



COLONIAL- STYLE SHED

A quintessential storage building, this 10-ft. by 16-ft. colonial-style shed provides more than enough storage space for the average household,

yet it is compact enough to fit in the smallest backyard.

Because the structure is less than 200 sq. ft., most building departments will allow you to build it on an on-grade foundation. This particular shed was set on a skid foundation formed with 6×6 timbers.

This shed features vertical-board cedar siding, large 2-ft. by 4-ft. barn-sash windows, and a pair of double-wide batten doors. The 10-in-12 roof slope is covered with architectural-style asphalt shingles. Note that the roof extends beyond each end wall by about 8 in. to create a gable overhang. This classic architectural detail, which is seldom found on storage sheds, emphasizes the gable roof and creates deep shadow lines at the end walls. (To order a set of building plans for the Colonial-Style Garden Shed, see Resources on p. 214.) ▶▶▶



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PRO TIP

Never cut foundation skids from untreated or treated lumber rated for above-ground use (.25 retention level); they'll quickly begin to show signs of decay.

Skid Foundation

This shed features a skid foundation that supports the building on two long, straight timbers laid on the ground in parallel rows. The timbers (skids) are leveled and then the shed's floor frame is fastened to them. For this shed, the skids were made of pressure-treated 6×6s, but 4×6s or 8×8s could have been used as well. It's important to make the skids from pressure-treated lumber rated for either ground-contact use (chemical retention level of .40 lb./cu. ft.) or wood foundations (.60 lb./cu. ft.).

Although the skids can be set directly on the ground, it's best to lay them on a bed of gravel

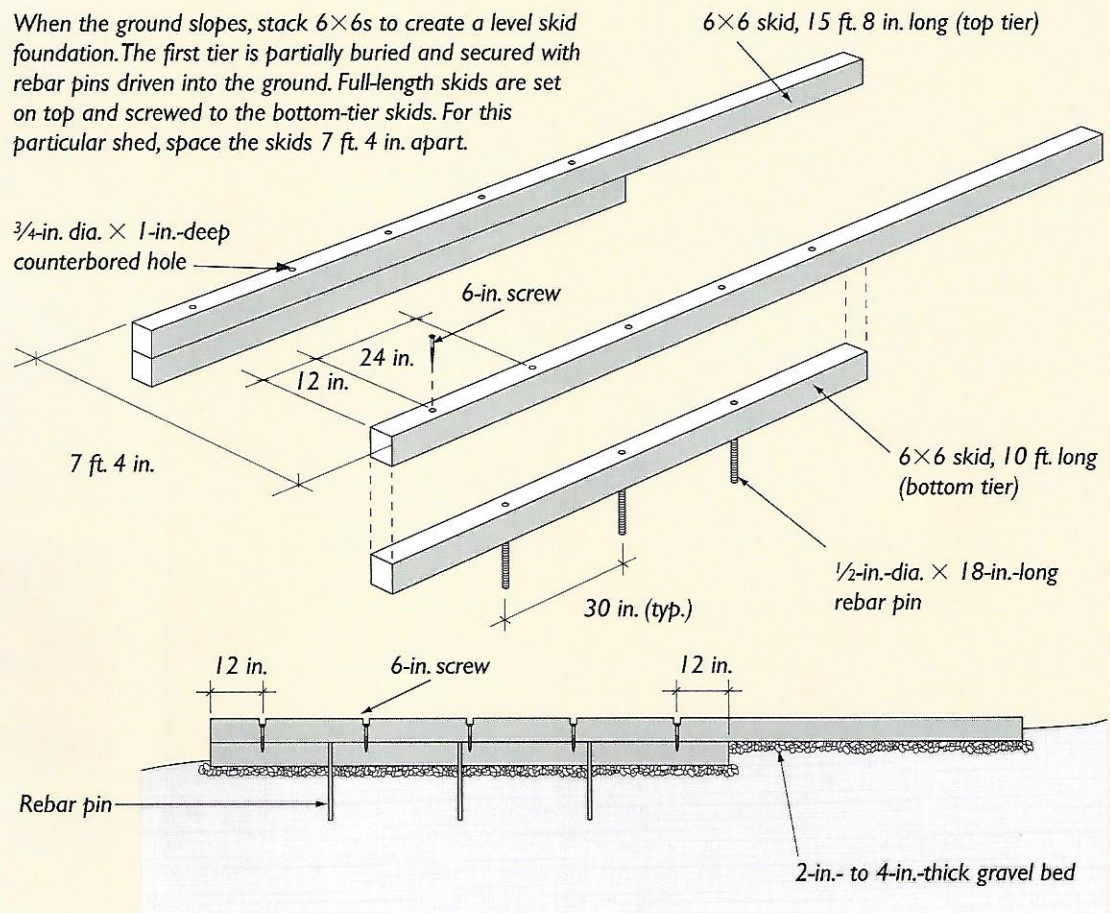
for increased stability and long-term support. In most instances, you need to put only a strip of gravel underneath each skid, but in this particular case, gravel was spread over the entire building site because the area attracts a fair amount of groundwater runoff.

Set the skids

If you're building the shed on a relatively level lot, you'll need only two 6×6 skids; cut each one to 15 ft. 8 in. long. However, if the site slopes 4 in. or so—as this one did—you'll have to stack two 6×6s to build up the low end of the foundation.

SKID FOUNDATION

When the ground slopes, stack 6×6s to create a level skid foundation. The first tier is partially buried and secured with rebar pins driven into the ground. Full-length skids are set on top and screwed to the bottom-tier skids. For this particular shed, space the skids 7 ft. 4 in. apart.



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