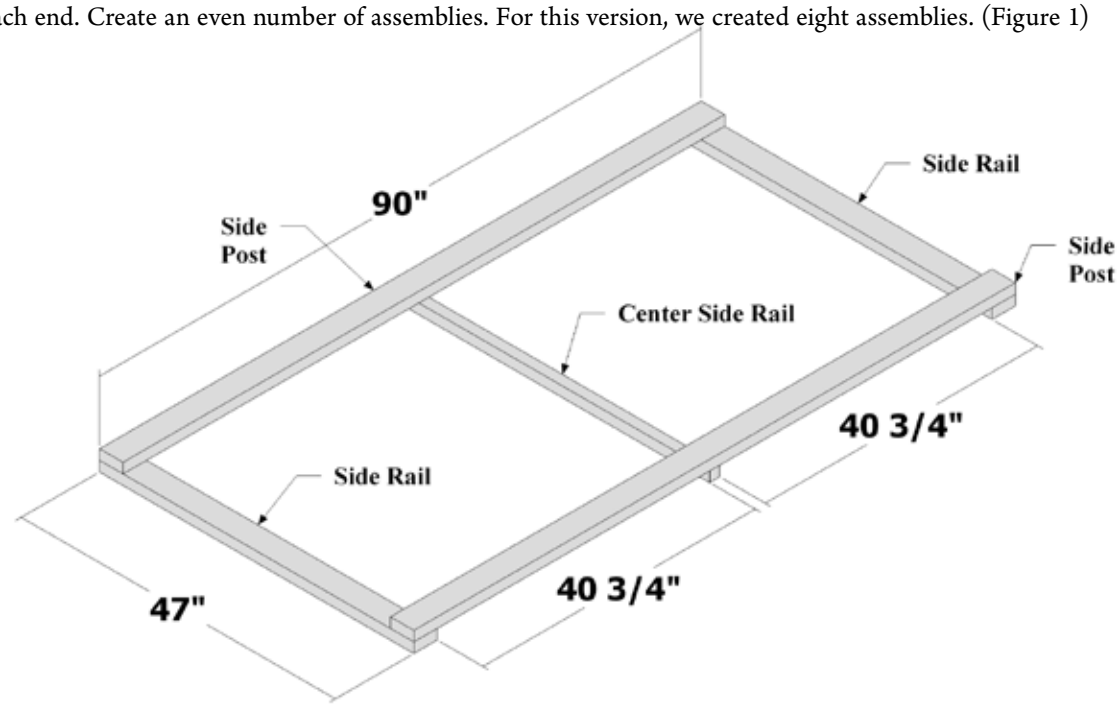
House Those Tomatoes

Instructions

Cut all parts to fit as you assemble the project. You may need to make adjustments as you go along. Use an exterior construction adhesive if desired during assembly, but it isn't necessary and will make the project more difficult to take the project apart if you want to move or remove it. Use 2½-inch deck screws. Treated lumber is recommended.

