### 03DTSHPN0409DSHPB-V2

4X9 SHIPLAP PENT SHED AREA PACK B.



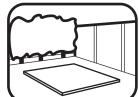
### BEFORE YOU START PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

- 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 page).
- 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.



#### **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 movement. Refer to the contents page 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 Levelled / on posts / ground screws.

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.



### **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.

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



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



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



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.

# REGISTER FOR YOUR 10 YEAR ANTI-ROT GUARANTEE TODAY

In all instances for assistance with your product or to register your anti rot guarantee, please contact us via our customer portal



www.mgplogistics.co.uk

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

#### Screws & Nails



Bolts

### \*\*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 has 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.



☐ Paint Brush/Sprayer/Roller

	TO DO 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 6	50cm clearance on all sides.					
	Check you have the required equipment / tools.						
	Check you have all the product items listed (if you have missing or damaged parts please scan the QR code below to visit our online customer portal).						
	Install the product as per the step by step instruction	Install the product as per the step by step instructions within this pack.					
	Prepare the product ready for treatment (this may in	nclude sanding).					
	Apply a preserving and a waterproofing treatment within 14 days (weather permitting) of installation (pressure treated products do not require a preserver).						
	Register for your anti rot guarantee (scan the QR below).						
	Tidy the build area and dispose of any remaining pa	arts responsibly.					
	Maintain your building (see the manufacturers recom	nmendations at the back of this pack).					
EQU	IPMENT LIST	NEED EXTRA SUPPORT					
	Hammer Flat Head Screwdriver Drill Drill Bit Set	If you are unsure that your base preparation will be suitable, please contact us via our customer portal to discuss this further.  Alternatively, you can visit our website or MGP Logistics					
	Phillips and Slotted Bit Sets	Online Portal for some further sheducation.  Website: https://www.merciagardenproducts.co.uk/sheducation					
	Tape Measure  Hand Saw  Spirit Level						
-	96== -:						
	Ladders/Steps Stanley Knife/Cutting Tool	MGP Logistics Online Portal: https://www.mgplogistics.co.uk/					
	Ladders/Steps Stanley Knife/Cutting Tool Sand Paper Gloves Silicone (For Windows Only)	<u> </u>					
	Ladders/Steps Stanley Knife/Cutting Tool Sand Paper Gloves Silicone (For Windows Only) Sealant Application Gun	https://www.mgplogistics.co.uk/  Here you will find plenty of useful information that'll help with most pre-installation and maintenance					
	Ladders/Steps Stanley Knife/Cutting Tool Sand Paper Gloves Silicone (For Windows Only)	https://www.mgplogistics.co.uk/  Here you will find plenty of useful information that'll help with most pre-installation and maintenance					

NOTES

### **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.

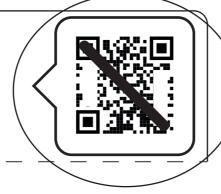
You can also find all the videos on our youtube channel: https://www.youtube.com/@merciagardenproducts8716/videos

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

# Step.....

Parts Needed- No. QTY 1 No. QTY 1

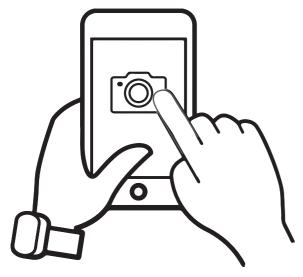
No. QTY 1



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.

End View 

End View

End View

### 03DTSHPN0409DSHPB-V2

#### **Overall Dimensions:**

Width = 1205mm

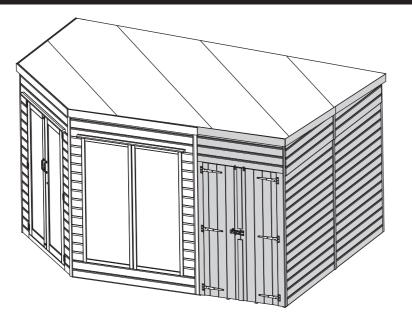
Depth = 2908mm

Height = 2157mm

#### **Base Dimensions:**

Width = 1133mm

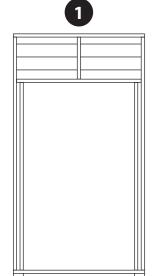
Depth = 2800mm



### **Building Contents:**

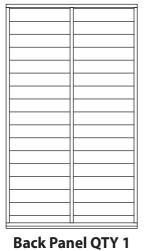
Tip: Labelling your parts, using a pencil and masking tape, may help you to identify them easier when you need them.





