

Under-Deck Weekend Build Plan

Your Saturday-to-Sunday schedule and complete shopping list.

Transform wasted yard space into a cozy outdoor room. This logical two-day sequence separates heavy groundwork from lighter overhead installations.

● Key Project Dimensions

10x12 ft

Standard lounge pad footprint

3-4 in

Excavation depth into the soil

6 in

Fabric overlap and wire reduction

8 in

Width of the drainage trench

2-3 in

Smooth gray stone size

24 in

Spacing along the ceiling joist

3-4 bulbs

Per bay for ambient glow

Call before you dig

Always call your local utility marking service a few days early to ensure the footprint is completely clear of buried electrical, gas, or plumbing lines.



● The Saturday-Sunday Sequence

- 1 Prep and Excavate** Dig the footprint, roll out commercial-grade fabric, and stake rust-resistant steel edging.
- 2 Wet-Tamp DG in Lifts** Spread base rock, then lightly mist and compact layers using a rented gas-powered plate compactor.
- 3 River-Rock Drip Strip** Excavate a shallow trench plumb with the deck's outer edge, sloping away from the foundation.
- 4 Wire and Wet-Rated Lights** Hang curtains on post wire, string wet-rated lights, and have an electrician wire a GFCI.
- 5 Quick-Dry Foam Seats** Style with breathable cushions that drain water, plus shade-tolerant potted ferns on flat concrete pavers.

● Weekend Shopping List

- ☐ 1.5 cubic yards stabilized decomposed granite
- ☐ 1 cubic yard base rock
- ☐ Gas-powered plate compactor (weekend rental)
- ☐ Marine-grade stainless steel wire kit and turnbuckles
- ☐ Thick terracotta cushions with breathable acrylic covers
- ☐ Shade-tolerant ferns and heavy concrete planters

● Check Before You Build

- ☐ Measure the exact distance between deck support posts for the cable.
- ☐ Hire a licensed electrician for a dedicated covered outdoor receptacle.
- ☐ Ensure the steel edging top lip stays flush with adjacent turf.
- ☐ Direct the bulk delivery driver to dump stone near the deck.

● Match Your Home's Exterior

Find your row: **Desired aesthetic**

Desired aesthetic	Your pick	Why
Crisp Coastal	Crushed shells	Instant beach-house feel
Modern	Concrete pavers	Sharp architectural contrast
Boho	Warm pea gravel	Casual base for rattan
Rustic	Irregular flagstone	Woodland cabin porch vibe

● Project Notes & Measurements

Enjoy your beautiful and relaxing new outdoor living space!