

DISCLAIMER:

READ BEFORE YOU BEGIN! THESE PLANS ARE INTENDED AS A GUIDE ONLY! READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS COMPLETELY THROUGH ONCE AND UNDERSTAND WHAT IS REQUIRED.

We will not be held responsible for any accidents or injuries anyone may sustain. Builder assumes all risks associated with construction work!

We assume some builder competency in the use of tools, safety and equipment.

If you are unsure of any procedures, please contact a professional. The methods in this plan assume a minimum amount of power tools. Also, if you know of alternate methods of construction, feel free to use them!

Using other tools to speed the work process is just fine.

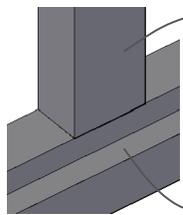
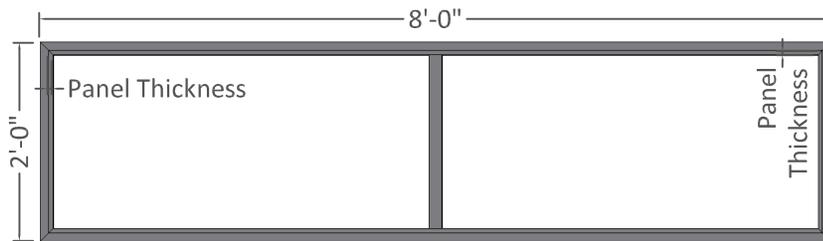
Work safely and wear proper safety equipment such as gloves, ear protection and eye protection.



To begin, understand that if you have smaller vegetables or herbs, you may opt to completely skip the bottom frame all-together! Skip to the page with the top-frame details.

For the rest, let's begin: Before cutting, router one edge of 3-2x2x8' posts (available at most lumber retailers). Make sure your router is set to the thickness of your panel material. (I.E. if you are using $\frac{1}{4}$ " hard plastic sheet, set your router or dado blade to $\frac{1}{4}$ " depth and make the dado $\frac{1}{4}$ " deep.)

Once you have your dado routed, be very careful cutting the bottom front frame as shown! Ensure all pieces align properly and that all faces are flush! Since you are working with 2x2 lumber, we recommend drilling all assembly holes BEFORE screwing the frame together. **MAKE SURE THE PANEL MATERIAL FITS PROPERLY BEFORE USING ADHESIVE SUCH AS GLUE OR WOOD BONDER!**



We recommend 1x2 for the middle support or you can plane a 2x2 down to the frame thickness minus panel thickness.

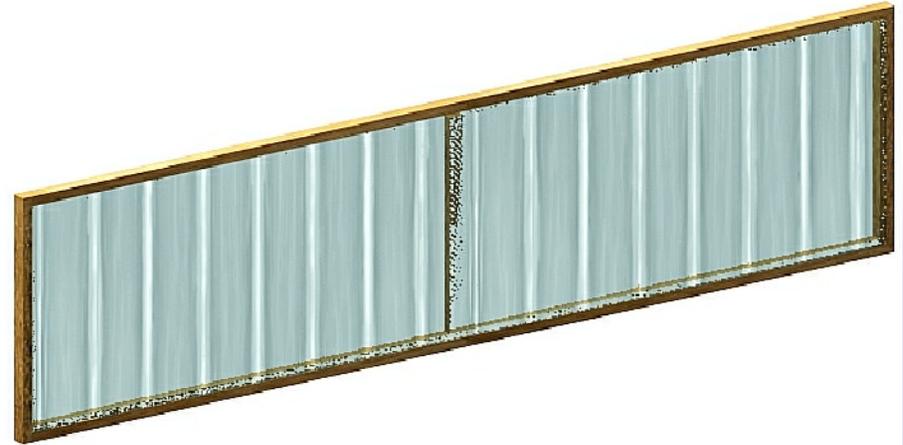
Dado thickness and depth cut @ panel material thickness



