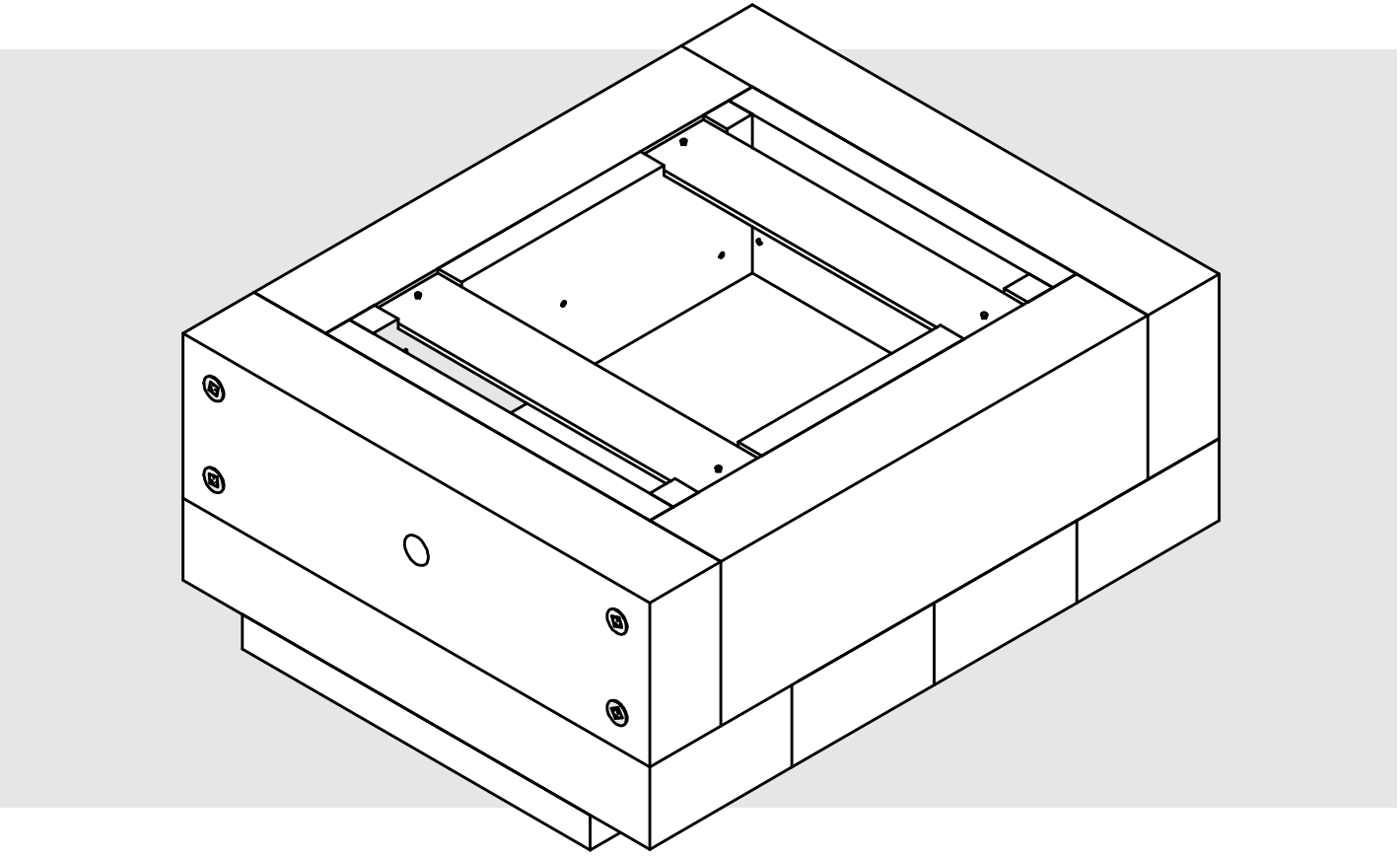
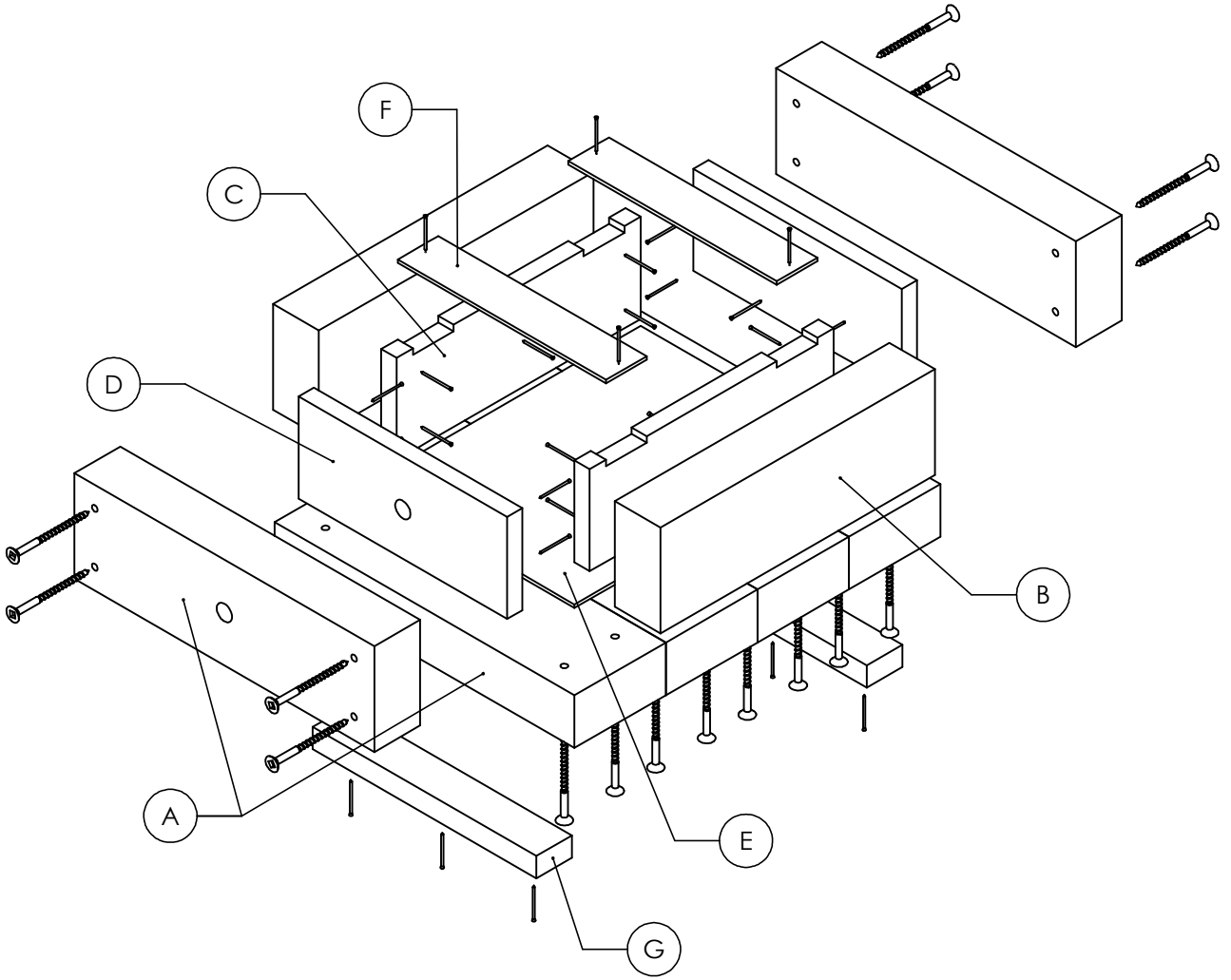
AUSTRALIAN NATIVE BEE HIVE

