

- Suggested story concept and design
- Edited diagrams
- Researched and wrote story and instructions

Vine Art

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PHOTOGRAPHY BY PAUL CHMIELOWIEC

Grow up! With an attached trellis, this roomy planter adds a vertical element to a balcony, patio or yard and – planted thickly with flowering vines – acts as a privacy screen. It goes together easily using standard lumber.

SUPPLIES:

PINE AS FOLLOWS:

3 six-foot lengths of 1x10*

1 six-foot length of 1x8*

1 six-foot length of 2x2*

2 six-foot lengths of 1x2*

5 six-foot lengths of 1x1*

44 No. Six 1½-in wood screws

14 No. Six 1-in wood screws

1-in spiral finishing nails

Exterior-grade wood glue

Wood filler

Fine-grit sandpaper

Paintbrush and exterior-grade varnish or paint

Saw; screwdriver and drill with bits that accommodate wood screws; hammer; carpenter's square; clamps; nail set; putty knife; staple gun; and awl

Large sheet of heavy-gauge plastic

**Nominal sizes; actual dimensions will be somewhat smaller.*



CUT LIST:

- 1x10
4 pieces A, each 36 in long, for front and back
- 1x8
4 pieces B, each 15 in long, for sides (Note: Lumber widths may vary; check actual width of 1x8, then multiply width x 2 to determine required length of B)
- 1x8
2 pieces D, each 34½ in long, for base
- 2x2
4 pieces C, each 17¼ in long, for side braces
- 1x2
2 pieces E, each 12 in long, for base supports
- 1x2
2 pieces F, each 48 in long, for trellis supports
- 1x1
10 pieces G, each 36 in long, for trellis battens

INSTRUCTIONS:

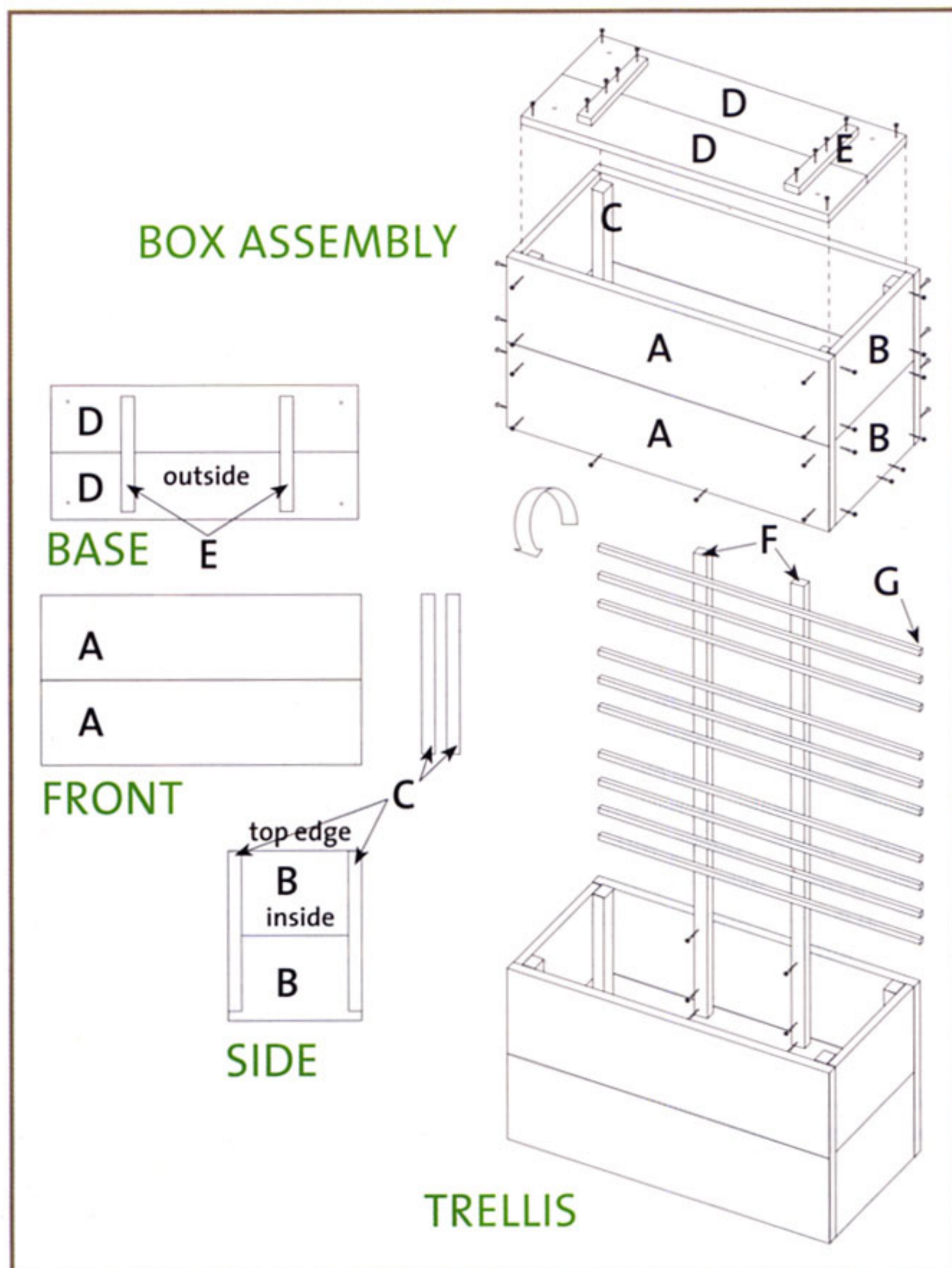
GENERAL NOTES:

- Pre-drill and countersink screw holes.
- Before assembly, lightly sand trellis supports and battens.
- During assembly, use carpenter's square to ensure perpendicular joints.
- For extra strength, apply glue along joints before nailing or screwing pieces together.

1 Using 1½-in screws, assemble 2 sides as shown, then, screwing into each C, attach pieces A to sides to assemble box with front and back. Turn box over.

2 Using 1-in screws, assemble base as shown, then, using 1½-in screws, attach base to box. Using ¼-in bit, drill drainage hole through base approx 3 in from each corner.

3 With ends even, clamp parallel pieces F, 12 in apart, to workbench. Using 1-in nails and beginning about 2 in from top end of each F, centre and attach 3 perpendicular pieces G, leaving 2 in



between; beginning 3½ in from last batten, repeat. Using 1-in nails and beginning 3½ in from last batten, attach remaining pieces G, leaving 2 in between. Remove clamps. With nail set, countersink all nails.

4 Centre bottom ends of trellis against inside back of box, 10 in down from top edge; using 1-in screws, attach.

5 With putty knife, fill countersunk holes; let dry, then sand smooth.

Paint or varnish, inside and out, as desired; let dry. Folding at corners and trimming as necessary, fit plastic inside box and staple in place. Slightly tip box and, with awl, poke drainage holes up through plastic from base. ●

Designer's Tips

- Clip grow lights to trellis for cloudy days.
- Paint fun flower designs on the front and sides of the box.
- Add casters to the base so you can move the box around your deck or patio.
- Change the height of the trellis and the size of the box to suit your space.
- Plant it with annual climbers – such as black-eyed Susan, morning glory or sweet pea vines – or make a mini salad garden with herbs and salad greens along the front and tomato vines along the back.

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Read our seven secrets to successful container gardening.

