Slide-Away Septic Planter

Conceal your utility lid seamlessly while keeping it instantly accessible.

Build a beautiful sliding cedar planter that completely hides your septic cover without compromising plumbing access. Use this guide to construct your off-lid base and select the perfect shallow-root plants.



Design Specs

2-inch clearance
Above the original concrete lid

Zero ounces
Weight on the fragile concrete

50 pounds
Manageable off-lid sliding base weight

6-inch spacing
Between potted creeping thyme

4 corners
To attach polymer slider feet

8x16 inches
Hidden paver track stepping stones

Under 10 seconds
Time to slide for maintenance

Avoid the friction trap

Never use soft rubber feet that grip the stone track. Hard polymer or Teflon sliders are absolutely essential for effortless gliding when maintenance day arrives.

Slide-Away Planter Assembly

1. **Build the base** Assemble the pressure-treated lumber frame and apply water-repellent sealant to prevent moisture warping.
2. **Attach the floor** Secure the plywood panel and drill even drainage holes across the entire base.
3. **Add walls and trim** Fasten cedar boards with exterior deck screws, then conceal raw edges with corner strips.
4. **Install the sliders** Firmly attach the white polymer feet directly to the bottom corners of your frame.
5. **Prep the track** Tamp leveling sand, lay commercial landscape fabric, and set pavers flush with river

Cedar Planter Cut List

- [ ] 48-inch pressure-treated base frame boards
- [ ] Cedar side walls cut to match base
- [ ] 45x45-inch plywood floor panel
- [ ] Cedar corner trim strips to conceal edges
- [ ] Premium exterior-grade deck screws
- [ ] Clear water-repellent wood sealant
- [ ] Premium lightweight potting mix

Check Before You Build

- ○ Verify your planter's exact outer width to space track pavers perfectly.
- ○ Check outdoor weight ratings on slider hardware to ensure effortless movement.
- ○ Confirm your chosen greenery can survive in restricted container environments.
- ○ Plan to slide the planter off the track during heavy freezes.

Shallow-Root Plant List

Find your row: **Your sun and style**

Your sun and style	Your pick	Why
Blazing full sun	Vibrant sedum	Drought-tolerant for restricted containers
Need rapid edge softening	Creeping thyme	Spills over cedar sides beautifully
Traditional cottage exterior	Sweet alyssum	Creates a bright floral focal point
Need cascading greenery	Creeping jenny	Thrives in shallow soil beds
Natural prairie landscape	Native grasses	Blends seamlessly into drought-tolerant yards

Project Notes

Enjoy your seamless yard blend and completely effortless maintenance days!