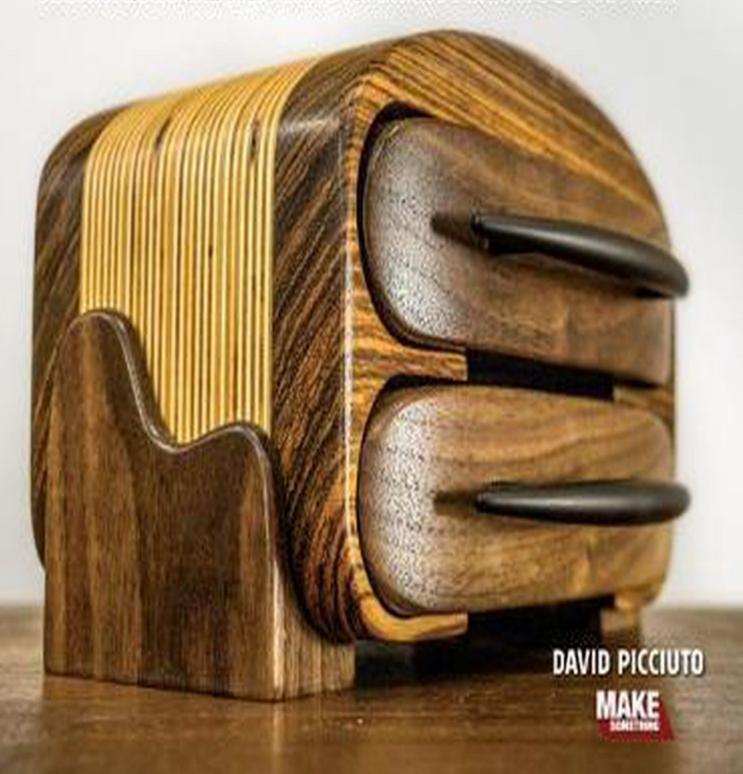
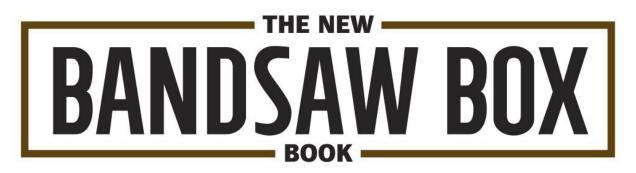
BANDSAW BOX

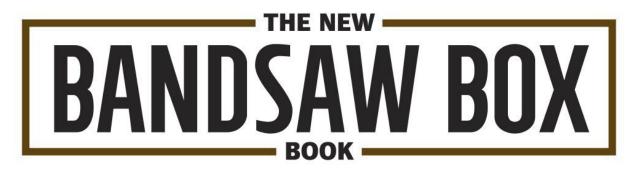
TECHNIQUES and PATTERNS for the MODERN WOODWORKER





TECHNIQUES and **PATTERNS** for the **MODERN WOODWORKER**





TECHNIQUES and **PATTERNS** for the **MODERN WOODWORKER**

DAVID PICCIUTO



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INTRODUCTION

Bandsaw boxes are among my favorite projects. They can be made from scraps using only a few tools in as little as an afternoon, and the design options are endless. For newcomers they make a great introduction to the craft, and veterans find them both a stress-free break between larger projects and a good way to flex their design muscles.

Although I took high school woodshop classes back in the early 1990s, it wasn't until 2011 that I really started woodworking on my own. I stumbled across a couple of bandsaw box videos online and finally made the connection between woodworking and design. The bandsaw boxes I saw in books and online were free form and amoeba-shaped—I thought I could do something different.

I quickly learned that there are no boundaries when it comes to bandsaw boxes and they can follow just about any shape and conform to any style. Using some basic geometric shapes and pulling in styles from art deco and midcentury modern, I developed the eight boxes you'll find in this book. You don't need many expensive tools to get into bandsaw box making and it can be a great way to get your feet wet in the

world of woodworking, making, and building. I have a deep passion for originality and design, and I truly believe that everyone can be creative.

