

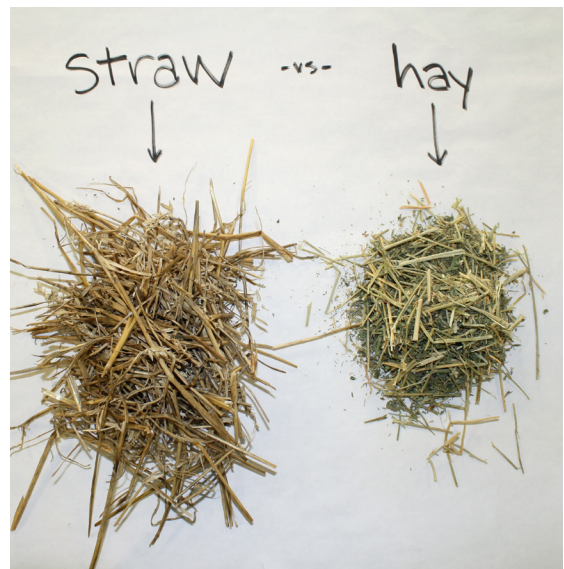


HOW TO BUILD AN OUTDOOR SHELTER

Community cats—also known as feral cats—are well-suited to living outdoors alongside humans, as they’ve done for over 10,000 years. However, there may be times when they could use a helping hand to get through a cold winter more comfortably. Here, you’ll learn how you can build an outdoor shelter for the community cats in your neighborhood. It’s easy, it’s cheap, and your feline friends will love it!

What You’ll Need

- A large plastic tub (approximately 30 gallons)
- A small plastic tub (approximately 20 gallons)
- Box cutter
- Straw (NOT hay)
- Permanent marker
- Scissors
- Hair dryer
- Thin slab of Styrofoam
- Plastic flowerpot (Choose a flowerpot that does not taper too much at the bottom, because this will be turned into an entrance later.)



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How to Build an Outdoor Shelter



1. Place the plastic flowerpot against the side of the large plastic bin, and use the permanent marker to outline the entrance.



2. Soften the plastic outline using the hair dryer. This will make it much easier to cut.



3. Use the box cutters to cut out the entrance. Use caution and be careful not to cut yourself!



4. Place a thin slab of Styrofoam into the bottom of the large tub, then place the small tub into the large tub.



5. Align the tubs and use the large entrance as a reference to outline an entrance in the small tub.



6. Repeat steps 2 and 3 for the small tub.

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7. Place the small tub in the large tub and line the sides between them with straw, which repels moisture. Do not use hay—it soaks up moisture and gets moldy.

8. Fill the small tub with a generous amount of straw. This will be the cats' bedding.



9. Use the plastic flowerpot to create a tube entrance. You can do this by simply cutting out the bottom of the flowerpot and sliding it into the large and small tub entrances. You may need to shave off some of the entrances to accommodate the flowerpot.

10. Put the lids on the tubs and you're done!