



Arbors are a great invitation into the garden, and I'm sure you've seen plenty of them in all shapes and sizes. Well, take a look at this one! It's made out of copper, and I made it for just over 100 dollars. It's a great backyard project. Let me show you how it's done!

### Before You Begin

- Purchase the materials.
- Take safety precautions; wear safety glasses and/or a surgical mask when recommended.
- Work in a well ventilated area.



### Materials

*Note: amount of materials needed will depend upon the size of the copper arbor you choose to make.*

- copper pipe:

(we used three-quarter inch pipe on the outside of the arbor, with half-inch pipe on the inside)

- t-joints
- elbow joints and/or
- 45 degree angle joints.
- slow-setting epoxy
- steel wool
- black magic marker
- copper cutter
- ruler
- level

### Preparing Your Plan

Start by getting your idea on paper. Whatever pattern you choose be very precise with your measurements. The completed arbor should be wide enough for two people to comfortably stand beneath it, and once in the ground it should stand at least 7 feet tall. Keep in mind that we'll need to sink about 18 inches of pipe into the ground to hold the arbor securely in place. Make sure to allow for this measurement when calculating the desired height of your arbor otherwise it will be too short.

### **Cutting the Pipe**

Now it's time to cut the pipe into sections according to the measurements in your diagram. Your numbers need to be exact, so mark each copper piece carefully, according to your diagram. Then it's time for the pipe cutter. It's best if you mark and cut small sections as you go rather than cutting everything all at once. This will guarantee accuracy.

### **Laying It Out**

Once the pieces are cut, label them alphabetically so that they correspond to your diagram. This will help keep everything in order. Then you may wish to lay the pipe sections into your desired design in your backyard or driveway. Now you're ready to start building!

### **Building The Arbo**

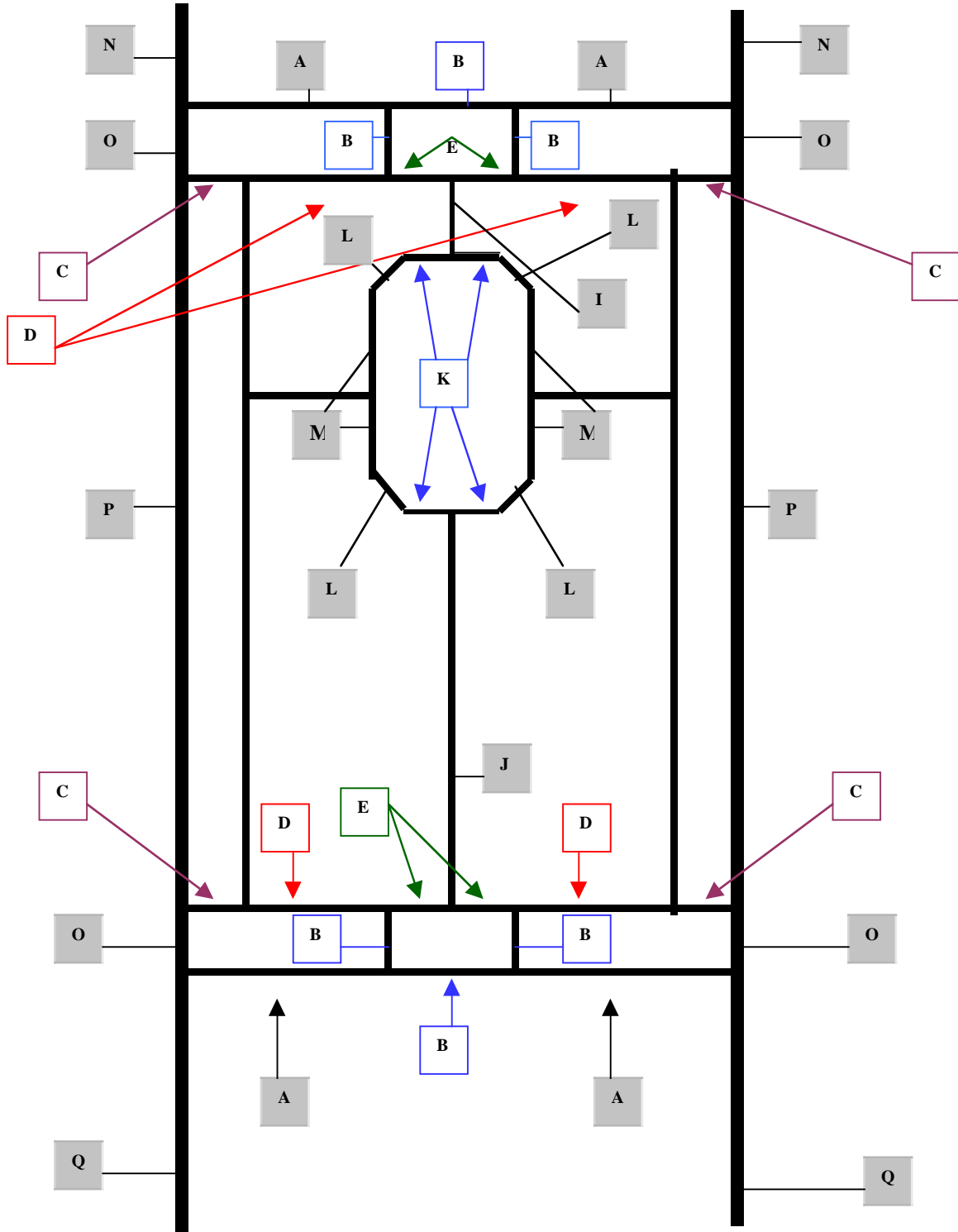
It's important to start building the arbor from the inside out. So starting with the inside pieces, simply brush the epoxy glue on the outer rim of each copper pipe, and then attach it to the adjoining piece. Once the center is done, begin building from the bottom up. But I've got to warn you, it does take a while to glue everything together - so be patient with this project! Using the same method, finish making the two sides of the arbor. Then make the top. The arbor will seem a little tall, but remember we're going to sink this in the ground about 18 inches. So let me show you how to now put it all together in the garden.

