



GET BEHIND  
PEST CONTROL:

USE YOUR  
hands



# BUILD A BACKYARD TRAPPING TUNNEL

Safety first! A trapping tunnel is a box that you put your rat trap inside, to protect you, young members of your family, and your pets.

These instructions come from **Predator Free Mt Cook & Newtown** (Wellington) and the photos from **The Department of Conservation (DOC)**.

## You'll need:

### Materials

- 4 x planks of fencing timber (150mm x 25mm x 500mm)
- 10 x 60mm jolt head nails
- 1 x 75mm flat head nail
- 7 x staples
- 1 x front mesh screen (with opening cut out using wire cutters)
- 1 x back mesh screen
- 1 x rat trap (and mouse trap optional)

### Tools

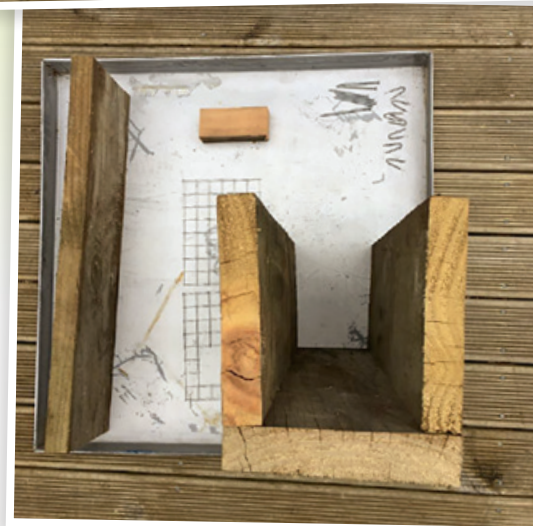
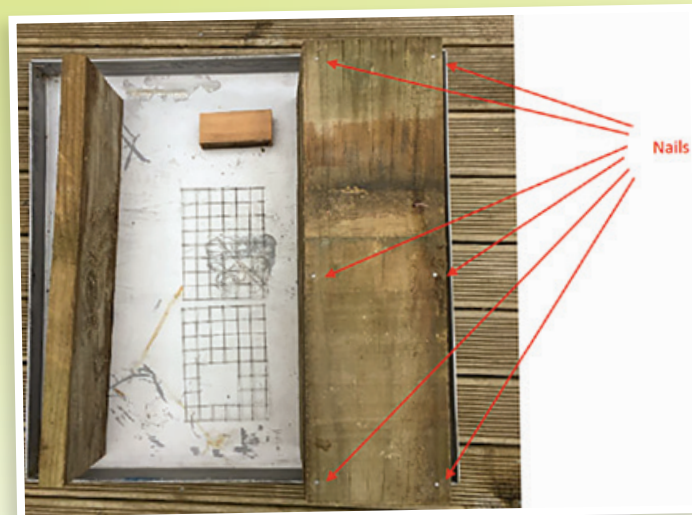
- Hammer
- Wire cutters



## STEP 1

### Fasten the bottom to the sides

Hammer a 60mm nail into each corner of the bottom piece of wood through to the walls. It's a bit fiddly to hold the pieces in the correct position, so you may need some help with this. Add a nail to the centre of each side for added strength.



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## STEP 2

### Nail the lid on

Line up the sides to the lid and nail in each corner.



## STEP 3

### Staple on the front mesh

Fasten the front mesh to the tunnel by hammering a staple (the rounded nail) into each corner (pointing towards the corners). Ensure the entrance hole is level with the top of the bottom piece of wood so the rat can walk straight in.

We've added an extra block of wood to the top of the trap for strength, but this is optional.



## STEP 4

### Staple on the back mesh

Flip the box over and hammer a staple vertically (pointing straight up) to the bottom corners of the back mesh – the mesh should hinge open like a door.

Hammer the final staple in the centre of the top piece of wood just above the top wire of the mesh horizontally (pointing across). Hammer it in so the 75mm nail can be put through the loop of the staple without being too loose. The nail will hold the door closed.



## TIP:

Set up your rat trap by the back mesh of the tunnel, but have it facing the opening in the front mesh.