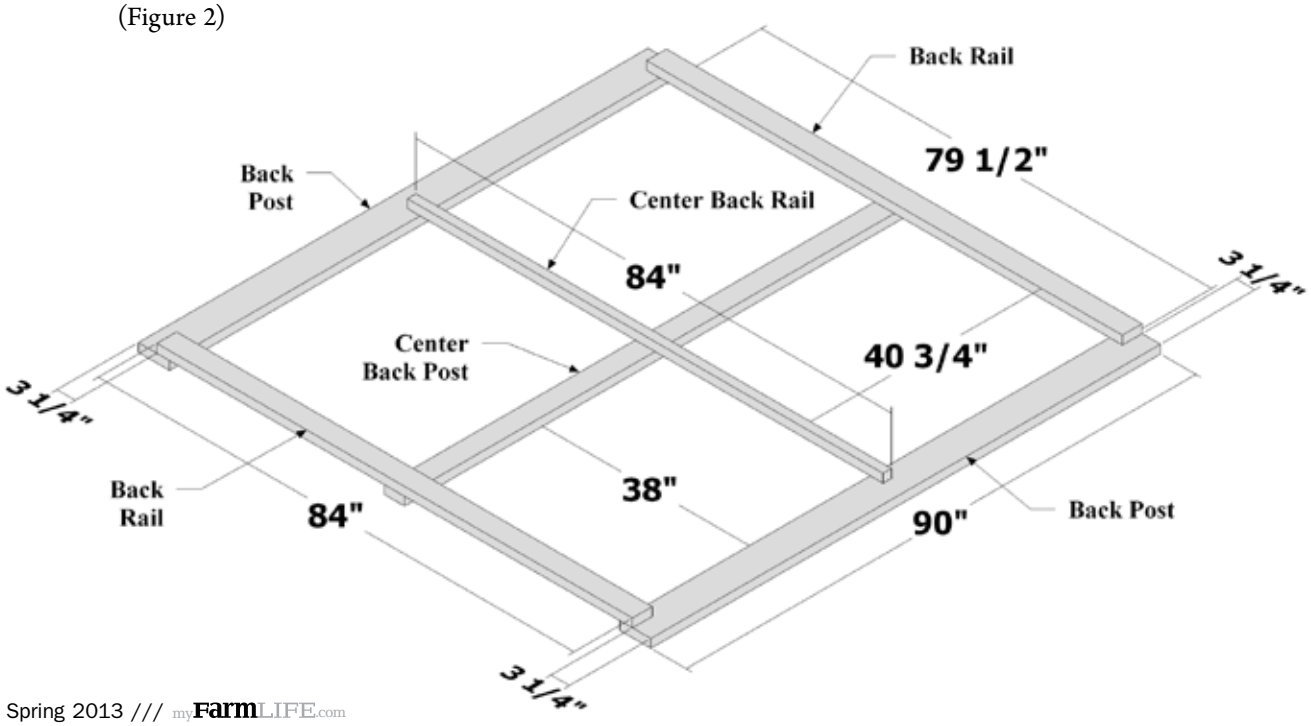
Side Panels

Position the Side Rails flush with the ends of the Side Posts and attach using three deck screws on each end. Position the Side Center Rails centered across the Side Posts and attach using one deck screw on each end. Create an even number of assemblies. For this version, we created eight assemblies. (Figure 1)



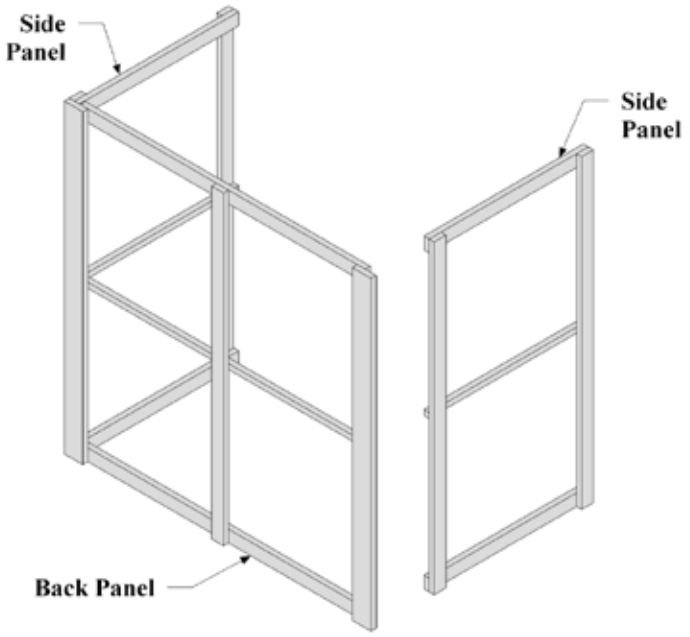
Back Panel

Position the Back Rails flush with ends of the Back Posts and 3 1/4 inches from the outer edges. Attach using three deck screws on each end. Position the Center Back Post centered on the Back Rails and attach using three deck screws on each end. Position the Center Back Rail centered on the Back Posts and Center Back Post and attach using one deck screw on each end and one deck screw in the center. (Figure 2)

