

Comox Valley Bee Club

How to make the Split Drone Frame for *Deep Frames*

Measurements for *Medium Frames* are in Red

- Consists of a regular empty wooden frame and 3 frame inserts. One full set (wooden frame and 3 inserts are required per hive).
- 3 inserts are required so that one can be in the freezer, while 2 are in the hive.
- From the inserts that are in the hive, the one that is capped will be swapped with the one from the freezer. That way the development of the brood remains staggered between the inserts.

- **Materials:**

Empty wood frame
½ x ¾ square wood molding stock (8 ft) (7 ft)
3/8 inch #4 screws (4)
4 tin strips from aluminum flashing material
1 inch panel nails (30)
Strips of wax foundation

- **Steps to make one set of a Split Drone Frame:**

1. Make 4 latches from small tin strips (aluminum flashing material) and attach with small screws on each side of the lower bar on the wooden frame. Locate them about a quarter distance from the side bars.



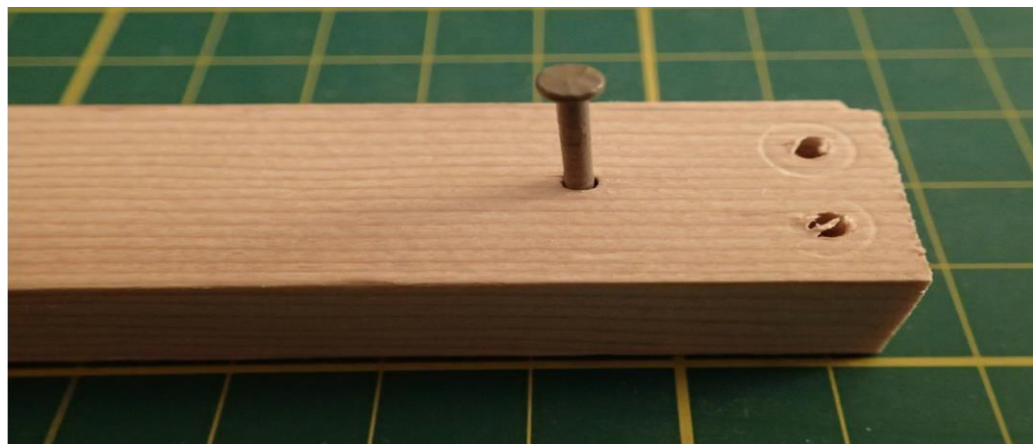
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2. From the $\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{3}{4}$ wood molding stock cut 6 pieces at 17.1cm (9.9cm) length and 6 pieces at 21.4cm (21.4cm) length.

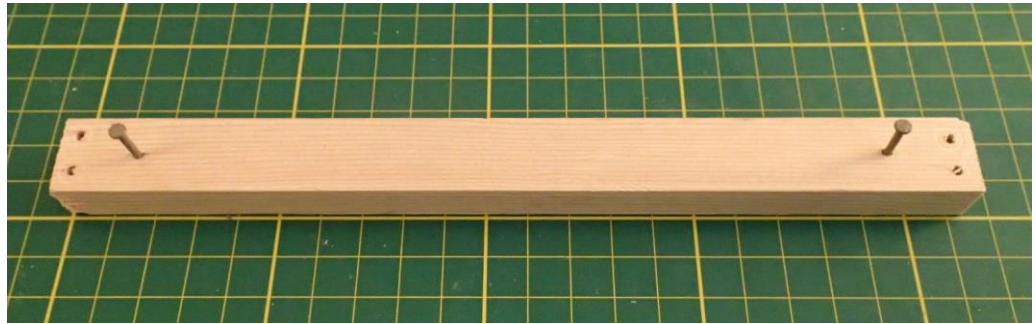


3. Drill the ends of the long pieces with 2 small holes each to avoid splitting when nailed.



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4. Nail 2 nails (1 in. panel nails) in the 3 top bars and clip off the nail heads. Place them about one inch from the outside. The nails will fit into the top groove of the outside frame and hold the inserts in place.



