How to Build a Latrine: Step-by-Step Instructions and Tips

1. Dig a pit in the ground

The pit should be dug:
- At least 6 meters away from kitchen or homestead
- 30 meters from water sources
- In the back of the dwelling house for privacy purposes

2. Masonry work

Build 10 to 20 centimeters mud masonry work above the ground.

If the masonry work is difficult, put a basket made of bamboo or cane into the pit.

3. Make a pit cover or slab and make a squatting hole

Put woods or logs on top of the pit and make sure that the woods or logs are 50 centimeters long from each side of pit mouth and cover the whole pit with woods or logs leaving a 15 cm X 20 cm space at the centre of the pit for squatting (crouching).

Then construct a superstructure and a roof with locally made materials and plaster the wall with mud or cow dung.

4. Prepare a latrine cover and hand washing station

Prepare a cover for the squatting hole and a hand washing facility (tippy-tap).

Hang the tippy-tap on the wall of the latrine outside

Counseling Card 6: How to Build a Latrine: Small Doable Actions on How Build a Latrine

1. Dig a pit in the ground. The pit should be dug:
• At least 6 meters away from kitchen or homestead
• 30 meters from water sources
• In the back of the dwelling house for privacy purposes The pit should be narrow at the bottom and wider at the mouth. The size of the pit's mouth should be 90 centimeters diameter; the depth depends on the type of soil but the depth should not exceed 3 meters deep.

2. Build 10 to 20 centimeters mud masonry work above the ground. If the masonry work is difficult, put a basket made of bamboo or cane into the pit

3. Make a pit cover or slab and make a squatting hole Put woods or logs on top of the pit and make sure that the woods or logs are 50 centimeters long from each side of pit mouth and cover the whole pit with woods or logs leaving a 15 cm X 20 cm space at the centre of the pit for squatting (crouching)

4. Then construct a superstructure and a roof with locally made materials and plaster the wall with mud or cow dung.

5. Prepare a cover for the squatting hole and a hand washing facility (tippy-tap).Hang the tippy-tap on the wall of the latrine outside

Remember to:
• Keep the latrine clean and do the repair when maintenance is needed.
• Wash hands with ash or soap and water after using a pit latrine.
• Put a handful of ash into the pit each time after using latrine to prevent the bad smell (odor) that comes out from the pit latrine