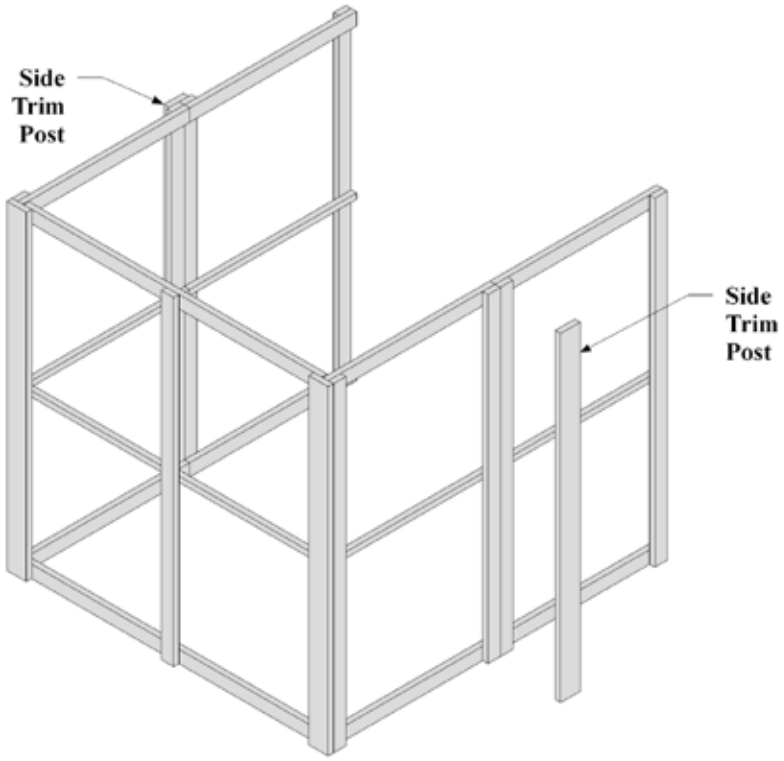


Side Panels to Back Panel

Place two Side Panels perpendicular to the Back Panel, with the Side Rails and Back Rails adjacent to each other. Make sure the Side Panels are flush with the edges of the Back Posts, clamp in place and attach using at least six deck screws on each end. (Figure 3)

