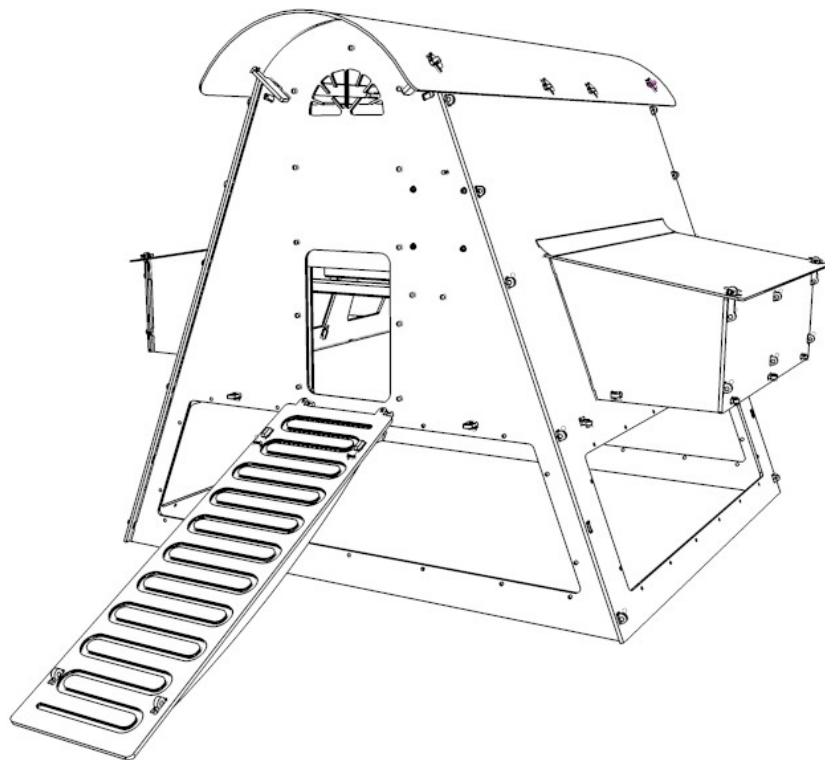




## HOW TO ASSEMBLE, USE AND CARE FOR YOUR Chicken Loft (Medium) VSB



## RECYCLED & RECYCLABLE

Products from green frog designs are made, wherever possible, from materials that are recycled. Where this is not practical, we always try to use materials that are suitable for recycling.

Our plastic is made from recycled waste plastic, predominantly plastic wrapping and carrier bags. By choosing our products, rather than those made from virgin plastic, you are helping to restrict the amount of new plastic being made. We recycle all our waste plastic and, of course, our products themselves can be recycled (if they ever wear out!!).

The recycled plastic we use is incredibly tough, but is as easily worked as wood. There is no need for preservative treatment with insecticides or fungicides, and structures won't splinter or crack, so they retain their structural integrity well. The plastic is resistant to UV light, so it retains its colour well, and is pretty much impervious to atmospheric pollutants and seasonal climatic actions such as freeze-thaw. It insulates quite well, and is also resistant to chewing. These properties mean that it retains its appearance, colour and functionality for much longer than timber.

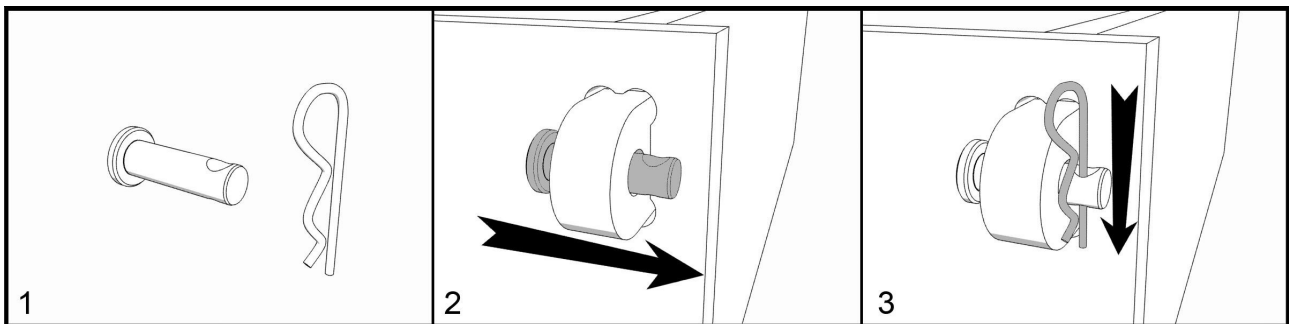
The sheets of recycled plastic have a very uniform thickness, and so are ideally suited to our high-technology manufacturing process, which uses computer-controlled machines to cut shapes to accuracies better than 0.1mm.

We also use some metal components to fix parts together. The metals used are either stainless steel or other rust-resistant alloy, so they have a very long lifetime. They are also suitable for recycling.