Construction and Assembly



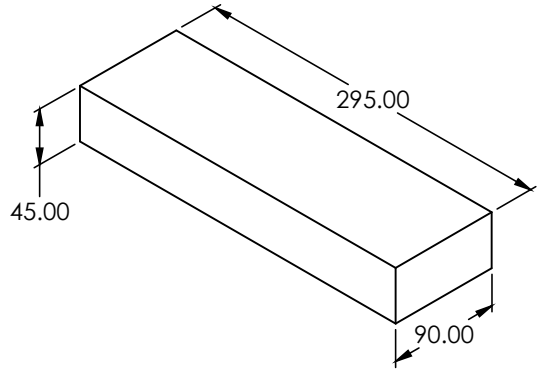
Exploded View



Components

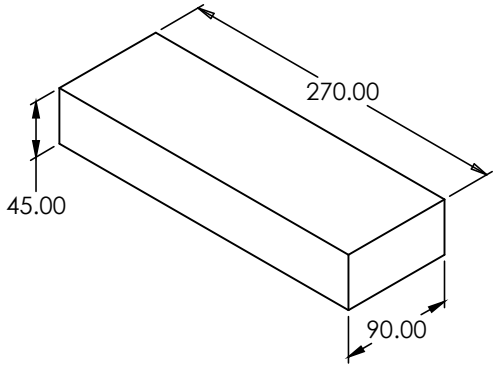
2x **Timber frame front and rear**

4x **Timber base assembly**



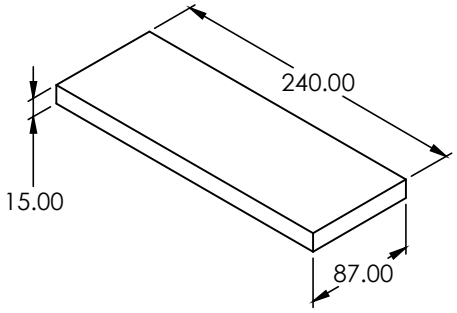
A

2x **Timber frame sides**



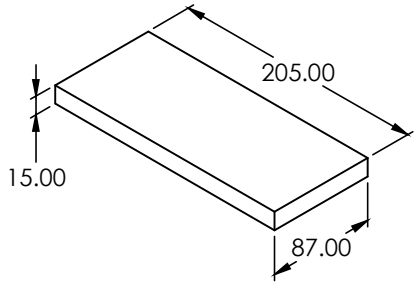
B

2x **Plywood inner box side panels**



C

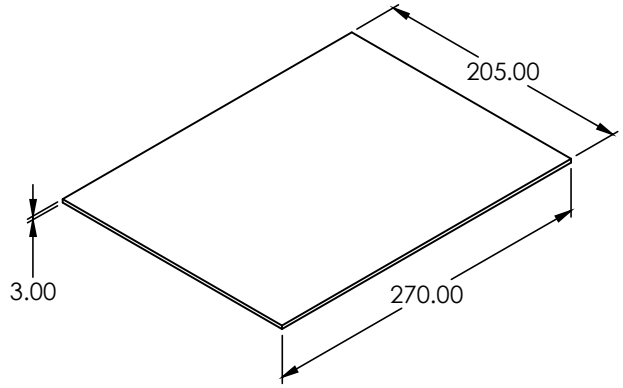
2x **Plywood inner box front & rear panels**



