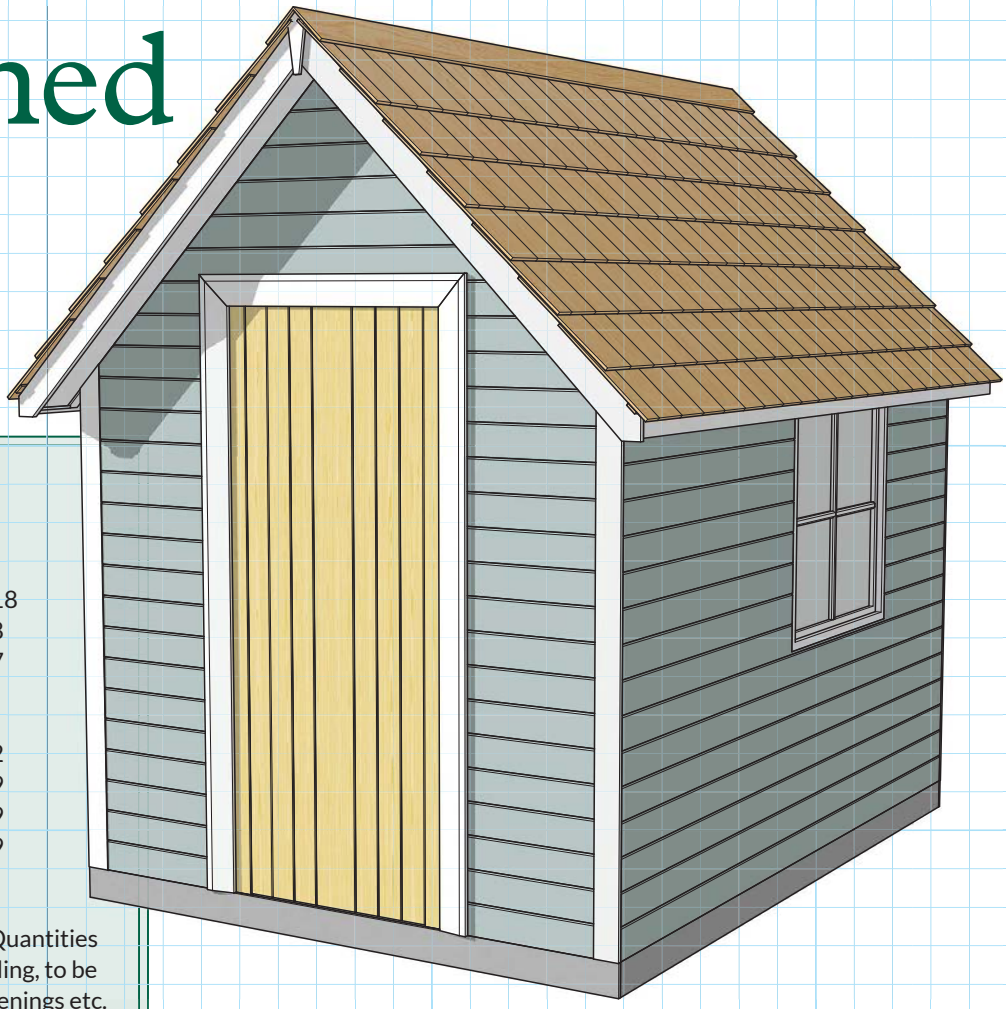
PLANS 4 YOU

A tiny shed

Simon Rodway wanted a special little hideaway at the bottom of his garden



Cutting list

Floor joists	6 @ 2028 x 94 x 47
End joists	2 @ 2871 x 94 x 47
Floor	2 @ 1220 x 2122 x 18
Floor	1 @ 431 x 2122 x 18
Rafters	10 @ 1705 x 75 x 47
Barge boards	4 @ 1771 x 94 x 22
Fascia	2 @ 3111 x 75 x 22
Ridge board	1 @ 3111 x 150 x 22
Roof sheets (AREA)	2 @ 3111 x 1668 x 9
End walls (AREA)	2 @ 2780 x 2028 x 9
Side walls (AREA)	2 @ 2777 x 1680 x 9
Cladding corner strips	4 @ 1896 x 75 x 22

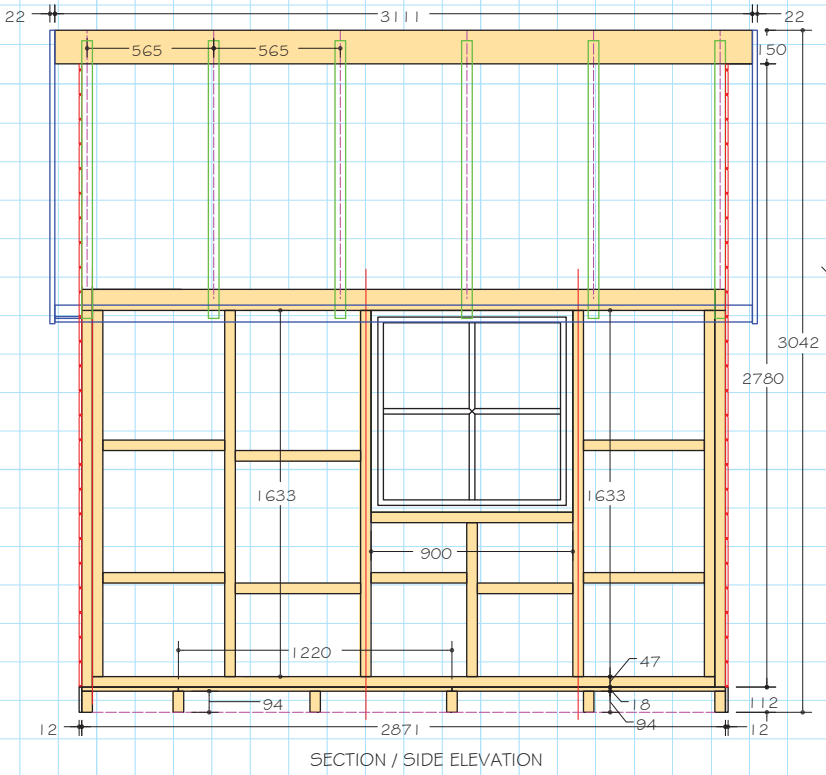
Note: Only major components are shown. Quantities for studwork, roof covering and outer cladding, to be taken from drawings and will depend on openings etc. Wall areas are given as a total and allowance needs to be made for openings and angled area of end walls.

