

## DIY Outdoor Cat Winter Shelter

Winter shelter can help community cats thrive despite the low temperatures. There are 3 essential aspects of outdoor cat shelters: Insulation, minimal air space, and waterproof. They need to be well insulated to trap the cats' body heat, have minimal air space so there isn't too much empty room to heat up, and be waterproof so the interior remains dry.



30 gallon bin is good for 1-2 cats



Cut 6" hole in front of the bin\*



Insert Styrofoam cooler and cut hole to match bin's hole



Add insulation



Add Styrofoam lid



Add bin lid—Finished!

### Materials:

- Plastic storage bin with lid (size depends on cat size and # of cats)
- Styrofoam cooler (size depends on size of bin)
- Straw/Insulation
- Box cutter/Sharp knife

After the cats have begun using the shelter, you can add a door flap made of heavy plastic, vinyl, or rubber, but light enough to allow them to push and pull it open. Attach with duct tape or drill holes into the materials and attach with correct size nuts and bolts.

\*Children under 18 should be under supervision

Source: Indy Feral Incorporated & Neighborhood cats

More ideas and information:

<https://bestfriends.org/resources/how-help-outside-cats-winter>

<https://www.neighborhoodcats.org/how-to-tnr/colony-care/feral-cat-winter-shelter>