D

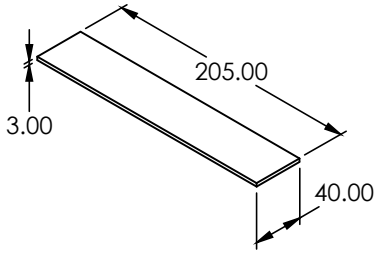
Components

1x **Plywood inner box base lining**



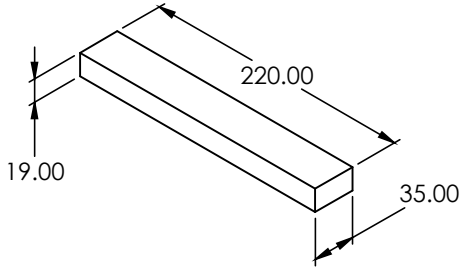
E

2x **Plywood batten**



F

2x **Timber feet**



G

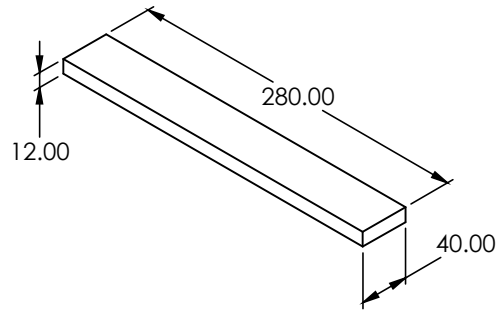
24x **Screws (10-8 x 75 countersunk rib head square drive galvanised)**

25x **Nails (30 x 1.6 bullet head)**

Components

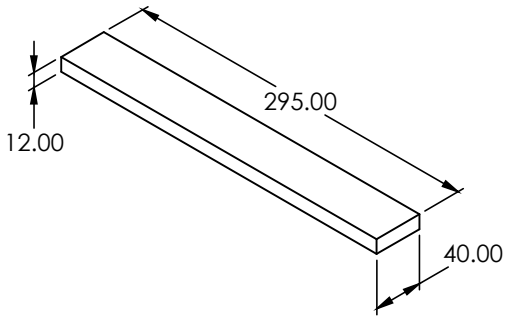
(NOTE: For Spacer Hives Only)

