

How to Build a Mud Kitchen

Step-by-Step Instructions

Assess your site. Look for:

- A flat surface in an easily enclosed space.
- Some solid basic structures to attach things to.
- A place to get messy.

Create sense of enclosure.

Add a permeable wall (lattice recommended) and counter (could be a dresser/cabinet) to define the space. Play around for the right size and intimate feel.

Stability.

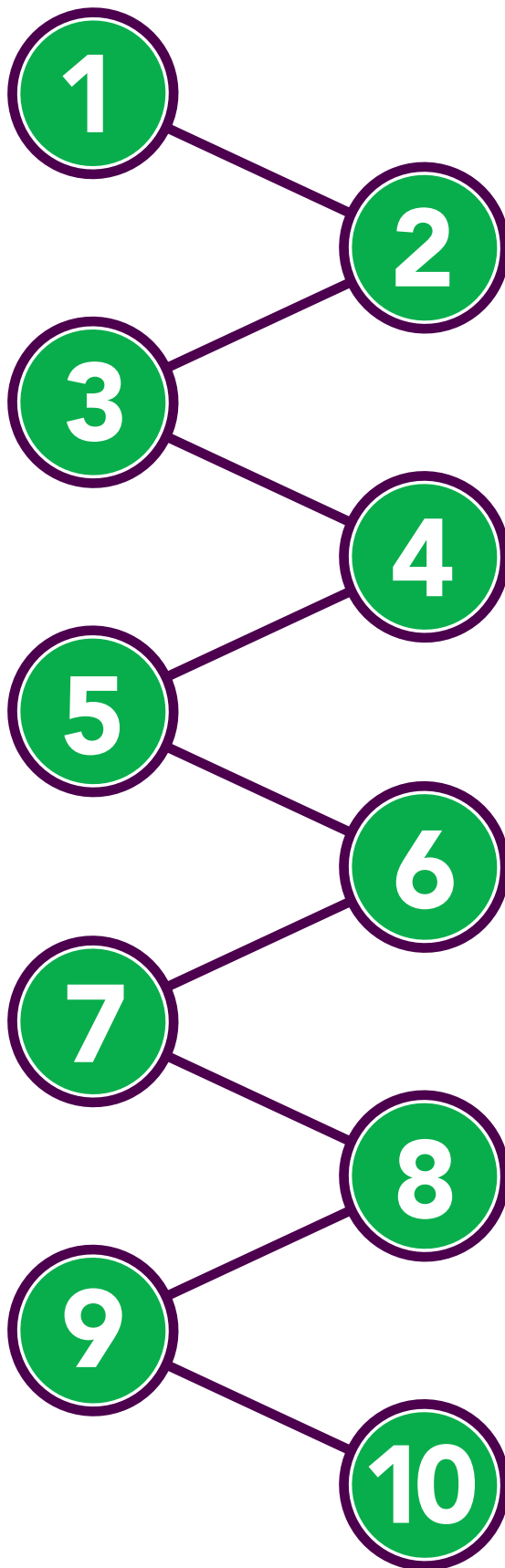
Secure lattice or counters to ensure the basic structures cannot be easily tipped.

Stove.

Find an area for the "cooker". Draw elements (marker) and drill four small holes and attach small jar lids with nails for moveable 'knobs'.

Extra details and clean up.

Add any special items or features you may want; mortar and pestle, chalk, jelly moulds. Bring in a bucket of water and sand. Add a compost bin for the throw-away baked goods and potions.



Prepare the space.

Rake leaves if necessary to see ground. Fill in holes, level ground.

Counters.

Add second counter/shelf space if you want different heights. Can be a simpler build of a couple pieces of plywood and cinder blocks.

Sink and water source.

Add old sink either to a new or existing cabinet. Measure and drill holes for the sink drains or use a large metal or plastic bowl with a lip.

Outfit and decorate.

Add real items such as a recycled toaster, toaster oven, coffee maker, mirror, etc. Your kids can help put kitchen supplies in storage areas and tell you where they want hooks.

Kids play!

Let your kids have free time to enjoy the new space.