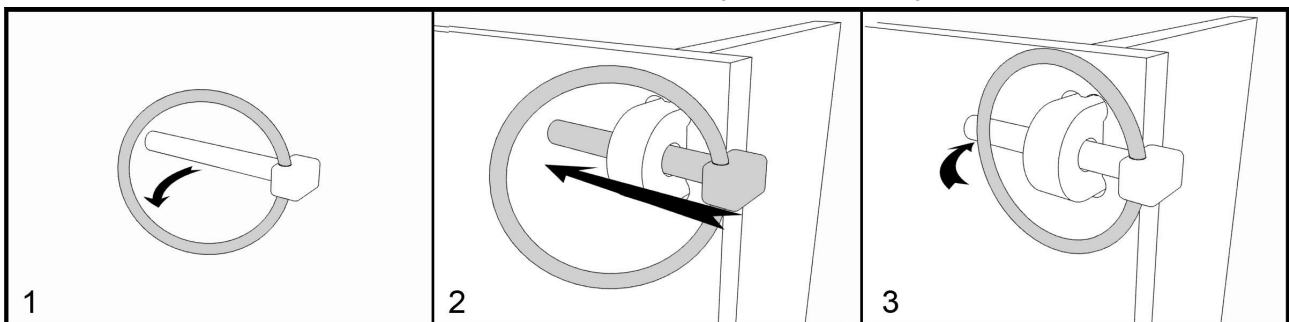
Our packaging and literature is all made from recycled materials wherever possible. For example, assembly instructions are printed on recycled paper, and we use recycled plastic bubble-wrap in our packaging. Even our business cards are made from 80% recycled card.

In other words: **Fun, functional products that don't cost the Earth!**

### HOW TO FIT A CLEVIS PIN (WHERE USED)

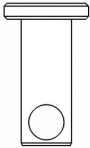

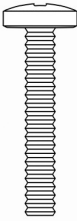
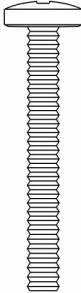

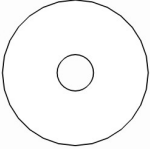

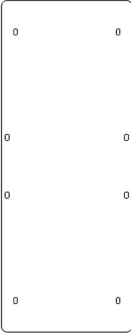


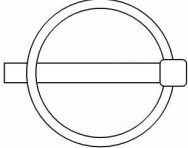
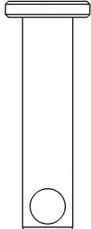
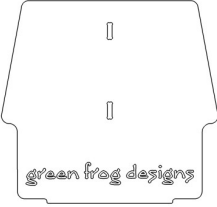
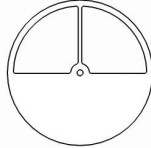
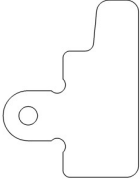


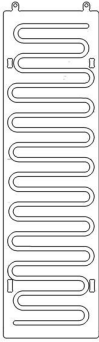

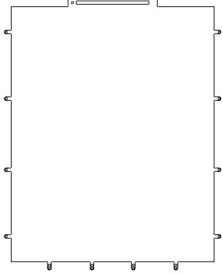


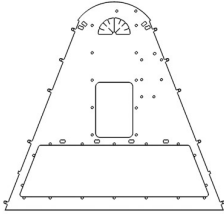
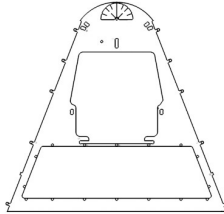
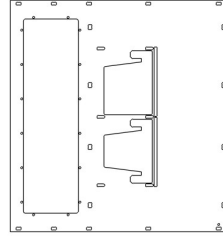
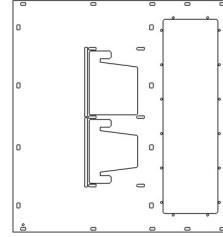

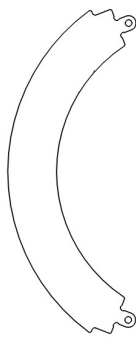
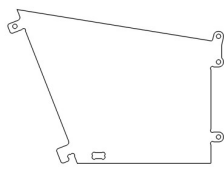
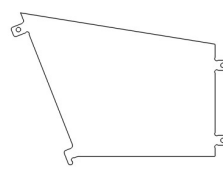
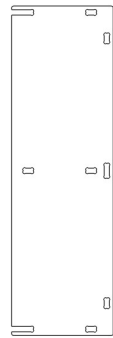
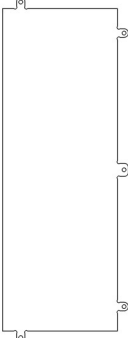
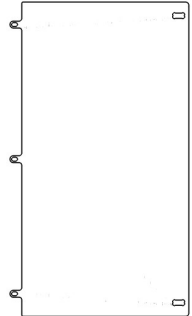
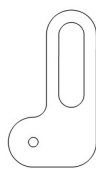


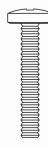

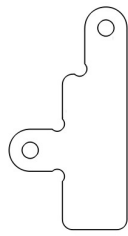

### HOW TO FIT A LINCH PIN (WHERE USED)



You only need to move the ring slightly away from the bar. They are designed to spring closed, so watch your fingers!

**PARTS (Not to scale)**

				
<b>72x</b> Medium Clevis Pin	<b>78x</b> 6mm R-Clip	<b>7x</b> 30mm M6 Screw	<b>16x</b> 40mm M6 Screw	<b>23x</b> Standard M6 Washer
				
<b>5x</b> 25mm M6 washer	<b>23x</b> M6 Nylock Nut	<b>1x</b> Roof	<b>1x</b> Back Door Handle	<b>3x</b> Perch
		 <i>green frog designs</i>		
<b>24x</b> Linch Pin	<b>6x</b> Long Clevis Pin	<b>1x</b> Back Door	<b>1x</b> Vent Cover	<b>2x</b> Door Retainer
				
<b>2x</b> Thin Door Retainer	<b>2x</b> Thick Door Retainer	<b>1x</b> Ramp	<b>2x</b> Ramp Brace	<b>1x</b> Base

				
1x Front Wall	1x Back Wall	1x Left Side Wall	1x Right Side Wall	2x Roof Brace
				
1x Roof Arch	4x Nest Box Sides (Mirrored pairs)	2x Nest Box Divider	2x Nest Box Front	2x Nest Box Base
				