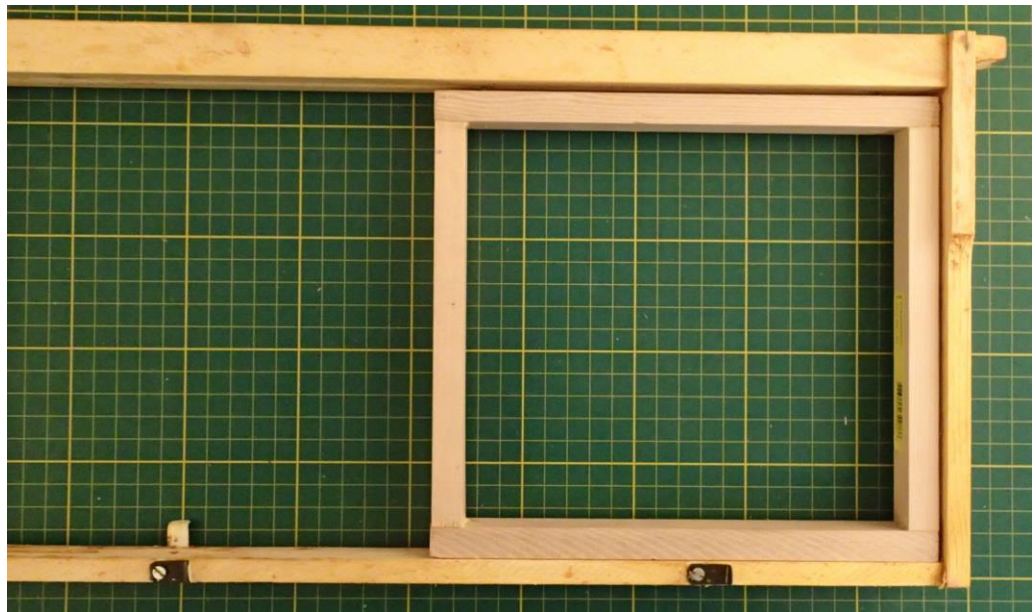
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5. Wood glue and nail the two short and the two long pieces to a square.

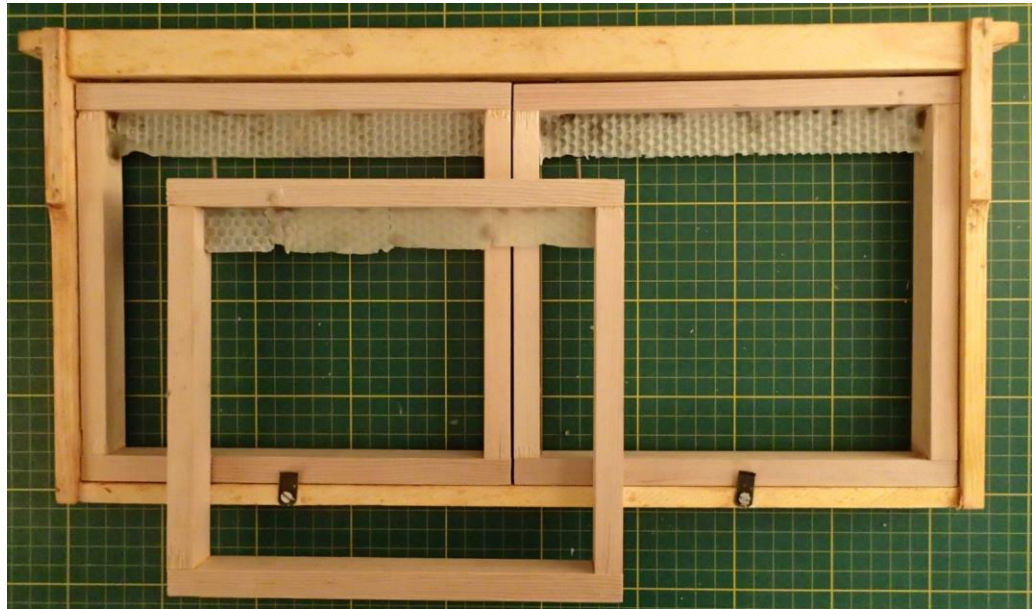


6. Finish all 3 frame inserts (half frames) and make sure the corners are 90° and that the inserts fit into the frame.



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7. Add strips of wax foundation to the top bar of each frame insert.



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