



Accessories

Arbor

Arbors create a lightly shaded space and add vertical interest to your landscape. For increased shade, you can cover an arbor with meshlike outdoor fabric or climbing vines. You can even transform it into a private retreat by enclosing the sides with lattice.

Our version of a post-and-slat arbor is a 5 x 5-ft., freestanding cedar structure with an extended overhead. You can easily adapt the design to different sizes, but don't space the posts more than 8 ft. apart. If you want to build a larger arbor, add additional posts between the corner posts. Before you begin construction, check your local building code for footing depth requirements and setback restrictions.

If you want to add climbing vines, such as clematis or wisteria, plant one vine beside the base of each post. Attach screw eyes to the outside of the posts, then string wire between the eyes. As the vines grow, train them along the wires.

TOOLS & MATERIALS

- Basic tools (page 18)
- Stakes and string
- Line level
- Posthole digger
- Reciprocating saw
- Paintbrush
- Wood screw clamps
- Concrete mix
- Gravel
- Wood sealer
- 10-ft. 4 x 4 posts (4)
- 6-ft. 2 x 6 tie beams (2)
- Galvanized nails
- 7-ft. 2 x 2 cross strips (7)
- 7-ft. 2 x 4 rafters (4)
- Galvanized deck screws
- 3" lag screws (8)
- Rafter ties (8)



A. Lay out the location of the arbor posts, then measure the diagonals to check for square.



B. Brace the posts into place, then use a level to make sure they are plumb.



C. Level and clamp the tie beam against the posts, then secure it with lag screws.