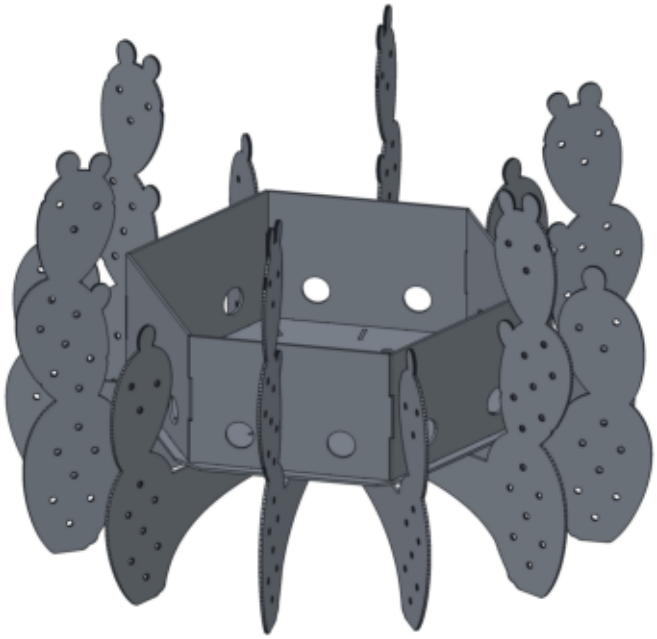
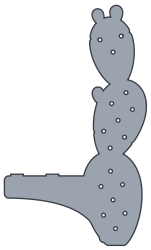
Prickly Pear Fire Pit, 28 in

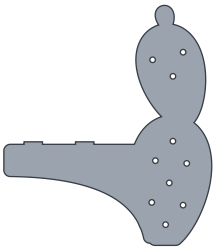


A fire pit ringed with steel prickly pear, 28 inches across. Twelve laser-cut cacti, with pads, spine dots and fruit, stand around a hex fire pan; the cacti are the legs, and every part locates itself with tabs and slots.

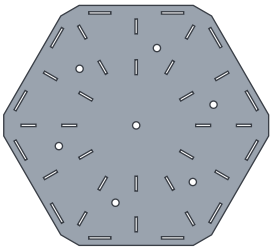
What's in the box



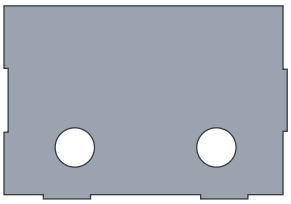
Tall cactus x6
Part PP28-01



Short cactus x6
Part PP28-02



Pan floor x1
Part PP28-03



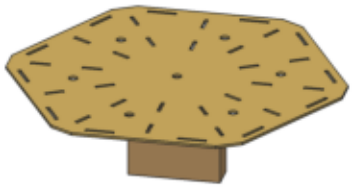
Pan wall x6
Part PP28-04

What you'll need

- MIG or flux-core welder (a 120 V machine handles 10 ga)
- Angle grinder with a flap disc
- Four or more clamps (F-clamps or locking pliers)
- Rubber mallet
- A 5 in piece of 2x6 for the jig block
- Welding helmet, gloves, jacket and safety glasses

Prickly Pear Fire Pit, 28 in

1 Set the floor on a block

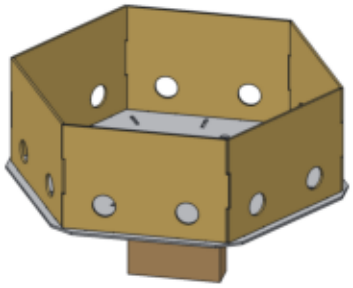


Cut a 5 in piece of 2x6 and stand it on edge in the middle of a flat surface. Center the pan floor on it. The block holds the floor at its finished height of 5.5 in.

TIP

The floor is the same either face up.

