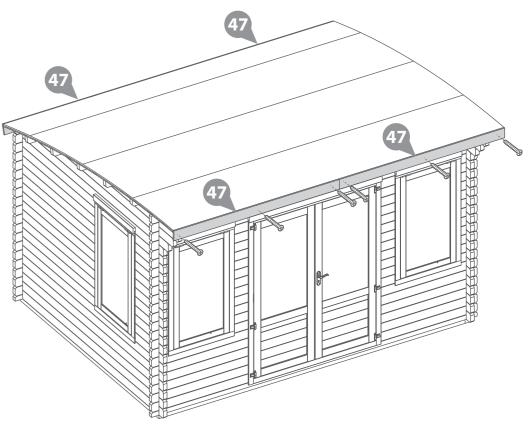
Locate the Fascias (No.47) onto the front and back of the building as shown, ensuring they are flush with the top and sides of the roof.

Secure in place using 3x40mm screws per Fascia, making sure to screw through the fascia into the eaves frames.

12x40mm Screws









Step 31 Parts needed - No. 52 QTY 8

Arrange the storm braces (No.52) around the building (internally). Place 2 Storm Braces per side, ensuring they are placed on the highest full log board on each side.

Fix into place using 2x90mm bolts per brace, making sure the washer & nut are tightened from the outside of the building.

*Ensure the storm braces are secured at the highest point possible on each side.

The storm braces will need to be altered during the buildings life as the moisture content within the log boards changes. The boards will expand during periods of high moisture (Winter) and shrink during periods of low moisture (Summer.)

**Storm braces will help your building expand and contract properly.

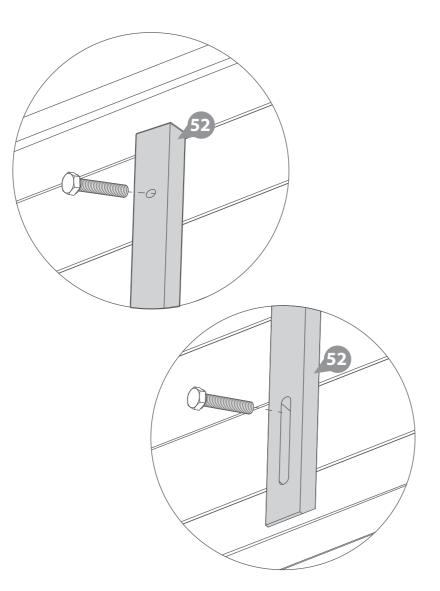
***It is important that each bolt is tightened using a washer so as not to damage the log boards.

16x90mm Bolt Sets





IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



Step 32 Parts Needed: No. 6 QTY 3 No. 16 QTY 1

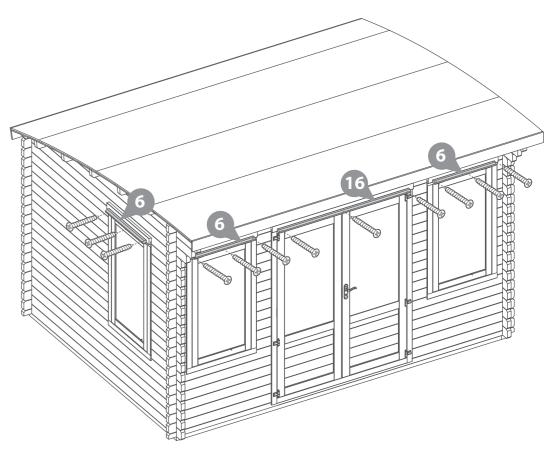
Attach the Rain Guards (No.6) to each window frame, fixing in place onto the framing above each window using 3x70mm screws per rain guard.

Attach the Rain Guard (No.16) to the door frame, fixing in place onto the framing above the Door using 3x70mm screws.

12x70mm 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.



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 warp, bow, boards to pop, distortion, rot and mould. Condensation can build up over time or daily, it is caused by a rise and fall in temperature.

Excessive moisture levels within your building can cause water to collect on the roofs, walls and floors internally. 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 on: 01636 821215



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.