### **Putting It Up**

To ensure stability, it's a good idea to dig out the holes where you want to put your arbor before you sink it into the soil. Then check for straightness with a level. Finally, with the sides in place, all that's left to do is attach the top of the arbor. Do this using the same procedure you used to build the sides. Copper will weather with time and turn a beautiful patina green color. But if you want to quicken the process, make sure you clean

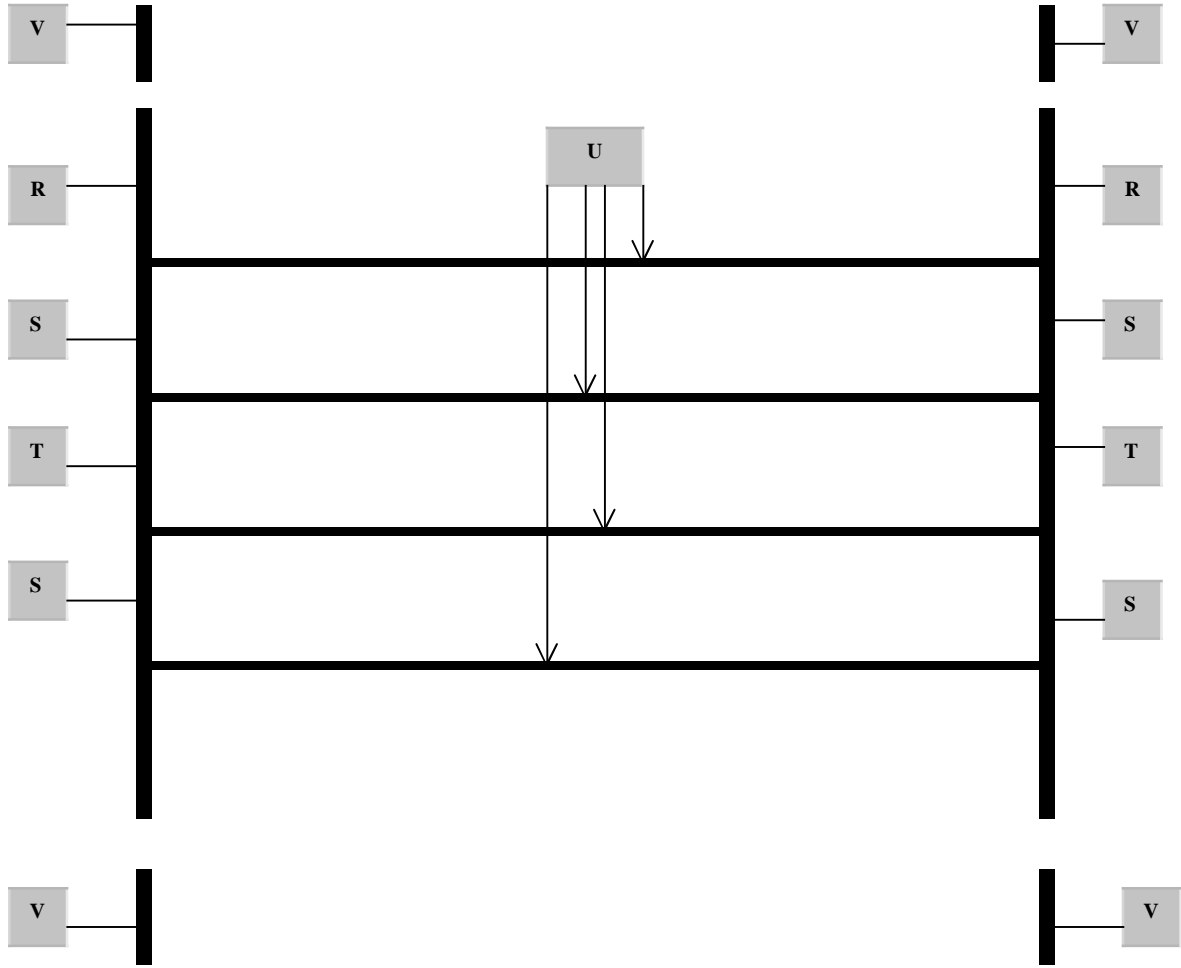
the copper with steel wool to get rid of any leftover oils. And don't forget to plant some beautiful vining flowers such as clematis, honeysuckle, or even mandevilla. In no time these flowers will be spilling over the arborway, giving you a wonderful entryway to your garden.

**Sample Key**  
**Building a Copper Arbor**



**USE THIS DIAGRAM TO CREATE  
THE SIDES OF THE  
COPPER ARBOR**

**Key**  
**Building a Copper Arbor**



**USE THIS DIAGRAM TO BUILD  
THE TOP OF  
