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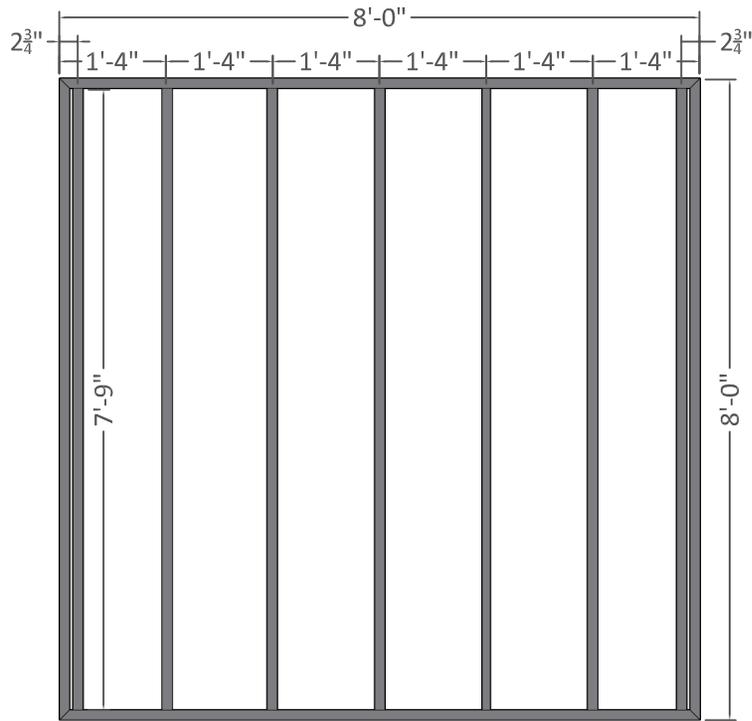
Using other tools to speed the work process is just fine.

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

MATERIALS

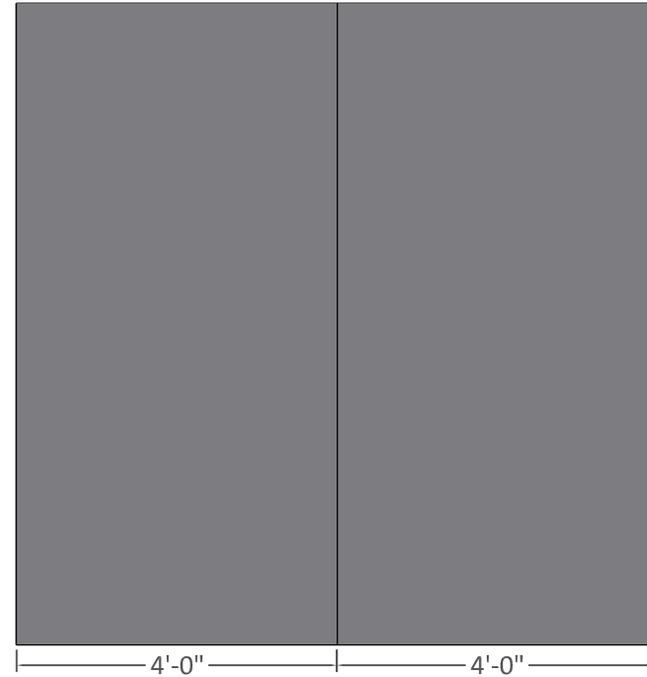| Description	Dimensions	Quantity
2x4 plank	2x4x8'	26
$\frac{3}{4}$" Plywood sheeting	4x8'x$\frac{3}{4}$"	4
2x4 plank	2x4x6'	40
2x8 plank	2x8x8'	1
2x6 plank	2x6x6'	7
$\frac{1}{2}$" Plywood sheeting	4x8'x$\frac{1}{2}$"	14
2x2 post	2x2x8'	6
1x4 plank	1x4x8'	12
Miscellaneous (By Builder)		
Paint, veneer, roofing, etc		
Weatherproof sealant		
Nails, screws, etc.		
Pane Material		
Hinges, handles, latch, etc.		

Material Notes:

To begin, cut 2x4x8' planks as dimensioned below. Mitering the ends is NOT required, but we recommend it for a professional-looking finish!

Aligning the flooring correctly will show that the sheets should align precisely down the center. Attach with screws or with a pneumatic nailer.

The walls are a bit different , but you should be able to get things going just fine by following the diagrams below. Make sure your edges are flush and that they fit together properly.

