

Cat Shelters for Inclement Weather

Pre-Built Cat Houses

K&H Outdoor Heated Kitty House

Advantages: Waterproof vinyl backing, easy to assemble, 2 exits, thermostat-controlled, heated floor pad, comfy.

Disadvantages: Cost, not as sturdy as more permanent shelters, may not provide adequate protection from predators because of the materials used and large door openings.

[Purchase via Chewy](#)

Catio Furniture™ Feral Cat House

Advantages: Weatherproof, drain holes.

Disadvantages: Cost, may not accommodate more than one cat.

[Purchase via Amazon](#)

KatKabin

Advantages: Lightweight, protects from the elements.

Disadvantages: Cost, not well insulated, complaints about cracking in outer plastic.

[Purchase via Amazon](#)

The Kitty Tube

Advantages: Made from recycled materials, weatherproof, insulated, removable lid, easily cleanable, and comes with a “straw only” option.

Disadvantages: Cost, the pet bed option is not recommended for outdoor use.

[Purchase via KittyTube](#)

Ark Workshop Outdoor Cat House

Advantages: Sturdy wooden construction, spacious, available with add-ons such as insulation, another exit, door flaps and overhangs, and risers..

Disadvantages: We don't recommend some of the bedding options such as cedar and pine shavings. The base price is reasonable, but once you include add-ons, it can get pricey!

[Purchase via Ark Workshop](#)

Feral Villa

Advantages: Durable wood and weatherproof shingles.

Disadvantages: Requires some tools for construction. *Check out the pre-made feeding stations available for purchase on the same site.

[Purchase via Feralvilla](#)

Plastic “Igloo” Shelter

Advantages: Pre-made and can be purchased at most pet stores.

Disadvantages: Wide door opening makes this shelter harder to insulate and guard against the wind. This also provides less protection from predators.

[Purchase via Amazon](#)

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Easy DIY Feral Cat Shelters

Alley Cat Allies' DIY Outdoor CAT Shelter

Advantages: Inexpensive, easy to build and transport.

Disadvantages: Lightweight provides less protection from predators than a wooden structure.

Get the Instructions: <https://www.alleycat.org/resources/how-to-build-an-outdoor-shelter/>

Faux Rock Shelter

Advantages: Available at most home improvement stores and garden centers, well camouflaged. Possible Drawbacks:

Prefabricated rocks can be expensive, tools will be necessary to cut opening and attach base.

Disadvantages: Prefabricated rocks can be expensive, tools will be necessary to cut opening and attach base.

Styrofoam Cooler Shelter

Advantages: Styrofoam cooler is available from hardware stores, grocery stores, restaurants, etc. Simple to make.

Disadvantages: Lightweight – provides less protection from predators than a wooden structure. Cats may scratch

Styrofoam. As with many of our low cost shelter options, this shelter is not weatherproof and will require more upkeep than some of the more permanent and professionally built shelters.

Try reinforcing this shelter by taping heavy duty lawn and garbage bags around the outside of it, to provide added protection from rain and snow.

[Indy Feral.](#)

All About Spay Neuter Fish Box Cat Shelter

Advantages: Available in white or camouflage, tiled floor to prevent scratches, drainage system.

Disadvantages: Lightweight – provides less protection from predators than a wooden structure.

Download the Instructions: <http://www.allaboutspayneuter.com/shelters.html>

Spay And Stay Weatherproof Cat Shelter

Advantages: Inexpensive, easy to build and transport.

Disadvantages: Lightweight – provides less protection from predators than a wooden structure.

Download the Instructions: <http://www.spayandstay.org/winter-shelter>

18-gallon Plastic Tub Shelter

Advantages: Inexpensive, easy to build and transport.

Disadvantages: Lightweight – provides less protection from predators than a wooden structure.

Download the Instructions: http://www.communitycatsmd.org/files/cat_shelter_brochure.pdf

Cat Shelters for Inclement Weather

All About Spay Neuter All Weather Cat Shelter

Advantages: Pressure sealed, 2 insulation all around, low maintenance.

