Where do we start?

Find cardboard, and lots of it!

Cardboard is a great material for anyone to make something out of, especially now with all those extra cardboard boxes that are accumulating around us.

Cardboard is free, plentiful, strong, flexible and easy to work with. Add some scissors and packing tape, maybe some marker pens and see where your imagination takes you.

What you will need

• Cardboard
• Cardboard tubes (useful for adding strength)
• Scissors or a box cutting knife (an adult should always do this part)
• Packing tape
• Marker pens / paints, for decoration

Some building ideas

Making the basic structure of your den:

1. Find your cardboard. If you have a large cardboard box, great! If not, you can always cut up smaller boxes and tape them together.

2. Remove the flaps on the top of the box. Keep them straight because you may use them later.

3. Use two flaps of the same width as the box to meet in the middle. You can either use the flaps from your original box or cut these out of another box and then tape them onto the top of the main box. In either case make sure they are the same length because you don’t want the roof to be crooked.

4. Finish the roof. Cut triangular pieces to go at the front and back of the roof. Tape it all together.

5. Make the door. Mark out your door at the front of the house using the edge of the box as a hinge. Cut out in three places and then fold the door into shape. You can also cut out holes for windows around the side.