

Tools Required

- Rake
- Shovel
- Fence Pliers (preferred) to Cut and Bend Wire (one per person)
- Socket Wrench Set (1/2 inch bolts)
- T-Post Driver or Sledge Hammer (if secured with T-Posts)
- Channel Lock Pliers (large size for pulling panels tight)
- Gloves (sharp wire)
- Four 3' or 4' lengths of 2x4 (to support the roof while positioning)
- Optional - Zip Ties (heavy zip ties for temporary installations or positioning)
- Optional – Roofers magnet to pick up loose cut wire

Tools Required

Stephens Pipe & Steel Dog Kennel, 10 ft. x 10 ft. x 6 ft. SKU #360651299 \$299.00
Tractor Supply



Kennel Roof & Cover Kit, 10 ft. x 10 ft. SKU #101231999 \$99.99
Tractor Supply



60x100 Horse Fence Roll (12.5 gauge) SKU #361071599 \$189.99
Tractor Supply



Koch Industries Chain 1/4 in. x 2 ft. SKU #358671299 \$4.98
Tractor Supply



Hillman Quick Link 1/4 in. SKU #10205099 \$1.99
Tractor Supply



Four Studded T Post, 6 ft. SKU #360436699 \$19.96



12 Gauge 100 Ft Suspend it Wire (drop ceiling) SKU #931851 \$13.58
(Home Depot)



Total:\$629.49

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Building a Pen to Protect Small Livestock from Mountain Lions Using a Dog Kennel Kit

Our least expensive pen is made from one standard dog kennel kit consisting of four pre-assembled chain link fence panels, the optional roof kit and a roll of “no climb” horse fence. You can find other plans and lots of additional information for deterring mountain lions from your home or ranch at www.mountainlion.org, or contact us. Please send us a photo and story about your pen!

The final pen is ten feet by ten feet square, six feet high at the outside and approximately 7.5 feet high in the center. The four corners of the pen are anchored with T-Post fence posts for stability.

The materials and tools required for the pen are listed at the end of this document. The retail price for the materials was \$629.49 before tax at the end of August 2017.

The materials can be ordered online from a number of vendors. For this build we chose Tractor Supply, paid online and picked up the materials with a small truck. Only one trip is required with the small truck.



Before You Start

Select your site - Be sure to find a site that is level, has good drainage, is convenient and is where you want it to be for the foreseeable future - the pen can be moved, but it is heavy! Measure the 10'x10' area where the pen will go. If the soil is very dry you may wish to water the corners for a day or so before installation in order to soften the soil and make driving the T-Posts easier. Invite several friends - the work will go quickly but you will need at least two or three people to handle the materials which are light enough to move easily but large.

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS



Walls

The walls are made from a standard dog kennel kit consisting of four pre-assembled chain link fence panels.

Lay out your panels outside of the footprint of the final pen so that they can be tilted up and into position (see photo to the left).

Be sure to place the panel with the door in the appropriate place.

Using a tape measure or string, measure diagonally from corner to corner of the pen footprint to ensure that the pen is square.

Pick a corner to start at and drive the "T-Post" into position where the two panels come together at the corner. You can wiggle the post to vertical if you are a little off (see photo to right).

Tilt the two panels upright and in place to confirm everything is looking good.

Attach the panels together using the provided clamps (see photo below), and repeat the process for the other three corners



Preparing the Roof

The roof is made using the Kennel Roof and Cover Kit and covering the open space with the horse fencing. The kit consists of a metal tube frame which slips and locks together as well as a fitted tarp.

Assemble the frame on the ground outside of the pen.

Using the 12 gauge wire run two equally spaced horizontal reinforcements on each side parallel to the ridge. The horse fence to rests on this.

Wrap several times and go from the outside over the top for the best support.

Be sure to wrap a couple of times over the top of the center pole.



Covering the Roof Frame

The roof frame is covered with the horse fencing to ensure a predator proof barrier under the tarp. The fencing runs parallel to the ridge line.

Starting at either end, overlap the end of the roof by 24 inches and roll the wire over the support wire. Cut the wire from the roll leaving 24 inches of overhang at both ends.

Position the wire so that it is parallel to the ridge and attach with wire every 6 inches. Go twice around the pipe and twist tight. Once the ridge is attached, wire the eave side of the fencing. Large channel lock pliers can be used to pull tight. Leave the long ends unwired for now.

Note: The first side of the roof had easy access to the ridge when flat on the ground but it is difficult to reach to attach the second side, we have found setting it on edge works well.

While still on the ground, cut the wire for the second side again leaving a 24 inch overhang on each end. Lightly wire or zip tie the fence in position. Lift one end of the roof to stand the roof on edge and lean it against the pen walls for support. When lifting the roof fold the overhanging fencing under the roof. Use the wire to attach as you did the other side of the roof. You will want to flip the roof halfway through to easily reach the top half.



Setting the Roof

Once the roof is assembled, reinforced, covered in wire and secure it is time to place the roof on the pen.

Place one scrap 2x4 board diagonally on each of the corners of the pen. This serves as a place to set the roof while tightening the clamps.

Lift the roof and walk it over the top of the pen and set it on the 2x4 boards. Be sure that the overhang is outside of the fence panels.

Using the provided clamps attach the frame to the wall panels. You can remove one 2x4 at a time to position and still have most of the weight supported.

Tighten all of the clamps once the roof is in the correct position.

Note that the roof is 10'x10' and the wall panels are 10' plus the extra length of the clamps. Center roof frame on the wall panels and use the overhanging fencing to adjust for the difference.



Fasten the Roof Ends and You're Done!

Pull the ends of the roof tight against the wall panels. Cut off any excess 4-5 inches below the wall panel and wire the fencing to the top of the wall panel every 6 inches. There will be a slight overlap of the fencing in the center of the wall.

Install tarp over the roof for rain and sun protection.

These pens have been built to protect goats using a heavy rubber floor mat installed which will keep predators such as coyotes from digging in. For other livestock it may be appropriate to use the remaining wire fence around the perimeter and cover in dirt, extend the fence underground or use as a floor in the pen to prevent predators from digging in. Poultry wire can be used to prevent predators from through the wall for smaller livestock. - Use the chain to secure the gate.