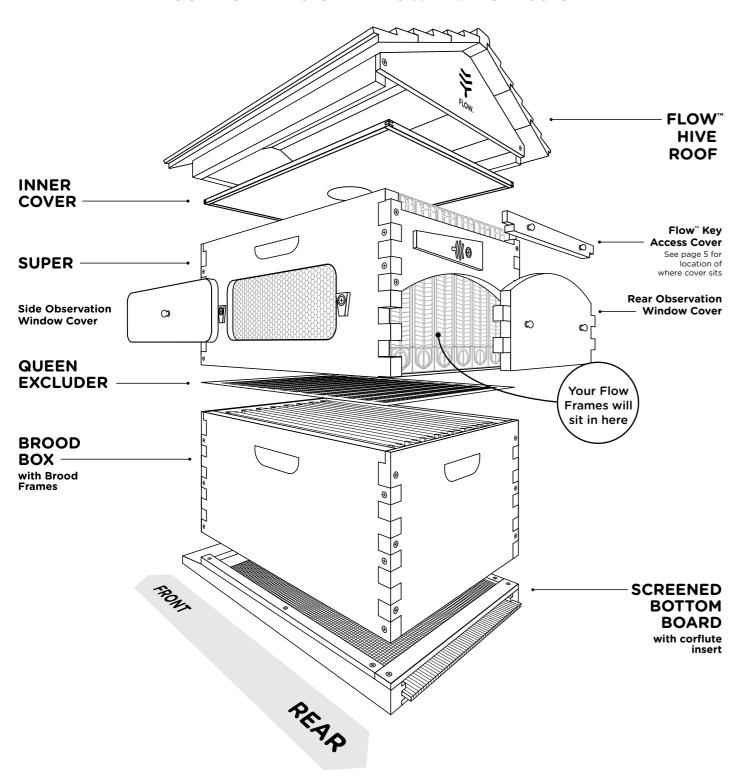


FLOW™ HIVE CLASSIC ASSEMBLY GUIDE



#### COMPONENTS OF A FLOW HIVE CLASSIC



- Read all instructions first. • If you are unfamiliar with wood work, you may like to ask a friend or someone from your nearest beekeeping club to help. We've put together some
- great assembly support videos, view them here:
- www.honeyflow.com/assembly.

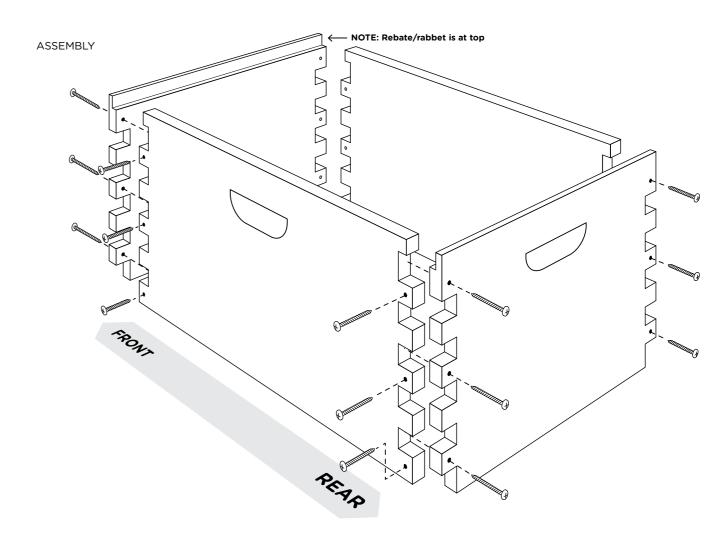
### Tools you will need for assembly (not supplied):

- carpenter's square
- clamps (optional) (one that opens at least 38cm and one that opens 43cm)
- drill motor with phillips head bit (use low torque setting) or a phillips head screwdriver
- hammer
- non-toxic glue
- sandpaper
- Drill bits 3mm-4mm (3/32"-1/8") for pre-drilling.
- tung oil or other suitable finish



**PARTS** • 2 x box side panels • 2 x box end panels HARDWARE

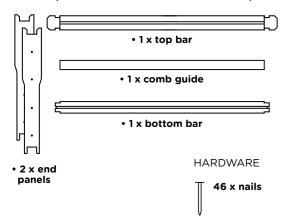
24 x 1 3/4" 8G pan head screws To assemble box sides and ends



- 1. Cut binding tape and lay out all pieces of your brood box.
- 2. Dry fit all the pieces together to make a box (as per the illustration above). Be sure they fit together tightly and the handles are on the upper outside of the box. Some force may be necessary to get the fingers together, however if it looks like the wood could split use sandpaper to adjust finger size.
- 3. If you are using clamps, apply one on each side of the hive box toward the top. The clamps will allow you to assemble the box together more easily by holding the pieces in place as you install screws. Without the clamps, the force you put on the screw when you drive it into the frame may cause the other unsecured joints to fall apart.
- If you don't have a clamp make sure the joints are held firmly together before driving in screws.
- 4. Check if the box is square using the carpenter's square. Adjust the clamps and box as needed to get it into alignment. If you don't have a carpenter's square you can make visual checks or line up the box with the corner of a square table.
- 5. Screw the pieces together, checking that the box is square as you go along. You don't need to check after every screw is installed but check often to keep the box aligned. Each hive is unique and may have imperfections from the woodworking process. Use sandpaper to smooth any areas where required.

