

# HASTINGS - MACLEAY INDIAN MYNA CONTROL PROJECT

Community working together to help reduce the impacts of the Indian Myna



**Project officer:** Justine Elder

**Phone:** 0428 864 465

**Address:** Hastings Landcare: 44 Cameron St, PO Box 126, WAUCHOPE NSW 2446

Macleay Landcare: 1/80 Belgrave St, Kemspey , PO Box 3048, West Kempsey NSW 2440

**Email:** myna@macleaylandcare.org.au

**Web:** www.indianmynaproject.com.au

## PEE GEE'S MYNA TRAP

Peter Green from the Canberra Indian Myna Group designed the Pee Gee's Myna Trap to trap Indian Mynas and Starlings.

Users of the trap must commit to the humane euthanasia of captured Indian Mynas.

It is extremely important that correct advice and procedures for trapping be sought as incorrect technique can lead to trap shyness of birds, and will compromise the trapping program for all.

More information about trapping and euthanasia is available on our website

[www.indianmynaproject.net.au](http://www.indianmynaproject.net.au) , or by contacting the project officer on 0428 864 465.

### DESIGN

The trap has two chambers, a **small** feeding cage and a **large** holding cage. These come apart for ease of transportation, but are clipped together when the trap is in operation.

Both cages have access doors. There are two walk in tunnels in the feeding cage and a vertical funnel in the holding cage. An opening in the small, feeding cage corresponds to the opening for the vertical funnel in the holding cage. Elastic and/or hooks are used to fasten the cages together and to secure the doors.



### MATERIALS

- Cage Mesh: 90 cm wide, 25mm x 25mm x 1.24mm (Whites Wires has 5m ,10m & 30m rolls available)  
Roll of 10 m X 90cm wide Cage wire makes 3 traps.
- Good wire cutters/ Diags
- 16mm Netting clips and netting clip pliers
- Long nose pliers to put it all together.
- Tie Wire
- Shade cloth



### CUTTING

#### **Small Feeding Cage**

Finished cage will measure 16 x 16 squares x 13 squares tall.

Body: Cut one 13 x 64 squares

Ends: Cut two 16 x 16 squares

Door: Cut one 6 x 9 squares

Tunnels: Cut two 14 x 7 squares

#### **Large Holding Cage**

Finished cage will measure 16 x 16 squares x 22 squares tall.

