

Ball in a frame – carnivore version

This feeder is designed to promote investigatory behavior. Please note the build guide differs from the photos, based on an updated model with improvements over the original 'lion build'.

This enrichment device has been successfully implemented with: Lions and African Wild Dogs

Items needed:

x4 1200mm timber (70 x 70)
x4 340mm timber (70x70)
x4 200mm timber (70 x 70)
x4 141mm timber (70 x 70)
x8 angle brackets (90 x 90 x 40)
x68 70mm coach screws
x16 100mm coach screws

x16 160mm coach screw
x1 210mm boomer ball
x1 Staple plate
Clamps
Tape measure
Pencil
Drill with bits
Saw
Sandpaper

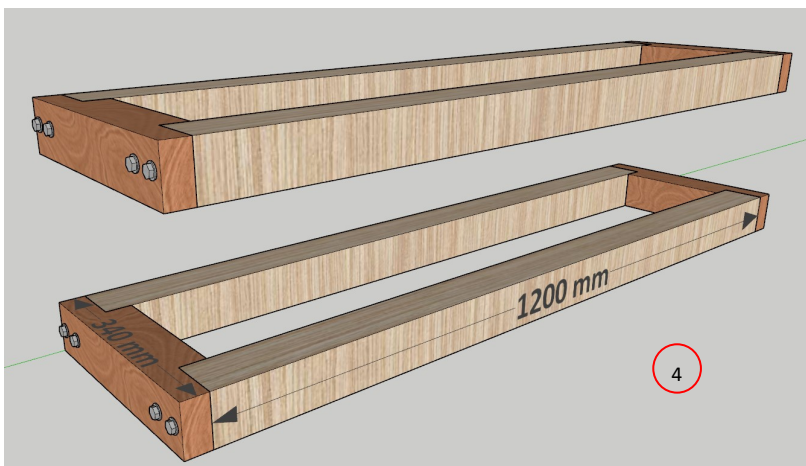
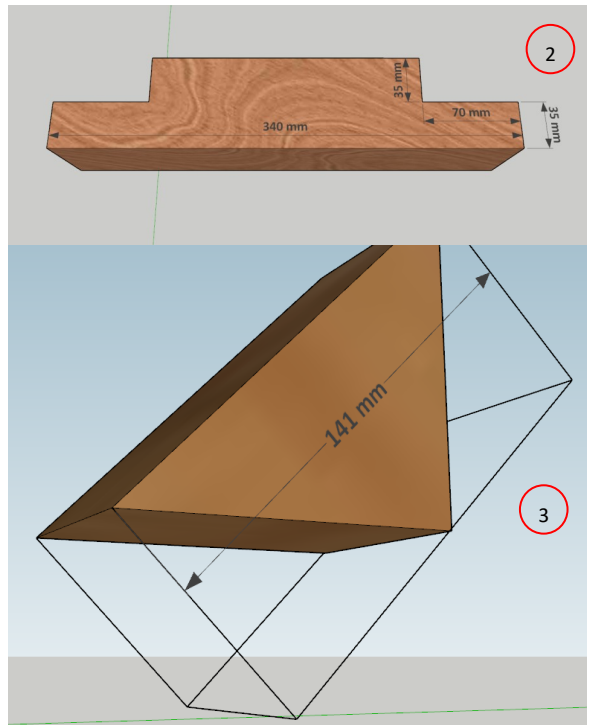
Safety concerns:

- The carnivore must not be able to pull the ball out between the timber, so gaps must be kept to a minimum, and good strong timber used.
- Item must be thoroughly checked after each use to make sure there is no damage or spits in the timber.
- **This device should be implemented as part of a goal-focused enrichment program. Individual animal characteristics should be fully considered before trialing.**