So, regarding the beer recommendations after each project. When I first began blogging about woodworking, I took on the moniker The Drunken Woodworker. I have deep roots and a background playing in punk bands and the irreverence came naturally. The Drunken Woodworker seemed like a good balance to the dauntingly serious preciousness that often comes with woodworking. Do I advocate woodworking while drinking? Of course not. To me, the important thing is to get out in your garage or basement or whatever you use as your shop and make something. I'm an advocate for enjoying the craft, period. And part of that process involves reflecting on-and celebrating-the work you've done. Toward that end, I wanted to include a Raise a Glass section at the end of each project to remind you to take a moment and toast your efforts. Whether you do so with a glass of beer, as I often do, or a crisp glass of lemonade, reflecting on and taking pride in your work is an oft-overlooked priority.

David Picciuto

Make Something

Web site: www.makesomething.com

YouTube: www.youtube.com/user/DrunkenWoodworker

Twitter: www.twitter.com/drunkenwood

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MakeSomethingTV Instagram: www.instagram.com/makesomethingtv Pinterest: www.pinterest.com/makesomethingtv





Inspired by Missouri's unique Gateway Arch

TOOLS

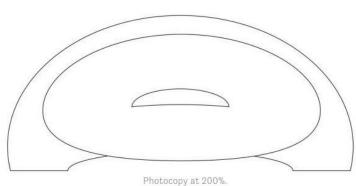
- > Bandsaw
- > Yellow wood glue
- > F-style clamps
- > Spray adhesive
- > Disc sander
- Router in router table or rasp
- > Rasp
- Palm or random orbit sander
- > Spring clamp
- Flocking fibers and flocking adhesive
- > Disposable brush

MATERIALS

- 2 pieces of zebrawood, ³/₄ x 8 x 4 in.
- > 1 piece of walnut, 2 x 8 x 4 in.

If you've never made a bandsaw box before, this is a great place to start! This box is one of my favorite designs. I just love the simple lines inspired by the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, Missouri. The box has what I call a floating drawer that rests on the outside edges of the shell, exposing the bottom edge. You'll also learn a bit about *flocking*, a method for adding a soft velvety coating to the inside of a box drawer.

TEMPLATE



To download this template online, go to Makesomething.com/bandsawboxbook



-1-

Collect your materials.

Start with stock that's at least 8 x 4 in. Box depth can vary but here three boards add up to 4 in. I used 1 in. zebrawood for the outer faces and a 2 in. walnut core.

-2 -

Lay on the glue.

Apply yellow glue on mating faces of the stock. Spread it into even, thin layers using a roller or toothed spreader.



- 3 -

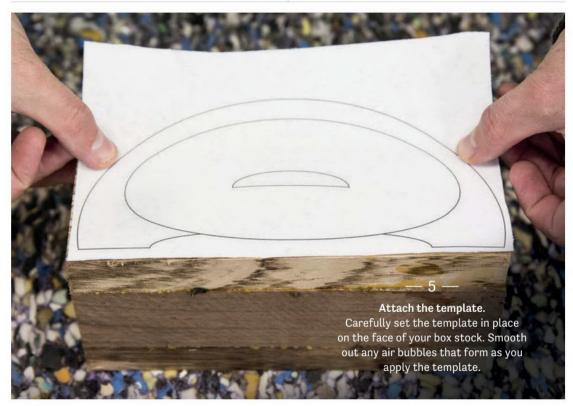
Clamp up the box blank.

Clamp the three boards together using enough clamps to ensure even pressure. You should see glue squeeze-out on all of the edges. Let it dry for at least four hours.



Prepare the template.

Print the box template and grab the spray adhesive. Apply an even coat of adhesive to the back of the template.



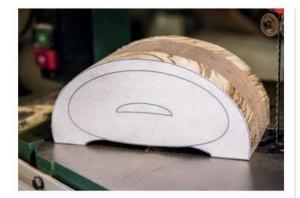


— 6 **—**

Prepare your saw.

For best results, use a 3/16 in. skip tooth blade with four teeth per inch. It gives a clean cut and is small enough to corner well.





-8-

The box taking shape.

With the outside of the box cut to shape, you will begin to see how your finished box will appear. Looking good!

— 9 **—**

Change out your blade.

Switch to a wider blade to make the straight cuts. I use a ½ in. resaw blade, which leaves a smoother surface.



— 10 —

Remove the back.

Set up your fence for a ½ in. cut and feed the stock slowly through the blade.



- 11 -

Cut out the drawer.

With the back removed you can switch back to your 3/16 in. blade and cut out what will be the drawer. For this cut, aim to split the template line right down the middle.

— 12 —

Take a look.

With the drawer removed you're ready to re-attach the back of the box to the outer shell of the box.



