# Western Bluebird Nestbox Plan

## Cover Sheet and List of Materials

**Custom Design for SCBC**

## Bluebird Nestbox List of Materials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item:</th>
<th>Description: (Qty)</th>
<th>Notes:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Board</td>
<td>Spec: [3/4” x 7-1/4” x 5’] (1)</td>
<td>Pine, Cedar (non-aromatic), Redwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latch</td>
<td>Sq. Bend Screw Hook (1)</td>
<td>#110 Zinc Plated, Home Depot 217-445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screws</td>
<td>Screw, Drywall Course Thrd (12)</td>
<td>Phillips, 1-5/8” Long, Home Depot 479-666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nails</td>
<td>Nails, 6d, Galv. 2” Long</td>
<td>Substitute for Drywall Screws above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nails</td>
<td>Pivots, 5d, Galvanized (2)</td>
<td>1-3/4” long, Flat head, Home Depot 734-063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lub.</td>
<td>WD-40</td>
<td>Lubrication, Rust Prevention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glue</td>
<td>Titebond II Premium Wood Glue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tools:</td>
<td>#2 Phillips Screw Driver</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3/32 Drill bit</td>
<td>All Pilot Holes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5/32 Drill bit</td>
<td>Screw Clearance Holes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hole Saw</td>
<td>1-9/16” Dia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Countersink</td>
<td>Universal, 60 degree</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Door Detail

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CUT 4 TO 5 KERF FOOT HOLDS 1/8" DEEP AND 1/2" APART STARTING 1/2" BELOW ENTRY HOLE, SAW BLADE WIDTH. (OPTIONAL - WESTERN BLUEBIRDS DON'T APPEAR TO USE THEM).

DRILL 3/8" HOLE; RELIEF CUT TO EDGE TO FORM SLOT.

FLOOR (WHEN ASSEMBLED)

PLANK THICKNESS. TYP. (REF)

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DOOR DETAIL

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Drawing Not To Scale

SHEET 3 OF 5
Western Bluebird Nestbox Plan

Roof Detail & Detail Views

OPTIONAL ROOF W/O SIDE OVERHANG. TYP. (3) SIDES.

ROOF

WOOD GRAIN

HOLE FOR 9 GA WIRE.

FRONT ROOF OVERHANG.

CLEARANCE HOLES FOR ROOF SCREWS TYP. (5) PLCS.

ROOF DETAIL

VIEW A

ROOF - UNDERSIDE

STAPLE (4 PLCS.) & GLUE HANGER WIRE TO UNDERSIDE OF ROOF - TWO 90° BENDS.

VIEW B

VIEW C

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Drawing Not To Scale
Western Bluebird Nestbox Plan

Construction / Assembly Notes

1. These plans are based on $\frac{3}{4}$" planks. Make adjustments for other lumber thickness before measuring & cutting.
2. 1" x 8" planks (3/4" x 7-3/4") of pine are recommended; cedar (non-aromatic) and redwood may also be used. Do not use treated wood or plywood.
3. Initial assembly. Assemble floor, sides & back using a good quality wood glue, nails and/or drywall screws. Titebond II Premium Wood Glue is recommended for wood surfaces. Use a countersink to make screws flush. Brush all nails and screws with WD-40 to lubricate and prevent rust.
4. Modify front Door:
   4.1. Cut entry hole as indicated. Sand edges.
   4.2. Kerf cuts as indicated - Optional, western bluebirds don't appear to use them.
   4.3. Screw hook slot - at center of bottom edge; drill hole and relief cuts to edge to form the slot. Sand edges.
5. Attach Front Door as shown in View A using Galv. nails as pivots. The Door is cut $\frac{1}{16}$" narrower & $\frac{1}{4}$" shorter than the door opening to afford easy opening & closing, ventilation and drainage. The Floor bottom inset provides a finger-hold for door operation.
6. Drill a pilot hole in floor as indicated in View A and screw in the hook until a quarter- twist provides firm closure of the front door.
7. Cut 9 GA Galv. hanger wire to 24" length. Make two 1" 90 degree bends in end of wire as indicated in View B. Insert wire into bottom of roof and secure with large staples and glue as indicated. Make the wire hook by initially bending wire toward front at 90 degrees approx. 4" above roof surface. Using pliers and possibly a mandrel (i.e. one gallon paint can) bend wire into a smooth loop from 6" to 7" in diameter as indicated in View C. The opening in the hanger loop should face the rear of the nestbox.
8. Position roof with the hanger wire over the cavity center and the large overhang in front. Secure with glue and drywall screws as indicated.
9. Fill any surface holes or joint gaps with wood filler or DAP caulk and sand smooth.
10. Sand all sharp edges to round for better paint adhesion. Apply outdoor stain or paint (water based) to external surfaces only. A medium to light color is best if the nestbox will be exposed to direct sunlight.
11. Hang the nestbox 8’ or more above ground in trees or from structures with the entry hole away from the prevailing wind.

Happy Bluebirding!

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