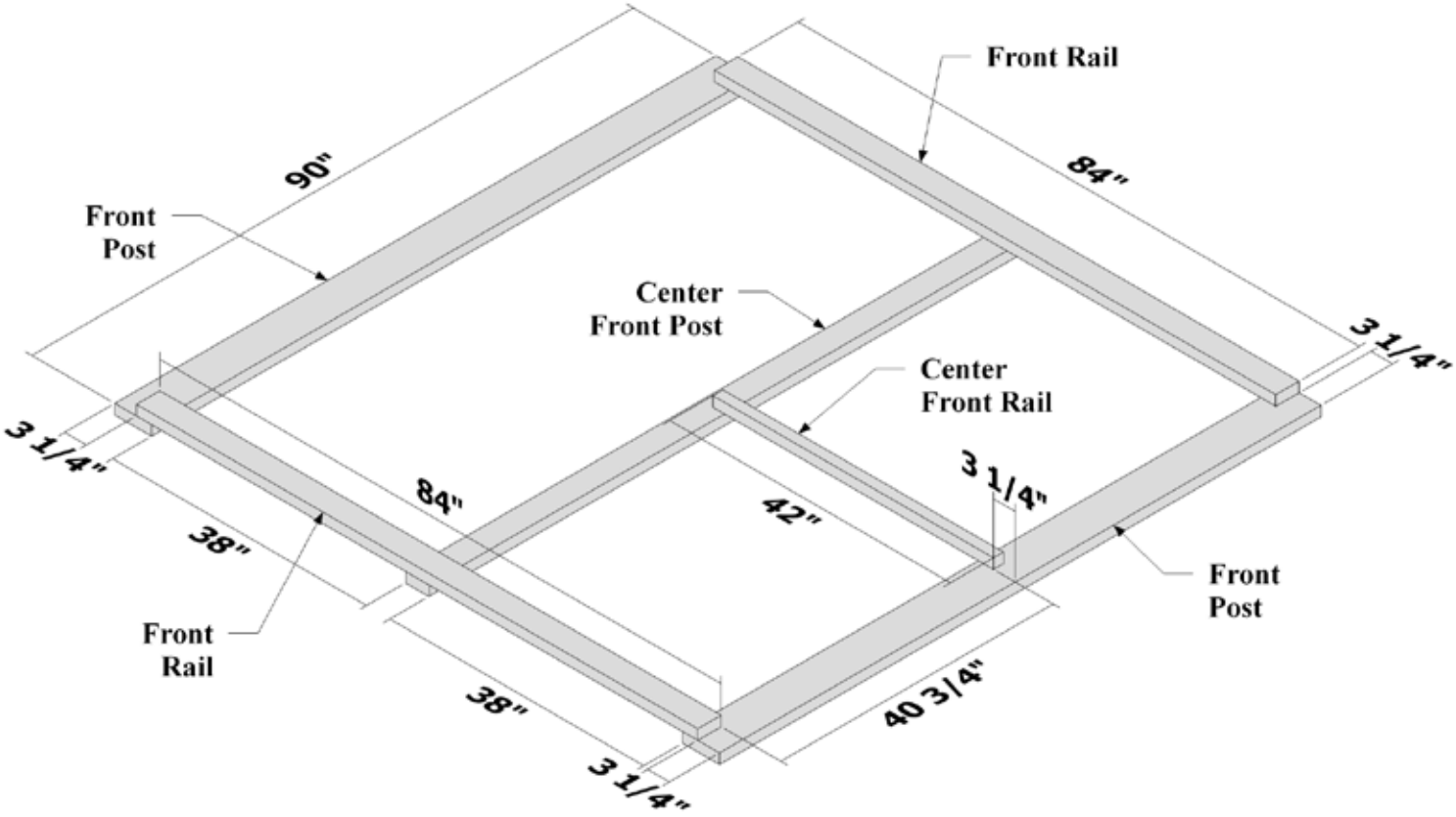


Place subsequent Side Panels (in this project, three more on each side) with the Side Posts, Side Rails and Center Side Rails flush against each other, clamp in place, and join by attaching a Side Trim Post overlapping the outer face of the Side Posts using at least four deck screws per Side Post (eight per each Side Trim Post). (Figure 4)