— 13 —

Glue it up.Apply a thin layer of glue to the rear edges of the outer shell and then set the back of the box in place. Pay close attention to grain alignment. If properly aligned, the glue line will be invisible when dry.



— 14 —

Work on the drawer.

Cut ½ in. off of both the front and back of the drawer blank. This cut is precarious because the piece does not have a flat bottom and the force of the blade will want to flip the piece up. Use grip paddles from the jointer to keep your hands safe.

— 15 **—**

Start with the core.

Once the front and back of the drawer are cut, the drawer starts to take shape. It's time to remove the opening from the core.



— 16 —

Draw out the drawer.

As you freehand draw the cutout for the drawer, aim for sides that are about 3% in. thick and tapered on the upper edge.



-17 -

Remove the waste.

Use your thinner blade to cut out the inner section of the drawer. A slow feed rate helps you achieve a clean cut on the curves.

— 18 —

It's almost a drawer.

The three pieces that make up the drawer are ready for glue-up.



Glue it up.

Apply a thin coat of yellow glue to the edges of the core, and set the drawer front and back in place.

THE NEW BANDSAW BOX





— 21 —

Make it smooth.

Take the outer shell of the box to the disc sander and sand down to the template lines.

If you're without a sander, you can do the smoothing by hand.



-22 -

Smooth out the drawer.

Sand the drawer down to the template lines. If the lines were sawn away, simply aim for a smooth, fair surface, removing as little wood as possible. The more material you remove, the looser the drawer will fit.

— 23 —

Peel off the template.

Most spray adhesives will allow you to remove the template by simply peeling it off. If not, a quick sanding will do the trick.



— 24 —

Smooth the edges.

Use a 1/8 in. round over bit at your router table to smooth the edges of the shell and drawer. Stay away from the fine points at the ends. If you're without a router table, round over using sandpaper or a rasp.



THE NEW BANDSAW BOX

— 25 —

Fine points require extra care.

Because the wood comes to a point along the bottom, use a rasp here instead of a router bit to round over the edges.





— 27 —

Prepare the pull.Use the offcut from the drawer to create your pull. You can cut to the provided template or freehand the shape.







— 29 —

Finish it off.

Apply your favorite finish to the shell and drawer. You can finish the inside of the drawer and shell or apply flocking. Refer to pages 22-23 to learn how flocking is done.

RAISE A GLASS!

Too seldom in woodworking-and otherwisedo we take the time to reflect on our accomplishments, even the small ones, and take pride in the work we do. But all of us enjoy the feeling of a job well done. I say we relish it.

Whether you celebrate with a beer, a bowl of ice cream, or a healthy green smoothie (who am I to judge?), I encourage you to reflect on the work you do. Give it a closer look and be amazed at your artistry. Perhaps building the St. Louis box was your first time making a bandsaw box. Or, it was the first time you've worked with imported hardwoods. The St. Louis box can be



a great introduction to using difficult-to-find woods like the zebrawood seen here. While imported lumber gets pricey, everyone can spare a few bucks

for just enough to make a bandsaw box. I recommend shopping for turning blanks

rather than traditional lumber it's a great way to pick up the small amounts of stock needed for most boxes.

To celebrate the spirit of the St. Louis box, try reaching for a delicious bottle of Schlafly's Kölsch. Schlafly blazed the trail for craft beer in St. Louis and remains a vital part of the beer community with the likes of the Urban Chestnut Brewing Company, Perennial Artisan Ales, and Side Project Brewing. With the silky-smooth finished box in one hand and a classic golden brew in the other, you'll be ready to conquer the world.

FLOCKING

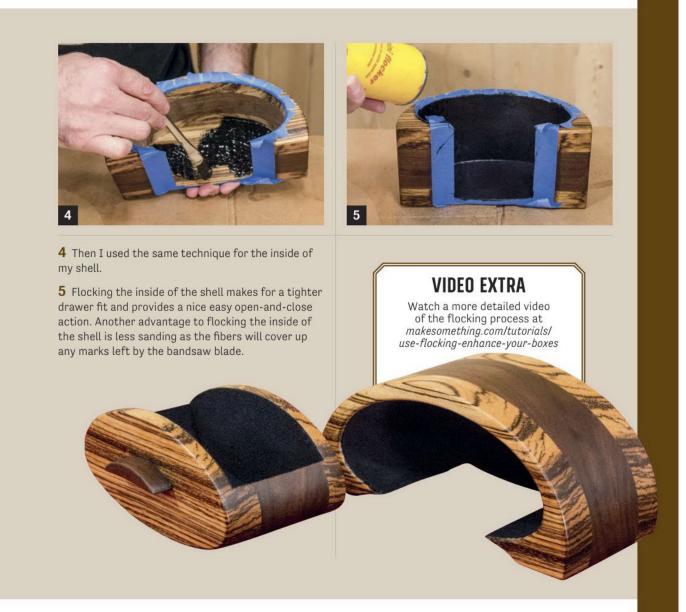
Flocking is a great way to add a soft velvety coating to the inside of bandsaw box drawers. I also like to use it in the inside of my bandsaw box shells as it adds a nice, easy open-and-close action as well as tightening up the overall fit.