The front wall should look something similar to the diagrams below.

5'-6¼"

4'-1¼"

5'-10⅞"

5'-3"

55°

6'-0"

2'-9⅛"

2'-8⅝"

2'-11½"

2'-8"

3'-11¼"

1'-4¾"

4'-0"

7½"

Cut the door header as shown.

Insert the header into the door frame.

For the side wall, construction is extremely simple when compared to the front wall.

7'-5"

| 1'-0½" | 1'-4" | 1'-4" | 1'-4" | 1'-4" | 1'-0½" |

6'-0"

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The rear wall is not as complex as the front wall, but if you successfully completed the front wall, then the rear wall should pose no problem.

5'-6¼"

4'-1¼"

5'-10⅞"

6'-0"

2'-9⅛"

2'-8⅝"

2'-11½"

4¼"

2'-8¾"

1'-3¼"

1'-4"

1'-4"

1'-0½"

3½"

8'-0"

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For the interior divider wall, follow the diagram as shown below. Make sure to layout your cuts and make sure edges are located properly.

Notice the ripped edge of the top plate! Use either a table or circular saw to rip the top plate as shown.

Notice the location of the interior garden wall. It aligns right with the tangent of the front and rear wall plates. The ripped top plate should align flush with the top plates of the front and rear walls.

7'-5"

6'-0"

3"

55°

1'-0½" — 1'-4" — 1'-4" — 1'-4" — 1'-4" — 1'-0½"

7'-5"

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For the window wall, cut and miter 2x4 planks as shown below. The top plate should align flush with the front and rear wall structures.

7'-5"

2x8 top plate

2x8 top plate

35°

2'-9$\frac{3}{8}$"

1'-0$\frac{1}{2}$" 1'-4" 1'-4" 1'-4" 1'-4" 1'-0$\frac{1}{2}$"

7'-5"

Notes:

The roof is EASY! 2x6 planks held in place with rafter hangers. (The diagram below is just an EXAMPLE of a joist hanger. You do NOT have to use this specific model or manufacturer)

The 2x6 roof joists should be cut as shown below. You will need seven (7) roof joists.

2x6 roof joists should just lay in place. Attach the joist hangers to the studs on the interior and exterior side walls. SOME JOIST HANGERS MAY HANG OVER THE TOP PLATE. Locate the roof joists as called for by the type of joist hanger you are using.

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For the sheathing, we do not dimension up the sheathing. There are simply too many variables to take into account. Though, we will break down the sheathing into diagrams you can follow.

For sheathing, a reciprocating saw (sawz-all) is by far the easiest tool to use to trim the sheathing after the sheet is put into place.

In these diagrams, we assume $\frac{1}{2}$" plywood sheathing. You may use pretty much whichever thickness you choose, just keep it to a MINIMUM of $\frac{3}{8}$" thickness.

Once the exterior sheathing is completed, you are going to need to enclose the greenhouse portion of the Little Potter. You do NOT need to sheath the interior of the entire greenhouse, but we recommend insulating and enclosing the entire interior of the greenhouse. **If you enclose the entire greenhouse interior, you can use it as a hot box in colder times of the year!**

Before hanging the windows, you will want to place two glue plates along the top. This will give you something to attach the hinges to along the top. We recommend ¾" cedar or oak plywood for its water and insect resistant properties. Remember to align the roof sheathing properly so the sheets line up over the roof joists below.

Well, now that MOST of the Little Potter is completed, you are going to want to turn your attention to the windows. Now, the construction method is entirely up to you, but for a more professional look follow the instructions as outlined below and the windows should be pretty simple to construct.

Using a router or a table saw with a dado blade, run a groove (dado) down a 2x8x10' plank. The dado should measure $1\frac{3}{4}$" thick by $\frac{1}{2}$" deep. **NOTE! If your pane material is thicker or thinner than $\frac{1}{2}$" thick, the dado should be as deep as your pane material is thick!**

You will need 2 of each window frame as shown below.

A quick note and disclaimer: We do not recommend the use of glass in this structure! If you do want to use glass, we highly recommend taking the dimensions to a certified glass cutter!

Should you work with glass yourself, use all safety precautions while cutting, wear any safety equipment and properly dispose of any waste!

We recommend working with either clear PVC paneling or acrylic sheets.

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Before installing your windows, you are going to need some trim work. In this example we use 2x2 post because it is the same thickness as the window frame and is great to cover the wall sheathing.

