



# build a pergola

Create a stylish focal point with a beautiful wood pergola. It's a wonderful way to add architectural flair to your existing deck





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### MATERIALS:

- 4x4s cut to:  
four 96" (8') lengths\*  
four additional lengths  
to be cut-to-your-  
measurements\*
- 2x4s cut to:  
Eleven 120" (10')  
lengths (ends cut on  
a decorative curve,  
if desired)\*
- 2x6s cut to:  
six 120" (10') lengths  
(ends cut on a  
decorative curve,  
if desired)\*

\* Lumber quantity will vary based on the desired size of your pergola. For illustration purposes, these measurements are for an 8'-high by 10'-wide by 10'-deep pergola. (Note: You can special order longer wood lengths if the lumber department is out of the cuts you need when you visit; go to the Pro Desk for details. Never try to join two shorter lengths

of wood together to create one longer piece if the wood is supporting a load.)

- Four metal half bases (for fastening posts to wood)
- Paint or stain

### TOOLS:

- Circular saw
- Compound miter saw
- Power drill
- Drill and screw bits
- Power sander
- Measuring tape
- Marking pen
- Two step ladders
- Paint or stain
- Eye protection

### SKILL LEVEL:

Advanced (This job is best suited to two people working together.)

### STEP 1: CONSTRUCT THE FRAME

**1** Select a location on your deck to install the pergola, marking off

spots where the four 4x4 corner posts will go. (We made ours 10' wide by 10' deep, measuring from rafter ends. The 4x4 corner posts were placed 8' apart from one another.)

**2** Stand one of the 4x4 posts upright, screwing it into the deck surface, using a metal half base manufactured for this purpose. Repeat for the three remaining corner posts.

**3** With a partner, lift one of the 120" 2x4 boards and secure it to two corner posts on the "interior" side of the pergola. The 2x4 should be flush to the post tops, with an equal amount of overhang at either end. (If you cut the 2x4s with a decorative curve, face it downwards.)

**4** Add cross-braces: measure diagonally between the interior side of the 4x4 and the top surface of the 2x4. Miter-cut four cross-braces from the remaining 4x4s using this measurement.

**5** Take one of the cross-braces and secure it to both the 4x4 post and the side of the 2x4 facing away from the pergola interior. Repeat this step at the other end of the 2x4, cross-bracing it to the second post.

**6** Take a second 120" long 2x4 and screw it

to the "exterior" side of the pair of 4x4s posts, and to the existing cross-braces. (This completes one half of the pergola frame. Both 4x4s post tops and cross-braces should be sandwiched between a pair of 2x4s.)

**7** Repeat Steps 3 to 6 for the second set of 4x4s, using two more 120" 2x4s and two more cross-braces.

### STEP 2: INSTALL THE RAFTERS

**1** Lay six of the 120" 2x6 planks perpendicularly across the supporting 2x4s (curves downward), spacing them evenly and using screws to secure them.

**2** Finish by laying the remaining seven 2x4s perpendicularly across the 2x6s (curves downward), spacing evenly and screwing to secure.

### STEP 3: ADD THE FINISH- ING TOUCHES

**1** Paint or stain the wood per the paint manufacturer's package instructions for application and drying times.

**2** If desired, install drapery kits and hang panels of outdoor fabric for an outdoor-room ambiance. Or train vines to climb up the pergola, for a more rustic look.

## may we suggest...

Add a touch of luxe to your pergola with a chic indoor-outdoor area rug. This elegant floor covering has a cosy soft pile, is mold- and stain-proof, and fade resistant. Keeping it looking its best is easy—just hose it off and let it dry naturally.



Tributary rug (889509)

