

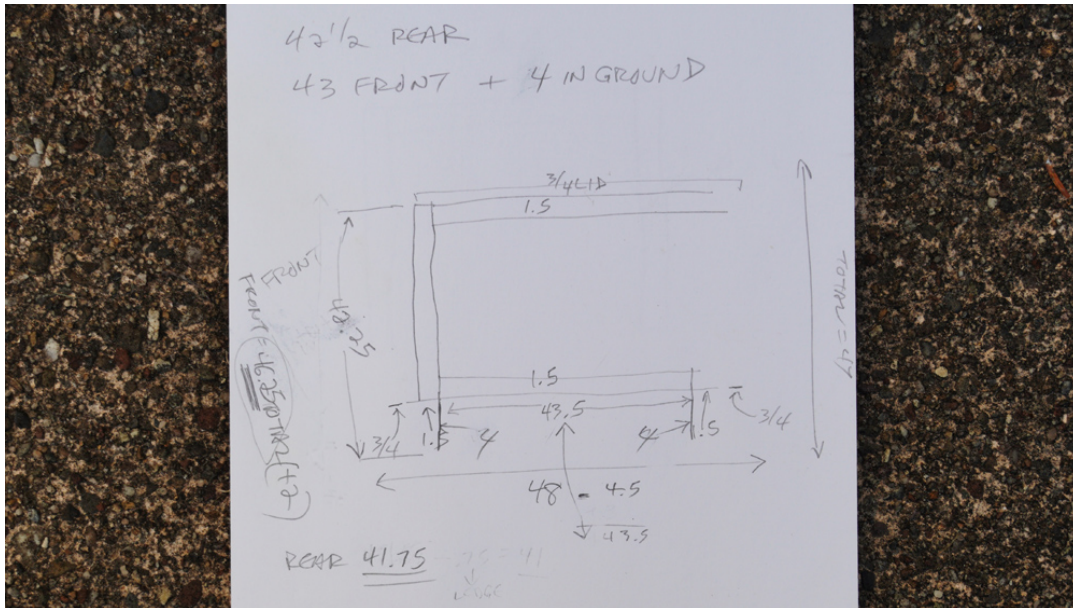
## Pandemic Project 2020: Creating a Garden Box



Still locked down and bored out of my mind.... I mean, now many reruns of “The Office” can a person watch before going absolutely crazy? And fuhgeddabout da TV news!



I need some stimulation.... a goal.... yes.... a PROJECT! *My mission:* build an enclosure to protect Judy’s vegetable garden from marauding squirrels, rabbits, and birds. Sure, I’ve never done this before, but I have never backed down from a challenge!



After much measuring, pondering, and complex mathematical calculation, I came up with a plan for a 3 x 4 x 3.5 foot frame lined with chicken wire. But to put the plan into action, I need....



....a new power tool!! YES!! Power tools — what men REALLY want!! I have always wanted a miter saw and stand, and Home Depot has graciously obliged with a free drop ship right to my front door.



Like they say on “This Old House” — measure twice, cut once.  
Now let’s hit the power switch and get to work!  
(and yes, I read all the instructions & safety rules: wear eye protection and watch those fingers!)



Taking advantage of modern technology, I decided to use Azek composite.  
It’s actually a PVC material. Like wood, you can saw it, drill it, glue it,  
and screw it; but unlike wood, it won’t splinter, warp, rot, or need painting.  
And it will probably survive a Zombie Apocalypse and/or Alien Invasion!



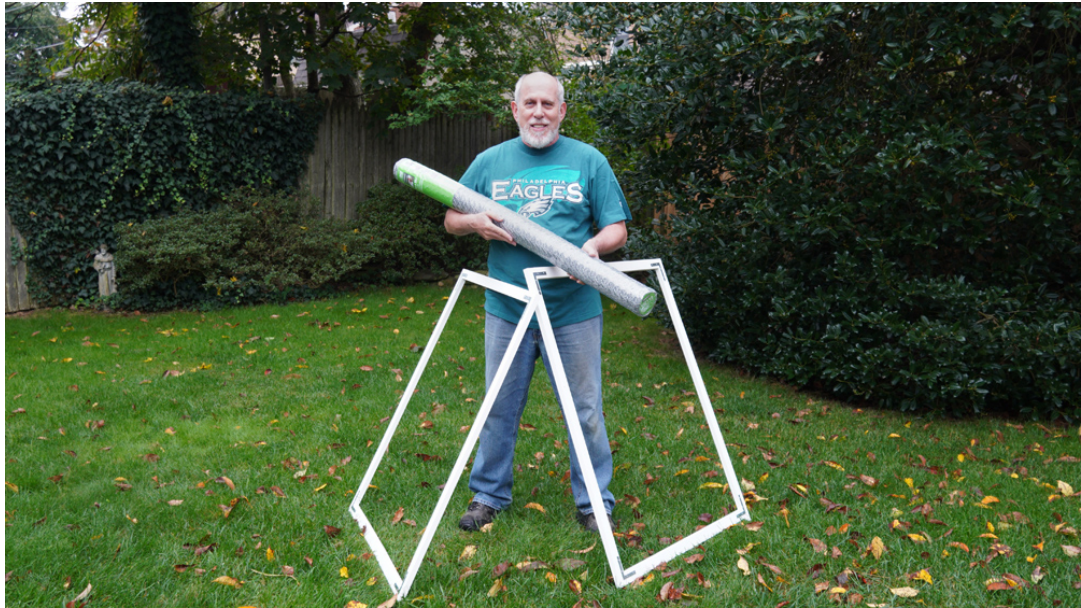
Gluin' and screwin' the frames to secure the butt joints (the pieces "butt" at a 90 degree angle).  
That is a nice butt!



Sometimes I think I missed my calling as an Orthopedic Surgeon—  
All these years, I could have been paid for gluin' and screwin' on humans!



For the doors, I'm going to get fancy and make miter joints (at a 45 degree angle), because after all, I am using a miter saw! I'll secure the joints with glue and my trusty staple gun.  
My very first miter — and it is a mighty miter!



After a few days of work, the frames are assembled and I am ready to start attaching the chicken wire, but that will have to wait because IT'S GAME DAY!  
On the bird priority scale, Eagles beat chickens any day (except for dinner).





And look at that — they turned out great!  
Now I have to wait until the weekend to see if they all fit together.



It's a crisp clear autumn Saturday morning and it's time to put it all together.  
But will all my calculations and measurements measure up?



If you're thinking this set-up looks complicated, you'd be right!  
And I'm running out of clamps!



More power tools!  
Measure twice, drill once.





Even more power tools! This is great — I am getting to use all my power tools!  
And the box is starting to come together....



Let's make sure everything is on the level....



COWABUNGA!! It's perfect! Just as I had envisioned!  
After 50 years, I finally earn that "A" in Junior High School shop class.  
And if it's too late for Orthopedics, I can always become a Master Carpenter!



Ready for next year's planting!  
(Hmmm.... what can I build next...??)