



Kit comes with steel parts already cut out. The buyer welds them together. Available in regular plate steel or stainless steel.

Do-It-Yourself Wood Furnace Kit

Looking for an outdoor wood furnace, but reluctant to spend the money?

If you have the skills and tools to weld plate steel, Mark Nelis, Luxemburg, Wisconsin, may have your answer.

Nelis works in a custom fabrication shop and recently built his own wood furnace. He figures what's keeping a lot of people from making their own is cutting out the parts. "If they could buy the parts already cut, I think a lot of people would make their own," he says. So he's getting ready to offer a kit for sale.

While he's just getting started, he's plan-

ning to have kits in three different sizes, with each kit shipping on a standard 4 by 4-ft. pallet. "That will make shipping easier," he notes.

If you need a larger or smaller furnace, he'll calculate the size you need for your house or shop and then cut out all the pieces and ship direct to you.

All parts are laser cut and each kit comes with complete assembly instructions. While he made his stove of regular plate steel, he figures stainless steel would be better, so he'll offer either regular or stainless kits. "I think I can keep the price for a medium sized stainless steel stove kit under \$2,000," he adds. "The buyer would need to add a boiler or air-to-air heat exchanger and fans."

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Trailer is dumped by a 3-ton, 30-in. hydraulic cylinder powered by a hand-cranked bottle jack. To dump load, Nolt simply pumps the handle (see arrow) on trailer tongue.

"High-Dump" Trailer For ATV's And Garden Tractors

Walter Nolt, Shippensburg, Penn., didn't like the utility trailers on the market for use with ATV's and garden tractors. So with the help of his brother-in-law Marlin Hoover, he built his own "high-dump", tandem axle trailer.

The trailer measures 32 in. wide by 82 in. long and has 10-in. high, removable metal sides. It's dumped by a 3-ton, 30-in. cylinder powered by a hand-cranked bottle jack. To dump a load, you simply pump the handle on the tongue of the trailer.

"It raises to an almost vertical position and is designed so the back end stays off the ground at all times," says Nolt. "The problem with most trailers designed for ATV's and garden tractors is they don't raise high enough to let you dump the entire load at once so you have to help the material off. Or, if they do raise high enough for that, the rear end contacts the ground which prevents you from driving forward while unloading.

"The trailer is designed to handle loads up to 1,500 lbs. Both sides of the bed are protected by a solid 2-in. wide metal rail so if you accidentally side swipe a tree or rock you won't damage the trailer.

"I came up with the idea at my lawn equipment dealership. So far I've had a local welding shop build about 25 units for local customers."

The tandem axle allows the trailer to be used on very rough terrain. "It'll go almost anywhere a 4-wheeler can go," says Nolt.

He sells the trailer for \$750 F.O.B. Shippensburg. "I'm not in the trailer manufacturing business so I'm looking for a manufacturer," he adds.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Walter Nolt, Nolt's Engine Service, 994 Ridge Rd., Shippensburg, Penn. 17257 (ph 717 423-6300; fax 717 423-6269).

Hydraulic-Powered Floor Pit Covers Itself

"Before I poured the concrete floor in my shop I decided a service pit would be a great addition, but I didn't want to have to cover the hole with heavy planks when I wasn't using it. I knew that when I was in a hurry, I wouldn't want to take the time to drag a bunch of planks around. But if I left it open, it would be an accident waiting to happen," says Arvin De Cook, Sully, Iowa.

"I decided to build a retractable hydraulic floor inside the pit that would raise up flat with the shop floor. I put a 5-ton wagon hoist at each end of the 17-ft. long pit and built a strong steel floor on top of them - using two 16-ft. long pieces of 4 by 8-in. steel tubing. I ran four 2-in. electrical conduits to the sidewalls of the pit from the side of the shop. The conduits are big enough for hydraulic hoses and air hose for tools, as well as an electric line for lights and outlets.

"Three heavy steel tie-downs were anchored to the concrete floor on either side of the pit, providing a great place to chain equipment when it becomes broken or bent. The equipment is chained down over the moveable floor, and then the floor is raised to put pressure on the bent equipment.

"The hydraulic-controlled floor works great for changing tires. A pickup can be driven over the pit and the floor raised a few inches to lift part or all of the pickup off the floor.

"Hydraulic power comes from a used electric motor, a hydraulic pump from a combine, and five valves from a loader tractor.

"Total cost of the pit was less than \$500. I've used wagon hoists for other things over



Service pit is equipped with retractable hydraulic floor. When it's not needed, the hydraulic-controlled floor is raised so it's level with shop floor.

the years and they need very little maintenance. This hoist and platform are built much heavier than they need to be. It makes doing routine maintenance cleaner and easier so you

tend to do it in a much more timely manner."

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