2x Nest Box Roof	1x Door Lock	4x M4 Mini Washer	4x M4 Nylock Nut	4x 25mm M4 Screw
			<p><b>ALSO NEEDED:</b>  1 x VSB Control Unit  1 x VSB External Sensor  4 x VSB Pulley  1 x Hen House Gate  1 x Spare Cord</p>	
2x Weather Seal (Long)	4x Small Roof Bracket	2x Large Roof Bracket	[Available Separately]	

## DIMENSIONS

Dimensions: External 124(w) x 118(h) x 120(d) cm (excluding ramp)  
Accommodation Size (max): 91(w) x 77(h) x 115(d) cm (excluding nest boxes)  
Perch Length: 3 x 69 cm

## TOOLS REQUIRED

Sharp knife (e.g. Stanley Knife) or Sand Paper  
Large size cross head screwdriver  
10mm ring spanner (or socket wrench or adjustable spanner)  
Small flat-bladed screwdriver (optional)  
Silicone Sealant

## PRE-ASSEMBLY CHECKS

Prior to assembly, check that you have all the required parts. Please be aware that, being a recycled material, some minor surface blemishes or defects may have occurred during manufacture. These will not affect the functionality of your product.

Trim any excess plastic using sand paper or a sharp knife. **(NOTE: Be careful to cut away from yourself.)**

If any parts are missing, please email [sales@greenfrogdesigns.co.uk](mailto:sales@greenfrogdesigns.co.uk)

Please state the part number, quantity missing, your phone number and your full postal address.

## SPARE PARTS

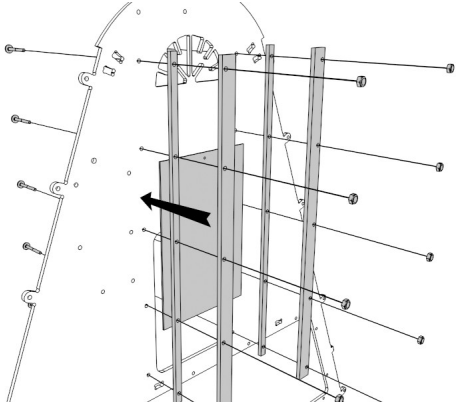
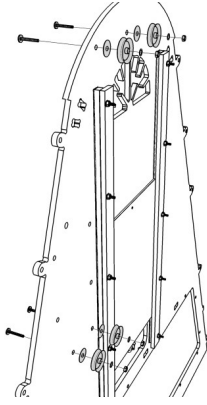
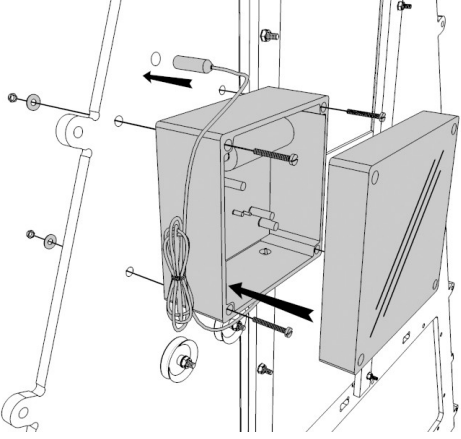
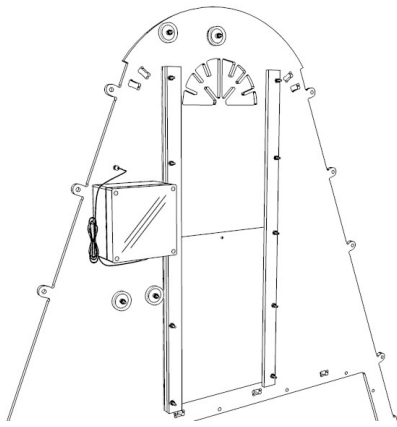
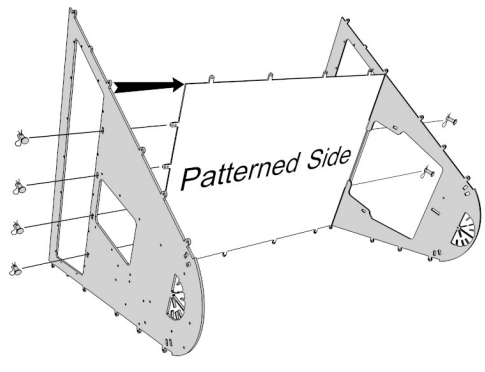
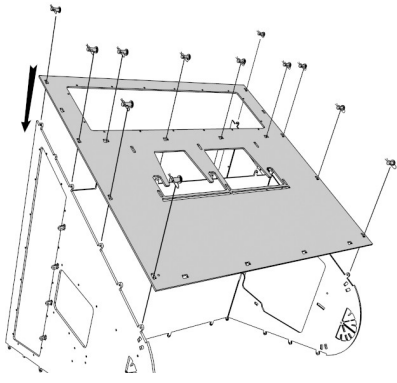
Spare parts are available to order online via our website: [www.greenfrogdesigns.co.uk](http://www.greenfrogdesigns.co.uk)