**Door Panel QTY 1** AI-01S11SHDD1135X2090-V1

5

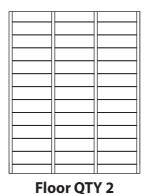


2

AI-S11SHPP1135X1940-V1



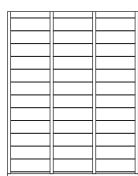
AI-S11SHPPTOV1375X1687-V1



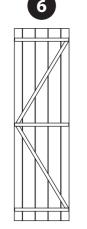
AI-R11MBF1133X1400-V1

8

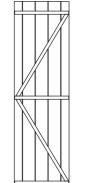




**Roof QTY 2** AI-S11MBPR1143X1444-V1



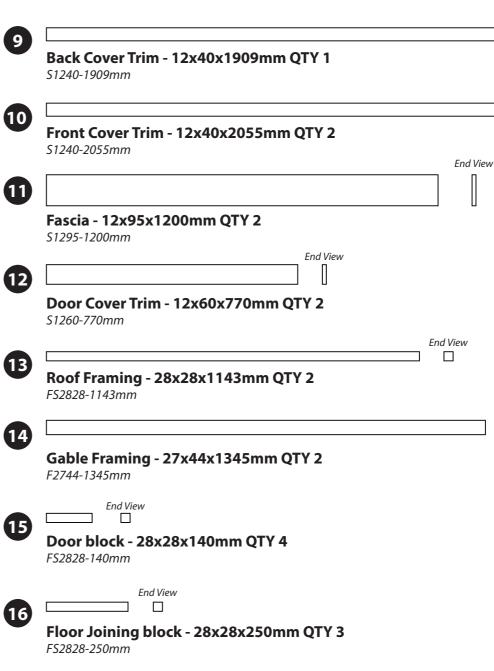
Door QTY 2 AI-S11FBMBZBD479X1680-V1

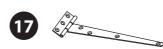


**Rear Gable Top QTY 1** AI-S21SHDBPGT1375X374-V1



Front Gable Top QTY 1 AI-S21SHDBPGT1375X451-V1













**Sand Felt QTY 2** 

T-hinge QTY 6 PI-02-1045



PI-07-0034

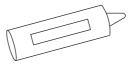
PI-07-0035

**Pad Bolt QTY 1** 









**Green Felt QTY 2** 

**Butyl QTY 2** 

### **Screw Pack**

There may be extra screws in the pack.

60mm Screw x 12 

**≪** 40mm Screw x 21



Felt Tacks x 100

20mm Screw x 6

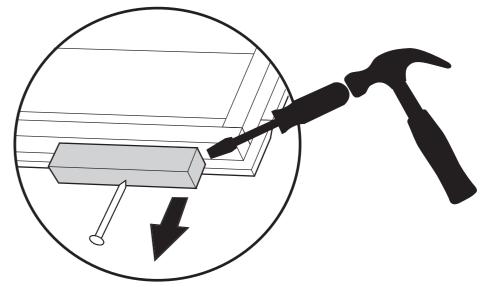
### **Pre Assembly**

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.



Dispose of the blocks once removed.



### **Pre Assembly**

Follow the instructions for the 9x9 Corner Summerhouse (03DTSHCR0909FGD4TW), however DO NOT attach the Felt, Rear Cover Trims or the Fascia Trims.

Not attaching these parts allows the extension to be fixed in place.

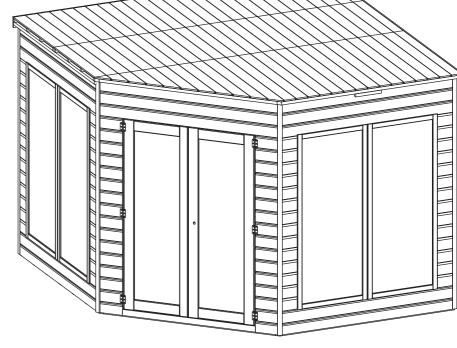
Your building should look as shown.



# Missing parts?

Scan the QR code to visit our customer portal where you can quickly raise any missing or damaged parts and get a replacement sent out ASAP.





IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.

IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.

# Before assembly, please make sure you have a suitable base ready to install your building onto.

# Step 1

Parts Needed - No. 1 QTY 1

**No. 6 QTY 2** 

No. 12 QTY 2

No. 17 QTY 6

Fix the T-hinges (No. 17) to each of the Doors (No. 6) with 4x30mm screws per hinge making sure to screw into the framing on the rear of the Doors.

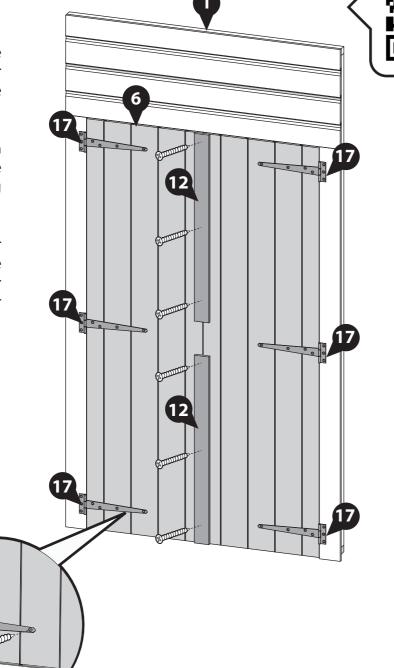
Once the T-hinges are fixed into position lay the Door Panel (No. 1) flat on the ground fix the door in position using 3x30mm screws per hinge.

To create a Master and Secondary door fix the Door Trims (No. 12) to one of the doors overlapping with the other door as shown using 3x20mm screws per trim.

