

Made By Me™

**PORCH SWING
HARDWARE KIT**

INSPIRATIONAL GUIDE



Made By Me™

The National Hardware™ Porch Swing Hardware Kit makes it easy to install your porch swing with our included hardware. Create a comfortable outdoor place to relax with family, friends, and neighbors!

LET'S START BUILDING™

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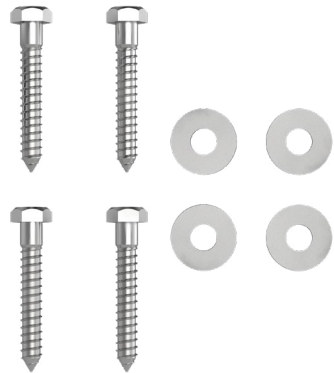
WHAT'S IN THE BOX



2 SWING HANGERS



2 1/2" X 4" SPRING SNAPS



4 M12X80MM LAG SCREWS
• M12 FLAT WASHERS INCLUDED

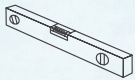
WHAT YOU NEED



PENCIL



WRENCH



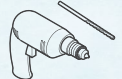
LEVEL



TAPE MEASURE



LADDER



POWER DRILL
1/8" DRILL BIT
1/4" DRILL BIT

OPTIONAL TOOLS

- MASKING TAPE
- STUD FINDER
- PORCH SWING OR BED

BUILDING YOUR PORCH SWING OASIS



STEP 1: FINDING YOUR PERFECT LOCATION FOR SWINGING AWAY

CHOOSING YOUR ORIENTATION

Decide which direction to orientate your swing or bed. You might want to consider private versus public. If you want more privacy, consider the back porch or a swing facing perpendicular to the street. If you want to watch the world go by then plan for a forward-facing swing or bed. Allow two and a half to three feet of swinging space both in front and behind the swing. Leaving fourteen to twenty inches of clearance on either side is also optimum as you might need the space for motion from the swing or to move around it.

CHOOSING A SWING OR BED

You also want to decide on the swing or bed you will use. There are many prebuilt options available for sale in a variety of sizes and styles. Can't find exactly what you are imagining? You can also build your own porch swing or bed. Many plans and designs are available for free online so you can easily make your custom swing or bed come to life.

STEP 2:

FINDING THE CEILING JOISTS

Now that you have your new relaxation spot all planned out, let's tackle the technical. This is an important step, as porch swings themselves are heavy, especially when you add a person or two. Taking the proper precautions to ensure you install your swing or bed can support weight is crucial to a successful installation. A couple of ways to locate your ceiling joists - also known as ceiling studs. The joist or beam needs to be a solid, straight-grained structural joist. Make sure to look for any signs of weakness like rot, cracks, or excessive knots. This should be a simple task if you have exposed beams. Ceiling joists usually run from front to back making them a breeze to locate. A 2x6 or 2x8 joist can support the load in most cases. If the existing joists don't fall where you want them, you can also reinforce the existing joists by adding the appropriate size wood to the side or adding perpendicular wood from one joist to the next, to prevent twisting or buckling.

If your porch has a covered ceiling, you will need visibility to what is underneath it. Try accessing from the attic, or you can remove a small amount of the ceiling to see how big the joists are and what direction they run in. Then plan to patch the opening after you complete your installation. If your ceiling is a thin material like vinyl or aluminum, you can also utilize a stud finder. Once located, mark the spot with a pencil.



EXPOSED CEILING JOISTS



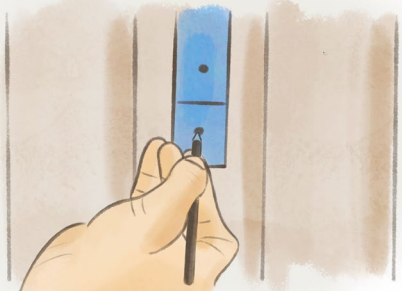
COVERED CEILING JOISTS

STEP 3:

INSTALLING THE SWING HANGERS & SWING

MARK YOUR MEASUREMENTS

Mark your measurements before drilling. You want to leave 2 to four inches width on either side to attach your swing hanger. Also ensure you mark in the center of the joist to prevent wood splitting.



