

Portable Deck Plans

To build a portable platform the size of the Yome's footprint a series of "pie pieces" are built out of 2"x4"s or 2"x6"s, leveled out and then bolted together to form a deck. It works best where the slope of the land isn't too steep. Keep in mind that the triangular windows require access from the exterior of the Yome. If the deck is too high off the ground a sub-deck will be needed to service the windows.

Building the Deck

-Cut the boards A, B, C as shown in the layout plans. All boards are measured on the longest side. Cut off the boards to the angles specified. Measurements will vary when non-stand (1 1/2' wide) lumber is used.

-It works best to start with only the exterior boards of each pie piece. These can be attached at their ends to form each triangle. These triangles can then be set in place and leveled. This way any warped lumber or imperfections can be compensated for before the interior supports are cut and placed.

-The interior joist pattern shown in the plan represents a suggestion. Other layouts are possible depending on their suitability for the decking material used.

-The plans for this deck will be slightly undersized for the Yome's footprint. This is because there is some latitude in the actual size of the base of the Yome. It can vary between 88"-89". A fascia board of about 3/4" thick attached to the outside perimeter of the completed deck will allow the Yome to fit better and protect the vulnerable edge of the decking. Cedar is a good rot resistant choice for this fascia board.

-Set the first pie piece frame on the high side of the terrain with the center pointing downhill. Level this pie piece using deck blocks and posts if necessary. The outer deck blocks can be a foot or two in from the outside corners and will support two adjacent pie pieces. Place an approximately 12" x 12" board or other suitable surface on the center post to support all the center points of the pie pieces.

-Alternatively the position of the deck blocks can be pre-determined using a transit level. Set the level in the center and site the first deck block. Swing the scope the proper amount of degrees to locate the exact position of each of the remaining deck blocks.

-Drill three holes through the adjacent "B" and "C" boards and bolt them together, a "C" clamp will make this easier.

-Repeat this procedure adding another block and post and bolting another frame piece until all the blocks are set, all the posts are cut and all but the last frame piece is set and bolted. The last frame piece will probably need to be pounded into place and other bolts may need to be loosened.

-Use sway braces on every post. The more angle braces in place the more rigid and stable the platform becomes. This is important when using deck block since they aren't anchored to the ground the way a poured concrete footer is. For a more permanent deck, concrete footers can be used.

-Cover with plywood or suitable decking material and oil or seal the deck.