Disadvantages: Lightweight – provides less protection from predators than a wooden structure.

Download the Instructions: <http://www.allaboutspayneuter.com/shelters.html>

Roughneck Home

Advantages: Affordable, easily reproduced in quantity with commonly available materials and simple tools.

Disadvantages: Provides less protection from predators than a wooden structure.

Download the Instructions: <http://www.erubbermaid.com/roughneck-homes?mid=57>

Storage Container Shelter with flap

Advantages: Affordable, door flap to help keep out weather, easily reproduced in quantity with commonly available materials and simple tools.

Disadvantages: Provides less protection from predators than a wooden structure.

Download the Instructions:

<http://4fi8v2446i0sw2rpq2a3fg51-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/InstructionsInsulatedCatShelter.pdf>

50-gallon Storage Container Shelter

Advantages: Affordable, easily reproduced in quantity with commonly available materials and simple tools.

Disadvantages: Provides less protection from predators than a wooden structure.

Download the Instructions: <https://www.alleycat.org/resources/50-gallon-storage-container-shelter/>

Plastic Cooler Shelter

Advantages: Weather proof, pre-insulated, relatively inexpensive and includes an easy opening top for cleaning.

Disadvantages: Requires special tools for cutting an opening.

Download the Instructions: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g3Pz5YAwqEA>

Corokitty Shelter

Advantages: Stylish and well designed. Simple, inexpensive, durable materials. Weather resistant. Variety of designs that can be easily modified. Some designs can be attached together to create multi-unit shelters.

Disadvantages: Requires some degree of skill and access to tools—like a jigsaw for cutting. Not all design plans are complete—the site is a work in progress—so check back for updates.

Purchase via [Corokitty](#)

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Moderate DIY Winter Cat Shelters

Alley Cat Allies' Inexpensive Do-It-Yourself Shelter

Advantages: Sturdy design, can house multiple cats, provides protection from predators.

Disadvantages: Building requires a moderate degree of skill.

[Download the Instructions: https://www.alleycat.org/resources/buildan-inexpensive-cat-shelter/](https://www.alleycat.org/resources/buildan-inexpensive-cat-shelter/)

"Dog House" Shelter

Advantages: Sturdy design, provides protection from predators.

Disadvantages: Building requires a moderate degree of skill.

FIVER Cats Raised Wooden Cat Shelter

Advantages: Very sturdy, two exits, raised for potential high snowfall, can use water-resistant/proof material for roofing, small "porch" in front.

Disadvantages: Requires tools for construction, cost, larger size.

FIVER Cats. [Download the Instructions: http://www.fivercats.com/cat_shelter_plans_web_2018.pdf](http://www.fivercats.com/cat_shelter_plans_web_2018.pdf)

Camper Topper Shelter

Advantages: Can house 10-15 cats, camper toppers are readily available for purchase.

Disadvantages: Requires some tools and moderate skill for modification.

[Download the Instructions: https://www.alleycat.org/resources/camper-topper-shelter/](https://www.alleycat.org/resources/camper-topper-shelter/)

Garden Shed as a Shelter

Advantages: Shed is easily re-purposed and modified. Houses many cats and provides heating options.

Disadvantages: Requires larger space, availability of a shed, and moderate skill to install a cat door.

[Download the Instructions:](#)

http://4fi8v2446i0sw2rpq2a3fg51-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/cat_shelter_brochure.pdf

Lattice-Wrapped Porch

Advantages: Easy to install, provides protection from predators and its intended purpose is not noticeable.

Disadvantages: Moderate skill level required to frame and apply lattice.

[Download the Instructions:](#)

http://4fi8v2446i0sw2rpq2a3fg51-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/cat_shelter_brochure.pdf

Faux Hedge Shelter

Advantages: Accommodates more than one cat, inexpensive and easy to construct, provides privacy for cats and aesthetic consideration for neighbors.

Disadvantages: Not weatherproof, requires additional measures for cold weather use.

[Download the Instructions:](#)

<http://4fi8v2446i0sw2rpq2a3fg51-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/FauxHedgeShelter.pdf>