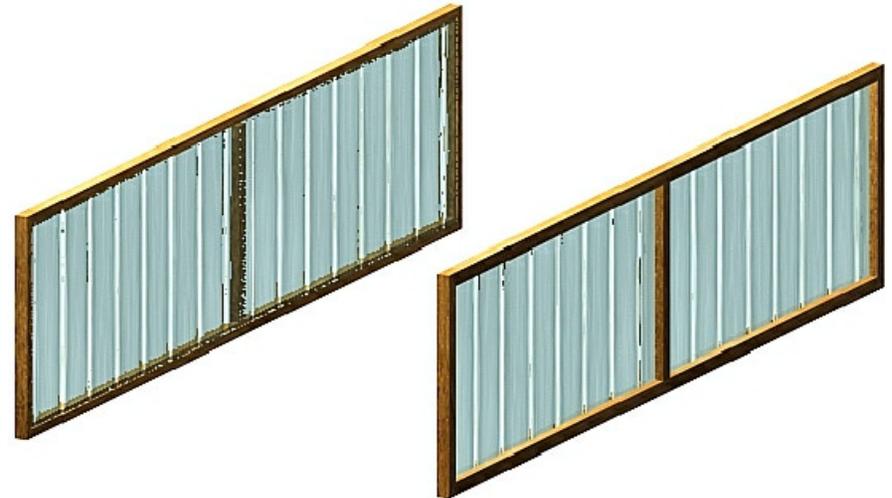
Normally, mitering the angles is simply for aesthetics, but in this case, mitering the corners at 45° is absolutely necessary to ensure the frame fits around the paneling material.

If you do not have the expertise to router a dado, it is perfectly acceptable to attach your panel material to either the inside or outside of the frame, just remember, you may have to alter dimensions slightly!

To connect the paneling to the frame, the best way, if you have plastic paneling, is to drill a hole through the paneling into the frame and screw the panel down onto the frame. If you intend on using this structure to lengthen planting into colder seasons, you may want to apply a layer of weather proofing around any seams BEFORE laying the paneling into place. Attach with screws as described above.



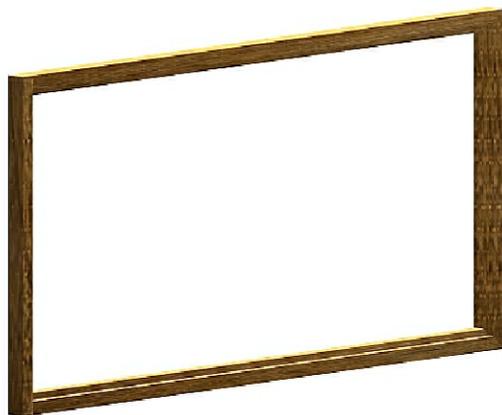
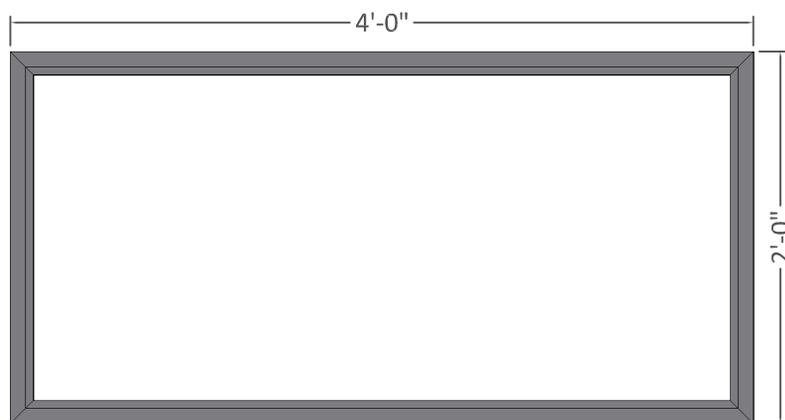
You have completed the front panel! Congrats! Now build a second one for the rear bottom panel. It's exactly the same method as constructing the front panel.



For the sides, construction is very similar to the front and rear panels.

Before cutting, router one edge of 4-2x2x8' posts (available at most lumber retailers). Make sure your router is set to the thickness of your panel material. (I.E. if you are using $\frac{1}{4}$ " hard plastic sheet, set your router or dado blade to $\frac{1}{4}$ " depth and make the dado $\frac{1}{4}$ " deep.)