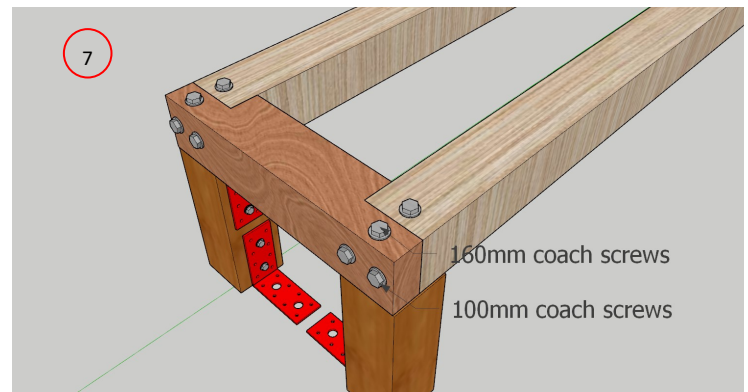
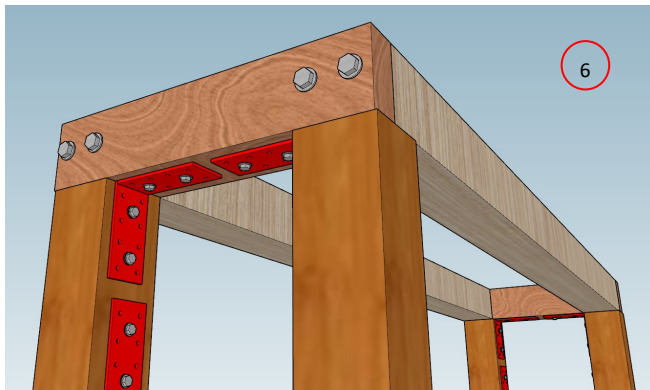
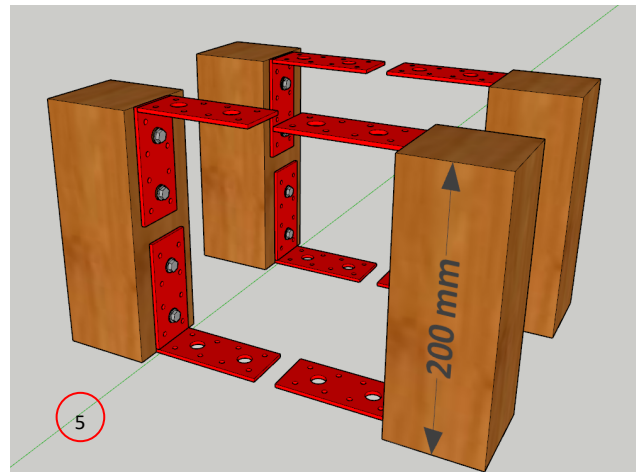
Directions:

1. Cut all lengths of timber with neat straight ends, and sand the cut ends, along with any rough bits.
2. All four lengths of the 340mm timber will need a section cutting out of each end. This cut out should measure 70mm x 35mm
3. All four lengths of 141mm timber need a section cut off each end. The should be angled 45 degrees from the corner. Once the two ends have had this section cut, you will be left with a triangle. Put to one side ready for use later.
4. Next, create the top and bottom, using the four lengths of 1200mm timber and the four lengths of 340mm timber that was

