

We have two boys (7 and 11) and from early April to the end of July it's baseball 24-7 in our house. By the end of the season the lawn is bald, where children have to setup them to make shift pitching mound. I decided to fix this by building a wooden mound. I wanted to create something big enough for the kids to grow into it, but still wearable enough to move it now and then. I also wanted to be able to use it inside the basement during the winter. Here's what I ended up building: A list of materials: 3 - 2x6x10ft treated wood 1 - 2x6.x8ft treated wood 1 - 2x4x8ft treated wood 1 - 4x8x1/2 treated plywood 1 - box 1 1/4covered deck screens 1 - box 3 coated deck screws 1 - pitching gum (Amazon) 7 - 1/2 reversible foam mats 1 - pipe foam glue Mound dimensions is 84 x 42. With pitching the rubber end is the full width of 2x6 (~5 1/2) and it tapers to 2 at the bottom. I choose that height because the little league mound is 6 above the home plate. The flat section with rubber is 22 inches wide before it starts to narrow. I cut the section from the sides and back of each board to help reduce weight and also give the grass under the mound a chance to breathe. It also makes it much easier to lift if you need to move it. I plan to add a few portable wheels eventually, but I worry about that this spring when it's time to move it :) Here are some pictures from different angles: You can see from the image below that I set the plywood 7/8 at the bottom inches below that I set the plywood 7/8 at the bottom inches below that I set the plywood 7/8 at the bottom inches below that I set the plywood 7/8 at the bottom inches below the top of 2x6's. That way, when I added 1/2 of the foam it would be about to flush with the top. Pitching gum is 3/4 inch thick, so sit over the foam a bit. I debated about adding an extra piece of wood below the rubber to lift it up a little more, but I figured that the foam would compress some after use. The reason that I foam rubber tiles is because I have a bunch of them laying in my garage to collect dust. I thought of an indoor/outdoor rug, but I thought the kids would appreciate having a little more cushions. I also seriously consisted of buying a cheap rubber stall mat, but the mother only had almost 70 pounds. \ It has an angle from below and, as you can see, it is not very nice. If I had some extra 2x4's laying around I would have built a 1 1/2 permanent frame around the perimeter to support the plywood. Instead I just used the hard pieces that I left from the side and back cutouts. It seems to be a lot stable for children, so it worked well. You can't tell from the pictures, but I also drilled some drainholes at the bottom of the mound. Hopefully someone will find it useful. See you at Williamsport (go Coon Rapids Andover American Little League!) Portable Pitching Mound - In many cities and towns baseball fields with pitching mounds are expensive and sometimes difficult to maintain, and extra is youth-ageing teams who don't need a mound than those who do it, so more fields without mounds. Therefore, the ability to always gain on the practice field with the mound is very difficult, if not impossible. It's not a good scenario, as with any baseball skill, real playing conditions is not the time to try new things. One solution to this problem is to use a portable pitching mound made of materials other than dirt, which can be slightly stationary or fully portable un-assembled, then reassemble the site you will ever choose. There are many companies that sell different types of portable pitching mounds, most high quality materials and production, and unfortunately quite expensive, ranging from \$800 to \$4,500. Maybe I should say, In my opinion... expensive, as in this economy I see it as quite a bit of money. I'm not saying products aren't worth the cost, but how would you like to create a portable mound that will be more than serve a purpose, @\$125.00? Let's go through the steps of building a portable pitching mound of our own with wood, plywood and some astro turf, all within hours. Keep in mind this is just one example. You can change this design or completely create your own design, but it will give you a benchmark from which to start. List of building materials: All wood should be treated for outdoor use:*** 3 - 2 x 10 x 8'*** 1 - 2 x 10 x 12'*** 1 - 2 x 4 x 8'*** 1 sheet 4' x 8' x 