

Black Soldier Fly 55-gallon rearing bin instructions

Required supplies:

- 55-gallon drum, lighter colors are better for warmer weather
- 60ft of 2x4 lumber
- 100 3-inch screws
- 40 1.5-inch screws
- 1 drill
- 1 table saw (to cut the lumber)
- 6 feet of chain (will have excess)
- A set of hinges

First, you'll want to start by cutting all the lumber you will need:

Height x Width	Length (in inches)	Quantity
2x4	38	6
2x4	30.5	4
2x4	26	2
2x4	23	4
2x4	18.5	4
2x4	12	4

Instructions:

- Saw 55-gallon drum in half, it's easiest to use the seam along the side of the barrel.
- Make **two** frames with four of the 38-inch and four of the 23-inch planks. The 55-gallon barrel halves should fit into this frame.
- Use the 1.5-inch screws to secure the barrel halves to the frame, use 4 screws per side (16 total) to ensure it is secure.
- For the legs, take a 30.5 plank and make it flush (line it up) with an 18.5 plank, screw them together so it'll make a 4x4 base. Repeat three more times.
- Grab a 12-inch plank and use a 26-inch plank to leave a 4-inch gap between the 18.5-inch plank and the 12-inch plank. Screw the 12-inch to the 30.5-inch piece. Repeat three more times, once per leg.
- You should have 2 H-leg pieces, two frames with barrel halves, and 2 38-inch planks left.
- Connect the 2 H-leg pieces with the last two 38-inch planks by screwing them to the inside of the 30.5-inch plank.
- You should be able to place your barrel-in-frame piece within the frame created by the leg pieces, secure it with screws.
- The last steps are to add hinges, attach a chain to the side to provide a stopping point for the lid when opening, a handle, and a ramp on the inside. You will have to either cut a piece of the barrel out to install the ramp or work around any gaps once it is installed. You should be able to make a ramp out of some of the excess lumber you should have (about 6-7 feet).

- Pictures have been added below for reference. If you do not place the bin in a sheltered area it tends to fill with water. Some modifications to the lid are needed to prevent this in the future.

Congrats! You built a 55-gallon BSF rearing bin!

Two frames and barrel halves



Side view of leg



H-shaped leg



Last two 38-inch 2x4s connection to leg base (view from the top)



Top of ramp and frame connection within bin



Chain securing lid, fully extended and tight.



View into bin



Optional: two sheets of wood attached to ramp exit; helps keep water out and provides platform for BSFL collection bin