Body: Cut one 23 x 64 squares

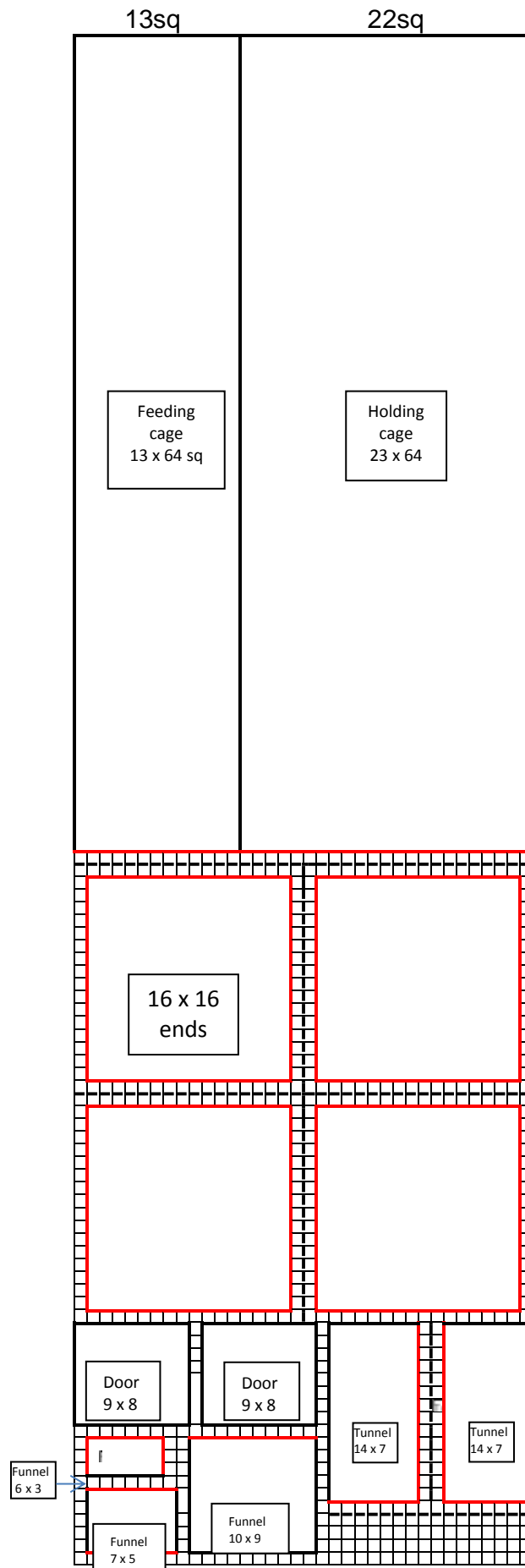
Ends: Cut two 16 x 16 squares

Door: Cut one 6 x 9 Squares

Funnel: 3 Components: 10 x 9 squares, 7x 5 squares and 6 x 3 squares

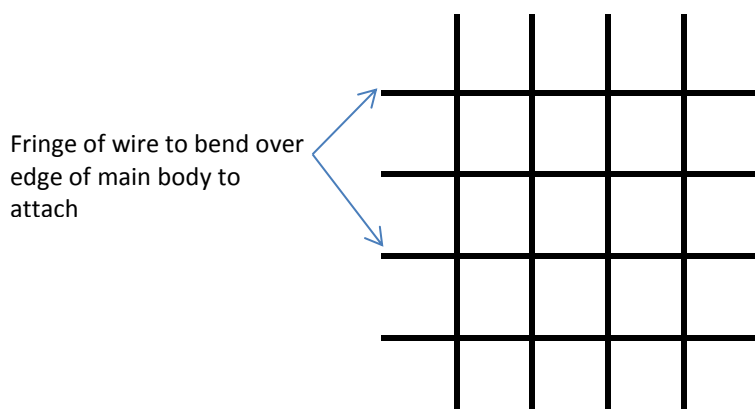


Suggested template for cutting (red edge requires a fringe)



STEP 1 - Cut all pieces from wire roll as per template above.

When cutting the main body pieces leave a fringe of wires on one short edge to close the box with.  
When cutting all other pieces leave a fringe of wire around each side to attach piece to main box.



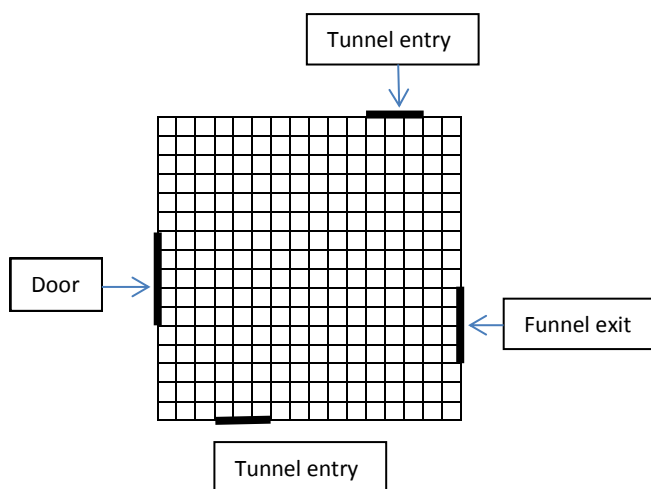
### STEP 2 – CUT AND BEND THE BODY PANELS

After cutting the body panels for the feeding and holding cages, using a hard edge make three folds to form the four walls of the cage. Use the fringe of wires to bend over other edge to close the box.