2x **Timber spacer**



H

2x **Timber spacer**

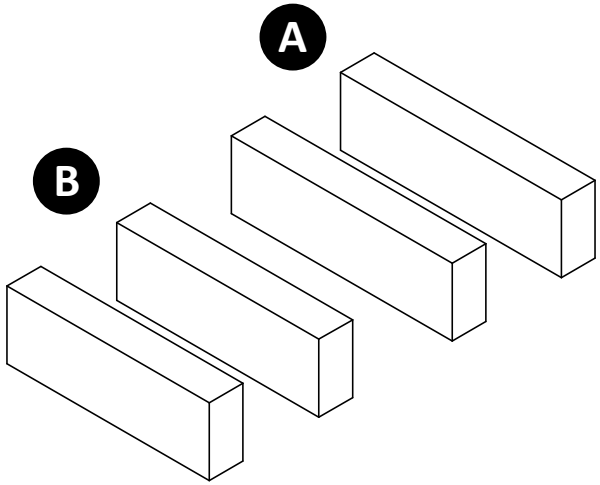


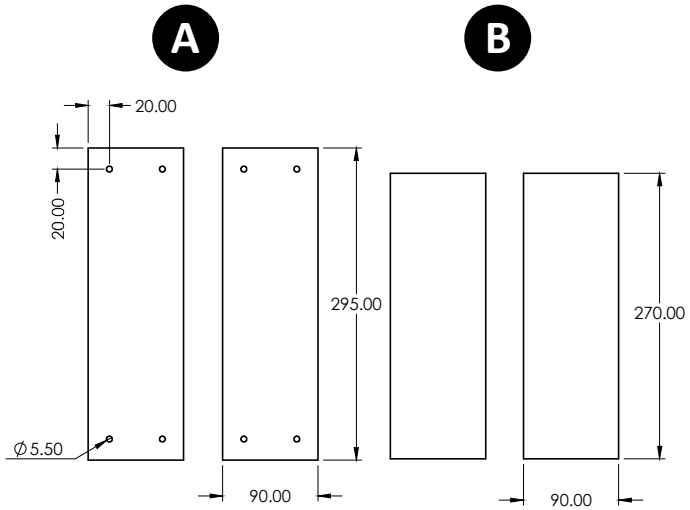
I

8x **Nails (30 x 1.6 bullet head)**

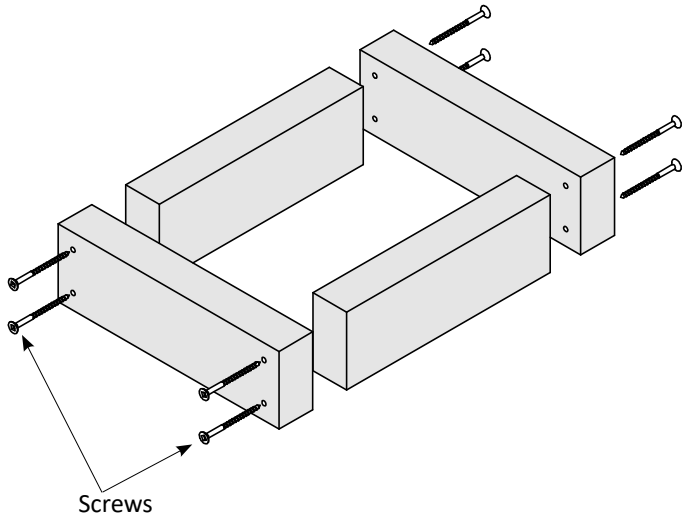
1

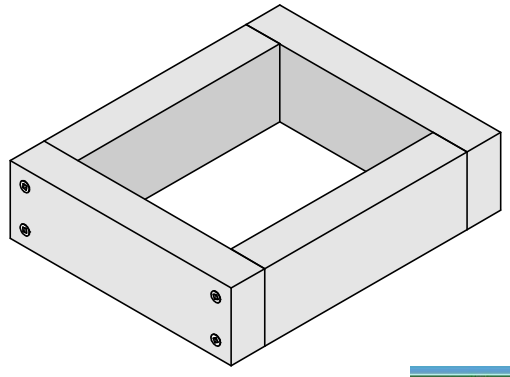
Frame Assembly





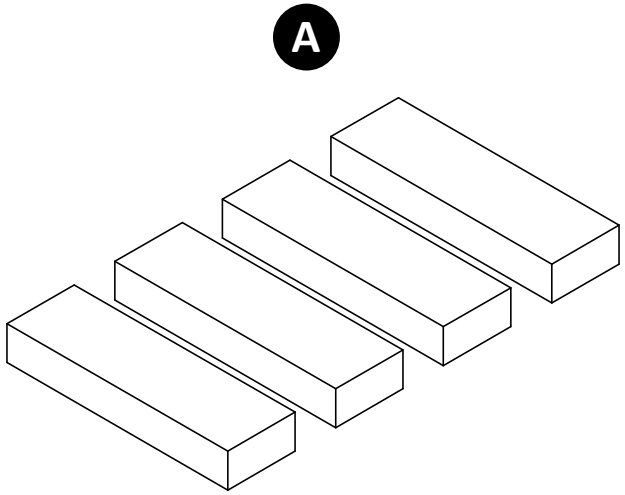
Drill 5.50mm pilot holes positioned as shown in the dimensional diagram through both part A lengths of timber.
Position parts A & B of the frame as shown.
Push the screws through the pilot holes of parts A and screw into parts B.
Ensure parts A and B are perpendicular to each other and flush with the top and side surfaces.

