

Building a Permanent Maimai



A well-designed maimai can significantly improve your hunting success and enjoyment of the pursuit. This Fish & Game resource provides essential tips for building an effective and comfortable permanent hunting structure. Whether you're building your first maimai or upgrading an existing one, these guidelines will help you create a practical and durable hunting blind. This guide is part of our complete resource collection for waterfowl hunters - visit fishandgame.org.nz for more information.

Key Design Considerations

Scrub placement

Scrubbing your maimai is important and it pays to do any scrubbing well in advance of Opening Day. Use enough scrub to provide cover, but not so much that it limits your shotgun swing.

Visibility

Position your maimai so you have a clear view of birds approaching from all directions. Trim back pond or bankside vegetation if needed.

Roof design

Avoid low, overhanging roofs that restrict shooting angles. An open-top design is ideal for targeting birds from all directions.

Materials

Use durable materials like treated rough-sawn timber and corrugated iron for a maimai that will last for years.

Comfort features

Add built-in seating and ensure the roof is high enough to stand comfortably. Include a sheltered area to keep dry during poor weather.

It's worth putting a bit of thought into maimai design as a well-thought-out maimai can make a huge difference when it comes to hunting success.

Gun safety holder

A good way to ensure shotguns don't get knocked over in the maimai is to install a tool holder. A 20-30mm sized plastic screw-in holder from a hardware store will do the trick and cost less than \$20 for a pair.