Around the corners we show 1x4 trim board mitered at 45° and connected to form an "L" shape.

2x4 window
top plate
(from earlier)

2x2 post

2x2 post

2x4 bottom
trim

1x4

1x4

Install the windows. You should have about $\frac{1}{4}$" clearance between the window frames and the windows should swing unimpeded.

You will want to install a hook and eye-pin latch between the larger, bottom windows to keep them closed when not in use.

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Now, you are essentially done! Before adding finishing roofing, veneers, paint, etc, you will want to make sure all the corners are sealed with either an epoxy or polyurethane sealant.

You MAY wish to use the shed portion of the Little Potter as more than cold storage. The Little Potter is electrical ready and can be insulated and sheathed inside for small equipment storage or a small work space.

Finish the Little Potter. We have included window and door construction diagrams for your convenience on the following pages.

Also, you may wish to add shelving in the greenhouse to hold many types of plants. We leave the shelving up to you.

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For the door, construction is relatively simple. If you want to install a latch, that is up to you. We do not show the details because there are special tools involved, most of which the normal person does not have. However, if you DO happen to come across such tools, you will be able to add a doorknob and catch should you desire.

As with the window, this is a very simple door and you do NOT have to construct the door in this way.
If you prefer to purchase a door, make sure the rough opening size is adequate. The frame rough opening in this instance can be anything. Just tweak the dimensions to match your rough opening. **Be sure you subtract $\frac{1}{2}$" from the rough opening to allow for swing!**
1) To begin, we are using 1'4 planks and $\frac{1}{2}$" plywood sheeting. Cut the frame pieces as shown below. You DO NOT have to miter the corners, we just recommend it for aesthetic purposes.
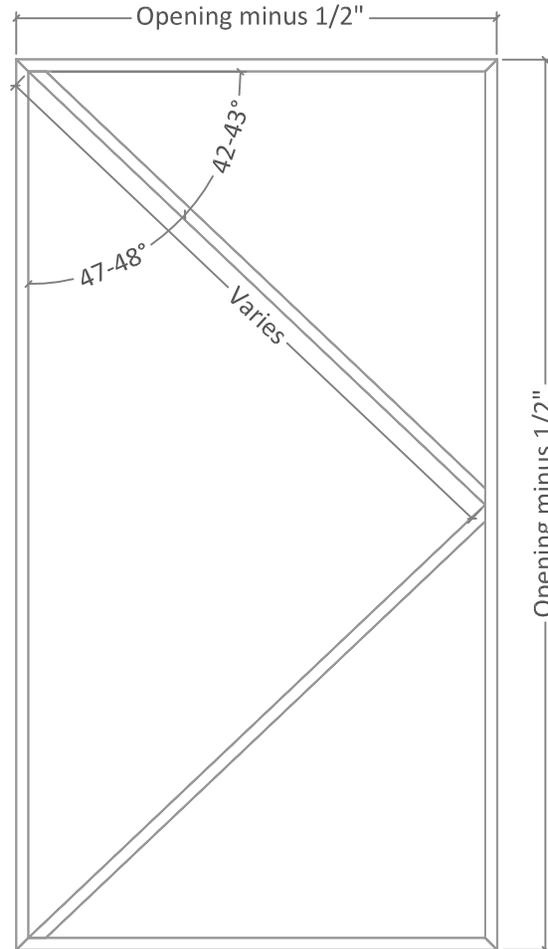
We will show the door in this example with a pattern cut out of the front and back sheeting, but this is not required. It is purely for looks and does not affect the integrity of the door at all.

Before you attach the panel to the door frame, you will want to check the swing in the doorway. We have allowed for $\frac{1}{2}$" swing, but depending on construction methods and accuracy, swing may be affected by as much as 1".

Please ensure the frame will swing in the opening without getting stuck or caught. You should allow more swing once you add the door panels so check after each step to ensure swing is not impeded.

Materials

Description:	Qty:
1x4x6' Planks	5
4x8'x$\frac{1}{2}$" Plywood Sheet	2
Hinges	3

$4\frac{1}{2}$"

2 Attach the front panel to the door frame, and MAKE SURE THE CORNERS ARE SQUARE and edges are flush. You may even want to sand the corners of the inside swing so they are rounded a little bit.

3) Insulate the door with either blow foam or regular R-13 roll insulation will work.

