

Quick Guide: How to Make a Living Roof

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1. I used 3"x3" posts and 4"x1" cladding, fixed to the ends of the posts. The posts were firmly secured to the top of the stone walls with lime mortaring



2. Fix exterior grade OSB (Stirling) Board to the posts and cladding timber. Note the timber cladding extends beyond lower pigsty front.



3. As the roof pitch is quite high, I fixed battens to the boarding to prevent the plant material from slumping. These battens will also catch and slow down the flow of rainwater.



4. Fix 6"x1" cladding to the existing cladding timber. This will give you a 2" lip for soil and plant materials.



5. Cut V-shaped notches in battens extending below the Board and clad with 6"x1" as before. This will form the hidden gutter run for the roof.



6. Cover board and battens with underlay and staple. Allow enough material to overhang edges.



7. Cover with heavy duty polythene, loosely over the battens and staple a seam with the underlay to top of 2" 'lip'.



8. Fix slats to each side of the hidden gutter notches, ensuring that water will flow in the down pipe direction.



9. Use strong duct tape to seal the edges of the slats to the OSB board and bottom of the joint. Add downpipe.



10. Fold underlay and polythene into gutter and staple neatly to top of lower cladding timber. Fill with pea shingle.



11. Cover polythene with wetted cardboard ensuring that the battens can be seen through the polythene.



12. Add soil and perlite mixture on top of cardboard, plant up and water. I am using sedum, geranium and turf.