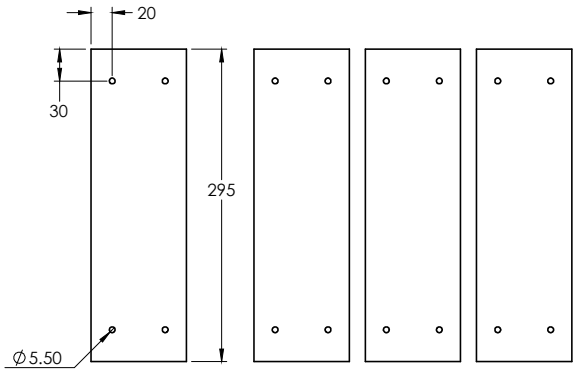


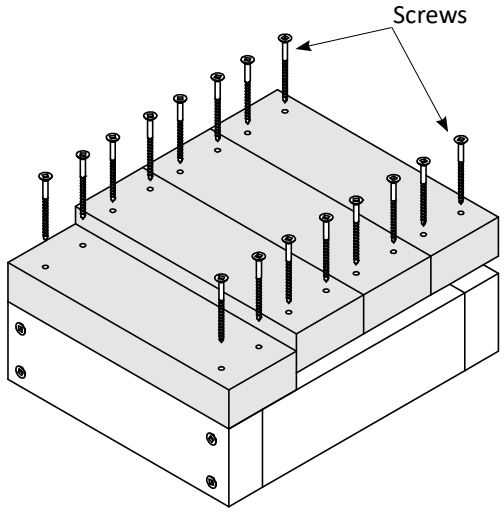


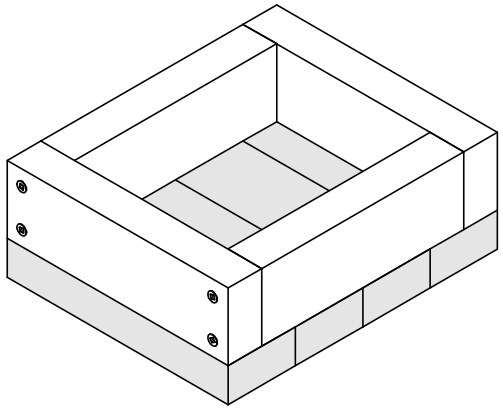
2

Base Assembly



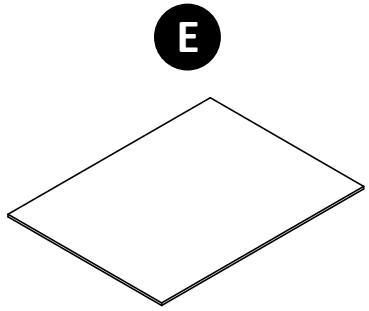


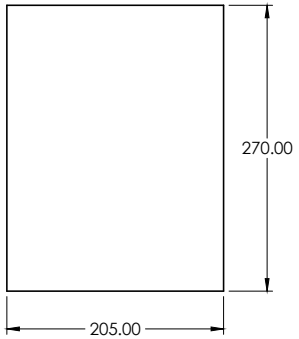




Drill 5.50mm pilot holes positioned as shown in the dimensional diagram through four part A lengths of timber.
Position parts A on the frame and push the screws through the pilot holes and screw into the frame.
Ensure the first piece of timber is aligned with the frame before screwing into position. The remaining three pieces of timber can then butt against each preceeding piece before screwing into position.

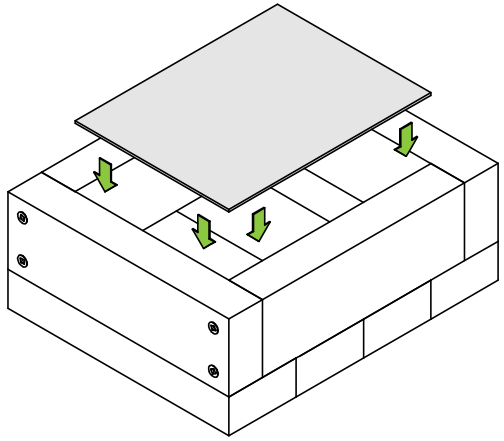
3

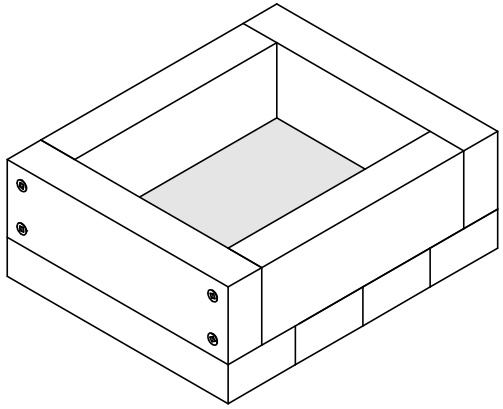




Base Lining

Position the plywood base lining into the frame assembly so that it is flush with the base.
No gluing or fastening is required as the inner box frame will hold it in place.





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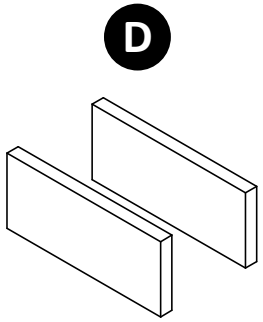
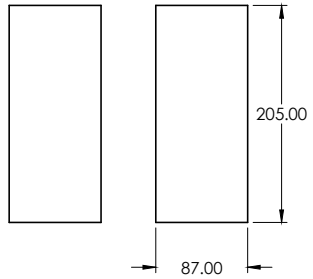
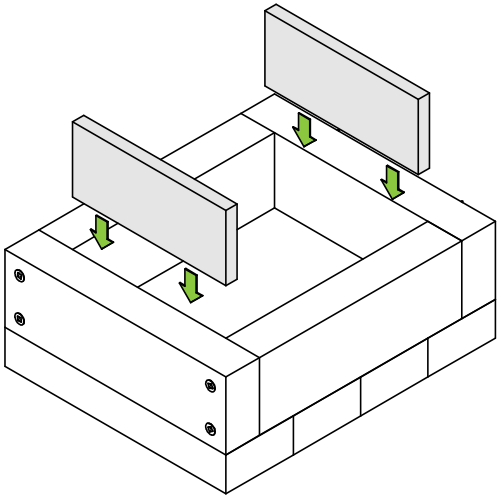


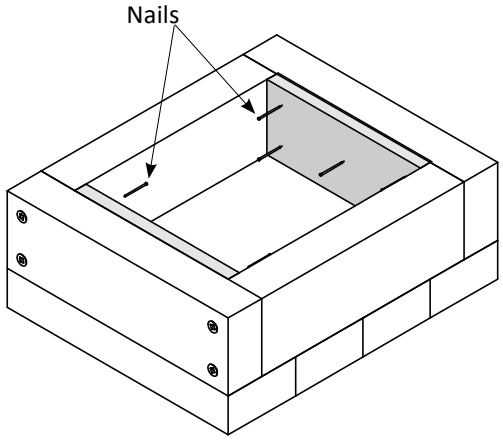


Inner Box Assembly

STEP 1 of 2

Position parts D of the inner box frame so that they are flush with the plywood base lining and butt against the walls of the frame assembly as shown.
The two pieces of plywood can then be secured by nailing them in position. Five nails, two on either end and one in the middle should suffice. The nails can be roughly positioned as indicated in the diagram.





