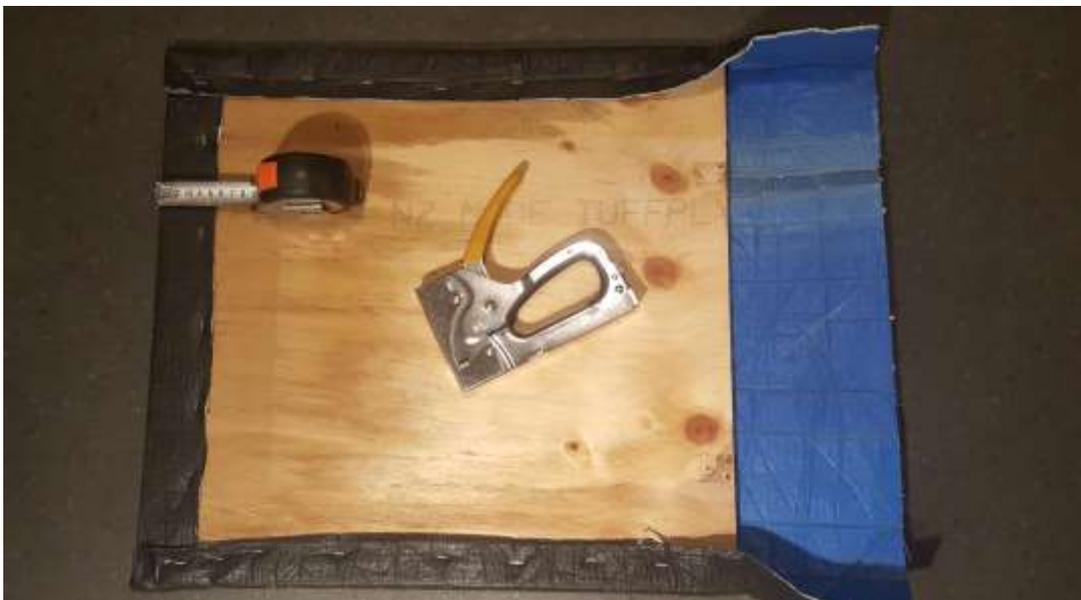# Morepork nesting box: Assembly steps

Fixings needed per box:
- Wood screws x 31
- 2 hinges and short screws to fit
- Heavy duty staples
- Gate hook and eye latch to secure lid (to allow opening for cleaning)
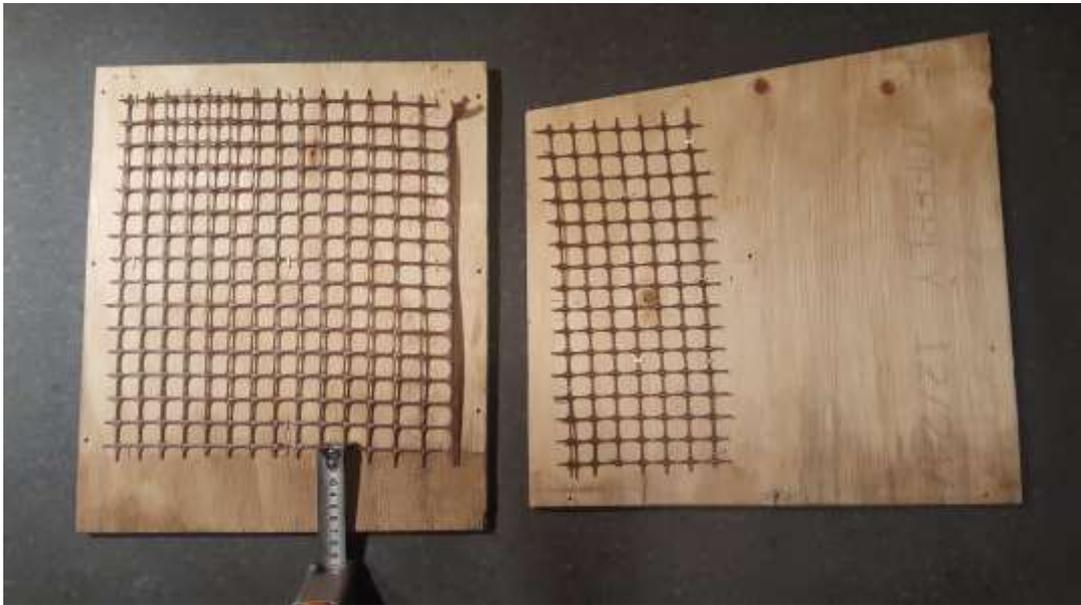