- **1** Before flocking I use blue tape to mask off the areas where I don't want flocking.
- **2** Flocking begins with using a colored adhesive and flooding the surface. In this example, I used black flocking.
- **3** Use a flocking gun loaded with matched colored flocking fibers. Forced air pushes the soft fibers into the adhesive. This is a messy process, and I highly suggest wearing a dust mask and using proper ventilation.







Bring the capital of Norway to your workshop

TOOLS

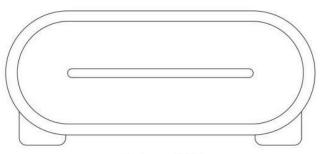
- > Bandsaw
- > Yellow wood glue
- > F-style clamps
- > Spray adhesive
- > Disc sander
- Router in router table or rasp
- > Rasp
- Palm or random orbit sander
- > Spring clamp
- Flocking fibers and flocking adhesive
- Disposable brush

MATERIALS

- > 4 pieces of walnut, 3/4 x 7 x 4 in.
- > 2 pieces of maple, 3/8 x 7 x 4 in.

Here's an easy bandsaw box that can be made in a day or two. The contrasting racing stripes on the outer shell are repeated on the drawer handle. The fitted wooden feet also add a nice touch seldom seen on a bandsaw box. I used a combination of walnut and maple for strong, contrasting lines.

TEMPLATE



Photocopy at 200%.

To download this template online, go to Makesomething.com/bandsawboxbook



-1-

Choose your woods.

Start off with stock that is at least 7 x 4 in. The depth can vary but here the six boards add up to 4 in.

-2 -

Apply the glue. Use a glue spreader to lay on an even coat of yellow glue to each mating face.



- 3 -

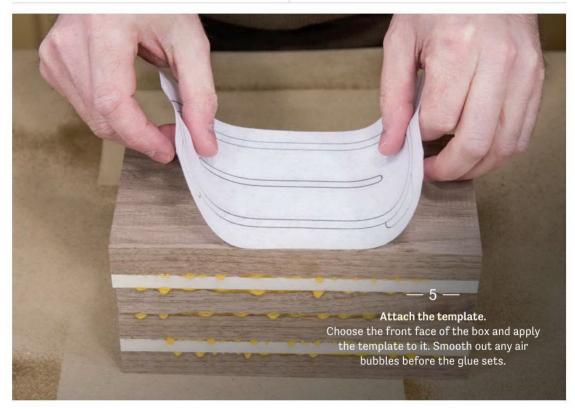
Clamp up the box blank.

Glue the six boards together using enough clamps to ensure even pressure. You should see plenty of glue squeeze out at the seams. Let this sit and dry at least four hours.



Make it stick.

Use spray adhesive to evenly coat the back of the printed template.

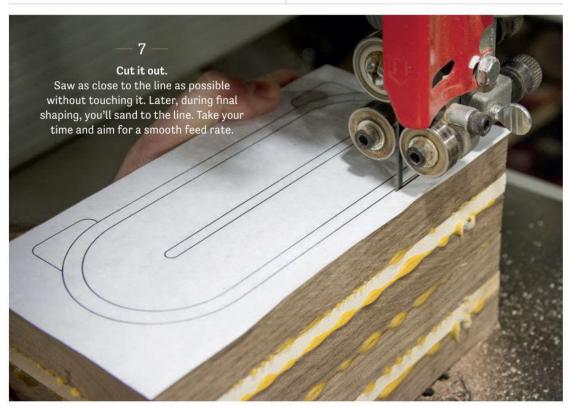




— 6 **—**

Set up your bandsaw.