3/4 external plywood. Note: 3/4 plywood will give you a much stronger platform with no give, but it is also very heavy. Consider both when deciding what you want to use. 1 - Roll astroTurf 4's wide *** 2 guart of contact cement or 3M strength spray glue. I would like to use 3M spray because it's easier to work. I'm a little sloppy. Box 1 (200) 1 1/2 Deck Screws *** 1 box (50) 3 Deck screws Home Building: Tool Double ... Cut once. 1. Cut 4'. cut off a board of 2 x 10 x 12, as it will be used as the rear support. of the mound.2. Portable Pitching Mound requires 1 slope for every 1 mound, so we have positioned it on our 2 x 10 x 8 boards, one by one. Select 24, then select 3', 4', 5', 6', 7' and 8'. Be sure to use the square to ensure the quality of the marking dimensions. 3. From the 3-point mark, measure 1 and mark the mark. Proceed to the 4th mark and measure 2 down, 5' - 3 down, etc. until the last sign, 8 sign, is 6 down the board.4. Chalk the box, snap the line from the 3' mark (6down), creating an angle to be cut, with an electric saw. After finishing the cut of the corner, cut 3 pieces from the narrow lower end. This length of 3 will be changed when two braces, back and front, are nailed in place.5. Repeat for each of the remaining 2 x 10 x 8 or use the first finished board as I wish I would using the template method to reduce the likelihood of cutting or low. Review: At this stage you should have 4 - 2 x 10 x 8 boards cut at identical angles and 4' - 2 x 10 piece, which was cut off in 12 '2 x 10 x 12' piece. Home Assembly: 1. Lay four angular boards on a flat surface. 4' brace section against the wide ends of 4 boards, space evenly separated and securely with screws. 2. Cut out a piece of 4' 2 x 4 so that it can be used as a brace, place it to the narrowed end of the boards, evenly and fasten with screws.3. Using the remaining 2 x 4 s, cut and install braces between 2 x 10 s 2 mark, where the angle begins. This will allow for greater support and additional nailing space for installing pitching rubber. The project is fully framed and safe, allowing you to move if you want.*** Install Plywood:1. Measure and cut a piece of plywood to cover a flat part of the platform. This should be measured at a width of 4' x 25 1/2. Attach with screws.2. Use the rest of the plywood to cover the angled parts. This can be a little tricky, but if you can cut an angle of 5 degrees on the back piece of plywood, which shuttles from the flat part, you will get a better and smoother fit. Attach the plywood screwed every 4 except.*** Astroturf to fit the mound before gluing it down, or stick the turf to the plywood, then trim with scissors. I recommend installing then trimming as a method of more forgiveness errors. 2. Method One: Spray the entire plywood platform with 3M Hi Strength spray glue and astroturf base, then install. 3. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for the time to allow the adhesive to be set.4. To install pitching gum on a flat platform part, cut 1 x 4 scrap piece of wood 18 long, paint white, center and safe with screws. In one afternoon and @\$125, you have to build a portable pitching mound that will last for many years and increase the training opportunities of your pitching staff many times. Portable Pitching Mound Back to Baseball Training at AIDSLearn Youth Baseball Coaching They say practice makes perfect. But when the snow covered your favorite baseball field and the start of spring is still a few months away, what is a pitcher to do? With a well-built wooden slope mound, the pitcher can improve his craft almost everywhere. Build a mound slope Mark one inch at the end of one of the 8-foot 2-10 pieces of wood. Cut the corner to two inches, leaving a seven-foot slope on both pieces of wood. Repeat with the other 8 feet 2-by-10. Create a frame nail one 4-foot 2-by-10 at the back of two pitched pieces. Nail the remaining 2-by-4 between the sides of the fromt of the mound. This will be your frame. Platform Cut the plywood on the frame. Staple on the outdoor carpet turf as you feel pitching the mound. Cut 1 foot 1-by-4 wood and nail it on the top of the platform, center, at least 6-7 inches from the back of the platform. It's your pitching gum. Measure twice and cut once. Always be careful when using power equipment. Equipment.

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