

## How To Build A Scratching Post

Here is a list of the supplies needed (These supplies can be purchased at any building supply store).

- One cedar post that is about 30" tall and at least 4" in diameter
- A bundle of non-oiled sisal rope measuring a 1/2" wide (you can also use "Manila rope)
- A piece of 3/4" plywood to make the base sturdy (at least 16 x 16 diameter)
- 1/2" roofing nails
- Four 3/4" 16d coated sinker nails

The reasoning behind this cat post is simple. A post should be as high as your cat is tall when he is fully stretched out plus a few inches. The post should also be wide enough that your cat can sit on top and survey his surroundings. The base should be sturdy enough that the post will not tip over. Once a post tips over on a cat it is very hard to convince a cat to use the post again. The post should be wrapped with sisal rope because cats like something to dig their nails into.

**DIRECTIONS:** Before beginning you will want to make sure your post is dry so that there will not be any shrinking of the post after the sisal is wrapped on. To make the post you might want to wear a pair of work gloves when you wrap the sisal around the post. To start you will want to nail the beginning of your rope all the way around the top of the post. Then you wind the rope around and around and around the post very tightly so that there is no air space between the pieces of rope. This process will take you all the way down to the bottom, once again nail the end of your rope all the way around the bottom of the post. Next you will want to nail the base on to the post, use about four nails and pound them through the bottom of the plywood base and into the bottom of the post. You now have a cat approved scratching post!