4) Enclose the door with the second panel. You may want to round the edges on this side also.

5) A single slide bolt works wonders on the outside and inside to lock the door shut. If you don't want your kids to be able to lock the door, only install the slide bolt on the outside! The slide bolt also offers a grip to pull the door open.

Windows are complicated to design and when at all possible, should be purchased. These details are for a very simple sliding window. You will need, and know how to use, a miter saw, a router (preferably with a guide) or table saw with an adjustable gouging blade (or blade kit, and a square (speed square, carpenter square, either works).

1) Cut and miter 1x6 planks as shown below. DO NOT ASSEMBLE YET!
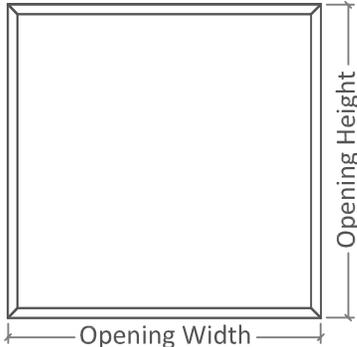
2) Rip a 1x4x8' into strips $\frac{5}{8}$" thick. These will serve many purposes in the future but for now, we just want four of them to match the opening, so either rip and cut one piece or rip an entire board into $\frac{5}{8}$" strips and place the pieces to the side for late.
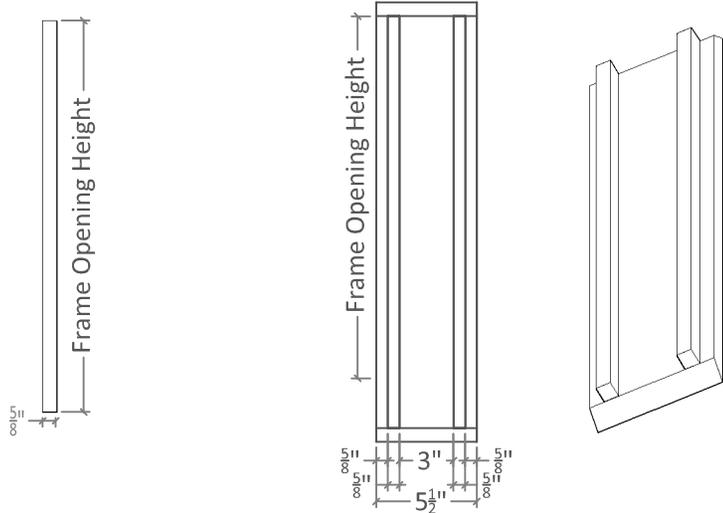
3) Using 1" screws and a level, screw two runners onto one of the exterior frame pieces. Repeat for the second side (see above).

4) Check to make sure the runners will fit inside the frame when assembled. Make any adjustments if necessary. DO NOT ASSEMBLE!
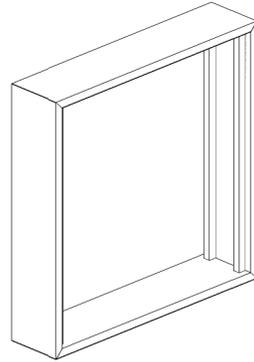
5) Rip a 8'-2x6 down the center lengthwise.

6) Use a router to gouge a $\frac{3}{4}$"x$\frac{3}{4}$" groove down the center of one side. Flip the board over and gouge a $\frac{1}{4}$x$\frac{1}{4}$" groove down the center of the other side (see detail)

For pane material =
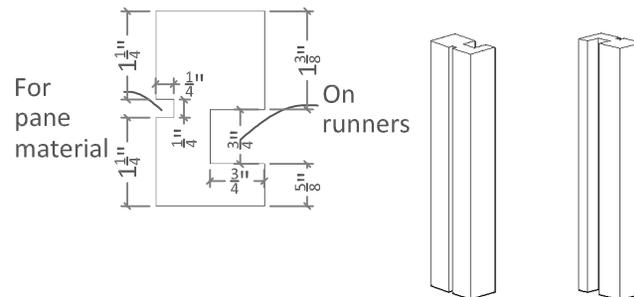
On runners

7) Miter the ends. Make sure the narrow ($\frac{1}{4}$x$\frac{1}{4}$") groove is facing inwards! The wide ($\frac{3}{4}$x$\frac{3}{4}$") grooves go out toward the runners, the inside grooves will hold a pane of window material.