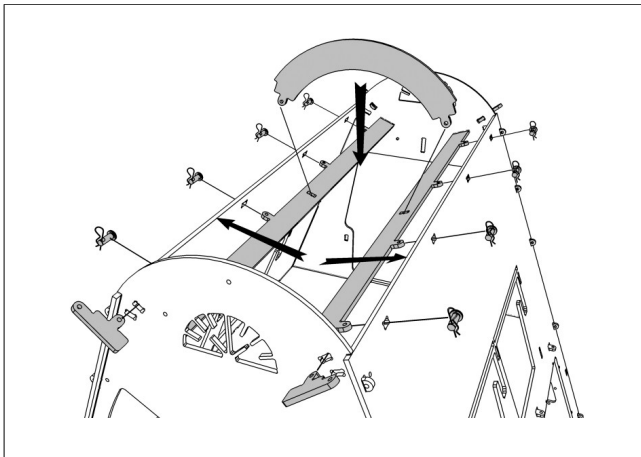
## IMPORTANT NOTES

**Due to the size and weight of the Chicken Loft, we recommend that it is built on site.**

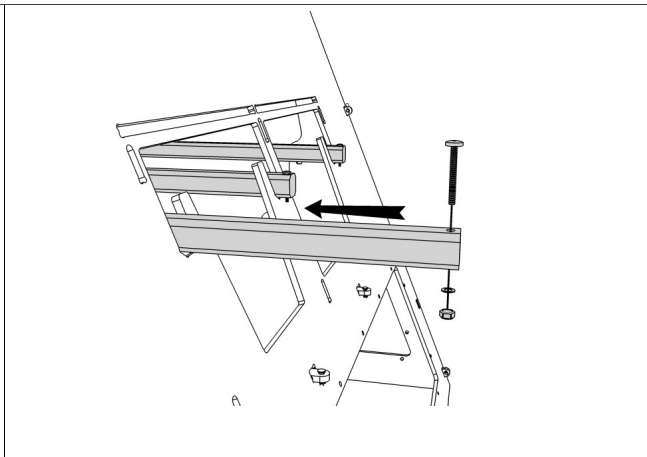
If it needs to be moved, carry weight can be reduced by temporary removal of the Nest Boxes and Roofs, and the Roof Panel.

## HOW TO ASSEMBLE

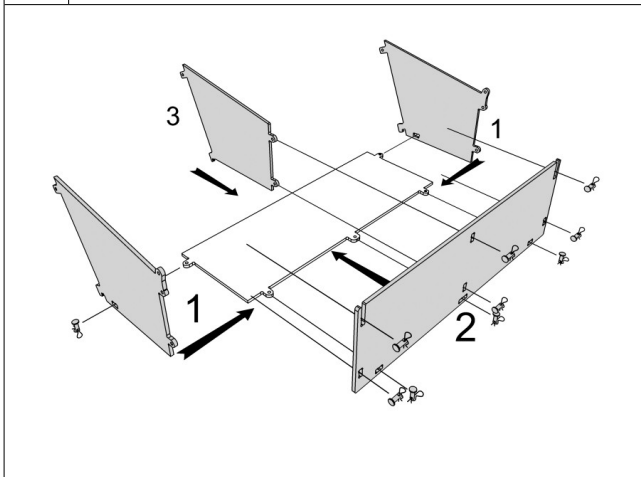
	
<p><b>1</b> Fit the <b>Thin Door Retainers</b> and then the <b>Thick Door Retainers</b> into the holes in the Non-Patterned side of the <b>Front Wall</b>, using <b>40mm Screws</b> and secure using a <b>Nylock Nuts</b>. Slide the door into position (hole at top).</p>	<p><b>2</b> Fit the four <b>Pulleys</b> to the holes in the Non-Patterned side of the <b>Front wall</b> using <b>30mm Screws</b>, <b>25mm Washers</b>, <b>Standard Washers</b> and <b>Nylock Nuts</b> as shown. Do not tighten the nuts – the pulleys must rotate freely.</p>
	
<p><b>3</b> Attach the <b>VSB box</b> to the four holes in the non-patterned side of the <b>Front Wall</b> using the small <b>M4 Screws</b>, <b>Washers</b> and <b>Nylock Nuts</b> provided with it, then fit the <b>VSB Cover</b> (To protect it during the build). The Cable and Cord holes should be to the bottom. Fit the Light Sensor partway through the remaining hole (secure later with a dab of clear silicone sealant). <b>Note:</b> Do not insert the batteries at this time.</p>	<p><b>4</b> The VSB unit is now fitted. The Cord that attaches to the door is fitted near the end of the build.</p>
	
<p><b>5</b> With the panels positioned as shown, attach the <b>Back Wall</b> and then the <b>Front Wall</b> to the <b>Base</b> using <b>Medium Clevis Pins</b> and <b>R-Clips</b>. Both walls should have the patterned side outermost.</p>	<p><b>6</b> Attach the <b>Right Side Wall</b> (pattern outermost) using <b>Clevis Pins</b> and <b>R-Clips</b>. Carefully turn the assembly over, and repeat for the <b>Left Side Wall</b>. Then turn the Left back onto its base.</p>



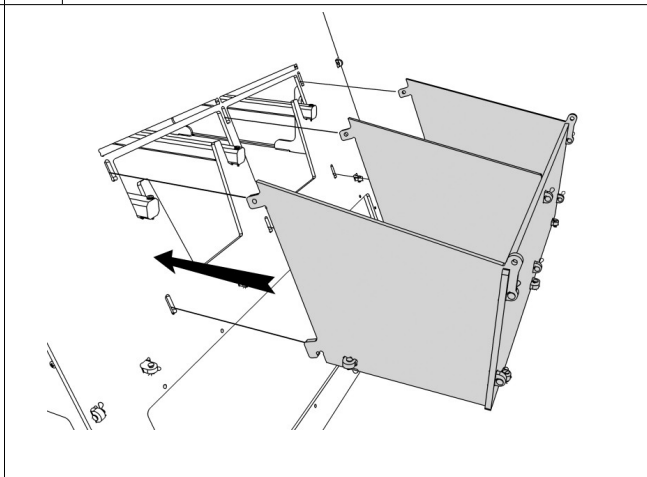
**7** Attach the **Roof Braces** and **Small Roof Brackets** using **Clevis Pins** and **R-Clips**. Use **Long Clevis Pins** for the two middle lugs on each brace. Start at one end and bend the bar to fit the other end tab – some force is required. Fit the **Roof Arch** using **Clevis Pins** and **R-Clips**.