Use a 3/16 in. skip tooth blade with four teeth per inch. The thinness of the blade allows you to corner well, and the low tooth count helps prevent burning.





— 8 **—**

A box takes shape.

Notice that the feet of the box have been removed. You'll glue those back in place later.

Install a wider blade.

It's best to switch to a wider (½ in.) resaw blade for the next cut. It will leave a smoother surface and cut a straighter line.



— 10 **—**

Remove the back.

Cut off the back of the box at the bandsaw. Set your fence for a ½ in. cut, and use a slow and steady feed rate.



- 11 -

Cut out the drawer.

To remove the drawer, cut straight in from the edge of the blank. Switch back to your thinner blade because it will handle curves better. Aim to cut right on the line.

— 12 —

Glue up the shell.

The entry cut made when you removed the drawer is closed up using a little glue along the cutline and a single clamp.



— 13 —

Start on the drawer.

Take your drawer blank and remove ½ in. from the front and ½ in. from the back. Using a wider blade allows a cleaner cut.



- 14 -

Lay out the parts.

You should now have three pieces that make up the finished drawer. Cut out the drawer pocket from the center section.

— 15 —

Draw the drawer opening.

On the front of the middle drawer section, draw out the waste to be removed.

Draw it out freehand but aim for sides that are 3/8 in. thick.



— 16 —

Remove the waste.

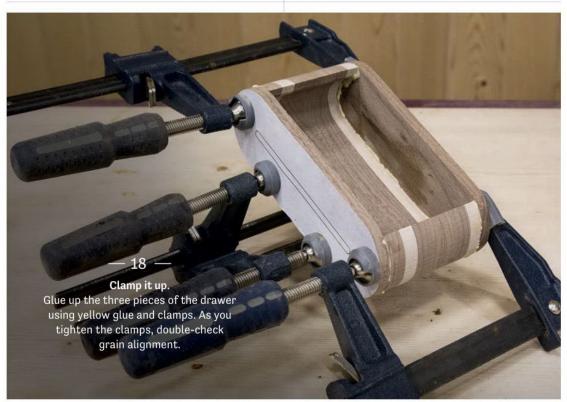
Back at the bandsaw, remove the waste from the center section of the drawer.



-17 -

Arrange the drawer parts.

The drawer parts are ready for glue-up. Check the grain orientation to make sure the front and back are in the right spot.







Shape the shell.

Finish shaping the outer shell of the box at the disc sander or by hand. Sand down to the line on your template.



-21-

Shape the drawer.

The drawer's template lines may not be visible. Just sand it smooth without removing too much stock. The more you remove, the looser the fit of the drawer.

-22 -

Round it over.

Using a 1/8 in. round over bit mounted in your router table, smooth the edges of the shell and the drawer. This can also be done with sandpaper or a rasp.



— 23 —

Smooth it out.

Final sand both the shell and the drawer. I like my bandsaw boxes to be very smooth and invite touch, so I sand to 320 grit.



-24 -

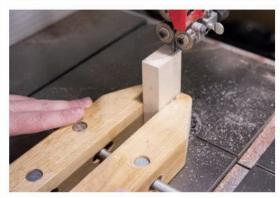
Draw out the feet.

A scrap of maple is all you need to make the feet for this design. Using the shell as a stencil, trace around the outside of the box onto the maple stock.

— 25 **—**

Cut out the feet.

For cutting small parts like the feet on this box, use a hand clamp to hold the stock and keep your hands away from the blade.



-26 -

Prepare the feet.

Once the feet are cut to shape, sand them smooth and refine the fit with sandpaper as needed.

— 27 —

No fancy clamps are needed.

To secure the feet, apply a little glue and place the box on the feet. Set the assembly aside to dry.







— 29 **—**

Finish it off.

Apply your favorite finish. I used a mix of linseed oil, polyurethane, and mineral spirits. You can finish the inside of the drawer and shell or apply flocking (pages 22-23).

RAISE A GLASS!

To finish my salute to the city of Oslo, I rubbed out the final coat with steel wool, leaving a smooth but not-too-shiny finish that highlights the use of natural wood to both the eye and touch. I thought about this over a beer that tastes familiar and American even though I used it to celebrate the completion of the small walnut and maple box named for the capital city of a far-off land.

Believe it or not, Norway was a little late to the microbrew games. Almost all of the

Norwegian beer market is cornered by two

breweries—the largest being Ringnes, which is owned by Carlsberg of Denmark. So, for a taste of Norway, reach for a Ringnes Pilsener.



in Europe.