1. Lay or mark out pattern pieces on untreated 10mm ply sheet (You will get two boxes from one standard 1.2m x 2.4m sheet). Face smooth side outward.

2. Prepare the roof covering. Old swimming pool cover is ideal (or any waterproof roof-type strong material). The lighter the better. Cut, overlap and staple as shown. Leave one end unattached so it can move freely at the back end of the box as the lid opens.

3. Use a heavy duty staple gun to attach plastic mesh ladder on back section and one side piece (tapping staple right in to avoid gaps which might catch bird claws) Leave clearance as shown. This is for fledglings to climb out.

4. Put together the front, the bottom, one side, and the perch first. It is easier with two people if possible –one to hold/balance the pieces and one to drive the screws.
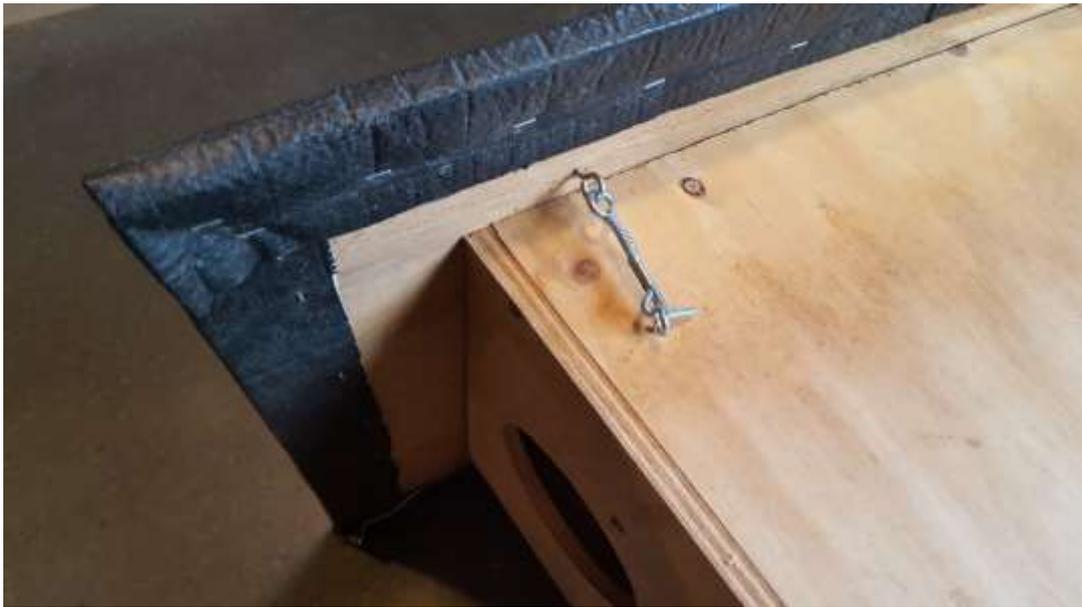
5. Attach the other side. (Secure the perch using one screw in the centre of each box side).

6. Attach the back, checking the top edges are flush. There should be an overhang on the bottom for attaching to the tree. Attach hinges ready for roof.

7. Attach roof to hinges and secure down with gate latch hooks. The hook shown has a spring catch, but plain ones are fine as long as there is some tension to prevent them opening when not wanted.

Do not paint or seal boxes as this is likely to dissuade birds from occupying them. Refer to the separate instructions on options for attaching boxes to trees. It is recommended they are placed a minimum of three metres off the ground. It is worth considering a downward facing cone made from any sturdy but flexible material around the trunk to prevent predators entering from underneath.