

TEAM BUILDING, WITH BITE

Aye-Aye Finger Box

This device is designed to fit in front of a visitor viewing area to allow the public to see the aye-aye's natural foraging behavior.

This enrichment device has been successfully implemented with: Aye-ayes

Items needed:

- 4-5mm thick clear polycarbonate
- 25mm x 75mm rough sawn kick boards
- 25mm x 150mm rough sawn kick boards
- 4 x 40mm wood screws
- 4 x 16mm wood screws
- x6 M6 x 30mm set screw
- x6 M6 nylon lock nuts
- x12 M6 penny washers
- 30mm x 50mm aluminum angle bar
- x4 staple plates
- Handsaw
- Drill with bits
- Socket wrench and spanner or pliers
- Sandpaper
- Measuring tape
- Pencil

Safety concerns:

- Ensure all wooden parts of the feeder are thoroughly sanded.
- Finger hole must be correct size to prevent entrapment.
- Device should not be left in for extended periods of time to prevent destruction.
- **This device should be implemented as part of a goal-focused enrichment program. Individual animal characteristics should be fully considered before trialing.**

Directions:

1. Measure and cut the 25mm x 75mm pieces of wood. You will need:
 - a. x3 75mm pieces equal to the length of your polycarbonate, minus 50mm
 - b. x2 75mm pieces equal to the width of your polycarbonate, plus 10 mm.
 - c. x1 75mm piece equal to the total length of the device for the front piece
 - d. x1 150mm piece equal to the total length of the device for the front piece
 - e. x12 75mm pieces to create dividers between the shelf and the frame.
2. To make the inner compartments, first lay out one of the length pieces with the twelve small divider blocks of wood, six on either side, approximately 8cm apart. The blocks should be slightly off-set to allow the pieces to be screwed into the inner shelf (see Figure 1). Secure the blocks to the shelf with 40mm screws. Drill pilot holes before screwing pieces together to avoid splitting the wood.

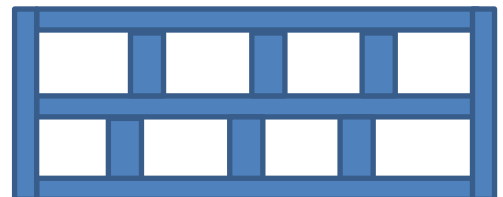
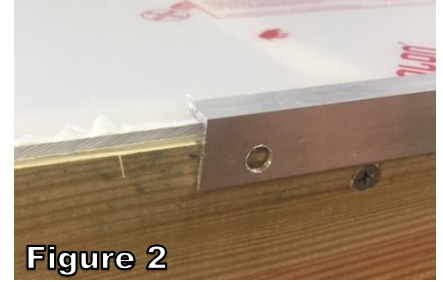


Figure 1

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3. Attach the remaining length and width pieces of wood to make a frame around the inner shelf.
4. Attach the two front pieces of wood and drill one 5mm finger hole per compartment through the wood.
5. To attach the angle bars to the back of the feeder, first drill holes on both ends of one edge of the bar to fit the bolt. You may need to start with a small drill bit and work your way up to a larger one (see Figure 2).
6. Lay the piece of polycarbonate on the back of your feeder. Place the angle bars on three sides to mark the holes for the bolts. Make sure to leave a small gap between the feeder and the bar for the polycarbonate piece to slide in and out. A piece of cardboard between the polycarbonate and metal can help here. Drill the holes through the wood and secure bars with the bolts, washers and lock nuts. Washers can be used to create a larger gap if the polycarbonate piece is too tight on the sides.
7. Attach the staple plates to the corners of the feeder using 16mm wood screws.
8. Remove the protective coating and polycarbonate should now slide into place on the back of the feeder.



Video links of the device in action:

<http://bit.ly/Aye-ayefingerfeeder>

We'd love to see your animals in action! Send pictures or videos of your animals using this device to Mark@teambuildingwithbite.co.uk