

Den Building



Indoor Dens

What could you use?



Clothes horse
Bunk bed
Chairs
Sofa
Table
Cardboard boxes
Brooms
Mops
String or rope

Extras:

Blankets, sheets, duvets, cushions, pillows,



1. Bunk Bed

Tuck in some sheets and blankets around the top bunk to completely surround the bottom bunk or under-bed space.

2. Seats Become Walls

Arrange dining room chairs or sofas back-to-back with space in between for your den. Then all you need is a big sheet or blanket to drape over the top.

3. Table Tops

Tables act as all-in-one walls and ceilings, just add blanket walls.

4. Broom Roof

A few household brooms or mop poles make the perfect roof supports for a big den. You can place the broom across the top of your back-to-back chairs to give your blankets and sheets an extra bit of structure to drape over.

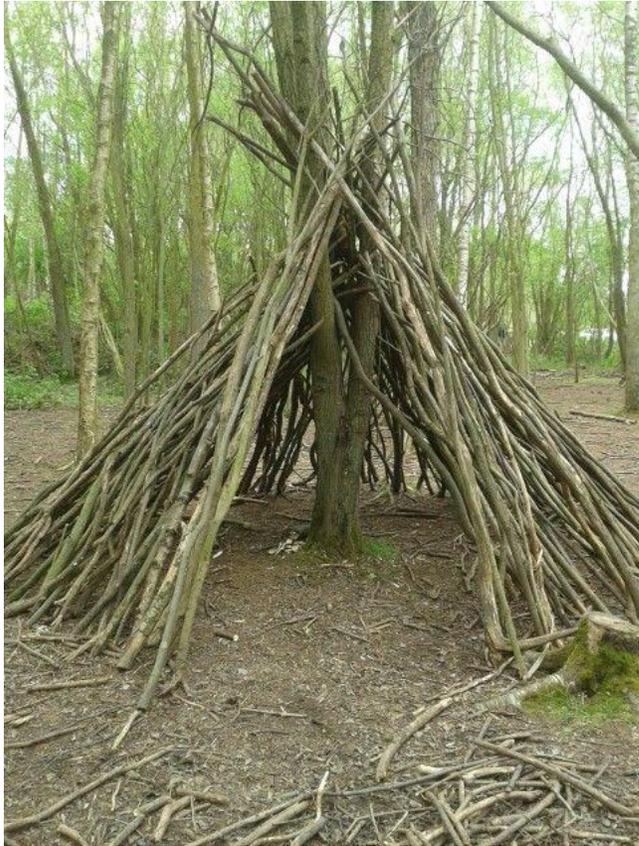
5. Rope Roof

Try tying lengths of rope or string across a few far-apart points (make sure they're strong and won't tip over) and then drape your blankets and sheets over the tops to create a roof.

Scatter the inside of your den with lots of cushions, pillows, duvets and soft toys to give you something soft and squashy to sit on and snuggle up with. Dens are the perfect place for games, movie-watching, reading and midnight-snacking.

Outdoor Dens

What could you use?



Tent frame
Outdoor Chairs
Outdoor Table
Climbing frame
Branches
Twigs
String or rope
Tarpaulins
Cardboard boxes



1. Use Ready-Made Structures

If you have a climbing frame in your back garden, these make excellent ready-made structures to form the basis of your den. You can drape your sheets or tarpaulins over the top and add other structures onto the sides.

2. Garden Furniture

If you have 4 or 6 garden chairs, try arranging them back-to-back with space in the middle. You can drape a sheet or tarpaulin over the top, creating an instant den. Garden tables also make the perfect starter structure; simply drape over a sheet.

3. Building with Branches

If you're lucky enough to live near woodland, you can go foraging for fallen branches and twigs to use as your outdoor den structure. Make sure these really are already on the ground. Your den should not harm the natural world around you. The bigger branches can be leaned up against one another and tied to form a basic den structure, while smaller bendy twigs can be woven between to fill in the walls.

4. Waterproofing

The best things to use for waterproofing your outdoor den are plastic sheets and tarpaulins.

5. Washing line den

Drape sheets or blankets over a washing line.

6. Umbrella den

Open several umbrellas and drape sheets over the top.

Rules to follow to make sure your den building is safe and fun:

1. If you're building an outside den, make sure you respect the environment and don't damage anything that's living there.
2. Only build your outside den in your own garden or somewhere you have permission from the person who owns the land.
3. Always tidy up after yourself when you're finished with your den and don't leave any litter. The best den builders leave no trace!
4. Don't use anything too heavy as the roof or main structure of your den in case it falls.
5. Make sure you ask your parent or carer's permission if using any furniture to build your den.

Have fun, be safe, and *build the den of your dreams!* Don't forget to send your teacher a photograph of your den.