45°

1'-0"
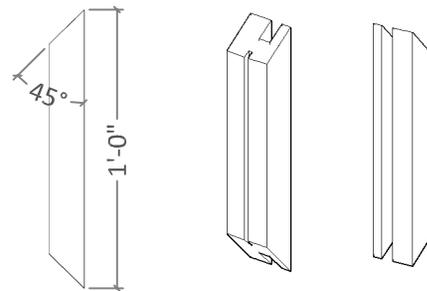
8) Rip a 2x6 lengthwise down the middle and miter ends as shown below. Run a $\frac{1}{4}$"x$\frac{1}{4}$" groove down the middle, just as with the 2x6 above. Hold them together and MAKE SURE THE GROOVES ALIGN PROPERLY! You will need to gouge a $\frac{3}{4}$x$\frac{3}{4}$" groove out of the ends.

45°

Frame Opening Width

$\frac{1}{4}$" grooves align

$\frac{3}{4}$" groove aligns with runners
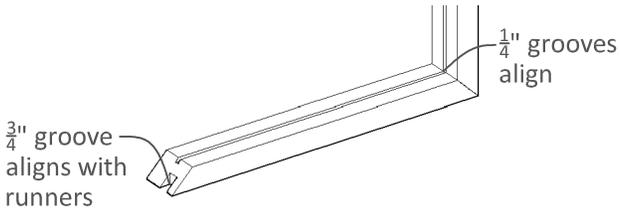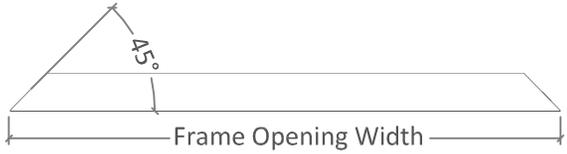
Materials

Description:	Qty:
2x6x6' Planks	24
1x6x8' Planks	6
1x4x8' Planks	6

9) Lastly, before construction, you will need to determine what type of pane material you want to use. For a playhouse, we would recommend against using glass and go with clear acrylic or polyvinyl pane.

IF YOU DECIDE TO USE GLASS, WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND PURCHASING $\frac{1}{4}$" THICK PROFESSIONALLY CUT PANES. YOU WILL NEED 2 PER WINDOW. ON THIS SET THAT EQUALS 12 PANES OF GLASS TOTAL.

SHOULD YOU DECIDE TO CUT YOUR OWN GLASS, YOU DO SO AT YOUR RISK! USE ALL SAFETY PROCEDURES AND EQUIPMENT WHEN HANDLING GLASS!

10) Assemble the window frame around the pane. Run a bead of epoxy or polyethylene (or equivalent) seal down the frame pieces as you assemble the window to get a good, weather-tight, bond. You could increase rotting and mildew growth if you choose not to.
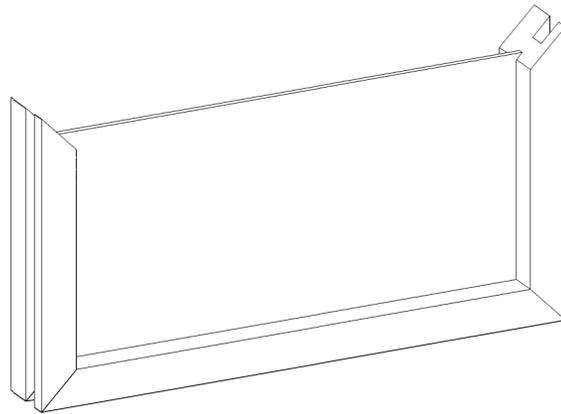
11) Cap off the window with the top piece and connect all pieces with 1" small radius ($\frac{1}{4}$" or smaller) screws. Be sure you don't screw down into the window pane!
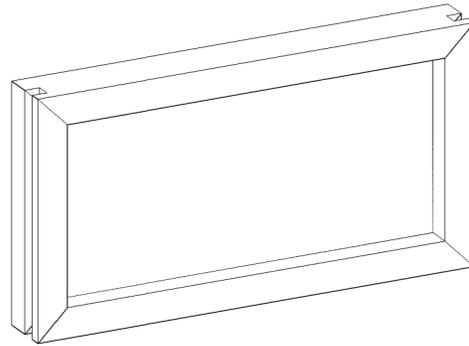
12) Repeat for second window.

