

Coroplast Transport Crate
Avian Ambassadors
<http://www.AvianAmbassadors.com>





Materials:

Coroplast is available in sheets that are 8 x 4 feet. Check the Yellow Pages or Google for a local supplier.

Contact Cement is used to glue the crate together.

Plywood is used to fix the perch (if used) in place in the base of the crate.

Parachute chord is used to braid a handle for the crate.

Velcro strips to fasten the door closed.

Optional covering, Coroplast is translucent and it may be necessary to clover the crate with an opaque material to reduce the amount of light entering. Visit a local curtain/dress making store to purchase some kind of synthetic leather if this is required.

The cut and folded Coroplast is then glued together using contact cement.

Cutting

The cutting template is a generic design and the actual dimensions used must be figured out to arrive at the crate size desired. Decide on the height, width, and depth of the crate design. Again depending upon the size of crate desired choose a Tab size; for a red tailed hawk a 2" Tab is a good size. Transfer those dimensions to a copy of the template.

Draw the template onto the Coroplast at full size.

Cut the solid lines of the template all the way through the Coroplast and score the dotted lines. The construction of Coroplast is such that the scoring is in fact a cut through one of the two outer layers of material.

Fold the Coroplast along the dotted lines. Folding is done away from the score with the un-scored side of the Coroplast on the inside of the fold acting like a hinge. It is a good idea to take an off-cut of Coroplast and practice scoring and folding.

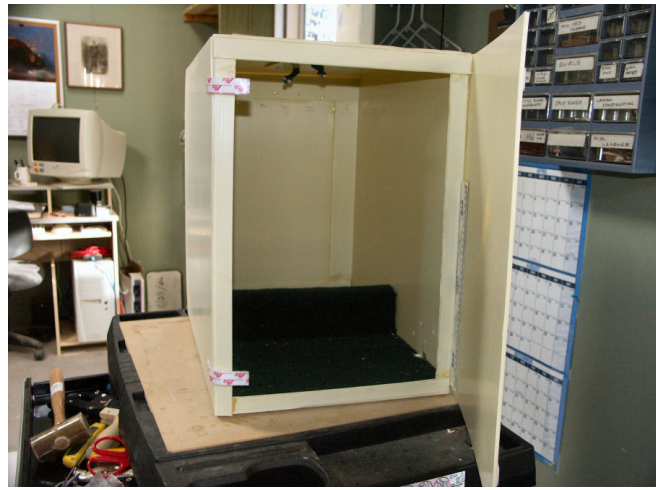
Completing the crate

Don't forget to make some air holes in the crate.

Cut a piece of 0.25" plywood or MDF (medium density fiberboard) to fit in the base of the crate. If a perch is required then attach the perch to the base and cover the whole assembly with



your preferred carpet or Astroturf material to assist with cleaning.



Glue a piece of Coroplast into the top inside of the crate to reinforce it ready to attach a braided handle for carrying.

Attach the Velcro straps to the crate and door.

Train the bird to use it!

Optional Perch Construction

The photo on the right shows the construction of a wooden perch, before covering. The size and shape of any perch should be chosen to suit the size and perching habits of the bird.



The example shown uses a piece of 1" x 1" material attached to a 2" x 4" top section, which is shaped to suit the bird.

This perch is attached to the crate base described earlier and the whole assembly covered with carpet or Astroturf.

Covering the crate.

As mentioned earlier Coroplast is a translucent material and some birds, particularly owls, may benefit from covering the crate. The photo shown has an imitation leather material glued to it. Depending upon the material used contact cement may be used to attach the covering.



Completed crate

Still having problems?

Avian Ambassadors is available for equipment and training classes for your staff!

Call (505) 281 5210.
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