THE COPPER ARBOR**

### **LEGEND**

*Note: All measurements are in inches*

<b><u>Letter</u></b>	<b><u>Pipe Diameter</u></b>	<b><u>Segment Length</u></b>	<b><u>Segment Quantity</u></b>
<b>A</b>	1 / 2	15	<b>8</b>
<b>B</b>	1 / 2	5 and 1 / 2	<b>12</b>
<b>C</b>	1 / 2	4	<b>8</b>
<b>D</b>	1 / 2	10 and 1 / 2	<b>8</b>
<b>E</b>	1 / 2	2 and 1 / 2	<b>8</b>
<b>F</b>	1 / 2	6	<b>4</b>
<b>G</b>	1 / 2	20 and 1 / 4	<b>4</b>
<b>H</b>	1 / 2	36 and 3 / 4	<b>4</b>
<b>I</b>	1 / 2	7 and 3 / 4	<b>2</b>
<b>J</b>	1 / 2	24 and 1 / 2	<b>2</b>
<b>K</b>	1 / 2	3	<b>8</b>
<b>L</b>	1 / 2	5	<b>8</b>
<b>M</b>	1 / 2	8	<b>8</b>
<b>N</b>	3 / 4	6 and 1 / 2	<b>4</b>
<b>O</b>	3 / 4	5 and 1 / 2	<b>8</b>
<b>P</b>	3 / 4	57 and 1 / 2	<b>4</b>
<b>Q</b>	3 / 4	25	<b>4</b>
<b>R</b>	3 / 4	10	<b>4</b>
<b>S</b>	3 / 4	13	<b>4</b>
<b>T</b>	3 / 4	14	<b>2</b>
<b>U</b>	1 / 2	37	<b>4</b>
<b>V</b>	3 / 4	10	<b>4</b>

***Note: the “V” segments will be used as overhang***