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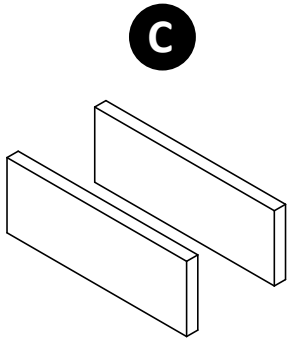
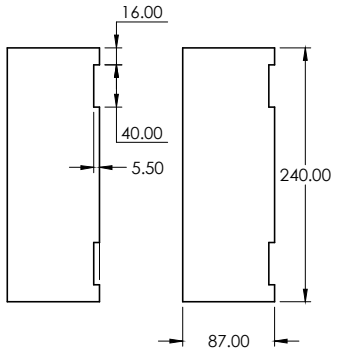




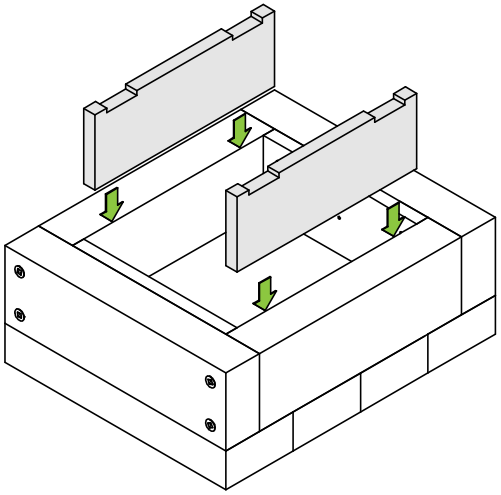
Inner Box Assembly

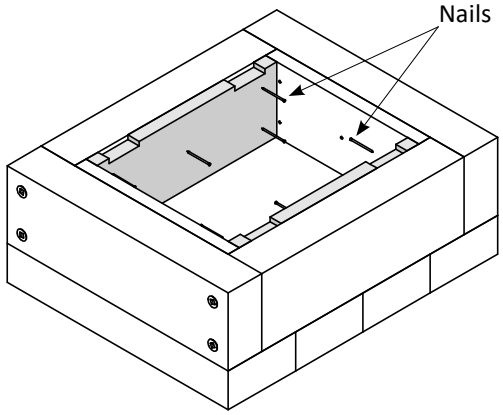
STEP 2 of 2

Cut two rebates into one edge of both part C pieces of plywood according to the dimensional drawings shown. The rebates will accomodate the plywood battens which assist in preventing damage to the hive when split. After marking out the positions of the rebates use a hammer and chisel for best results.

Position parts C of the inner box frame so that they are flush with the plywood base lining and butt against the walls of the frame assembly as shown.

The two pieces of plywood can then be secured by nailing them in position similar to the previous step.





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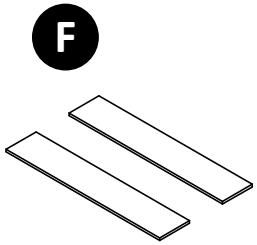
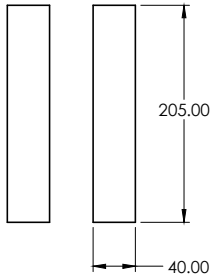
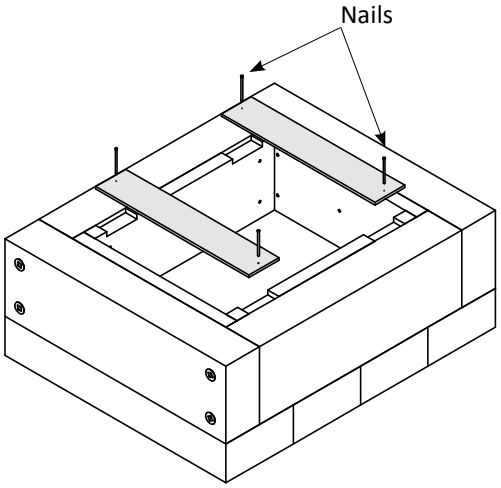
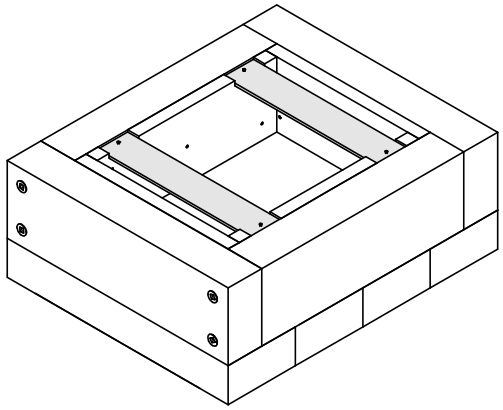




Attach Plywood Battens

Attach the plywood battens by positioning them into the rebated plywood side walls and nailing them in place as shown.