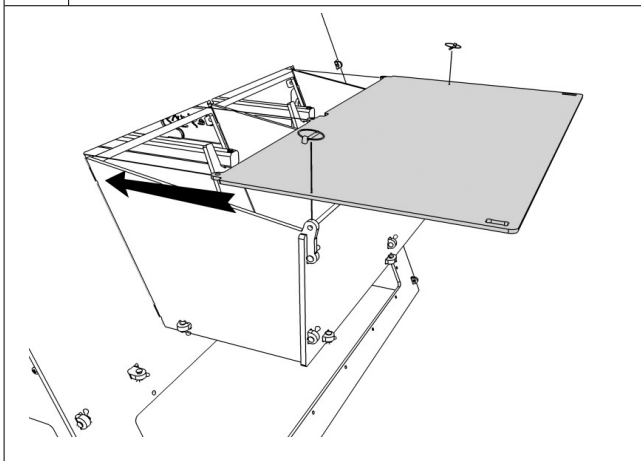
**8** Fit a **40mm Screw** to each end of the 3 **Perches** and secure with a **Standard Washer** and **Locknut**. Place the perches in the perch rests.



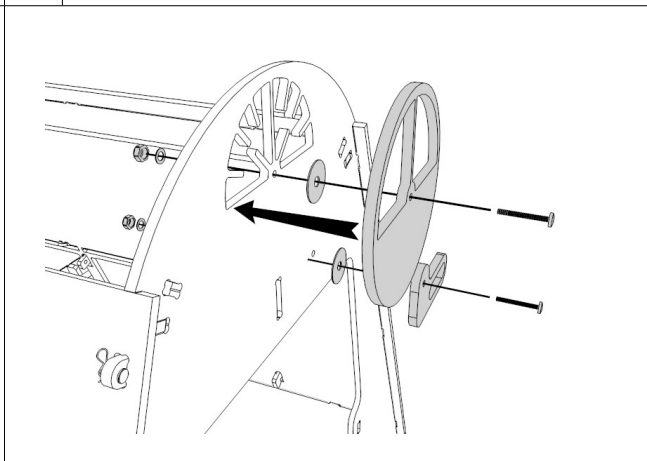
**9** Fit the Nest Box together using **Clevis Pins** and **R-Clips**. Fit the **Nest Box Sides** to the **Nest Box Base** first, then the **Nest Box Front** (all with pattern outermost) and finally the **Nest Box Divider**.



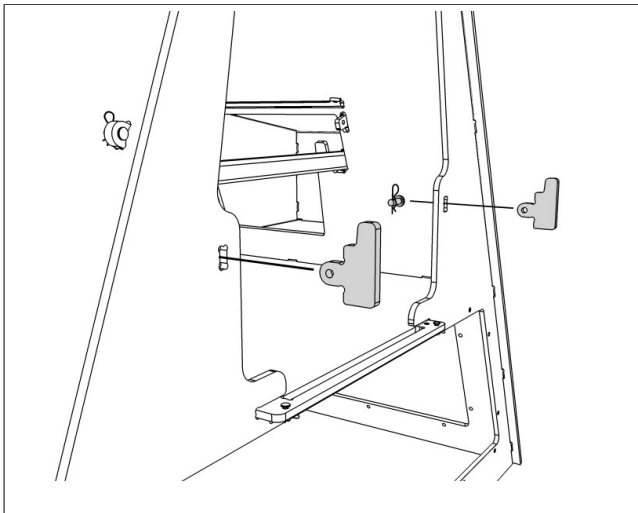
**10** Fit the nest box to the house by first inserting the L-lugs into the lower holes on the **Side Wall**, then tilting the nest box to push the three upper lugs through their holes, before securing them inside the main house with **Linch Pins** (not shown).



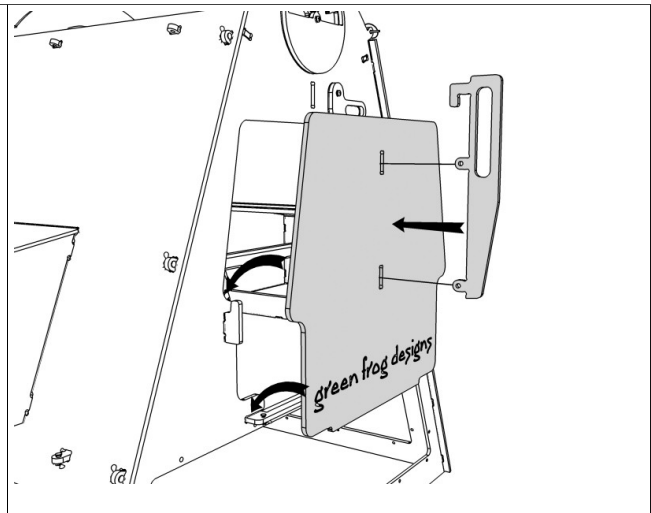
**11** Fit the **Nest Box Roof** by pushing its lugs through the holes in the **Side Wall** and secure it with **Linch Pins** inside the main house. Two more **Linch Pins** are used outside – these can be quickly removed for daily access to the nest box.  
Repeat steps **7** to **9** for the other nest box.



**12** Fit the **Vent Cover** to the **Back Wall** using an **M6x30mm screw**, a **standard washer**, a **25mm washer** and a **Nylock nut**. Tighten the nut until the vent can rotate using gentle pressure. It should not spin freely.  
Fit the **Door Lock** using an **M6x30mm screw**, a **standard washer**, a **25mm washer** and a **Nylock nut**.