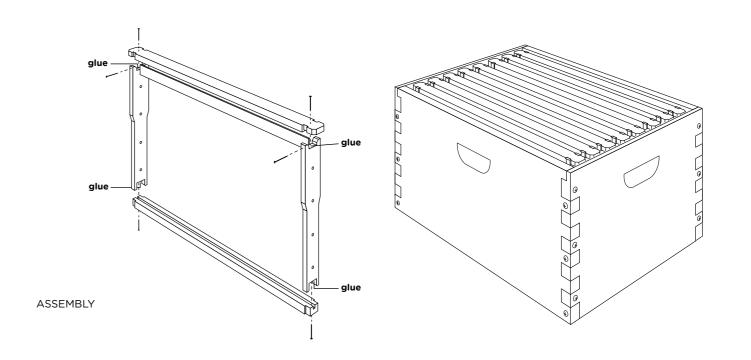
# 2 BROOD FRAMES (X8)

PARTS (SHOWN FOR SINGLE FRAME ONLY)

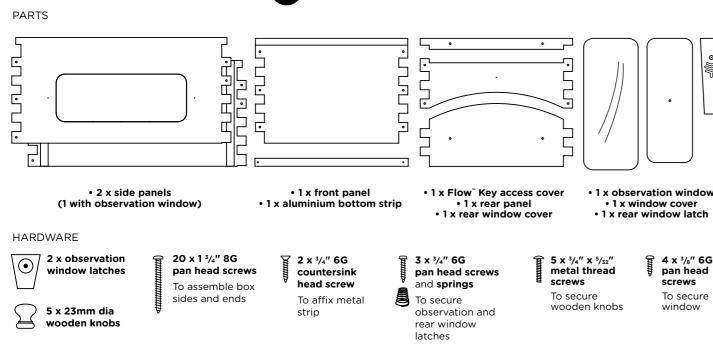


See illustration on right

- 1. Lay out all the pieces for a single frame.
- 2. Apply a small amount of glue to the u-shape slots on the end panels, then fit the top and bottom bars into the slots. Glue is not 100% necessary but will make the frame more robust.
- 3. Check that the frame is square, then nail all pieces together.
- 4. If you plan to use foundationless frames in your brood box, add a few drops of glue onto the comb guide and insert into the slot in the underside of the top bar. However if you are using foundation do not add the comb guide, so you are able to add your choice of foundation.
- 5. Repeat for remaining 7 frames.
- 6. When frames are placed in the brood box, centre them so extra space is towards the outside edges of the box. The frames sit loosely in the Brood Box as they are designed to allow the bees to draw their own comb.







See illustration on right

- 1. Lay out all the pieces of your FlowTM super.
- 2. Dry fit all the pieces together to make a box (as per the illustration on right). Be sure they fit together tightly and the handles are on the upper outside of the super.
- 3. If you are using clamps, clamp all the pieces together as per the brood box construction to assist while inserting screws. Check that the super is square as you go along.

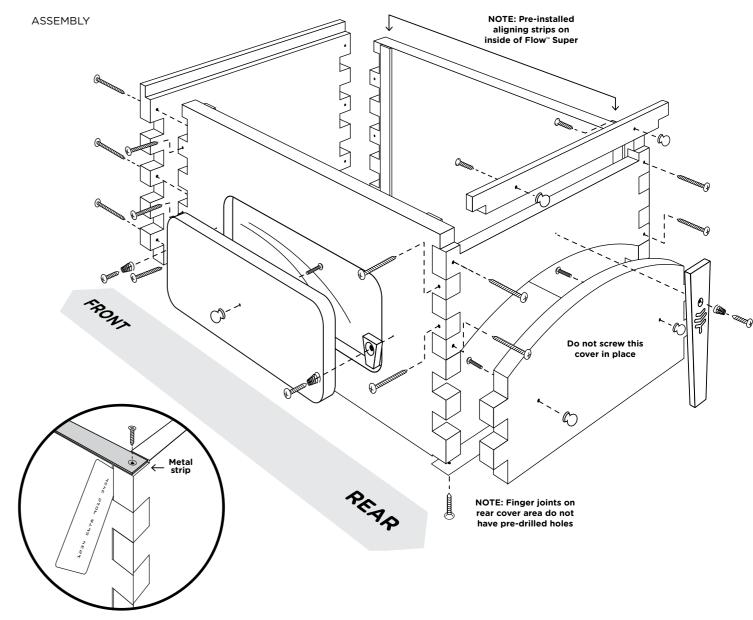
IMPORTANT NOTE: do not screw the rear window cover in place as this piece will be used to gain access to the Flow™ Frames.