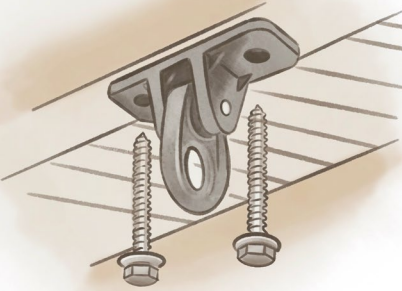
DRILL 5/16" PILOT HOLES

Once you have marked the spot for your hangers, drill a 5/16" pilot hole for each screw.



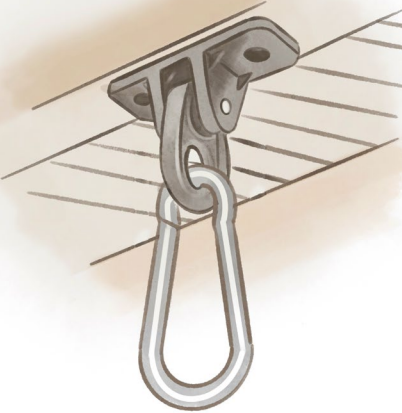
INSTALL LAG SCREWS

Install the lag screws with the included washers through the holes in each hanger all the way in until the washer and screw head are secured to the hanger. Do not overtighten.



ATTACH SPRING SNAPS

Open and attach the spring snaps into each hanger. If your swing or bed did not come with chains or hooks pre-installed, you will need to install them now. With your hangers in place you are ready to hang your swing or bed.



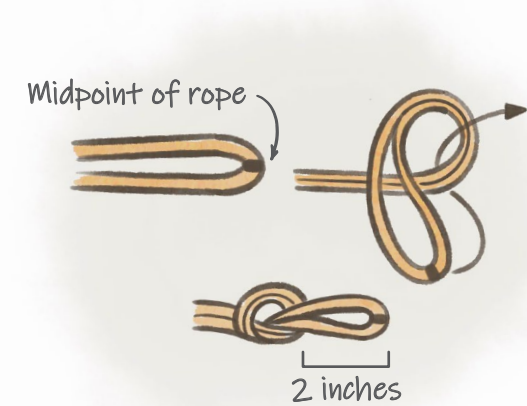
USING A CHAIN

In general, we recommend a seat height between sixteen and nineteen inches. For a chain swing, secure one end of each chain to the front and back of the chain with the appropriate hardware. Then connect the chain to the spring snap. Adjust the seat height if necessary, by hooking into different links.



USING A ROPE

If you want to use a rope, we recommend a nylon or other weatherproof material so it will hold up in the outdoors. Fold each rope in half and tie a simple overhand knot. Create a two-inch-long loop two inches from the bend. Attach each loop to one of the snaps. Set your swing on a box to get it level and to the desired height. Thread the front half of the rope through the front mounting point on the swing and secure it with an overhand knot, making sure the knot is big enough so that it will not slip through. Remove the box and adjust the knots as needed. Trim the excess from the bottom ends of the ropes as needed.



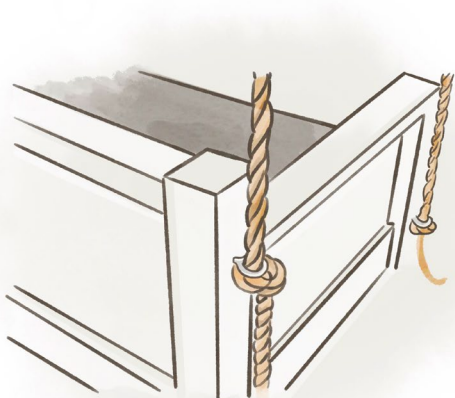
ROPE LOOPS



ATTACH LOOPS TO SNAPS



LEVEL SWING ON BOX



SECURE ON HARDWARE

STEP 4:
UNWIND AND ENJOY YOUR NEW OUTDOOR SPOT

RELAX DAY OR NIGHT

Spend relaxing moments swaying in the sun or gently swinging under the evening stars.



ADD YOUR OWN STYLE

Hang the porch swing of your choice and decorate it for a unique look or to match the style of your home or porch décor.



WHEN COMPANY CALLS

Perfect for creating an added sitting area to entertain and relax.



ALL YEAR-ROUND SEATING

An ideal way to add and enjoy an out-of-doors experience all year round.





*Made By Me*TM

SHOW US YOUR PROJECT

Share your finished project on social media using #MadeXMe for a chance to be featured or win another Made by MeTM box.

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For more information, visit us at:
www.national-hardware.com/madexme