Once you have your dado routed, be very careful cutting the bottom front frame as shown! Ensure all pieces align properly and that all faces are flush! Since you are working with 2x2 lumber, we recommend drilling all assembly holes BEFORE screwing the frame together. **MAKE SURE THE PANEL MATERIAL FITS PROPERLY BEFORE USING ADHESIVE SUCH AS GLUE OR WOOD BONDER!**



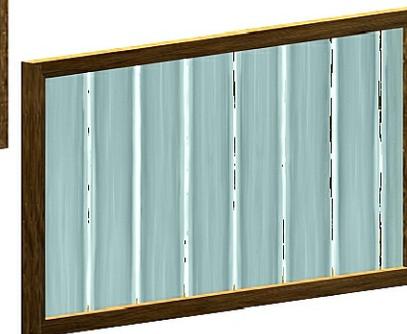
Normally, mitering the angles is simply for aesthetics, but in this case, mitering the corners at 45° is absolutely necessary to ensure the frame fits around the paneling material.

If you do not have the expertise to router a dado, it is perfectly acceptable to attach your panel material to either the inside or outside of the frame, just remember, you may have to alter dimensions slightly!

To connect the paneling to the frame, the best way, if you have plastic paneling, is to drill a hole through the paneling into the frame and screw the panel down onto the frame. If you intend on using this structure to lengthen planting into colder seasons, you may want to apply a layer of weather proofing around any seams BEFORE laying the paneling into place. Attach with screws as described above.



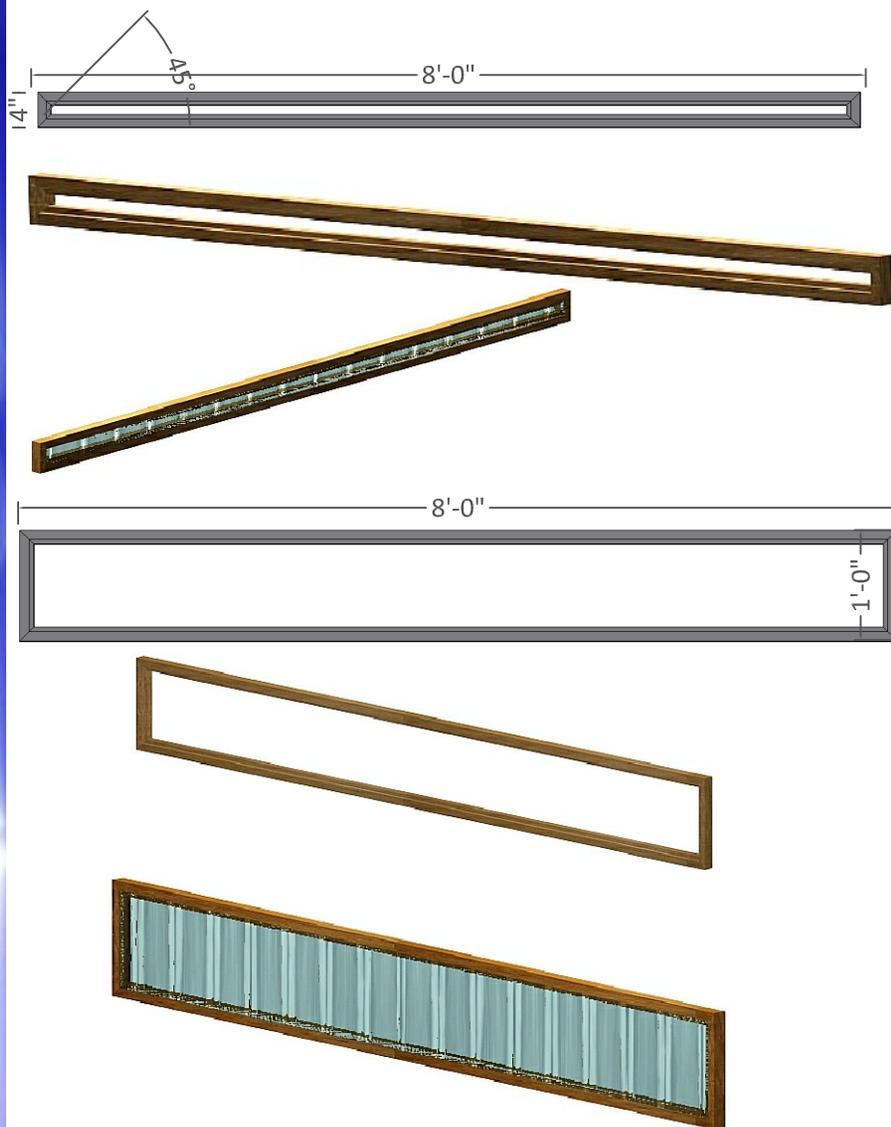
You have completed a side panel! Congrats! Now build a second one for the opposing side panel. It's exactly the same method as constructing the first side panel. Isn't it getting easier?



