



## Light of Way

Make your own Japanese-style outdoor lanterns - the ultimate in easy, low-tech garden lighting.



### Materials:

- Nails - 2" to 2 ½" long galvanized
- 1" x 10" x 42" rough cut lumber (rough on at least one side)
- Flat rocks like slate shingles or flagstone
- Hurricane lantern
- Tea lights or
- Pillar candle

### Stain:

- Rusted iron
- Vinegar

### Tools

- Measuring tape
- Speed square
- Japanese pull saw
- Coping saw
- Drill
- Drill bits
- Hammer
- Bench vise
- Brush
- Bar-b-q lighter

### Cut List:

- 4 pieces 1" x 10" x 10 ½"

### Steps:



Measure and mark the board



Cut along the line with a Japanese-style pull saw

Measure and cut four 10 ½" lengths using a Japanese style pull saw.



Draw the windows on each side



Drill four holes at each corner of each window

Draw windows onto each board.

Put the first piece of wood in the vise and clamp it in place. You can also clamp the board to the table, letting the windows hang over the edge.

Drill four holes in the corners of each of the windows. The holes should be large enough for the coping saw blade to pass through.



Pass the coping saw blade through the first hole, then reassemble the saw in position



Cut out each window



Use a metal file to clean up the newly cut edges

Unscrew the handle of the coping saw and take the blade off. Pass the blade through the drilled holes and reattach it to the handle. Be sure the teeth are pointing toward the handle so that the saw can cut on the pull stroke. It's way easier.

Cut out each window. Try to aim the blade toward the outside of the drilled holes so that you don't have little dimpled corners in all your windows. Each time you arrive at a new corner, pivot the blade, then continue sawing. (**NOTE:** To pivot, loosen the blade by unscrewing the handle a little. Use the levers located at each end of the blade to change the cutting direction. A coping saw can literally cut in any direction.)

Use a metal file to soften the edges of the new cuts.



More free plans from ToolGirl



Make a permanent black stain using rusted iron and vinegar



Brush on the stain before attaching the sides together

When you're done, apply a stain before assembling the four sides. One of the cheapest and most interesting stains is made a few days ahead by collecting a bunch of rusty stuff - old nails, screws, or whatever - and putting the rusty items in a glass or plastic container with lots of vinegar. Let it sit for a day or two; it will turn a yellowish colour. Brush the colored vinegar on the wood. As it dries, the wood develops a dark 'aged' appearance.



Nail the sides together



Cover the roof with a non-flammable material

Choose a nonflammable material for the roof. Flat pieces of limestone or flagstone work really well. Or you can use slate, available at tile or roofing supply places.



Use a hurricane lantern with a tea light inside



You can also use a pillar candle

Install a hurricane lantern with a tea light or a pillar candle inside the lantern. Use one of those refillable bar-b-q lighters to reach inside to light the candles.



More free plans from ToolGirl



Finished lantern



Mag with various candle lit garden lights

Now invite some friends over, put on something diaphanous and glide around your backyard, softly illuminated by your lantern, serving your guests imaginative cocktails like Beer Floats.



More free plans from ToolGirl