13) Once you have two window assemblies, two exterior frame pieces with runners on them, and two exterior frame pieces for the top and bottom, carefully assemble the exterior window frames AROUND the window assemblies.
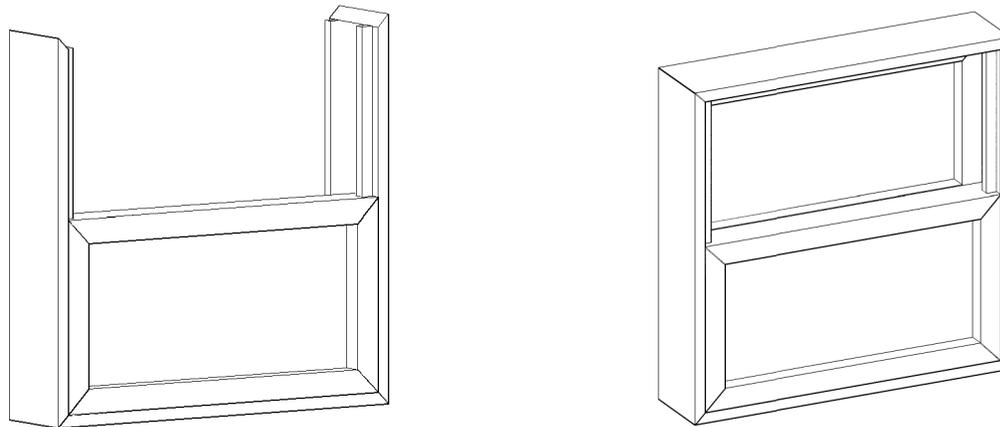
14) Cap off the window assembly, Ensure the windows slide easily and there is about $\frac{1}{16}$-$\frac{1}{8}$" gap between the window assemblies so they will not impede each other's movement.

15) Place the window in the window frame. Screw the exterior frame to the opening provided. You may have to use a soft mallet or a dead-blow hammer to get the window centered in the opening.

16) How the windows stay up or down is up to the user. We recommend getting a slide bolt and installing at least one on the movable assembly. Which assembly moves or stays stationary is up to the builder.

17) Lastly, before construction, you will need to determine what type of pane material you want to use. For a playhouse, we would recommend against using glass and go with clear acrylic or polyvinyl pane.

IF YOU DECIDE TO USE GLASS, WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND PURCHASING $\frac{1}{4}$" THICK PROFESSIONALLY CUT PANES. YOU WILL NEED 2 PER WINDOW. ON THIS SET THAT EQUALS 12 PANES OF GLASS TOTAL.

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18) Assemble the window frame around the pane. Run a bead of epoxy or polyethylene (or equivalent) seal down the frame pieces as you assemble the window to get a good, weather-tight, bond. You could increase rotting and mildew growth if you choose not to.
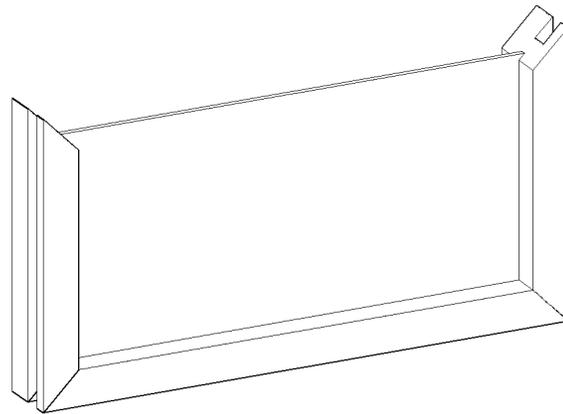
Additional Stuff for the Window Assemblies:

1) Use weather striping along the seam between the window assemblies to keep wind, and weather out as much as possible.

2) We recommend having one stationary, and one movable window. Most often, anchor the exterior window to the top of the assembly and let the interior window slide up and down.

    1) Drill a $\frac{1}{4}$" pin hole in the interior, left or right, side of the movable window assembly.

    2) While the window is closed, drill into the runner about $\frac{1}{4}$".

    3) Keeping the drill bit inside the pin hole, pull the drill bit back out a little, raise the window and drill back in about $\frac{1}{4}$" into the runner. We recommend about 3" increments.

    4) Repeat as necessary for how much you wish the window to open. Cut a length of $\frac{1}{4}$" dowel (may need sanding to slide freely) to use as a pin.

    5) Add a slide pin to both the top and bottom of the movable window so the windows can be "locked" shut if you wish.