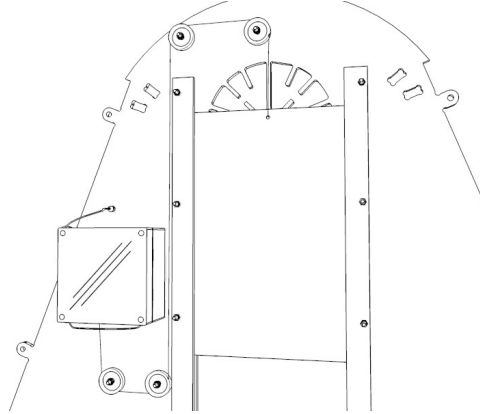
**13** Fit the **Door Retainers** to the **Back Wall** using Clevis Pins and R-Clips.



**14** Fit the **Back Door Handle** to the **Back Door** using **Medium Clevis Pins** and **R-Clips**. Fit the **Rear Door** by lowering the bottom of the door into the slots in the **Base** ensuring that the door slides down behind the **Door Retainers**. Slide the **Back Door Handle** downwards to hold the door in position. Secure it by rotating the **Door Lock**.

**15**

**SETTING UP THE VSB ELECTRONIC DOORKEEPER**



Before mounting the Electronic Doorkeeper, it is essential to read through the following instructions carefully, while reviewing the images that follow.

Do **NOT** bend or "straighten" any of the internal parts of the VSB unit!

Do **NOT** apply any voltage to contacts 3 or 6 or damage will occur!

Do **NOT** carry out any functional tests before mounting the Doorkeeper.

**Checking the VSB unit**

Install four AA batteries. The blue lead from the battery holder should be connected to pin 1A (marked with a blue dot) and the red lead to Pin 2A (red dot). The cord should **not** be connected to the door at this stage. Open the VSB control unit and cover the light sensor (marked **R2**) on the circuit board with the black plastic cap to simulate darkness. (**WARNING:** The light sensor is only attached to the circuit board by very fine wires. Place and remove the cap **very gently**, or you will break these wires and render the VSB unit inoperative). Draw out the cord a few inches by gently pulling the free end. It should stop when you release the pressure. This simulates the door lowering and then releasing the tension on the cord when it is in the fully down position. If it does not operate, check the battery connections and repeat. Wait for a few minutes, and then uncover the light sensor. The cord should fully retract until the small bead by the loop in the cord enters the control unit, and then the motor should stop. This is the 'door fully up' (i.e. open) position. If, following these checks, the unit does not operate properly, please call us for assistance.

**Attaching the door**

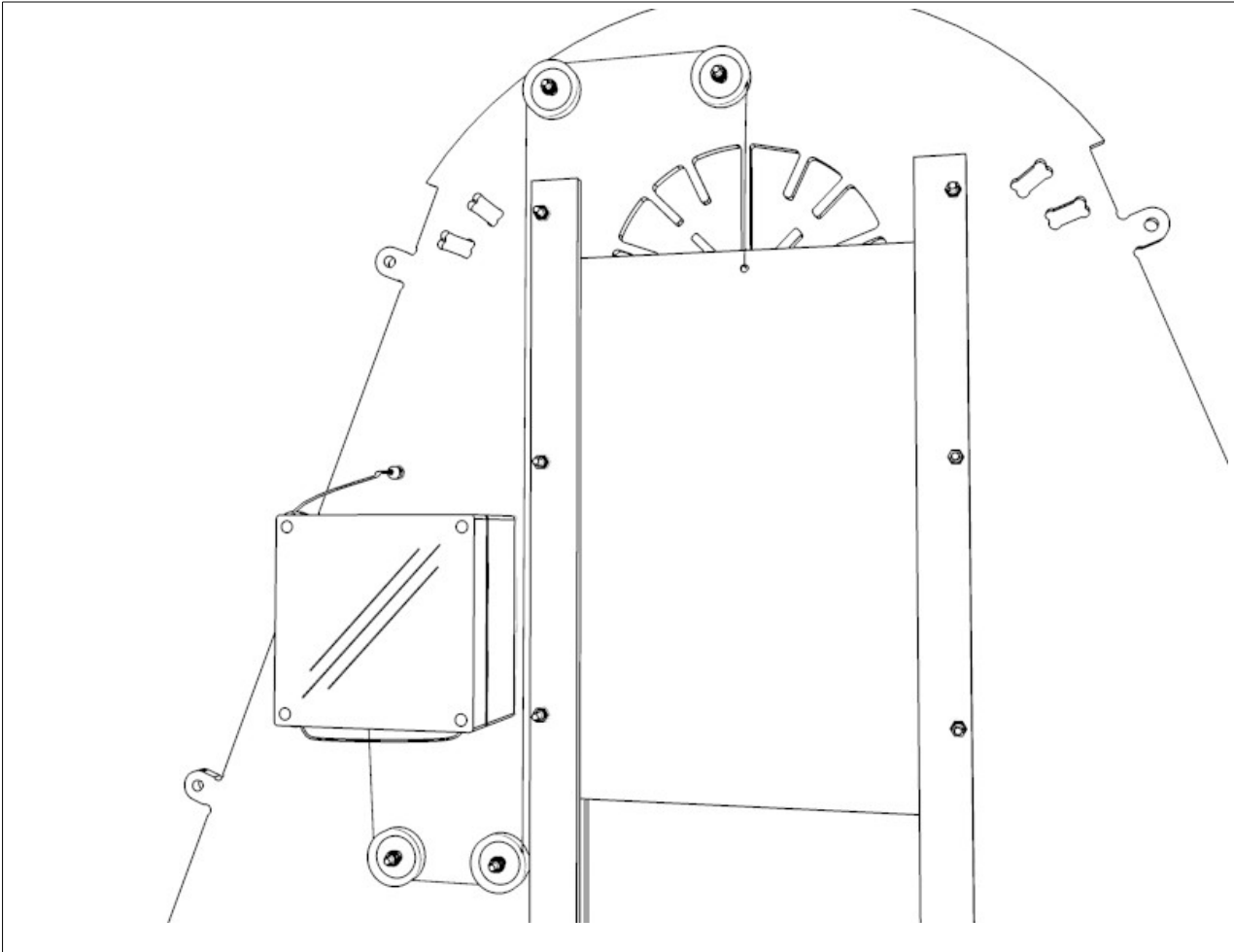
This should be done with the cord fully retracted into the VSB control unit ( i.e. in its 'door fully up' position). Use a spare piece of string or sticky tape to temporarily hold the metal door in the fully open (i.e. up) position. Take the length of additional cord supplied and tie one end to the hole in the top of the door. Route the cord round the pulleys as shown in the diagram and, ensuring that there is about 1cm of slack, tie the other end to the loop of cord at the VSB unit. It is vital to have some slack, as the button on the cord **must** operate the micro-switch inside the control unit **before** the door comes into contact with the pulley.