6x20mm Screw 42x30mm Screws







# Step 2

Parts Needed - No. 4 QTY 1 No. 16 QTY 3

Locate one Floor Block (No. 16) centrally in between each of the Floor bearers on one Floor (No. 4), as shown.

Secure in place using 2x30mm screws per block, screwing through the floor cladding into the block below.

### 6x30mm Screws



IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



# Step 3

Parts Needed - No. 4 QTY 1

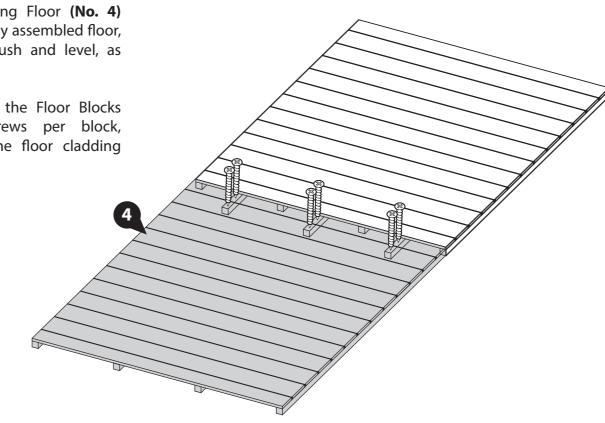
Position the remaining Floor (No. 4) flush to the previously assembled floor, ensuring they are flush and level, as shown.

Secure the Floor to the Floor Blocks using 2x30mm screws per block, screwing through the floor cladding into the block below.

#### 6x30mm Screws







Place the assembled Floor (No. 4) up against the 9x9 Corner Summerhouse, as shown.

Secure the Floor to the Summerhouse using 4x60mm screws, screwing through the Floor at an angle into the Summerhouse floor bearers, as shown.

\*\*To position the side shed on the left, position the floor on the left and fix in the same way shown.

4x60mm Screws





# Step 5 Parts Needed - No. 1 QTY 1

If you positioned your shed on the right side, on the Summerhouse cut down the underhanging framing (X) by 70mm on both ends. It may be necessary to re-attach the framing and attach the rest of the side *shed following the same steps.* 

Please note: If you positioned the shed on the left, you DO NOT need to alter the summerhouse framing.

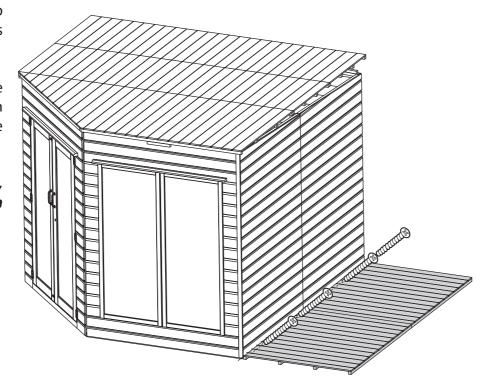
Position the Door Panel (No.1) on top of the Floor and against the side of the Summerhouse, as shown. Fix to the summerhouse using 4x60mm screws.

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

4x60mm Screws



IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



# Step 6 Parts Needed - No. 2 QTY 1

Place the Back Panel (No. 2) on top of the Floor, against the side of the Summerhouse, as shown. Fix to the adjacent Summerhouse Panel using 4x60mm screws.

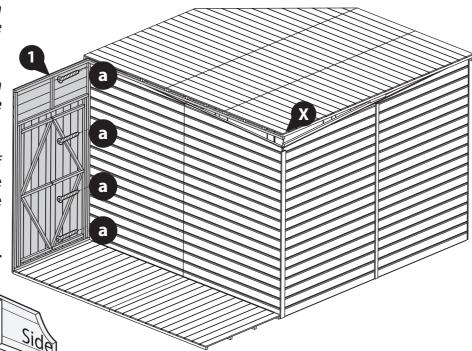
Do not secure the building to the Floor until the roof is fitted.

4x60mm Screws





### IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



### Step 7 Parts Needed - No. 3 OTY 2

Place the two Side panels (No. 3) on top of the Floor and fix together using 3x50mm screws in an alternating pattern.

Secure the Side panels to the Door (No. 1) and back panels (No. 2) using 3x50mm screws at each corner.

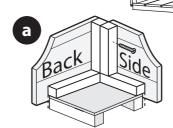
\*9x9 Corner Summerhouse not shown\*

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

9x50mm Screws

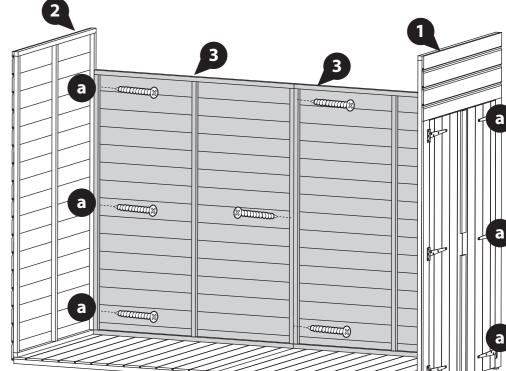






# **IMPORTANT:** *Pre-drill before fixing screws.*

IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



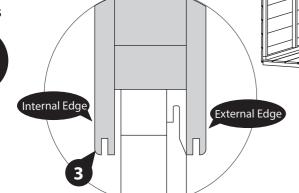
Parts Needed-No. 7 QTY 1 **No. 8 QTY 1** 

Place the Gable Tops (No. 7 & 8) on top of the assembled Side Panels (No. 3) slotting the boarding of the gable over the top of the boarding of the side panel as shown.