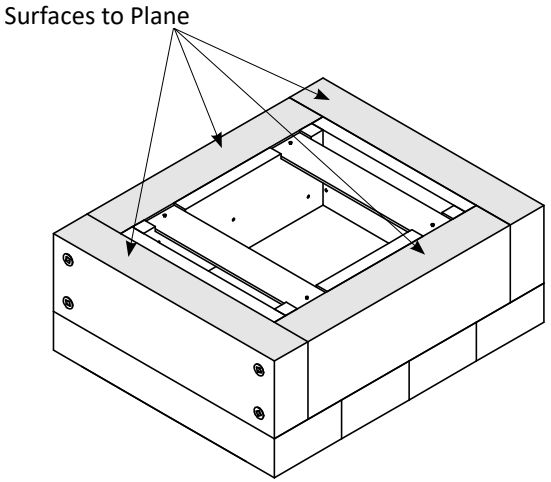
7

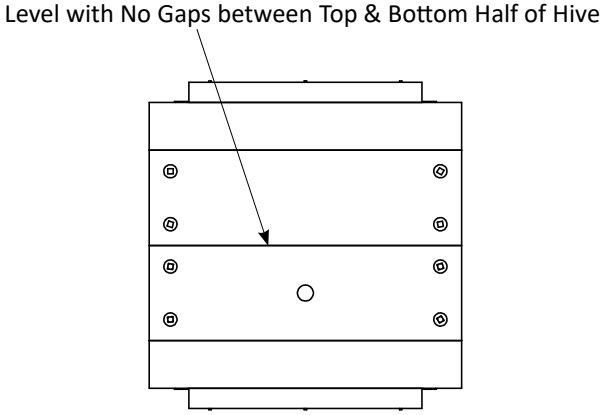
Optional Step

PLANE SURFACES

Depending on the grade of timber one uses, there is the possibility that once constructed the top of the hive half i.e. the plane that will come in contact with the other hive half when assembled, may not be level across all 4 sides. This can happen with many untreated timbers where there can be a few millimetres error in sizing. It is important not to ignore this, as this causes gapping, making your hive vulnerable.

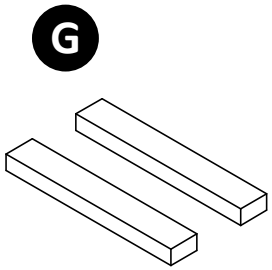
Using a wood planer, gently plane down those parts that stand proud until they are level with the rest of the box. Equally, a belt sander or bench-mounted circular saw could also work to trim the top of the box.

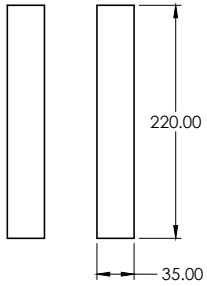




ASSEMBLED HIVE

8

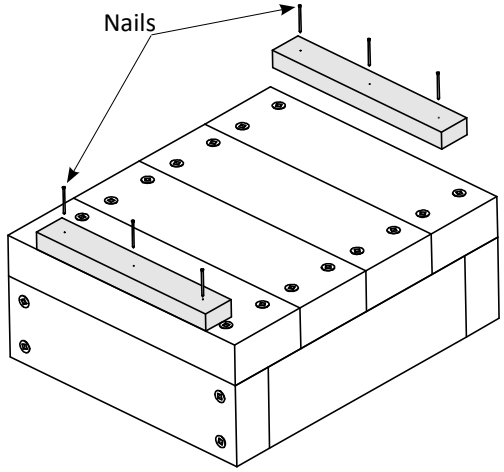


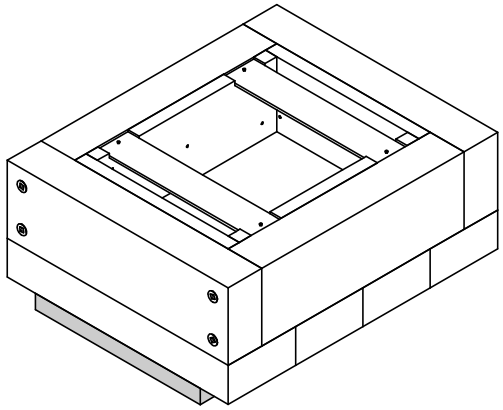


Attach Feet

Position and align the feet so they are flush with the front and rear face of the base as shown.
Secure the feet in position with three nails for each foot.

NOTE:
If the specified standard timber is not available from your supplier, off-cuts can be used as a substitute.





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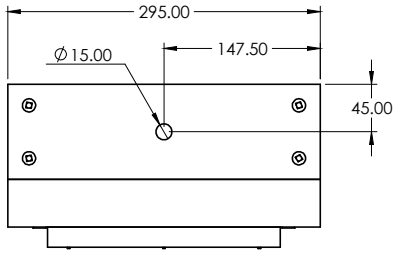
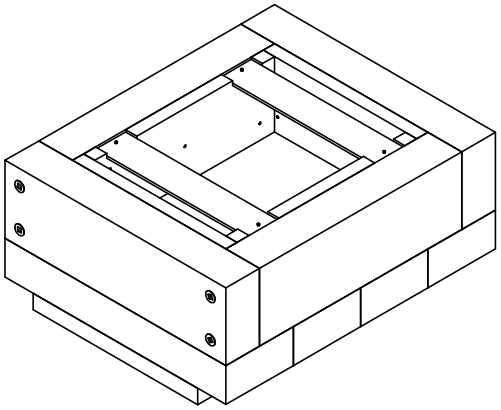
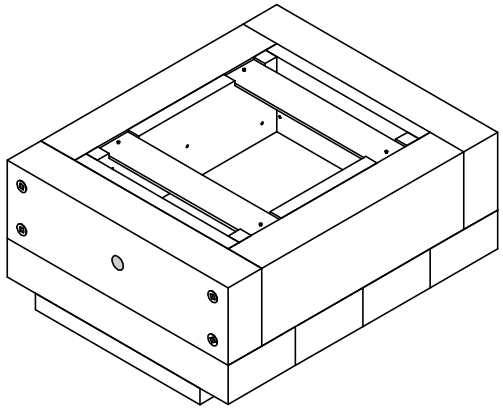