**Testing opening and closing**

Remove the string holding the door open, and then cover the sensor with the cap to simulate darkness. The door should now lower completely and stop in the fully closed position (this is automatically detected by the VSB unit when the weight on the end of the cord becomes less than 200g). Wait a few minutes and then uncover the sensor. After a few minutes, the cord should begin to rewind into the VSB unit and the door should rise until it is fully open.

### Fitting the external light sensor

Refit the black plastic cap, ensuring that it fully covers the internal light sensor (this cap must remain in place during the normal working of the VSB unit when the external sensor is fitted). Connect the external light sensor to pins 5 and 6 in the VSB unit (either way round). **Note:** Ensure that the remote sensor wires do not foul any part of the VSB mechanism, cord or pulleys.



### Cautionary Notes

Do not move, block or restrict any parts of the VSB unit. Be ready to disconnect the power if the unit does not shut off when the door reaches the fully open position.

If the door is blocked or the load exceeds 5 kg, the motor in the VSB should stop within seconds. When a blockage is removed, (or if the timer/sensor indicates otherwise) the motor will switch on again within 3 minutes. Strain on the battery is negligible.

**Note:** It is important that the external sensor be shielded from any artificial light sources, or it may open unexpectedly.

### Varying the sensitivity

Sensitivity can be adjusted using the potentiometer above pins 5 and 6 (it has a white slot that takes a small flat-bladed screwdriver). This has been set in the factory so that the sliding gate door is closed relatively early. If it is still **too bright** when this happens, turn the potentiometer **clockwise** and check the operation again. Continue to adjust as necessary. (**WARNING:** Be gentle when turning the potentiometer – excess force will cause damage).

### Pull cord servicing

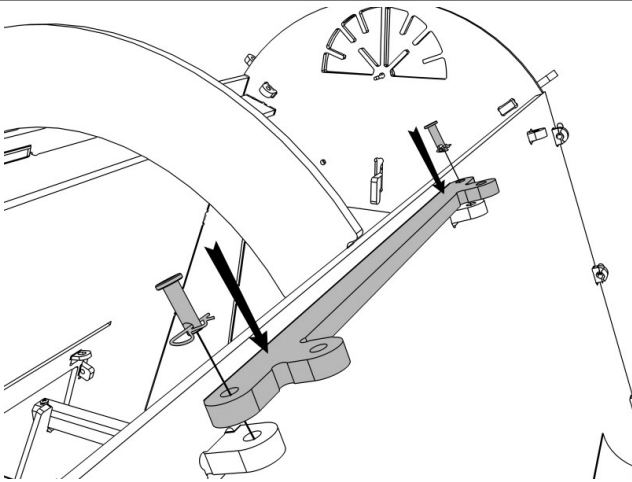
Check the condition of the pull cord at regular intervals. The pull cord should have a service life of about 10 years, but eventually the cord may break. To replace the cord, cover the light sensor to simulate darkness and draw out the complete cord by gently pulling the free end. Do **not** pull the cord with significant force. Replace the old cord with a new one (nylon fishing line is ideal) carefully following the routing of the cord within the VSB unit, ensuring that the knot is in the same place as before. Then uncover the sensor and allow the cord to be rewound into the VSB unit.

### Maintenance

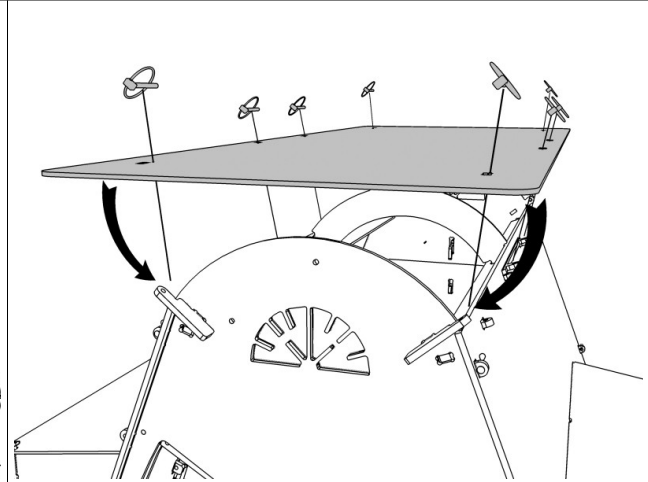
No routine servicing is required. Batteries should be replaced every 12 months. You can apply a very small amount of spray grease to the bearing bolts of the plastic gears if they should generate severe noise. Do **not** lubricate the pull cord.

