

A STAND FOR US MILITARY SHELTER HALF PUP TENTS



This wooden frame is designed so that you can set up a US military pup tent indoors or anywhere else where you cannot use normal tent pegs. This was born of necessity because my backyard is all concrete patio except for a couple of flower beds.

The stand basically consists of two 8-foot-long 1-inch by 4-inch boards and two 8-foot-long 1-inch by 2-inch boards.

The 8x1x4 boards are overlapped by about six inches and then fastened together with a few "dry wall screws" (self tapping wood screws actually) to make the long main board. The same type of screws are used to fasten the 8x1x2 boards as crosspieces on the main board. I had some 1-5/8 inch long screws around and they were a good length for this project.

The main board has two one-inch holes drilled five feet apart - these are for the tent poles. The crosspieces are attached to the main board at the holes and attached with two screws. Be sure to square up corners before you attach them.

In place of tent pegs I drove a screw in halfway (and at an angle) at each point where you'd use a peg. There are "peg screws" at each end of the main board and each end of the cross pieces. In addition one end of the main board has a second screw which is used to anchor the flaps.

If you wanted to make a nicer looking display you could replace the "peg screws" with pieces of wooden doweling. In that case you'd drill a hole (at a 45-degree angle) at each of the tent peg points, and then put a short piece of dowel in each hole. If the dowel fits snugly in the hole it should be able to hold without glue (I think).

I built my tent stand just to photograph two 1942 tents I have for sale and when I'm done I'll remove the screws and have four eight-foot boards I can use for another project. But for a permanent display I'd suggest trimming the boards so they don't stick out any more than perhaps 4-inches beyond the "peg screws". Painting the wood to match the color of the floor would also help dress it up.

Here are some photos including one on which I show the measurements. The yellow circles represent the holes for the tent poles and the yellow squares mark the screw pegs. The yellow curved lines with black measurements next to them show the distance between the points connected by the yellow lines.



