

# How to build a treehouse

A perfect place to play, hide and watch wildlife...

## You will need:

- lots of friends and some adults to help
- 25 poles of strong wood



- some solid trees (or extra poles to build 'tripod trees')

- 30 metres of rope

- scissors / penknife

- loppers / pruning saw

- patience!

- 1 Find 4 solid trees about 2 metres apart

If you have no trees...

- 2 Practise 3 different knots.

- square lashing
- figure of eight lashing
- clove hitch

- 3 Choose the 4 strongest poles to form the frame. Tie a clove hitch onto each end of a pole, and square lash it to 2 tree trunks. Repeat to build a square frame.

- 4 Lay remaining poles side-by-side across frame, securing each one with a square lash. Then personalise with ladders, handrails and swings.

You can make 4 'tripod trees' instead...

- lash 3 poles of wood together with a figure of eight lashing knot
- stand upright and pull untied end apart.

Check your treehouse for cracks, breaks, wear and tear. It should last up to 2 years



★ USEFUL WEBSITES FOR KNOTS: [www.scoutbase.org.uk](http://www.scoutbase.org.uk) and [www.animatedknots.com](http://www.animatedknots.com)

If you are building on land that doesn't belong to you, remember to get permission from the landowner first.