**Battery-powered timer BS (Optional extra)**

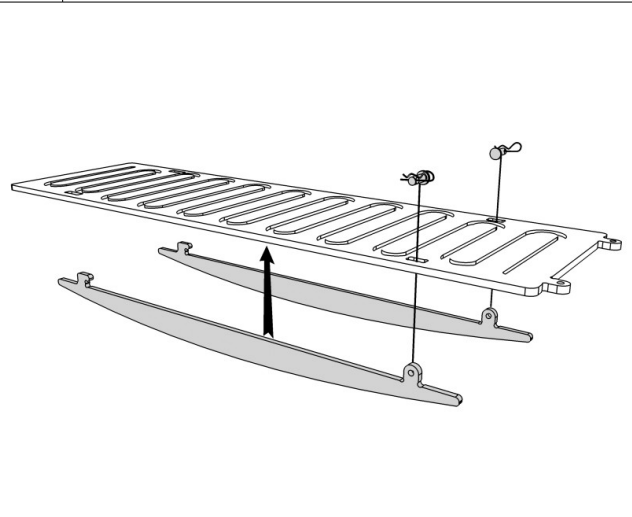
A battery-powered timer (BS) can be used to open and close the sliding gate door according to a time setting or to open it according to a time setting and close it in response to light conditions at dusk. Fitting details are available on request.



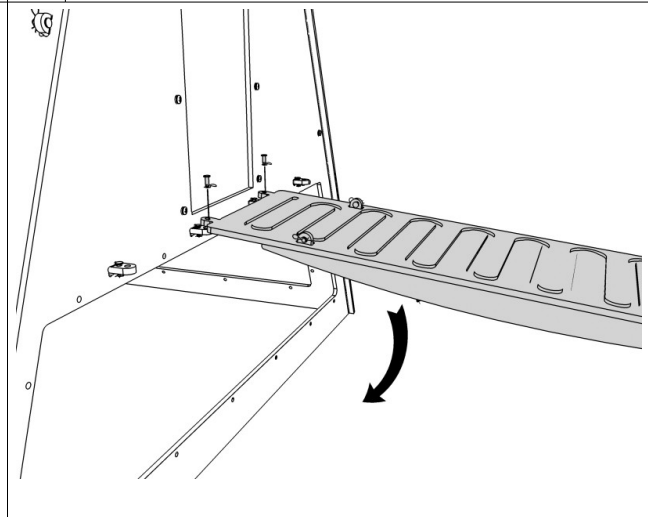
**16** Attach the two **Large Roof Brackets** above the centre two lugs on the **Roof Braces** using the **Long Clevis Pins** and **R-Clips** already in place.



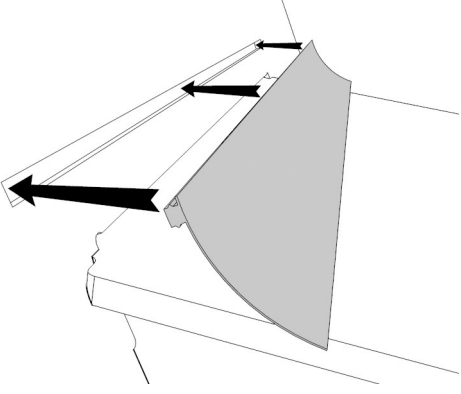
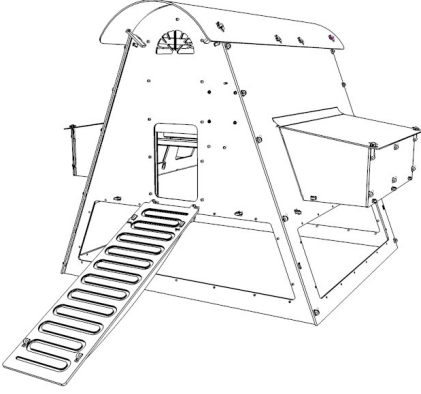
**17** Fit the **Roof** using **Linch Pins**. Fix the centre first, then bend the sides down over the remaining lugs. Do the ends first, followed by the middle. Some force may be required when the roof is fitted for the first time.



**18** Attach the **Ramp Braces** to the **Ramp** using two **Medium Clevis Pins** and **R-Clips**.



**19** Fit the **Ramp** in front of the doorway using the two **Long Clevis Pins** and **R-Clips**. Lift it to fit, and then allow it to tilt to the ground under its own weight.

	
<p><b>20</b> Push the <b>Weather Seals</b> fully home into the slots above the <b>Nest Boxes</b> (Note: you may need to trim them to the correct length first). Start at one end and work your way along, pushing firmly. It may help to lubricate with a little washing-up liquid.</p>	<p><b>21</b> You've finished - Have a cup of tea!</p>

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

The Loft should be sited in a sheltered area with the front facing away from prevailing winds. The Vent should be adjusted to provide adequate ventilation.

Your chickens are likely to shelter under the house. Added protection can be provided by fitting metal mesh panels into the cutouts low on the sides and ends using cable ties (mesh and ties are not included as standard).

The rear door provides access for inspection, for replacing of shavings/straw and regular cleaning. For thorough cleaning, the entire roof and nest boxes can be removed. We recommend thorough cleaning at least every 3 months - a pressure washer is ideal for removal of caked on dirt, but an ordinary hosepipe and scrubbing brush will do. The plastic is quite easy to clean. Finish by applying Poultry Shield (or similar) and leave to dry.