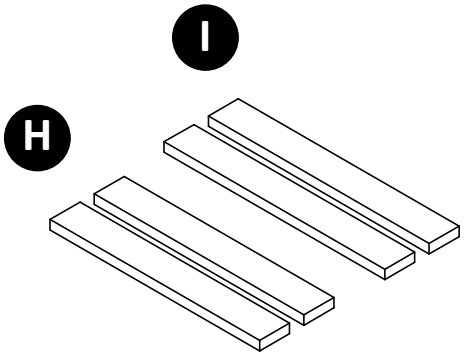
Entrance Hole

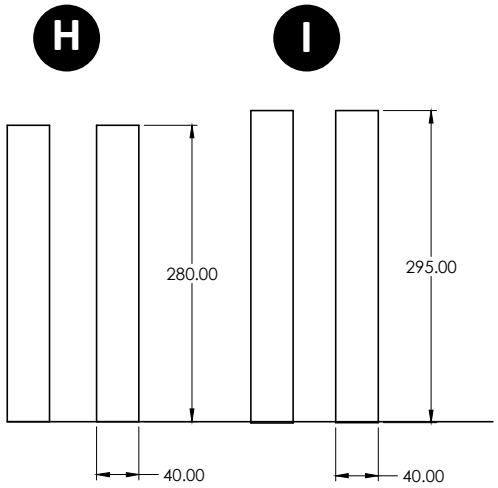
Drill a 15mm hole through one side of the hive positioned as shown according to the dimensiional drawing and passing through both the outer and inner walls of the hive.





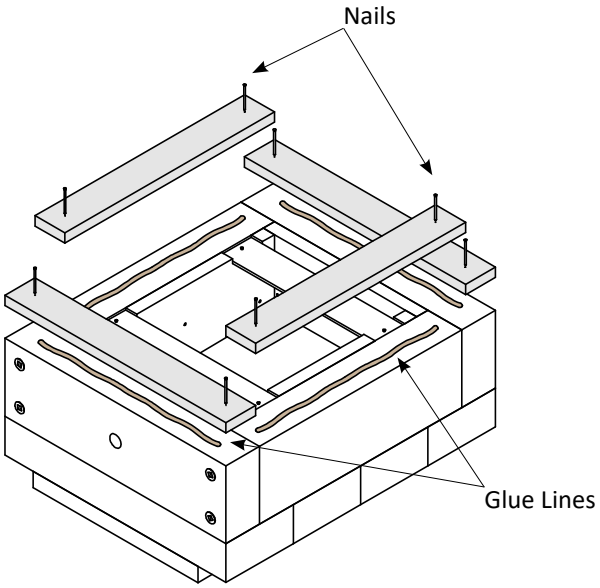
9a

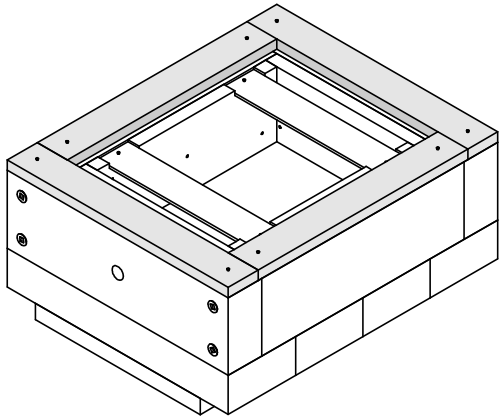




Spacers

(NOTE: For Spacer Hives Only)





This step is only necessary is you have one of our spacer hives. These are uncommon and are hives where the bottom box possesses a step, meaning that the top box must possess a recess to accommodate. You are unlikely to have one of these hives if you purchased it prior to 2021, however, if you are unsure please contact our Environmental Programs team (wildthings@krg.nsw.gov.au) with your name and hive number.

Attach the spacers around the top of the hive half as per the diagram, ensuring that they line up with the outside of the hive box as closely as possible. Apply a line of wood glue and then secure with a nail in each corner, add further nails if required. Proceed to step 10.

10

Paint or Stain

Apply an external, water-based paint or stain to your hive according to the manufacturer's instructions. Many external paints are self-priming so can be applied directly to the box. Apply a second coat if needed. Paint all external faces of the hive but do not paint the inside of the hive. Leave a 5mm ribbon of unpainted wood around the outside edge of the inner plywood lining. Please refer to the 'Ku-ring-gai Stingless Beehive Box Schematics – Supporting Information' for more information on painting/staining your hive.

PAINTED HIVE

Ku·ring·gai Council

AUSTRALIAN NATIVE BEE HIVE
Contruction and Assembly

Revision: 10