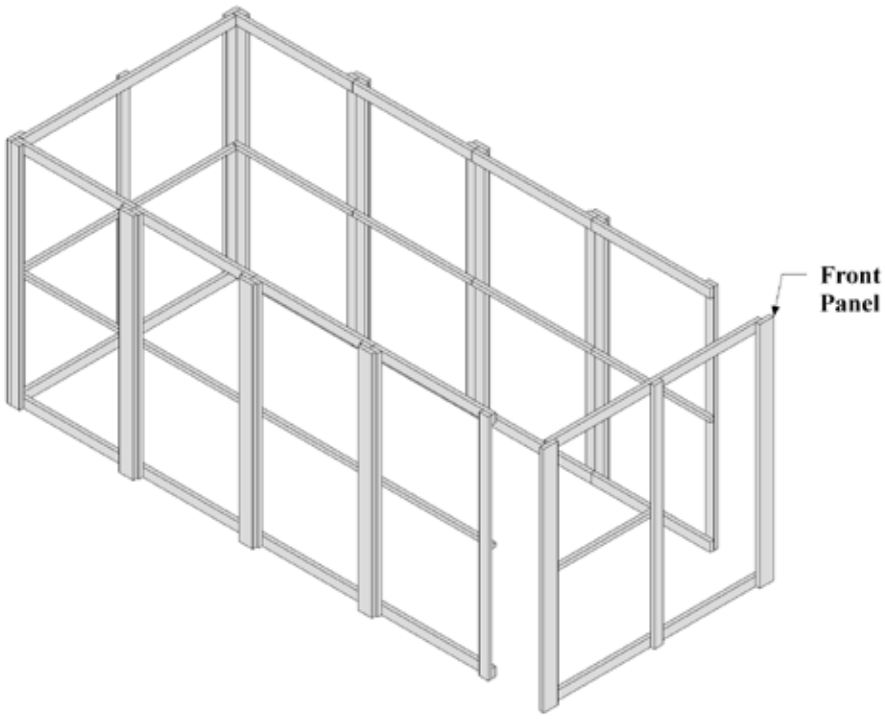
Front Panel

Position the Front Rails flush with ends of the Front Posts and 3 1/4 inches from the outer edges. Attach using three deck screws on each end. Position the Center Front Post centered on the Front Rails and attach using three deck screws on each end. Position the Center Front Rail centered on one Front Post and 3 1/4 inches from the outer edge of the Front Post. Make sure it is also centered on the Center Front Post and attach using one deck screw on each end. (Figure 5)