The front and rear top frames are constructed just as the bottom frames.

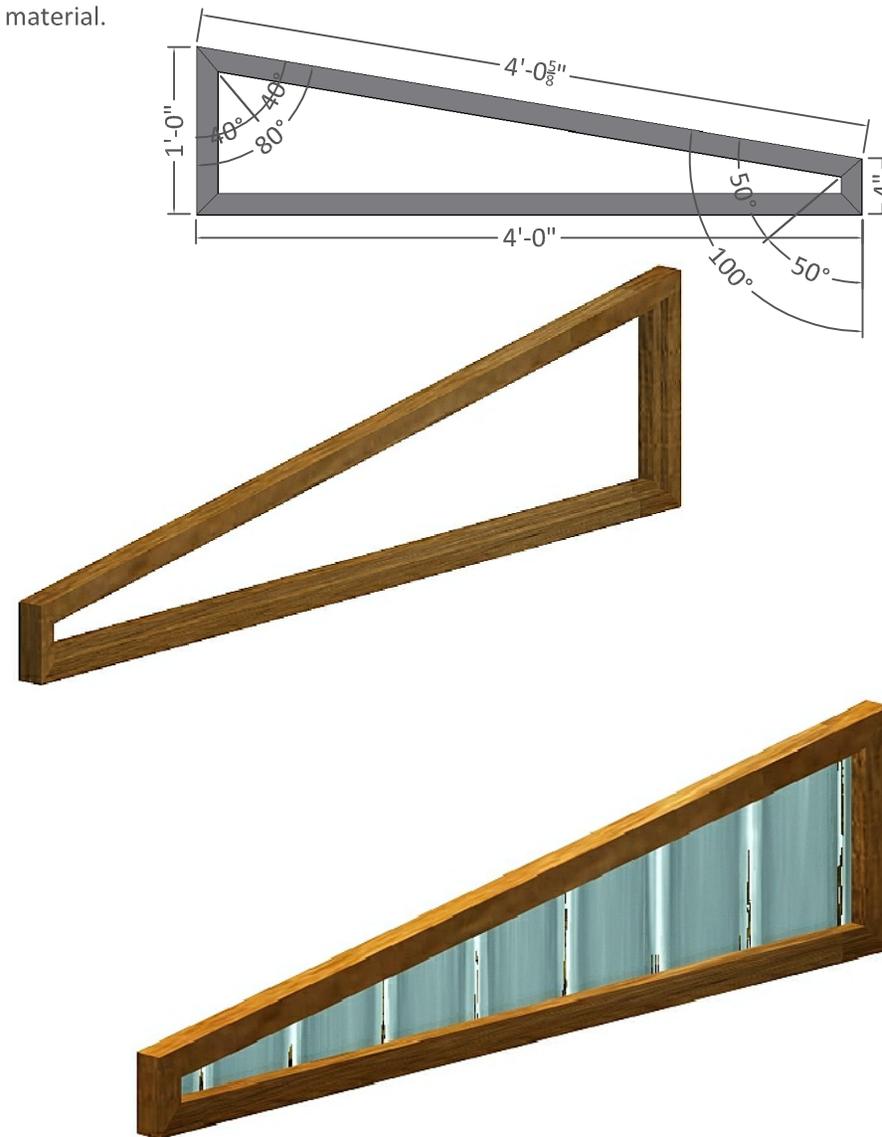
If you started at this point, you will have to start by routing one side of 3-2x2 posts. For depth and thickness of router, measure your paneling. The depth and thickness of the dado will be equal to the thickness of your panel material.

Once you have your dados routed, be very careful cutting the frame as shown! Ensure all pieces align properly and that all faces are flush! Since you are working with 2x2 lumber, we recommend drilling all assembly holes BEFORE screwing the frame together. **MAKE SURE THE PANEL MATERIAL FITS PROPERLY BEFORE USING ADHESIVE SUCH AS GLUE OR WOOD BONDER!**