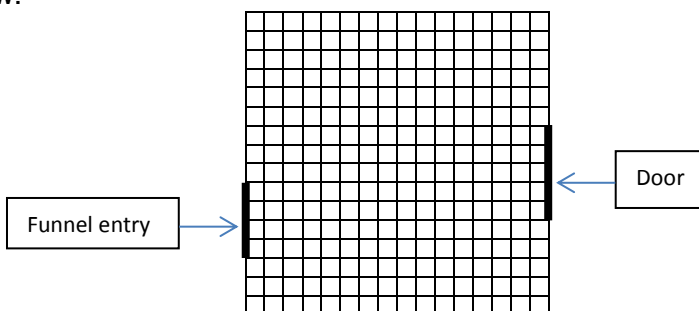
### STEP 3 - ATTACH END PIECES

Use long nose pliers to bend the fringe wire on the end pieces around the solid edge of the walls.

Feeding cage plan view:



Holding cage plan view:



#### STEP 4 – DOOR CONSTRUCTION

Fold edges one square in on door pieces (9 x 8) to strengthen doors making a 7 x 6 door.

Feeding cage:

- Cut 5 x 5 square opening half way along one side of feeding cage. Leaving the base edge intact and counting from the base up. The door should be fitted at ground level in the feeding cage to allow for Bluetongue lizards to go through the trap rather than have to climb over wire.
- Arrange door so that the vertical and top edges of the door overlap by 1 square. Attach door to the base using 3 – 4 netting clips.
- Fit elastic and/or hooks made from tie wire to top of door to fix firmly to body of cage.

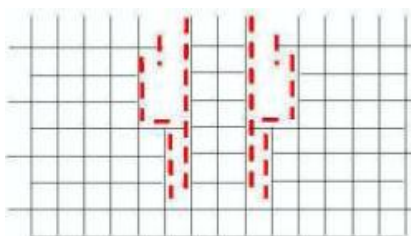
Holding cage:

- Cut 5 x 5 square opening for door, half way up one side and in the middle.
- Arrange door so that vertical and top edges of the door overlap by 1 square. Attach door to the base of opening using 3 – 4 netting clips.
- Fit elastic and/or hooks made from tie wire to top of door to fix firmly to body of cage.

#### STEP 5: TUNNEL CONSTRUCTION

Two entrance tunnels will be fitted in the small feeding cage.

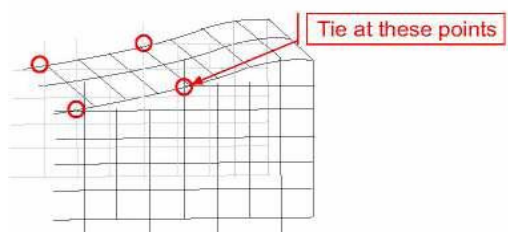
1. Cut two 3 x 6 square openings for tunnels on sides adjacent to doorway. These should be offset (see plan view).
2. In the two 14 X 7 squares of wire cut for tunnels, cut as shown by red line, leaving end wires as shown below.