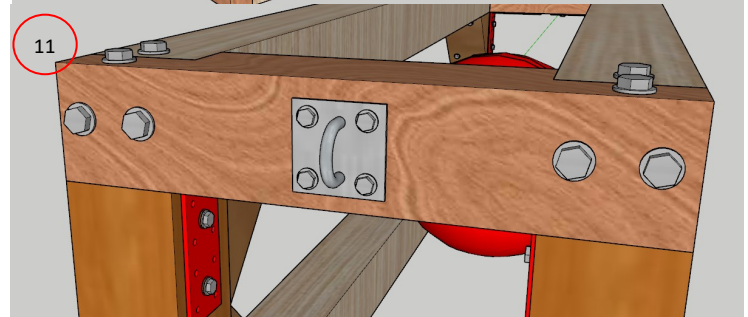
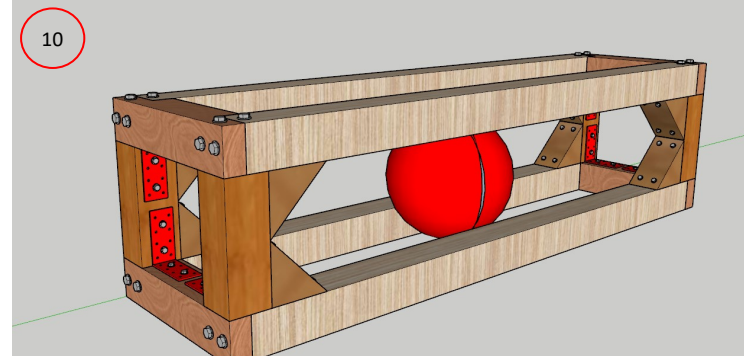
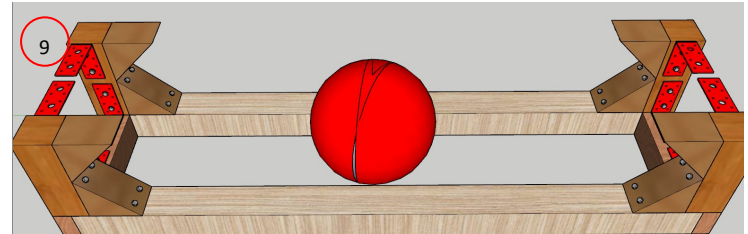
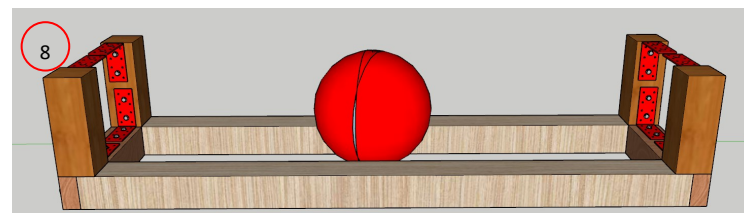


cut in stage 2. The 1200mm should easily fit into the cut outs. Use a drill to create a pilot hole, and the 100mm coach screws to attach these pieces together. This must be a tight strong fit.

5. Attach the angle brackets to the 200mm timber using the 70mm coach screws. This may need a pilot hole. The brackets must line up perfectly with the top and bottom of the timber, so be sure to use a flat surface, and you may need the clamps to hold them in place while you drill and screw.
6. Attach the 200mm timber with brackets (step 5) to the top section (step 4) using 70mm coach screws through the brackets. You may need pilot holes for this.
7. For extra security, drill a wide and deep pilot hole through the top section, down into the 200mm poles, and use the 160mm coach screws to fix these two points together. Use two coach screws at each point. These screws are tough to get in, so make sure the pilot hole is deep enough.



8. Flip the structure over so the top is now the bottom, and place the ball into the frame
9. Add the 141mm corner sections from stage 3 in using 70mm coach screws. You may need a pilot hole. These are to give the whole structure strength and stability, so make sure they are firmly in place and sit comfortably in the corners.
10. Add the top section onto the frame, using the same method as stage 6/7. Be sure to use pilot holes before inserting the 70mm screws through the brackets, and the 160mm screws through the frame. As this is the final part of the structure, it must be tight and fit well, so be sure to line everything up perfectly and leave no gaps in the frame.
11. Finally use the last four remaining 70mm coach screws to attach the staple plate to the end of the device. This is used to attach the device to a solid object in the enclosure, either directly or via a chain.



If you feel comfortable to (and depending on the individuals it will be used with) a hole can be cut in the ball to place small pieces of food in. Inspect the ball regularly for wear and tear.

Video link of device in action

<https://www.facebook.com/TeamBuildingWithBite/videos/3216578945058958/>