12x8' Floating Dock Plans RollingBarge.com



Congratulations! You are about to build the first floating dock designed around pressure treated plywood trusses.

If you use the materials suggested, and you follow the instructions correctly, your dock will be:

- Lighter and stronger than standard pressure treated wood docks.
- Tougher than docks built with rectangular dock floats.
- Less expensive than any serious floating dock around.

We at RollingBarge.com have one request before we get started. We have spent years learning how to float structures on 55 gallon polyethylene drums. These drums make great floats, if the structures are engineered properly. We had many requests for a really inexpensive yet stable and durable dock design. This is it, and we are charging you relatively little for these plans. We ask you kindly not share these plans or sell these plans. We have put hundreds of hours and thousands of dollars into figuring out exactly what should be written on these pages, and we are hoping to sell this document many times over. Please help us in this endeavor.

Thanks!

The RollingBarge.com family. 503-631-7539 info@RollingBarge.com



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Step 1 – Visit the Hardware Store

The table on the right is your shopping list:

Screws

You can save money by using coated steel deck screws instead of stainless steel, but you need to be very careful because some steel screws are fairly brittle and will snap instead of just flex. We strongly recommend stainless steel deck screws. We buy them in bulk and sell them at very competitive prices. If you didn't get them with your plans, give us a call at 503-631-7539.

Decking

If you are using plywood for your deck, then you need the "Plywood Deck Parts". If you are using deck boards, avoid using 2x6" as this will make the dock significantly heavier than it needs to be. 5/4x6 boards are 1" thick and will easily span the 2' that is required. Note that you need to use longer screws to hold the deck boards than the plywood deck, because the boards are thicker.

Use "Structural" Wood

When buying pressure treated wood, please note that there are two kinds: Structural and non-structural. You definitely want structural pressure treated wood. I have seen non-structural boards that you could whack against the ground and they would snap in half. These will not be strong enough for your dock! We purchased all of our pressure treated boards at Home Depot and were very happy with the strength.

Shopping List for 12x8' Floating Dock				
You must buy all of these parts:				
Description	Length (feet)	Quantity		
2x4 Pressure Treated	8	5		
2x4 Pressure Treated	12	7		
4x4 Pressure Treated	8	1		
1/2" Plywood Pressure Treated	4x8	3		
Gorilla Glue	18 oz	1		
Reconditioned 55 Gallon Plastic Drums	3x2	10		
#10 Stainless Steel Screws	3"	130		
#8 Stainless Steel Screws	2"	488		
#8 Stainless Steel Screws	1"	64		
For a Plywood Deck also buy these parts:				
1/2" Plywood Pressure Treated	4x8	3		
2x4 Pressure Treated	8	2		
#8 SS Deck Screws	2"	285		
For a Board Deck also buy these parts:				
5/4 x 6 Pressure Treated Decking	8	25		
#8 Stainless Steel Deck Screws	2.5"	250		
Approximate Weight with Plywood Deck = 750 lbs				
Approximate Weight with Board Deck = 900 lbs				

Here is the description of the pressure treated boards we used for our dock.



Cut Parts List

Part Number	Type of Wood	Length (Inches)	Width (Inches)	Qty
A1	1/2" Plywood	95	10.5	4
A2	4x4	10.5		8
A3	2x4	14		12
A4	2x4	21.5		2
A5	2x4	24.5		2
B1	1/2" Plywood	96	14	2
B2	1/2" Plywood	48	14	4
B3	2x4	141		5
C1	2x4	95		5
C2	2x4	3		6
C3	1/2" Plywood	65	48	1
Barrels				10
Plywood Deck Parts:				
D1	1/2" Plywood	96	48	3
E1	2x4	20		8
Board Deck Parts:				
F1	5/4x6	96		25

The above list shows all the parts you will need. **Don't start cutting yet!** The following pages show you exactly which parts come from each piece of lumber:



Step 2 – Cut and Label the Frame Parts



Start by cutting the Plywood. You can use a table saw if you have one, other wise we suggest snapping a chalk line on the wood and cutting it with a circular saw.

After you cut a piece, mark it with a pencil (A1, A2, etc...).



From the first sheet of plywood you will get the following quantities of parts:



From the second sheet of plywood you will get the following quantities of parts:

B1 = 2B2 = 2



From the third sheet of plywood you will get the following quantities of parts:

B2=2 C3=1

Note: The length of C3 will vary depending on the size of your barrels. Do not cut C3 to length until after the barrels are installed.

Parts A2 are from a 4x4 that is 10 feet long. Parts A3 and A4 are from two 2x4s that are 10' long.

You should have the following quantities:

A2 = 8 A3 = 12 A4 = 2 A5 = 2 C2 = 1 (you will cut five more C2s later).



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All the B3 parts and five of the six C2 parts come out of the five twelve foot long 2x4s. You should have the following quantities:







Gluing and Screwing Instructions

Note: Do not use any other glue except Gorilla Glue. All other glues require the wood to be very dry and this is almost impossible with pressure treated wood because the treatment process adds moisture to the wood.

Gluing is not absolutely necessary, but it will definitely add years to your dock by strengthening the frame and helping to keep the screws from loosening. There is a nice explanation of how to use Gorilla Glue at www.GorillaGlue.com. It is also included with these plans. The short of it is as follows:

- 1. Wet One Side Moisten one side of the joint with a wet rag.
- 2. Apply Glue to Dry Side Apply the glue to side of the joint that you did not moisten. They recommend ¹/₂" oz of glue per square foot. This is tricky and you need to practice a little. Gorilla glue will expand so you want some to creep out of the joint, but not too much.
- 3. Screw the Joint Use a drill with a screw bit to drive the stainless steel screws into the wood. The drawings will specify the length and number of screws required at each joint.
- 4. Allow Glue to Dry Gorilla Glue requires 24 hours to set. Because the screws are so strong, you can get away with using the dock before then. But it will be strongest if you wait at least 24 hours before stressing the dock.
- 5. **Remove Excess Glue** After the glue has dried (24 hours) it is easy to peel, scrape, and/or sand the glue that has expanded out of the joints.





Step 3 - Assembling the four Lateral Trusses

To order the rest of these plans, please e-mail <u>Sales@RollingBarge.com</u>

Or call 503-631-7539.

Thanks!

www.RollingBarge.com