3. Fold at right angles at 2 remaining squares.



4. Slightly bend down narrow strip between the two sides and tie off using end wires.



5. Clip or tie large end inside the openings in the small feeding cage.



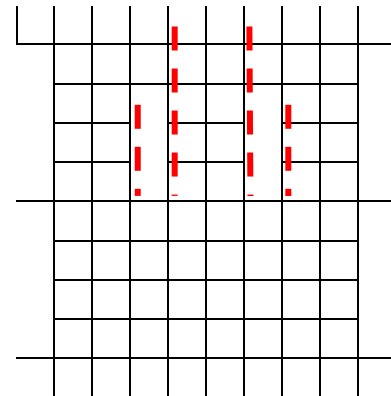
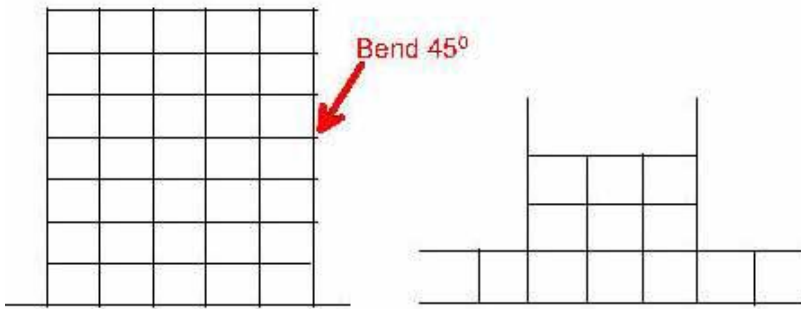
## STEP 6 - MAKE AND TIE IN VERTICAL FUNNEL IN THE HOLDING CAGE

Funnel assembly components (3 pieces)

Cut 7X5 squares as shown  
(Valve)

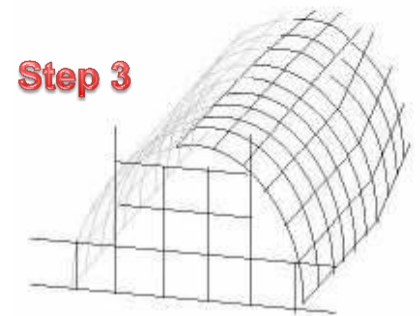
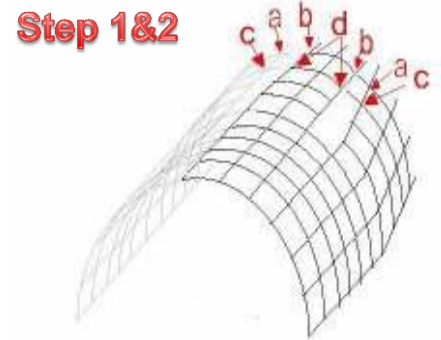
Cut 6 x 3 squares as shown  
(Bottom)

Cut 10 x 9 squares as shown  
(Body)

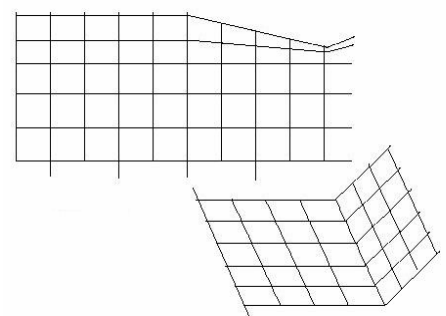


Leave wire ends as shown

1. Bend body (10 x 9) into a gentle "U" shape.
2. Tie top at a,b and c,d ,using end wires, to form a slight funnel.
3. Tie in bottom (3 x 6) at base
4. Bend valve cover at 45 degrees at 3rd wire from the end  
Tie cover to body 5 square up from bottom of and 1 square in at the top
5. Clip inside to the opening in the holding cage (cut 4 x 4 opening in holding cage, 5 squares up from base and 3 squares in from edge. Cut corresponding 4 x 4 opening in feeding cage).



**Step 4**





## HOOKS

Make hooks out of tie wire or bicycle inner tube or elastic to fasten doors, and to attach the feeding cage to the holding cage. A couple of pegs also work well.



Tie wire hooks for the door.

## SHADE CLOTH

Attach a square of shade cloth to the top of both cages using netting clips, to provide shelter from the elements for trapped birds. If you are not using shade cloth, be sure to place a towel or hessian sack over holding cage during trapping.



Shade cloth on the roof.

## FURNISHINGS

**Mirrors:** A mirror located opposite the entry tunnel may help to entice the bird through the tunnel

**Perches:** Place a perch in both the cages to assist with the birds transfer from one cage to another, and for extra comfort.

**Drink containers:** Cut off the bottom of a plastic milk or soft drink container and tie into both the feeding and holding cages to provide water for trapped birds.



Mirror opposite tunnel



Soft drink bottle for water

## THE FINISHED PRODUCT.....