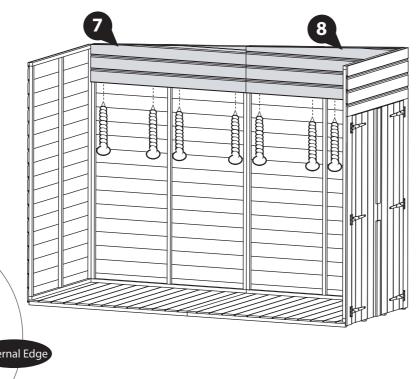
Fix with 4x50mm screws per gable top, as shown.







IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



# Step 10 Parts Needed- No. 14 QTY 2

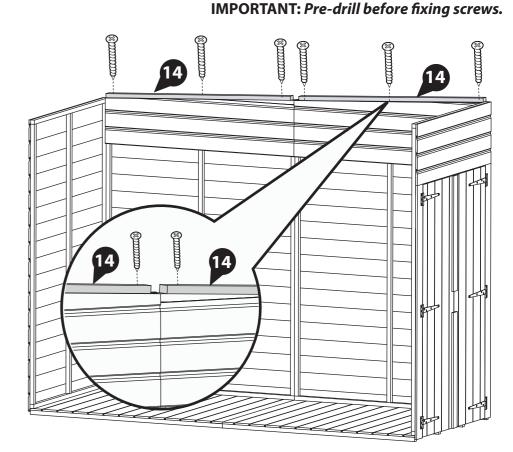
Place the Gable Framing (No. 14) on the top of the Gables, ensuring they are flush with either end of the gables, leaving a gap between the two piece of framing as shown.

Fix with 3x50mm screws per Gable Top.

#### 6x50mm Screws







# Step 9

Secure the Gable Tops (No. 7 & 8) in place against the Door Panel (No. 1) and Back Panel (No. 2) using 2x50mm screws per Gable Top.

Screw through the outside cladding of the panel and into the gable top framing behind.

### 4x50mm Screws





### IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.

# Step 11

Parts Needed- No. 5 QTY 2

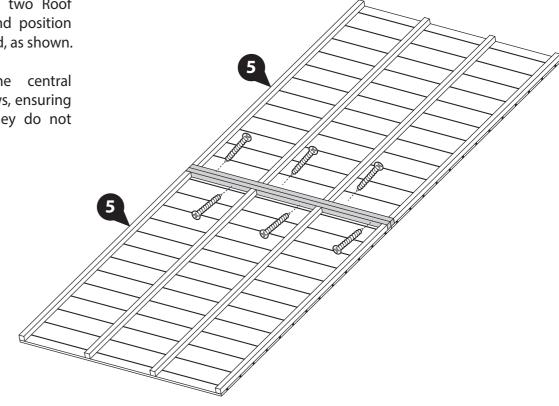
On a flat surface, place the two Roof Panels (No. 5) face down and position then flush together, end to end, as shown.

Secure together along the central bearings using 6x50mm screws, ensuring to stagger the screws so they do not collide.

### 6x50mm Screws







IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.

Parts Needed- No. 13 QTY 2

Position the Roof Trims (No. 13) onto either end of the assembled Roof panel, so they sit perpendicular to the roof bearers, as shown.

Fix in place using 4x50mm screws per roof trim, securing to the roof panel framing.









Place the assembled Roof Panel (No. 5) on top of the building, ensuring the Roof Framing (No. 13) slot over each side.

Fix the roof panel to the panels below using 12x50mm screws, as shown. Ensure there is no more than 300mm between each screw.

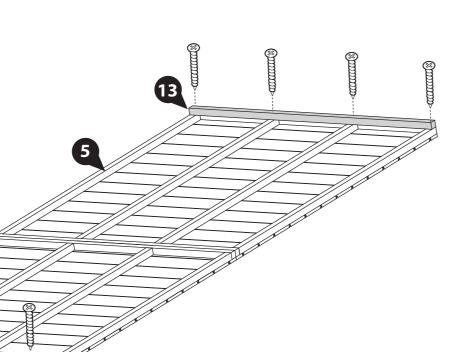
Internally, secure the Roof to the Summerhouse roof, using 3x50mm screws, screwing through the roof bearers.

### 15x50mm Screws

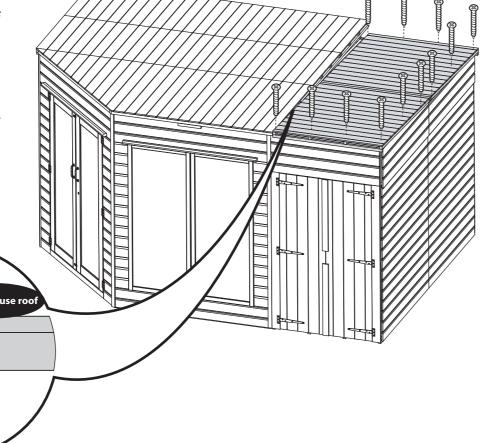




### IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



# Step 14

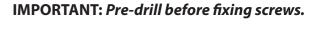
Once the Roof secured, the panels can be fixed in position.

