



EASY DIY gerbil cage



Tools you will need:

1. Safety equipment (e.g. eye protection, face mask)
2. Workbench (or somewhere to safely hold the wood while you cut it)
3. Pencil (for marking)
4. PVA glue or U-nails (for attaching topper to platform)
5. Hammer
6. Saw
7. Drill (6mm drill bit or appropriate size for your dowels)

Cage pieces:

1. Large plastic tub for base (ideally 0.5m² [775 inches²] floorspace, the closer you can get to this number, the better) - the largest tub I could find in the UK [0.329m²] (<https://amzn.to/3nB85wV>)
2. Large tank topper - the largest I could find with a suitable sized door came part of a complete gerbilarium (<https://amzn.to/3nDRxnY>)
3. Gerbil-safe wood planks x2 (for edges) - I used 2x beech wood planks from B&Q (<https://bit.ly/3mO6G65>)
4. Gerbil-safe wood strips (to join planks) – You'll need two pieces to allow extra length for securing the topper to the platform and/or for securing the platform to the base – I used oak stripwood from B&Q (there isn't a link online to the one I used, I got it in store; dimensions are: (L) 900mm, (W) 21mm, (T) 15mm)
5. Wooden dowels (to connect wood pieces) - I used 6mm dowels from B&Q (<https://bit.ly/3GV50zv>)

STEP 1



If you are using 2 pieces of stripwood then arrange the pieces like shown and measure the length you need to cut the strips to.

STEP 2



Find the centre point of the stripwood by drawing an X connecting the corners. Drill a hole approximately half the length of your dowels (in our case this would be 15mm) at this centre point.

STEP 3



Assemble the pieces (with cut stripwood) as shown in step 1 and mark the edges on the wood planks. Then find the centre point and drill a hole the same as before (also half the dowel length).

STEP 4



Insert 4 dowels into the ends of the stripwood pieces, then assemble as shown, you can add a little PVA glue into the holes for added security, make sure to wipe away any excess.

STEP 5



Now all that's left to do is secure the topper to the platform! A simple way to do this is to cut 8 pieces of stripwood (4 pieces shorter than other 4), and glue them with PVA glue at the corners.

If you have animals such as cats/dogs living in the house, for more security you should also secure the topper to the wood with U-nails, you should also attach stripwood pieces to the underneath edge of the platform at the corners of the tubs to keep the platform secure on the tub.