2 Build the pan



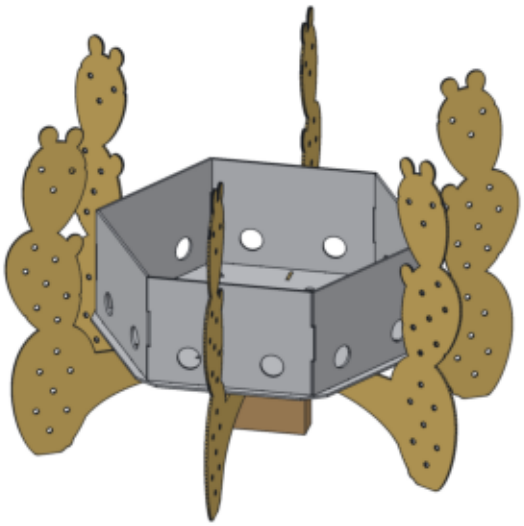
Stand the six pan walls on the floor with their bottom tabs in the outer ring of slots, vents low. Bring each wall in beside the last so the corner fingers mesh, and work around the hex. Clamp the corners, tack each one top and bottom, and tack the tabs. Weld the corners now, while you can reach them.

TIP

All six walls are identical.

The angled fingers leave a small V along each outside corner: a ready-made weld groove.

3 Slide in the tall cacti

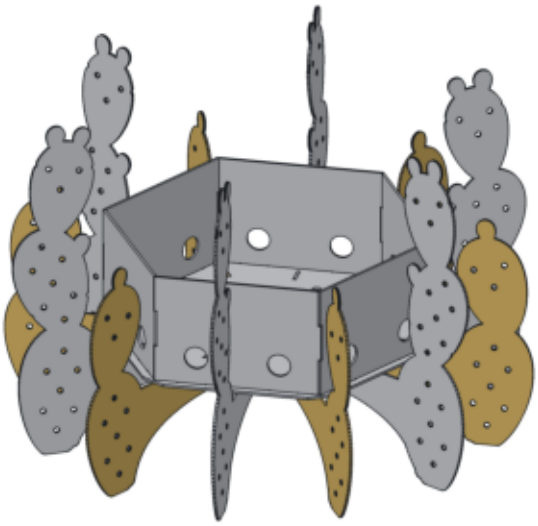


Tip the pan up an inch on one side and push a tall cactus in underneath, arm first, under the middle of a wall, until its two tabs line up with a pair of slots; set the pan down so the tabs drop through. Add the rest the same way, going across the pit so it stays balanced.

TIP

A tall cactus fits only its own slot pairs. If one won't seat, check its arm points straight at the middle.

4 Slide in the short cacti

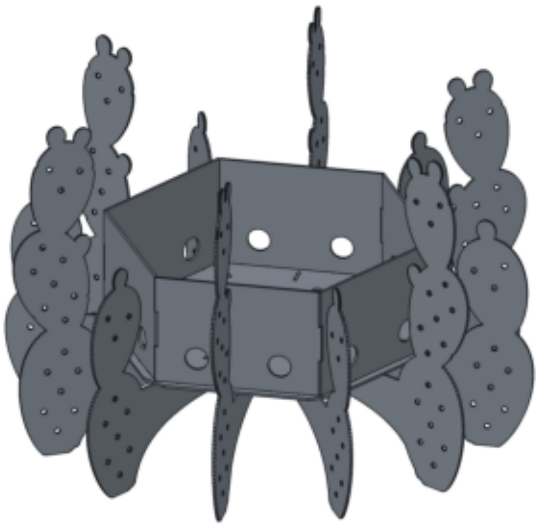


Add the short cacti the same way, under each corner of the pan. The pit now stands on its own; pull out the block.

TIP

A short cactus fits only its own slot pairs. If one won't seat, check its arm points straight at the middle.

5 Weld it out



Weld each blade's tabs where they come up through the floor, from inside the pan. Stitch the walls' tabs from inside too. Grind the welds smooth and round over any sharp edge.

TIP

Work around the pit, alternating sides, so the heat spreads evenly and the floor stays flat.

Finishing

- The parts ship bare with a light oil film. Wipe them down with a degreaser before welding.
- Let it rust to a natural patina, or paint the outside with a high-heat paint rated to 1200 F.
- Leave the inside of the pan bare. A fire burns paint off there, and bare steel is normal.

Fire safety

- Use outdoors only, at least 10 ft from buildings, fences, overhangs and trees.
- Set it on a non-combustible surface such as pavers, gravel or bare soil, never a wood deck or dry grass.
- Burn wood only in the pan, and keep the fire below the top of the pan walls.
- The steel gets hot enough to burn skin. Keep kids and pets back.
- Check local burn rules and county burn bans before every fire.
- Keep a hose or extinguisher nearby, and drown the fire completely before you leave it.

This is a kit of raw steel parts. You build the finished product, and the quality of your welds and your judgment about where and how you use it are yours. Weld with proper ventilation and protective gear, and never leave a fire unattended.