

## Instructions for Insulated, Weather-Proof, Outdoor Cat Shelter

### Supplies:

Rubbermaid-style storage container with fitting lid (18 gallon or larger - use dark, earth-tone colors)

1 roll Reflectix Insulation (found at Home Depot, etc.)

1 sheet Foam Board (optional-adds extra layer of insulation on bottom)

1 Roll Gorilla tape

1 box-cutter, 1 pair scissors

Sharpie pen, Hairdryer, catnip (optional, but very helpful)

Carefresh Natural Bedding (pet supply stores)

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- Using the Sharpie, trace a 5-inch square [work with the shape of your container] entrance on one of the storage container's long sides. (the bottom line should be at least 4-5 inches from bottom of container) Entrance should be large enough for a cat head plus whiskers, but NOT raccoon/fox size!
- Using the hairdryer, warm up the container where you traced the entrance.
- While warm and using the box-cutter, carefully cut out the 2 sides and bottom of traced entrance, creating a flap. (Don't worry: any cracks that may occur can be patched with Gorilla tape!)
- Fold flap upward to create space for cat to get under and inside. (Some containers are too stiff to stay up, so in that case completely cut out flap and tape an inch above the entrance)
- Cut Foam Board to size of bottom of container and securely place inside.
- Cut Reflectix insulation and **completely** line the inside of the storage container (bottom and all sides), as well as the inside of the lid. Use as much Gorilla tape as you need for insulation to be neatly secured to the container. *Cats MAY NOT USE if sloppy and it is not as warm!* (Trim to prevent insulation from going past the edge of container or lid will not fit tightly)
- Cut out insulation with box-cutters where entrance is located and place tape completely around edge of entrance, securing insulation to container all the way around. Also, snip off sharp corners then tape around the edges of the flap.
- Pour inside 4 inches or so of the Carefresh bedding and sprinkle catnip just inside the entrance.
- Place insulated lid on top and Gorilla tape a few pieces on each side. (Make it easy for you to remove in order to refresh bedding yearly, seasonally or as needed).
- Place finished, insulated shelter in a hidden location in cats' home territory. A brick or rock on top of shelter can help keep it in place. Multiple cat colonies need several shelters in varying locations.

**Thank you for helping outdoor kitties stay warm and dry!**



Foam Board on bottom



Insulated Lid