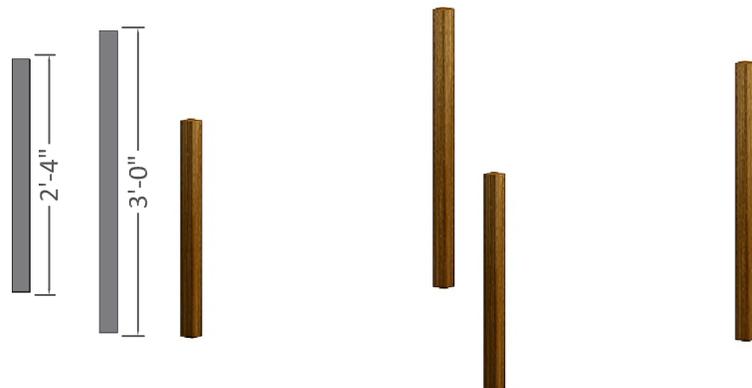
The top side frames are a little more difficult only in terms of having to miter the corners at specific angles. If you follow the diagrams up to this point, you should have enough practice to start cutting the frames as shown in the diagrams below.

If you started at this point, you will have to start by routing one side of 2-2x2x8' posts. For depth and thickness of router, measure your paneling. The depth and thickness of the dado will be equal to the thickness of your panel material.



You will need two of these side panels.

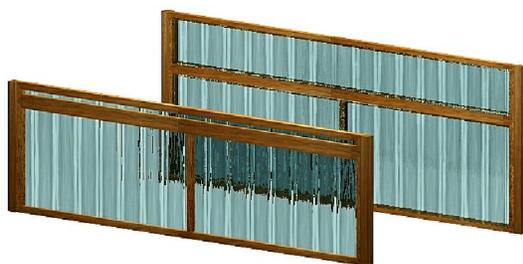
OK, once you have all of your panels, it is time to assemble. Begin by cutting 2x2x6' post into pieces as shown below. You will need two of each.



Start with any bottom panel you choose. In this example we chose to start with the front and rear bottom panels.



Attach the top front and rear panels. Sit them on top of the bottom front and rear panels.



NOTE: If you want to be able to access your garden BEFORE removing this cold frame, you will want to tack the front bottom panel through the outside of the posts so you can remove the screws once you have hinges on the front.

For the side panels, we would recommend simply attaching the bottom and top panels before enclosing the frame.



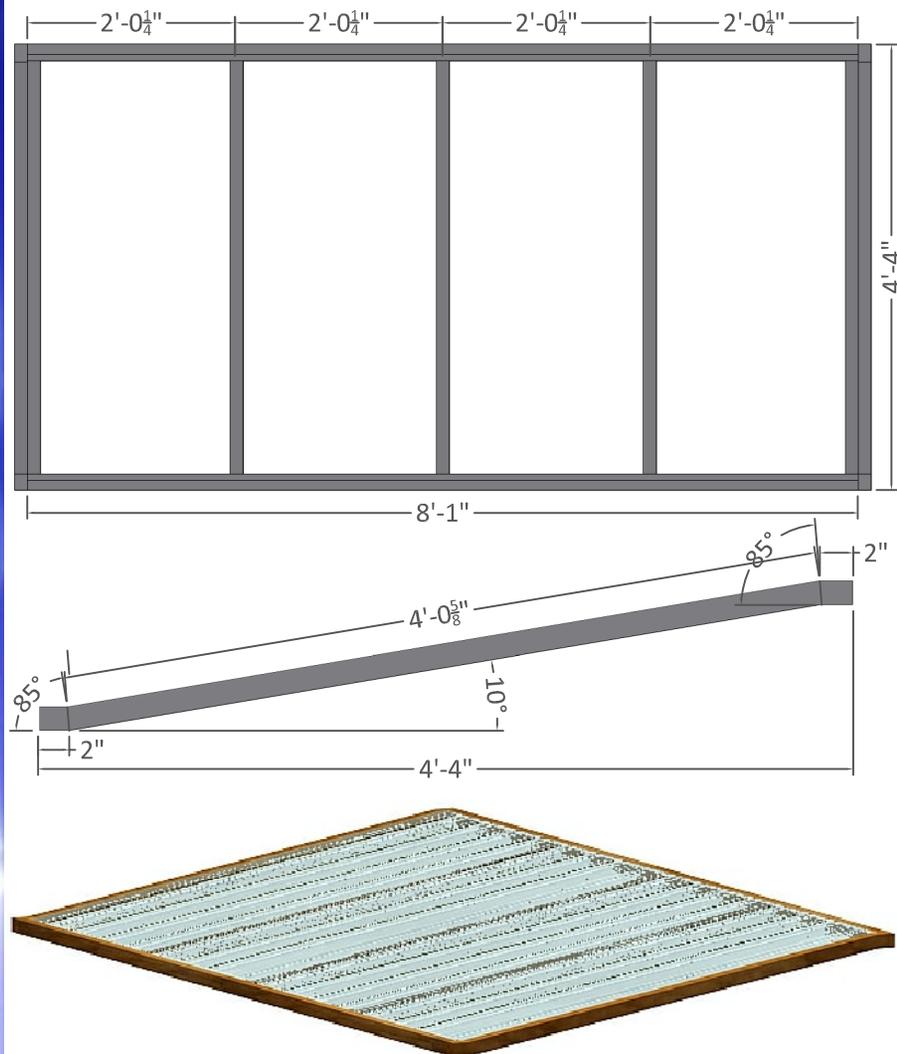
Attach these assemblies to the frames you have and ,,"Viola"" , you have the cold frame walls assembled!