The small drawers inspired by the beauty of the island

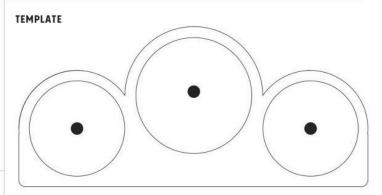
TOOLS

- > Bandsaw
- > Yellow wood glue
- > F-style clamps
- > Spray adhesive
- > Disc sander
- Router in router table or rasp
- > Rasp
- > Drill press with plug cutter
- Palm or random orbit sander
- > Spring clamp
- Flocking fibers and flocking adhesive
- > Disposable brush

MATERIALS

- 2 pieces of bloodwood, ³/₄ x 10 x 5 in.
- 3 pieces of poplar, ³/₄ x 10 x 5 in.

Now it's time to get a little fancy with our bandsaw boxes. This box has three drawers with the middle drawer being slightly larger than the other two. This box also features a poplar core, which contrasts well with the darker bloodwood on the outer faces. I like the repeating lines of the exposed glue seams because they help emphasize the shape of the box.



Photocopy at 250%.

To download this template online, go to Makesomething.com/bandsawboxbook

TRINIDAD



-1-

Cut stock to size.

You'll need material that's at least 10 x 5 in. The depth can vary but these five boards add up to 4 in.

-2 -

Prepare the box blank.

Glue the five boards together using yellow glue. Smooth the glue to a thin, even layer that covers the entire surface.



— 3 **—**

Clamp it together.

Glue the five boards together using enough clamps to make sure you have even pressure. Let the clamped assembly sit and dry for at least four hours.



Make it stick.

Use spray adhesive to evenly coat the back of the printed template.





— 6 **—**

Use a thin blade.

Using a a 3/16 in. skip tooth blade with four teeth per inch allows you to manage the dramatic turns of this design without burning the wood.





-8-

Pick a wider blade.

You'll get better results if you switch to a ½ in. resaw blade for the next cut. This blade leaves a smoother surface, and when used with a fence, will cut a straight line.

— 9 **—**

Remove the back.

Set the bandsaw fence ½ in. from the blade and cut off the back of the box. Use a steady feed rate and keep the stock flush against the fence.



-10 -

The box takes shape.

Once the overall shape is cut and the back has been removed, you have the makings of a nice little box of drawers.

TRINIDAD



- 11 -

Cut the outer drawers.

With a 3/16 in. blade installed in the bandsaw, cut out the two end drawers, entering from the side and cutting with the grain.

— 12 **—**

Cut the middle drawer.

For the middle drawer, enter from the side, going with the grain, and make a sharp turn to cut out the circle.



— 13 —

Close up the cuts.

Add a little glue to each of the three entry cuts, and then clamp them closed. The wood is delicate at this point, so don't overtighen the clamps.



— 14 —

Re-attach the back.

Once the glue dries from the previous step, you can glue the back in place.

- 15 -

Clamp it up.

Use plenty of clamps to secure the back in place. Look for glue squeeze-out along the seams to ensure a good glue joint.



THE STATE OF THE S

— 16 —

Remove the back.

Back at the bandsaw, cut ½ in. off the front and back of the drawers. Because the drawers have no flat surfaces to rest on the bandsaw table, use a handclamp to help guide them through the blade.

TRINIDAD



-17 -

Keep it organized.

Once the fronts and backs of the drawers are cut loose, keep the sets together so that the fronts will all match up once the drawers are installed.

— 18 —

Draw out the drawer waste.

Drawing these out freehand is fine—just sketch in drawer sides of equal thickness (about 3% in.) that end about a third of the way down from the top.



— 19 —

Make it a drawer.

Back at the bandsaw, remove the waste section of each drawer.

— 20 —

Rebuild the drawer.

Reassemble the drawer parts using a bit of glue on the edges of the middle sections, securing them in place with clamps.



-21-

Shape the box.

Take the outer shell over to the disc sander and sand down to the line. The tight curves are best sanded by hand.

-22 -

Round it over.

Using a 1/8 in. round over bit in your router table, smooth the edges of the shell and drawer. If you prefer, you can achieve the same results with sandpaper or a rasp.



TRINIDAD



— 23 **—**

Clean up the curves.

Whether you have a router table or not, there are areas the router bit cannot reach.