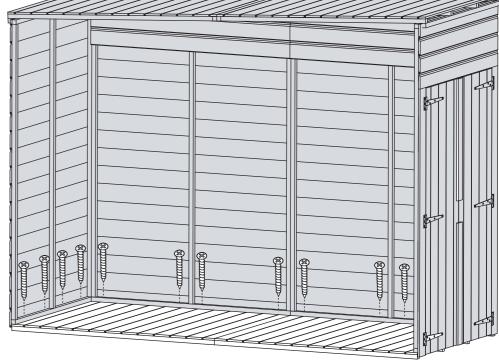
Fix the panels in place by using 16x50mm screws.

### 16x50mm Screws









Parts Needed - No. 20 No. 22 QTY 1

- Cut the Sand Felt (No. 20) into five sheets measuring:
  - 1 x 2340mm (L) x 1000mm (W)
  - 2 x 4980mm (L) x 1000mm (W)
  - 1 x 4180mm (L) x 1000mm (W)
  - 1 x 2410mm (L) x 1000mm (W).

With the 2410mm (L) x 1000mm (W) sheet, trim a corner off to create a 540mm (L) x 300mm (W) triangle sheet, as shown.

Lay the sheets onto the roof as shown in the diagram 1-6, starting with the 540x300mm off-cut as the first sheet laid at the back, then the remaining sheets in the order shown. Ensure the sheets overlap each other by 100mm.

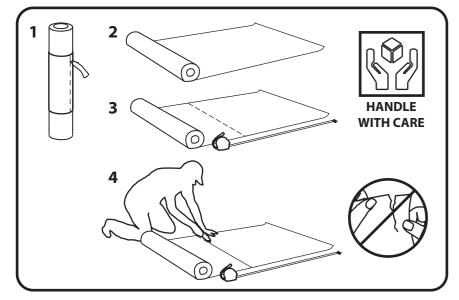
- Once the roof sheets are aligned, cut the sheets down to the individual shape of the roof, as shown. When cutting, ensure to leave a 50mm overhang on each side. You can use a Fascia as a guide to ensure a neat, straight line is cut.
- To ensure a complete bond between the sheets, apply the Butyl (No. 22) between each overlapping layer, as shown in the image. Ensure to apply the Butyl using a sealant application gun and in a 'wiggly' line for the best finish. Once applied, compact the layers to seal.

At each corner, fold the felt over each other so they sit on the front and backs of the building, as shown.

Secure the felt in place by hammering felt tacks into the overlapping layers, the front, back and sides of the building at 100mm intervals, as shown.

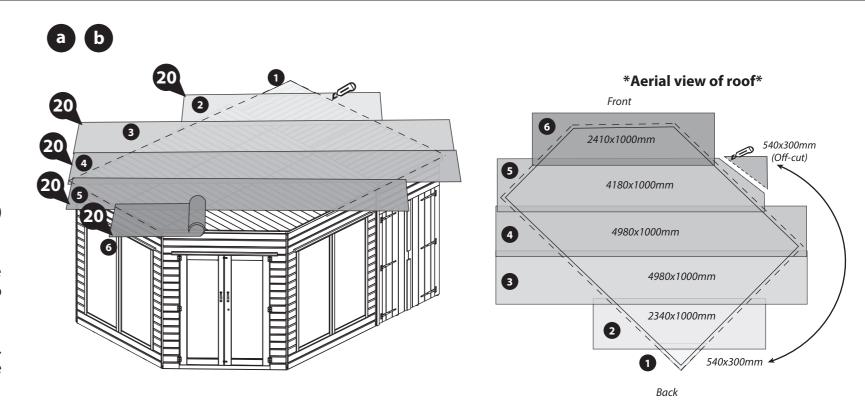
#### 200 x Felt Tacks

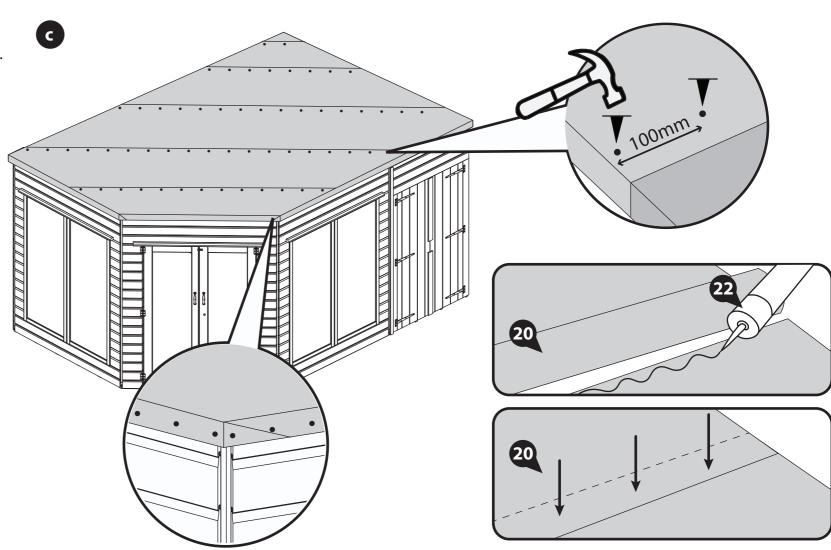












Parts Needed - No. 21 No. 22 QTY 1

Cut the Green Felt (No. 21) into five sheets measuring:

1 x 2004mm (L) x 1000mm (W)

1 x 4029mm (L) x 1000mm (W)

1 x 5000mm (L) x 1000mm (W)

1 x 4475mm (L) x 1000mm (W)

1 x 2918mm (L) x 1000mm (W)

Lay the sheets onto the roof in the order shown in the diagram labeled 1 - 5. Ensure the sheets overlap each other by 100mm.

\*\*Make sure that where the Green felt layers overlap is offset to the previously laid Sand felt, as shown in the diagram. This will ensure the felt can be secured correctly and allows water to drain off efficiently.\*\*

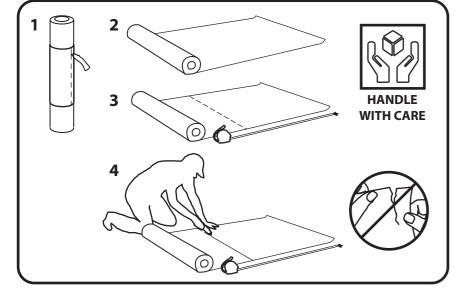
- Once the roof sheets are aligned, cut the sheets down to the individual shape of the roof, as shown. When cutting, ensure to leave a 50mm overhang on each side. You can use a Fascia as a guide to ensure a neat, straight line is cut.
- To ensure a complete bond between the sheets, apply the Butyl (No. 22) between each overlapping layer, as shown in the image. Ensure to apply the Butyl using a sealant application gun and in a 'wiggly' line for the best finish. Once applied, compact the layers to seal.

At each corner, fold the felt over each other so they sit on the front and backs of the building, as shown.

Secure the felt in place by hammering felt tacks into the overlapping layers, the front, back and sides of the building at 100mm intervals, as shown.

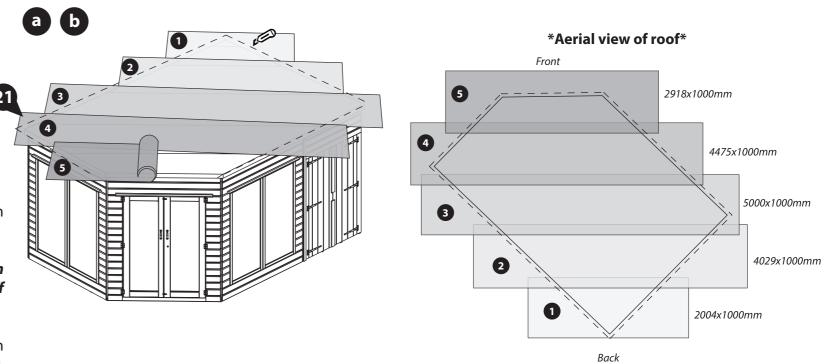
### 200 x Felt Tacks

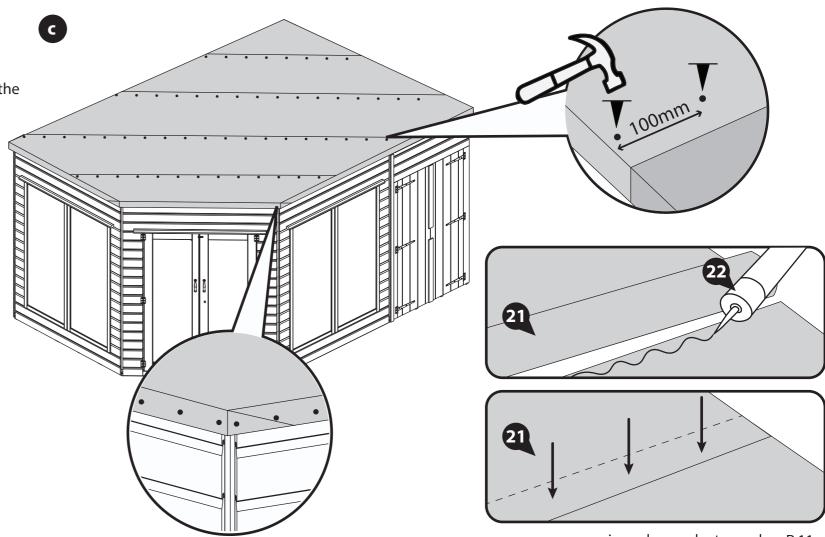












Parts Needed - No. 9 QTY 1 No. 10 QTY 2

Fix the Cover Trims (No. 9 & 10) over each corner using 3x40mm screws per Trim.

Fix the Cover Trims (No. 17 & 25) remaining from the Summer House over the panel joins using 3x40mm screws per Trim. Ensure that they are equally spaced across the panels, and covering the panel join. One of the Cover Trims will need to be cut to fit over the gables and side panels.