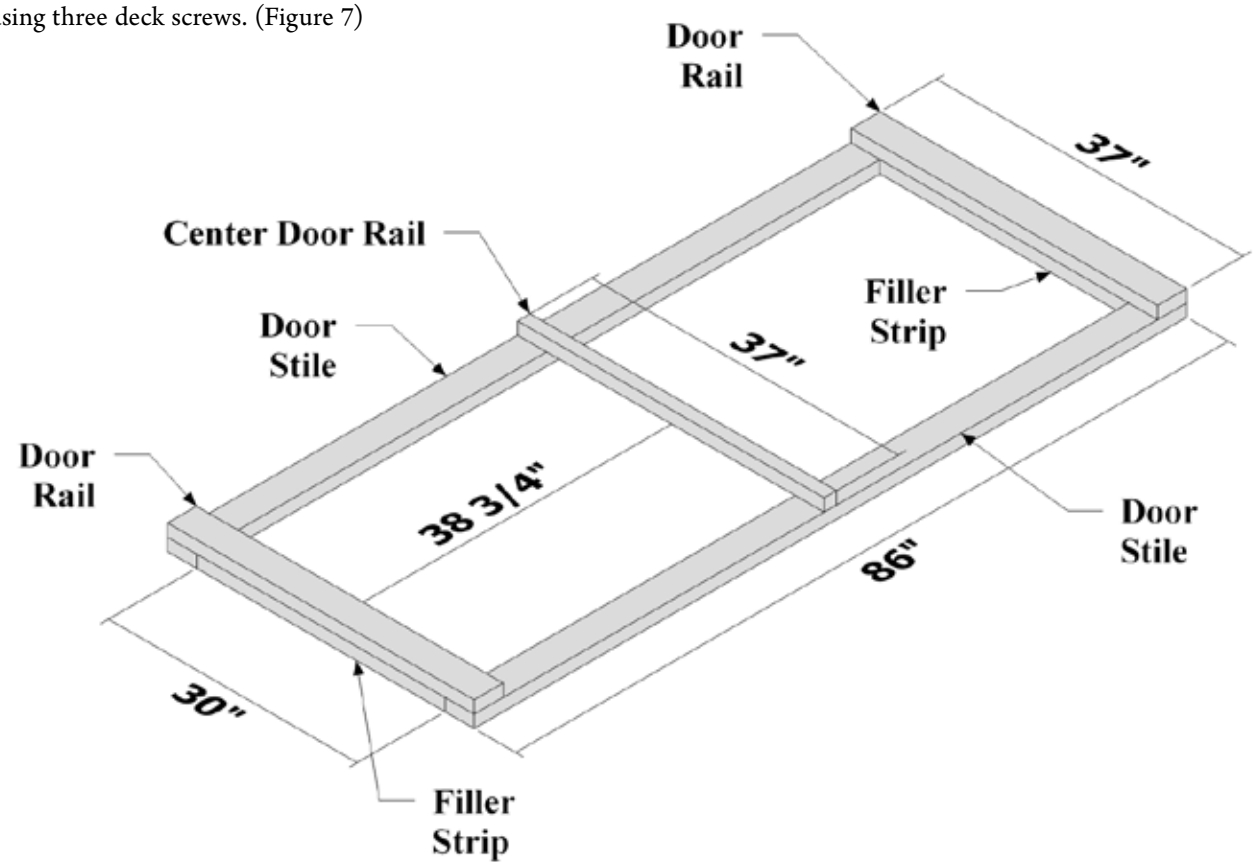
Front Panel to Side Panels

Position the Front Panel flush against the ends of the last two Side Panels. Position and attach in the same way you attach the Back Panel and the first two Side Panels. (Figure 6)

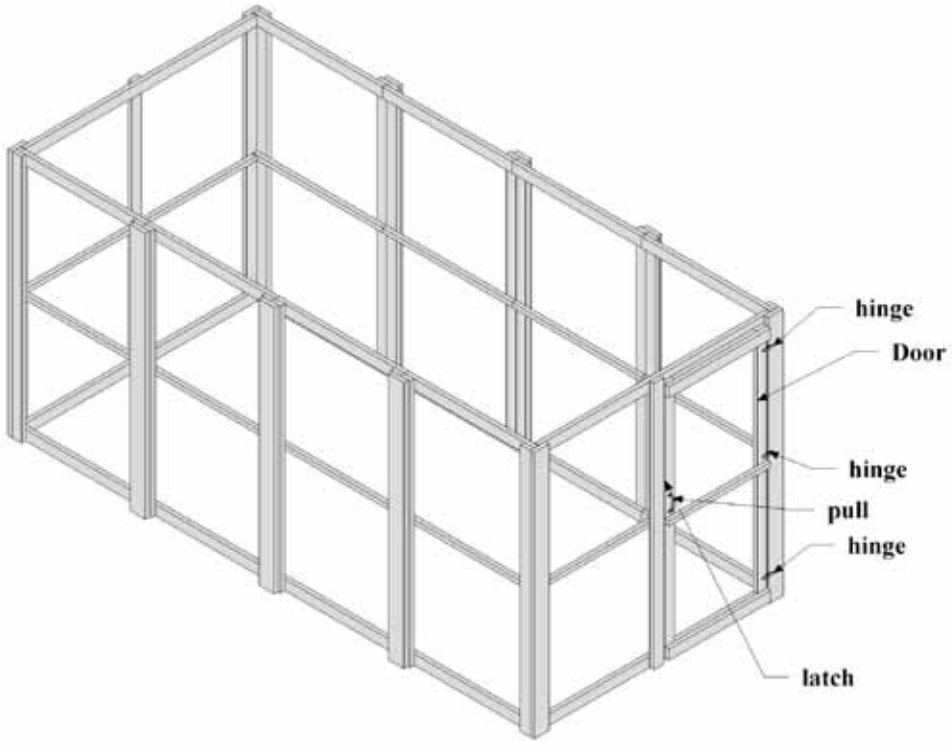


Door

Position the Door Rails flush against the ends and edges of the Door Stiles and attach using three deck screws on each end. Position the Center Door Rail centered on the Door Stiles and attach using one deck screw on each end. Position the Filler Strips on the Door Rails between the Door Stiles and attach using three deck screws. (Figure 7)