If you have ever watched "Shed of the Year", and I freely admit to being a huge fan, then you might have had thoughts of building something a bit special yourself at the end of the garden or some other available space; a shed that's a little bit more than just somewhere to put a few garden tools. So, if you don't have a design in mind that you are burning to see built, this month's project might just fill that space and give you a small building that combines practicality with looks that belie its modest size.

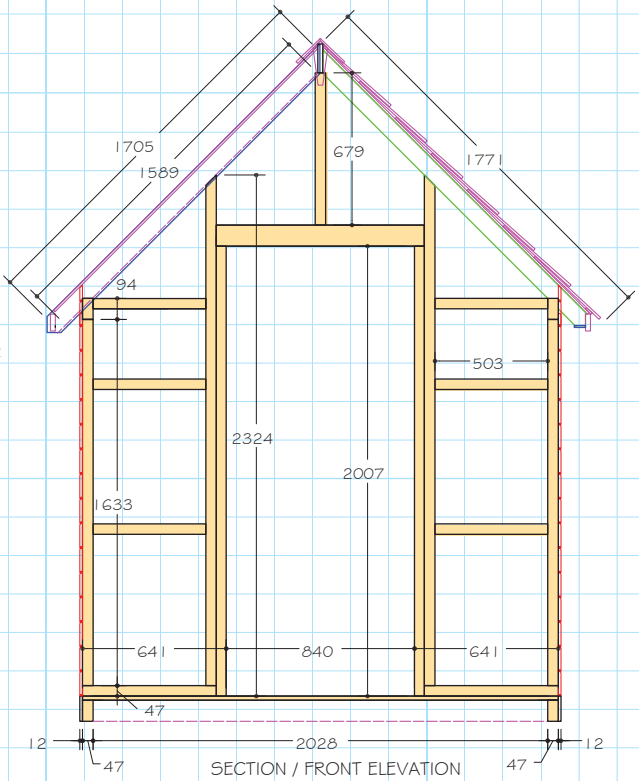
As always, one of the trickiest things with a garden building like this is preventing rot at the bottom. A well drained base will help. A timber bottom frame, with joists running laterally across the shed should have a fibre board cladding all round to form a plinth. The boards could be fixed with screws to make them removeable so that the timber can periodically be treated with a wood preservative. An 18mm plywood floor is screwed down onto the top of the base frame, then directly onto this a studwork frame of 47mm square section treated timber to form the walls. The larger section of 94 x 47mm pieces are at the head of the side frames, projecting into the end frames to pick up the rafters, which are birds-mouthed over this top piece and fixed to a ridge board at 45 degrees pitch.

On top of the rafters, sheets of 9mm ply are fixed. I have tried to space the floor joists, the vertical studs and the rafters to take account of each and every joint between the plywood sheet, and wherever possible to allow for a full sheet width of 1220mm to avoid unnecessary cutting, so if you vary the length or width of the shed, you will need to take this into account. The roof covering is your choice: there are many options available and I've shown timber shingles, with a capping piece along the length of the ridge.

On one side of the shed is a window, which I'm assuming will just be bought in, and you will obviously need to adjust the opening for this in the studwork wall to suit. The same applies to the door, which is also an "off the peg" item, and this has additional framing around the opening carrying a lintel of 94 x 47mm timber. The two end walls which are also made from 47mm studwork are essentially planted onto the ends of the side walls. These end walls have an angled top edge which is finished



SECTION / SIDE ELEVATION



SECTION / FRONT ELEVATION

by joining to the bottom faces of the end rafters. A central vertical stud is needed to pick up the ends of the ridge board, which is projected about 120mm beyond the end walls to form the apex of an overhang on the gable ends. Barge boards are then fixed at the top to the ridge board and at the feet to a fascia board with runs along the length of the shed and is fixed to the ends of the rafters, a classic but simplified timber roof construction, in other words.

The outer cladding for the walls is horizontal shiplap tongue and groove, nailed to the studwork. In the absence of any kind of soffit to close off the space between the rafters you will have carry this up to the underside of the 9mm ply roof covering, cutting and fitting sections of shiplap between each rafter. An angled soffit between the barge boards and the shiplap will finish off the gable end overhangs and a shaped finial hides the mitred joint of the barge boards. Internally the walls are lined with 9mm plywood up to the head of the side studwork, and full height to the ridge at the ends, with an architrave trimmed around the doorway as the finishing touch. ■