

About Barbara Butler Playhouses, Play Structures and Tree Forts for Residential Use

It is all about giving you choices!

Both pre-designed and custom-designed structures available

- **Materials:** We make our play structures from natural materials: redwood lumber, that we grind smooth (to prevent splinters), hand-carve and then finish in beautiful non-toxic, tung-oil stains (both inside and out) in the color palette of your choice. We route the ends of all footing posts and wrap with powder-coated metal sleeves to prevent contact with the ground. We use sustainable materials that will last a lifetime. Please check out our [green](#) section on our website.
- **Design:** We offer both standard (pre-designed) and custom-designed:
 - Our **standard** structures, such as our [Play Forts](#) & [Playhouses](#), can be purchased exactly as seen on our website. You select your layout and color palette. We provide a plan view showing the structure from an overview prospective and the recommended "use zone" for bark chip or other resilient surface material of your choice. Because we build to order, even our pre-designed structures are very flexible, allowing you a great amount of choice up front.
 - Barbara's specialty, however, is working with the family to design a **custom play structure** or **treehouse** that fits the landscape and everyone's "wish list". The goal is to complete the entire design process within an 18 to 24 design-hour time range. If you are interested in a custom design, please let us know and we will send you our Design Agreement. Barbara's design hours are charged at a rate of \$95 per hour and we request a \$2,400 retainer.
 - For out-of-state locations, we recommend a weekend site visit & follow-up correspondence (Barbara's favorite way)! We can also look at scheduling a design visit when Barbara is going to be in your area in order to minimize any travel expenses.
- **Fabrication & Lead-time:** Because we make our play structures to order, the lead-time is generally 6 to 10 weeks (depending on size & complexity of your structure) from date of signed Construction Agreement to date of shipment. During this period of time, we will create or modify the AutoCAD construction documents, grind the lumber smooth, build to your specifications, carve, hand-stain and then pre-assemble your play structure at our shop to ensure a perfect fit. We then detail (hang all the doors & shutters, add the rock holds, trims, play features and play accessories), disassemble and apply a clear coat of protective tung-oil in preparation for shipping.
- **Delivery & Installation:** We design and build each play structure using our unique modular system, for easier delivery and assembly:
 - **Delivery:** For shipments within the continental United States, we deliver by truck. Each piece is "blanket-wrapped" for protection. Our crew will unload everything and walk all pieces into your yard.
If you live out-of-state, we will provide a quote for delivery via a commercial carrier. Or, we may have one of our own trucks already scheduled to travel near your area on its way to another job. Our driver is a skilled builder/installer. If you are flexible on your delivery date and can wait for delivery until our truck is ready to go, then this cost is generally 20% less than the cost of delivery via a commercial carrier.
 - **Installation:** When possible, we offer several installation options: 1) full crew installation, 2) one of our skilled builders/installers working with your crew, and 3) detailed, written assembly instructions. Costs vary depending on size and complexity of play structure, location, ease of access to the site, difficulty of terrain and type of installation chosen.
- **International:** We have extensive experience shipping and installing outside of the United States. Past project locations include Canada, England, France, Amsterdam, Saudi Arabia & South Korea.

Please let us know if you have any additional questions. We will be happy to help.

Barbara Butler Artist-Builder Inc.

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