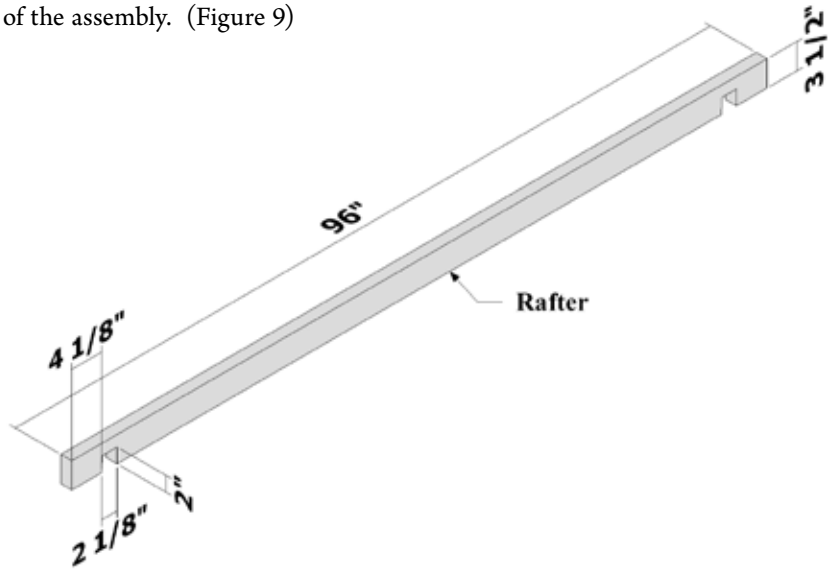


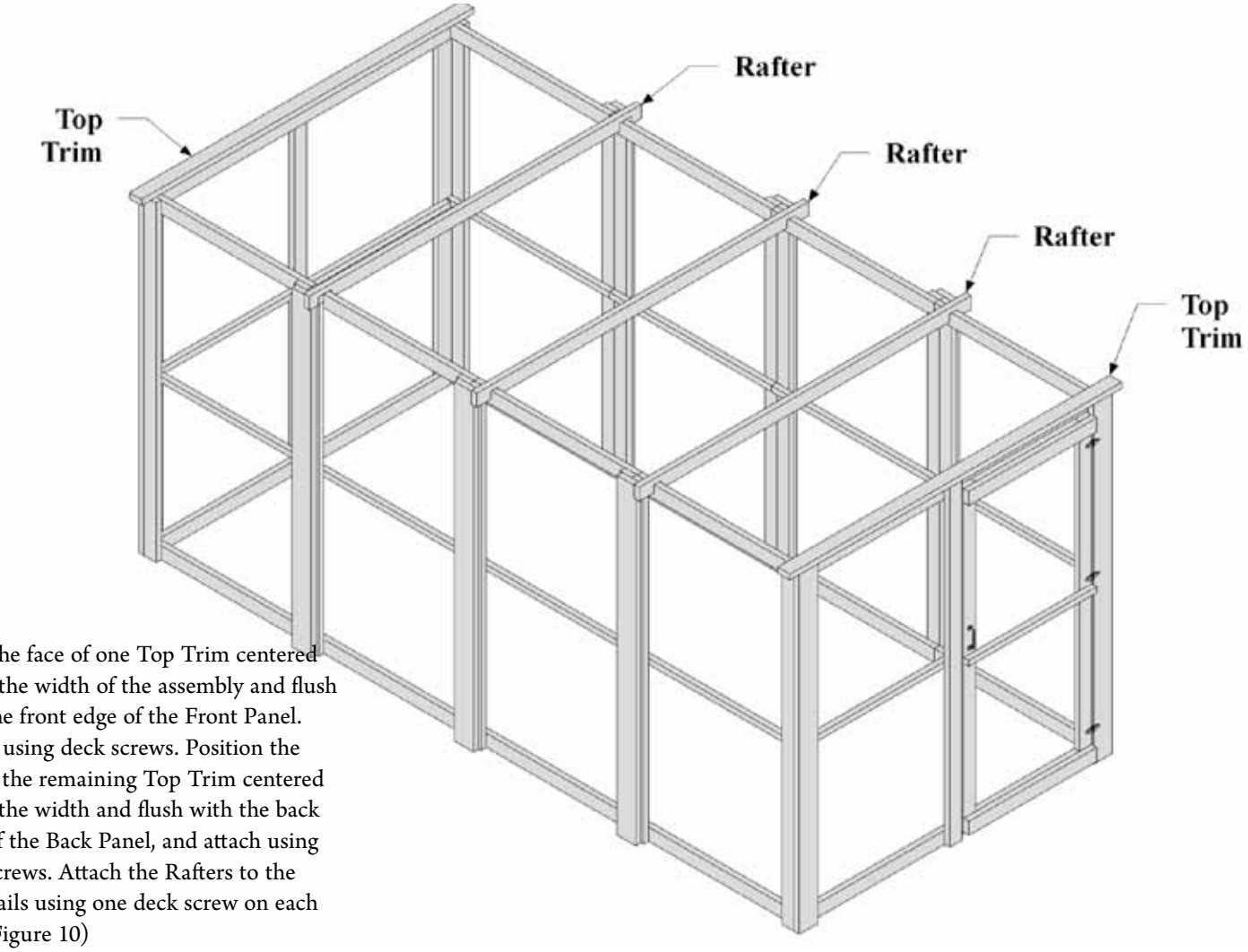
Place the Door centered in the opening of the Front Panel (the area without the Center Front Rail) and attach to the Front Post using three strap hinges or gate hinges. Attach a gate latch to the Center Front Post and the Door, as well as a pull to the Door. (Figure 8)



