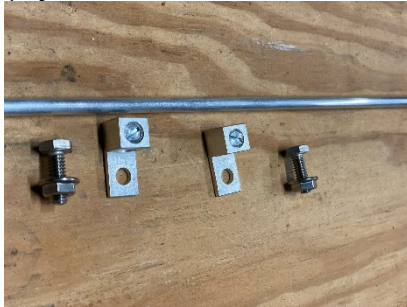


DIY Purple Martin Perch

You will need: 1- 1/4 inch by 3-foot round aluminum rod.
Available at most home improvement stores.

2- Aluminum set screw lugs, for 2 strand 14 AWG wires.

2- stainless hex bolts 18-8 1/4 inch by 3/4 inch, with nuts.
(if your rack is wooden or tubular you will need longer bolts)



Step 1: Mark the rod 6 inches from each end.

Step 2: Clamp the rod to workbench or at edge of table with the mark lined up with edge and the 6-inch end overhanging the edge. (a vise also works for this)



Step 3: With your palm placed near the marked spot of rod, bend the rod down to form a 90-degree angle. Repeat with the other end of the rod, paying attention that both bends go in the same direction, forming a 'goal post type U'



Step 4: unscrew the set screw enough to slip one on each end of the rod, pointing the tail of the lug away from the rod. Tighten both set screws enough to keep them on the rod, but not firmly at this point. Have both tails of the lugs, flat on your bench.



Step 5: Use the now assembled perch to mark your rack if necessary, and drill 1/4 inch holes to attach. If you have Gemini racks, use the holes already available. Attach the perch with the flat side of the lugs against the rack. Loosen the set screws if necessary, so that the lugs seat firmly to the rack, then tighten bolts and set screws firmly.

Step 6: Sit back and enjoy your martins as they show you how much they love their new perches.

Elevated perches allow you to get great pictures and make it easier to determine sex and age of your birds. You should be able to make these for less than ten dollars each.



Instructions and pictures by Tom Brake, Chirpy Nest

[ChirpyNest @ Peaceful Valley Purple Martins](http://www.peacefulvalleypurplemartins.com)
www.peacefulvalleypurplemartins.com