A rasp comes in handy.

-24 -

Make your pulls.

Use a plug cutter at the drill press to create the drawer pulls. These can be cut from the waste pieces of the drawers.



— 25 —

Attach the pulls.

Glue the drawer pulls in place on the centers of the drawers using yellow glue. You can secure them with clamps or just walk away and let them dry.



— 26 —

Apply a finish.

I use a mix of linseed oil, polyurethane, and mineral spirits to finish off the box. The inside of the drawer and shell are flocked. For more details on flocking, see pages 22-23.

RAISE A GLASS!

The three drawers of this box are a vague allusion to the island of Trinidad, meaning trinity. While building this box is not much more difficult than earlier projects, it is much larger and features more moving parts—which requires good organization skills. To contrast



the darker bloodwood on the front and back of the box, I really like the way the three layered thicknesses of poplar create visible glue lines across

the width that emphasize the shape of the box. And building this box likely helped you find more creative ways to sand and smooth the tight inside corners.

Again, don't forget to celebrate new or honed skills and another job well done with a cold beer

in hand. Caribbean breweries are distinctly regional, and on the island of Trinidad, Carib is king. I'd go with their lager—after working in a dusty shop and perhaps even working up a sweat, this nice light and refreshing lager puts your mind at ease. It's as if you and your bloodwood box were all alone on a quiet Caribbean beach.







Inspired by the Rocky Mountain State

TOOLS

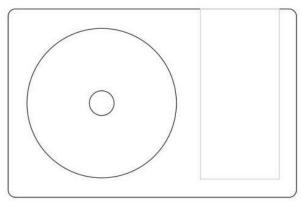
- > Bandsaw
- > Yellow wood glue
- > F-style clamps
- > Spray adhesive
- > Disc sander
- Router in router table or rasp
- Palm or random orbit sander
- > Spring clamp
- Flocking fibers and flocking adhesive
- > Disposable brush
- > Drill press

MATERIALS

- > 1 piece of walnut, 3/4 x 7 x 5 in.
- 2 pieces of bamboo plywood, ³/₄ x 7 x 5 in.
- > Drawer pulls

Now we're going to add a little bit of functionality to our bandsaw box. The Colorado box not only has a drawer, but also a pencil and pen holder which makes this a great desktop organizer. This box requires a slightly different method of glue-up than a traditional bandsaw box. Let's begin!

TEMPLATE



Photocopy at 200%.

To download this template online, go to Makesomething.com/bandsawboxbook

COLORADO



-1-

Get off to a new start.

Unlike other boxes, this one requires you to cut out the pencil holder area before the initial glue-up. Start with a piece that's at least 7 x 5 in. and at least 13/4 in. thick.

I'm using 2 in. thick walnut.

Build your box blank.

Spread the glue and clamp the two bamboo faces to the walnut core.



— 3 —

Apply the template.

Use spray adhesive to attach the printed template to the front of the box blank.

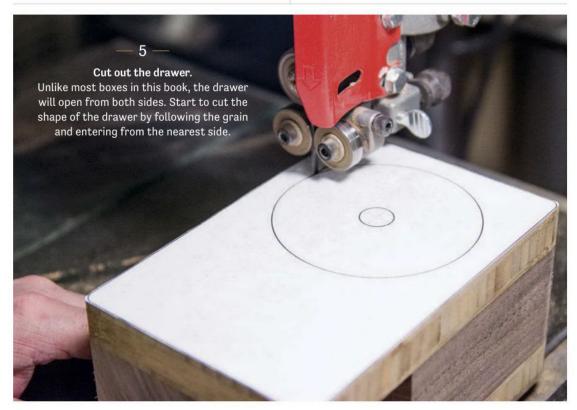
52 THE NEW BANDSAW BOX

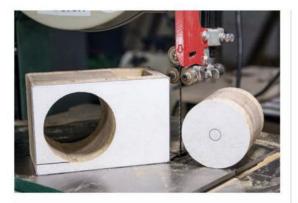


-4 -

Cut the box to shape.

When the glue dries, bandsaw the outer shape, staying close to the line but without cutting into it. In a later step you'll sand down to the line.





— 6 **—**

The box is shaping up.
Here's what your box should look like
with the drawer cut out.





— 8 **—**

Separate the drawer parts.

After completing both cuts on the drawer, you can separate the front and back and focus on the center section.

Mark the drawer opening.