Trim and Rafters

Cut 2 1/8-inch wide by 2-inch deep notches in the Rafters to allow them to be centered across the width of the assembly. (Figure 9)





Place the face of one Top Trim centered across the width of the assembly and flush with the front edge of the Front Panel. Attach using deck screws. Position the face of the remaining Top Trim centered across the width and flush with the back edge of the Back Panel, and attach using deck screws. Attach the Rafters to the Side Rails using one deck screw on each end. (Figure 10)

Bird Netting/Fencing

If you plan to paint or stain the project, do it before attaching bird netting or fencing. Cut bird netting or 1/2-inch fencing to fit the inside of the assembly, including the Door and the top, and attach using galvanized staples. Be sure to cover all openings.

Tomato House Parts

A Side Rails (1½ x 3½ x 47) – 16
B Side Posts (1½ x 3½ x 90) – 16
C Center Side Rails (1½ x 1½ x 47) – 8
D Back Rails (1½ x 3½ x 84) – 2
E Back Posts (1½ x 5½ x 90) – 2
F Center Back Post (1½ x 1½ x 84) – 1
G Center Back Rail (1½ x 3½ x 90) – 1
H Side Trim Posts (1½ x 5½ x 90) – 6
I Front Rails (1½ x 3½ x 84) – 2
J Front Posts (1½ x 5½ x 90) – 2
K Center Front Post (1½ x 3½ x 90) – 1
L Center Front Rail (1½ x 1½ x 42) – 1
M Door Rails (1½ x 3½ x 37) – 2
N Door Stiles (1½ x 3½ x 86) – 2
O Center Door Rail (1½ x 1½ x 37) – 1
P Filler Strips (1½ x 3½ x 29⅞) – 2
Q Rafters (1½ x 3½ x 96) – 3
R Top Trim (1½ x 3½ x 96) – 2

Dimensions

Length: 191 inches
Width: 90½ inches
Height: 91½ inches

Lumber

7 – 2 x 2 x 8 treated
39 – 2 x 4 x 8 treated and approved for ground contact
10 – 2 x 6 x 8 treated and approved for ground contact

Hardware & Supplies

5-pound box, 2 1/2-inch deck screws
3/4-inch galvanized staples
3, 4-inch galvanized strap hinges, or 4-inch strap gate hinges
1, flush-mount gate latch
1, 6-inch galvanized screen door pull or gate pull
230 square feet of bird netting or 1/2-inch fencing

Tools

miter saw or circular saw
drill/driver
staple gun/hammer
clamps
square
measuring tape
pencil