4. Affix the metal strip. Turn the Flow box upside down. Put the rear window cover in place. To maintain clearance, temporarily place some packing material,

about the width of a credit card, between the rear window cover and the box side. Screw the metal strip in place (pre-drilling may avoid splitting the wood). See inset diagram.

You may wish to apply a suitable timber finish before installing window and latches

- Remove protective plastic from both sides of observation window. Install into the rebate on the inside face of side panel and screw into place.
- 6. Add the knobs to the rear and side observation window covers and FlowTM key access cover. Insert the springs into the recesses on the latches before screwing them to the super. The springs will prevent over-tightening of the screws.



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## FLOW™ HIVE ROOF



For Western Red Cedar hives we recommend tung oil or other suitable wood finish on the outside only. For Hoop Pine hives we suggest painting the outside. We recommend painting the roof with a standard exterior-grade paint, apply liberally to the joins between shingles to create a good weather seal.

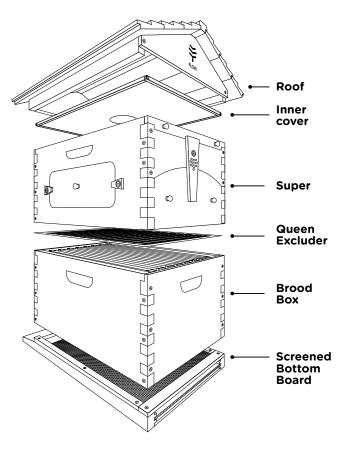
## 6 CONFIGURATIONS

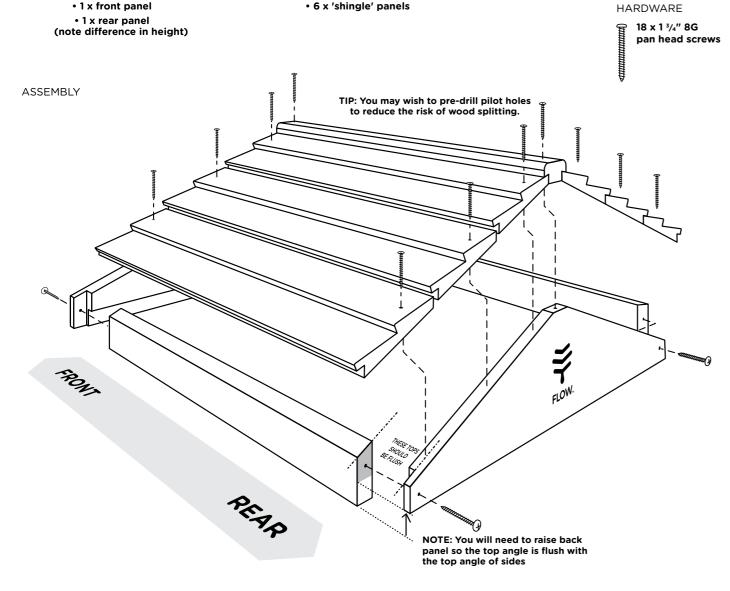
### STARTING YOUR COLONY CONFIGURATION

Brood box with frames, inner cover and roof only while your bees are growing in numbers and building comb. We cover the feeder hole of the inner cover with screen mesh or a piece of wood. Insert corflute slider in lower slot of hive base. This can be moved to upper slot when harvesting.

#### **ESTABLISHED COLONY CONFIGURATION**

Super with Flow<sup>™</sup> Frames once your colony is strong and established. Inner cover is placed on top of the super.





• 6 x 'shingle' panels

1. Lay out all the pieces of the roof and ensure you have all the parts. Dry fit the pieces together (as per the

PARTS

FLOW.

FLOW.

• 1 x front panel

- 2. Align and screw the front panel (this panel has the logo branded onto it) to the sides. The side panels do not have pre-drilled holes. You may pre-drill to reduce the risk of wood splitting.
- 3. Lift the back panel so the angle on the top is flush with the angle on the top of the side panels. You may wish to mark and pre drill the holes then partially insert screws so they are slightly protruding from the holes in the back panel to help you align with the
- holes in the sides. Clamp the parts while screwing. Check to see that this frame is square.

• 1 x top ridge cap

• 2 x side panels

- 4. Place the two top shingles on first and ensure they meet neatly along the apex point of the roof. Lining up the roof can be tricky, you may like to view the assembly video for instructions. Screw on the two upper shingle panels (do not over tighten). Slide the lower shingle panels under the recess of the upper panels and make sure they are flush with the upper shingles front and back. Screw down the lower shingle panels. Tighten all screws.
- 5. Align and secure the ridge cap over the shingle panels.



For beekeeping info, assembly instructions and to keep connected go to: forum.honeyflow.com or www.honeyflow.com/assembly.

If you are new to beekeeping be sure to join a local beekeeping club or find a mentor in your area for local support and information.

Connect with us and share your pics

facebook.com/flowhive



Roof

Inner

cover

**Brood** 

Screened

**Bottom Board** 

instagram.com/flowhive



twitter.com/flowhive

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Australian Made Flow Hive Box Assembly Guide

Part #101-03-01-06 Revision: 001