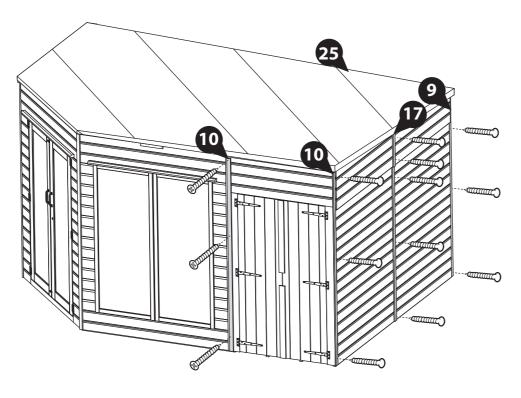
### 15x40mm Screws







IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.



Step 18

Parts Needed - No. 11 QTY 1 No. 20 QTY 4

### (From the summerhouse contents)

- Measure the distances along the back sides of the building using a tape measure, as shown (1 and 2).
- For measurement 1, half the measurement and mark the new total onto two Fascias (No. 20 from the summerhouse contents) and cut to size.

For measurement 2, lay the remaining two Fascias (No. 20 from the summerhouse contents) and one Shed Fascia (No. 11) onto a flat surface and mark the measurement equally across the three Fascias and cut to size, as shown.

Locate the cut down Fascias onto the sides and back of the building, ensuring to trap the felt between the Fascias and the roof.

> Make sure that the back Fascias sit below the top of the roof to ensure the water drains off correctly.

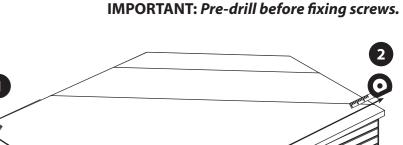
> Secure the Fascias in place using 3x40mm screws per Fascia.

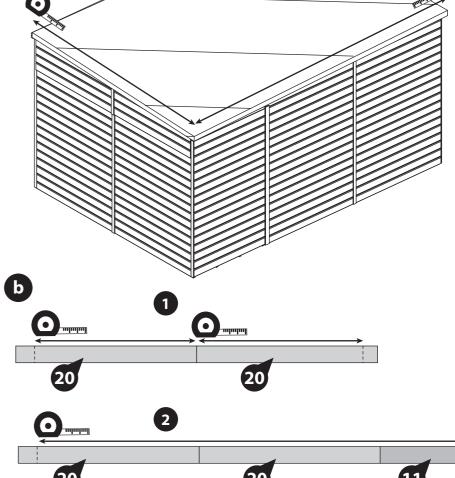
### 15x40mm Screws

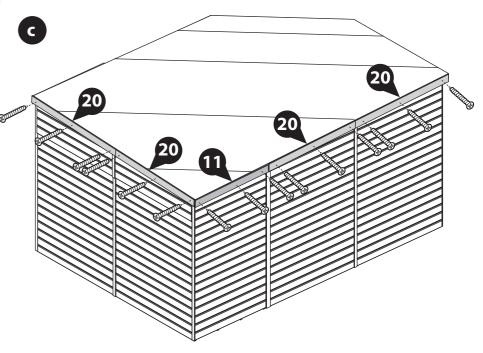












Parts Needed - No. 11 QTY 1 No. 21 QTY 3

### (From the summerhouse contents)

- Measure the distances across the front and sides of the building using a tape measure, as shown (1, 2 and 3).
- Mark measurements 1 and 2 onto two Summerhouse Fascias (No.21 the summerhouse contents) and cut to size.

For measurement 3, lay the remaining summerhouse Fascia (No. 21 from the summerhouse contents) and one Shed Fascia (No. 11) onto a flat surface and mark the measurement equally across the two Fascias and cut to size, as shown.

Locate the cut down Fascias onto the front and sides of the building, ensuring to trap the felt between the Fascias and the roof.

> Secure the Fascias in place using 3x40mm screws per Fascia.