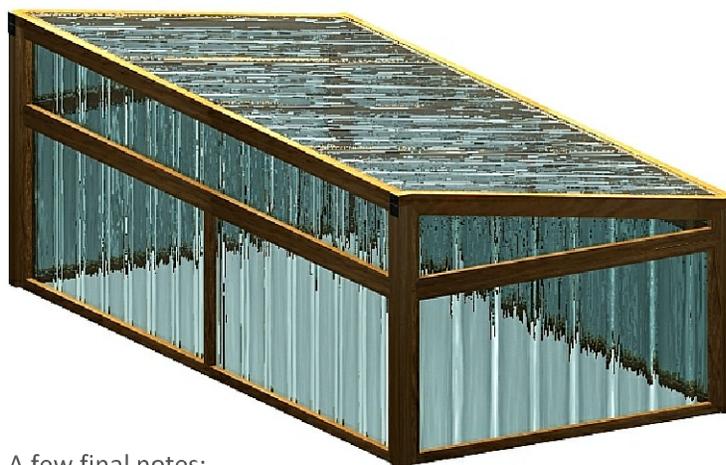
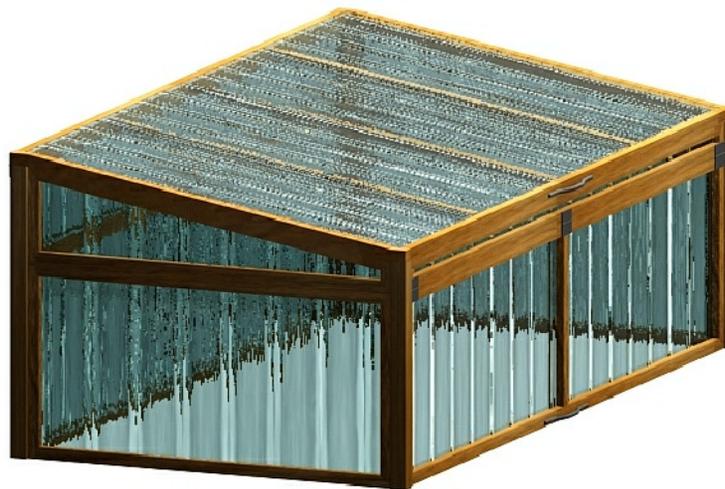
OK, now for the finishing touch, you need to construct the roof. In this example, it is possibly the most difficult to assemble, but if you follow the diagrams, you shouldn't have any problems.

Now, another point, you have the choice to router and inset the panel material OR you can still opt to attach the panel material to the outside. Either choice looks great!

Either way, you will need some experience with a circular saw's miter angle or a table saw is a great way to rip any plank lengthwise.



Now all that is left is to determine where you want hinges to go.



A few final notes:

- 1) We do NOT advocate working with glass! if you want glass cut to size please consult a professional! Glass has excellent thermal properties but can be extremely dangerous to cut without prior experience!
- 2) If you want to support your access to keep it open, a hook and eye pin on each side works very well. Simply open the access and hook the door in the open position. When you are ready to close, unhook the eye pins and close. If you want to lock the access close, a couple more on each lower corner works perfectly!

Or, if you are feeling fancy, attach a length of chain attached to the diagonal support (from the outside edge) on the top side frame. Mount a hook (or a nail or screw) on the bottom edge of the access door. Simply open the door and solidify with the chain (make sure the chain has a wide enough link-diameter to fit over the head if you use screws or nails).

