

# How to build your own Wooden Trapping Tunnel

A trapping tunnel is a box to put a rodent trap inside. The tunnel is designed to protect your young family members and pets from the trap.

Taps work best if baited with peanut butter.

## Materials

- 4 x wooden planks (1" x 6" x 20")
- 10 x 2.5" nails
- 1 x 3" flat head nail
- 7 x staples
- 1 x front mesh screen (with opening cut out using wire cutters)
- 1 x back mesh screen
- 1 x rat trap
- 10mm galvanized weld mesh

## Tools

- Hammer
- Wire cutters

## Construction

### 1. Fasten the bottom to the sides

- Hammer a 2.5" nail into each corner of the bottom piece through to the walls. It can be a bit hard to hold the pieces in the correct position, so you may need some help for this.
- Add a nail to the center of each side for added strength.

### 2. Nail the lid on

- Line up the sides to the lid and nail in each corner.

### 3. Staple on the front mesh

- Fasten the front mesh to the tunnel by hammering a staple into each corner. Ensure the entrance hole is level with the top of the bottom piece of wood.
- You can see that we have added an extra block of wood to the top of the trap for stability, but this is optional.

### 4. Staple on the back mesh

- Flip the box over and hammer a staple vertically to the bottom corners of the back mesh. The mesh should hinge open like a door.

5. Secure the mesh

- Hammer the final staple in the center of the top piece of wood just above the top wire of the mesh. Hammer it in so the 3" flat head nail can be inserted through the staple without being too loose. The nail holds the door closed.

6. Setting a trap

- Place baited rat or mouse trap inside the trapping tunnel
- Place tunnel in a dark, concealed location
- Wait for trapping success!



*Photo courtesy of the New Zealand Department of Conservation*