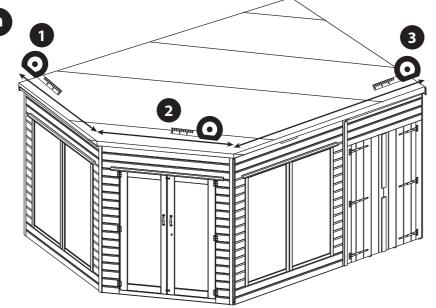
### 12x40mm Screws

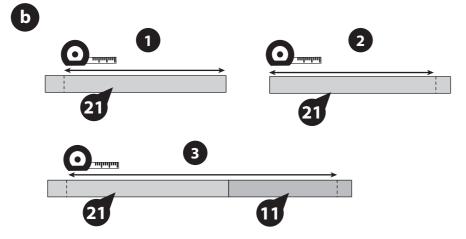


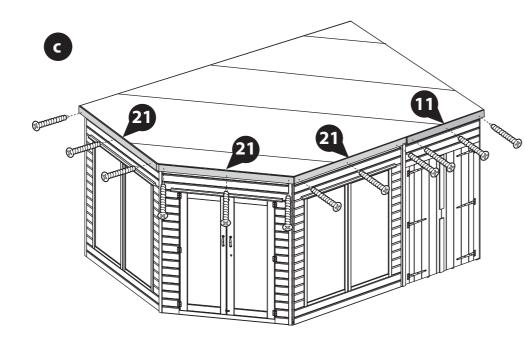












# Step 20

Parts Needed - No. 15 QTY 2 No. 19 QTY 1

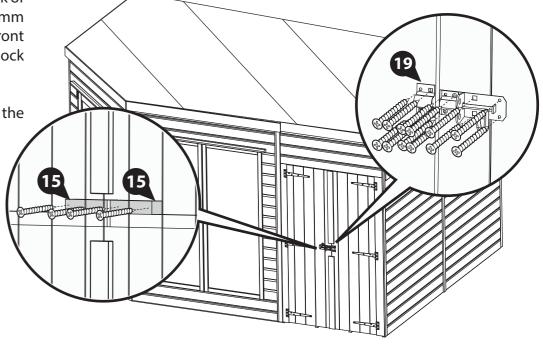
Fix two Door blocks (No. 15) to the back of the Doors (internally) with 2x30mm screws per block going through the front of the door boards and into the block behind.

Fix the Pad Bolt (No. 19) to one of the Doors (No. 6) using 12x30mm screws.

### 16x30mm Screws







### IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.

IMPORTANT: Pre-drill before fixing screws.

# Step 21

Parts Needed - No. 15 QTY 2 No. 18 QTY 2

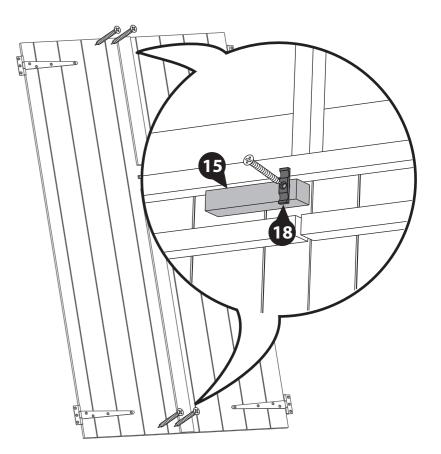
Fix the remaining Door blocks (No. 15) to the top and bottom of the Doors (internally) with 2x30mm screws per block, going through the external door cladding and into the block behind

Fix one Turn Button (No. 18) to each of the Door blocks (No. 15) using 1x30mm screw per turn button.

#### 6x30mm Screws







Parts needed - No. 18 QTY 2

Fix the remaining Turn Buttons (No. 18) to the Door Panel above each of the Doors using 1x30mm screw per turn button.

### 2x30mm Screws

\*These turn buttons help to keep your doors straight during high & low levels of moisture content in the air.





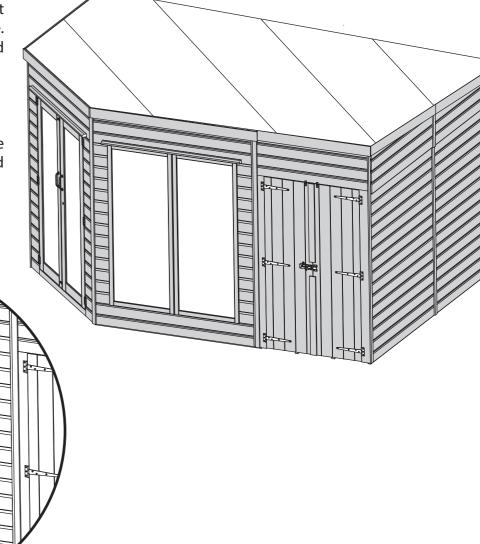


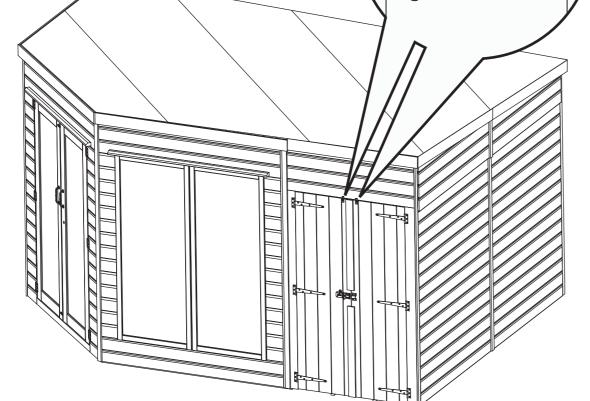
# Step 23

Once constructed, apply a preserving treatment and a waterproofing treatment to your garden building as soon as possible. This will help to protect your building and prevent decay.

See page 15 for a full guide and instructions.

Once fully treated, score around the protective covers on the glazing and carefully peel the coverings back.







# **LEAVE US A REVIEW...**

Want to share your experience with us? Leave us a review on Feefo, TrustPilot or Google.

Your reviews help other people find and trust our business, as well as helping to play an important role in our growth and improvement!

### 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:

- ✓ Weather permitting, ensure to treat your garden building within 14 days of installation.
- ✓ 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

### 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

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.