Draw out the waste area on the center of the drawer. Drawing it out freehand is fine—just aim for sides about 3% in. thick.



— 10 —

Cut the drawer sides.

Head back to the bandsaw to remove the waste area of the drawer.

COLORADO



- 11 -

Rebuild the drawer.

Use yellow glue and plenty of clamps to re-attach the front and back of the drawer to the center section.

— 12 —

Close up the box.

Add a bead of glue to the kerf left when you started cutting out the drawer. Clamp it closed with a clamp or two.



— 13 —

Sand to the line.

Once the glue dries, take the outer shell to the disc sander and sand down to the line. The same thing can be done manually using a sheet of sandpaper set flat on your bench.



— 14 —

Shape the drawer.

Template lines on the drawer may not be visible. To make sure the drawer doesn't fit too loosely, sand it smooth without removing too much material.

— 15 —

Round the edges.

Using a 1/8 in. round over bit mounted in your router table, smooth the edges of the shell and drawer. If you don't have a router table, this can be done using sandpaper or a rasp.



— 16 —

Give it a final sand.

For a smooth box that invites touch and feels good under hand, progress through sandpaper grits to 320.



<u>— 18 —</u>

Drill for the pulls.

You can make your own drawer pulls if you prefer, but I found drawer pulls at my local hardware store. They mount easily through a hole drilled in the drawer fronts.





--- 19 ----

Mount the pulls.

For simple store-bought pulls like the one seen here, just add a thin layer of epoxy to the pull and slide it in place.

RAISE A GLASS!

There's nothing like a project with a purpose.

This small box made from walnut and bamboo plywood has both a circular drawer and a cutout that serves as a pencil holder. If building this box was your first time using bamboo plywood, it likely won't be your last. This rock-hard sheetgood is both stable and handsome, and its unique grain patterns—both on the faces and the interior layers—lend it

OSKARBUTE BREWERT a unique look you can't replicate with hardwoods. Consider surveying your work with a brew native to the Rocky Mountain State.

There's no shortage of great beers coming from Colorado brewers like Avery, Odell, New Belgium, Great Divide, and Dry Dock. But a longtime favorite is Dale's Pale Ale from Oskar Blues Brewery. Just as Dale's made cans cool again, your box here will make pencil holders all the rage. Congrats on a job well done.







Named after the beautiful Italian city

TOOLS

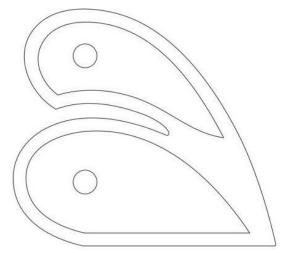
- > Bandsaw
- > Yellow wood glue
- > F-style clamps
- > Spray adhesive
- > Disc sander
- > Router in router table or rasp
- Palm or random orbit sander
- > Spring clamp
- Flocking fibers and flocking adhesive
- > Disposable brush
- > Drill press

MATERIALS

- 2 pieces of Mexican ebony, ³/₄ x 6 x 6 in.
- 3 pieces of Baltic birch plywood, ³/₄ x 6 x 6 in.
- > Drawer pulls

This two-drawer bandsaw box resembles the petals of a flower. The repeating lines of the exposed edges of the plywood and the nickel hardware set this box off from traditional bandsaw boxes.

TEMPLATE



Photocopy at 200%.

To download this template online, go to Makesomething.com/bandsawboxbook

FLORENCE



-1-

Collect your stock.

You'll need enough material that's at least 6 x 6 in. The depth may vary but the five boards here add up to 4 in. I used Mexican Ebony for the outside pieces and Baltic birch plywood for the core.

-2-

Glue up the blank.

Apply a liberal amount of glue to all of the mating faces, and smooth it out to a thin layer using a glue spreader.



— 3 **—**

Clamp it up.

Use plenty of clamps to ensure even pressure throughout the assembly. Then set it aside to dry at least four hours.

2 THE NEW BANDSAW BOX



-4 -

Attach the template.
Position the printed template on the blank. Use spray adhesive to secure it in place.





— 6 **—**

A box takes shape.

Here's how the box blank should look after the initial outside cut is made.





-8 -

Remove the lower drawer.

At the bandsaw, cut out what will become the lower drawer. Use a thin blade and enter from the side, cutting with the grain.

— 9 **—**

Remove the upper drawer.

Because of the sharp corner of the top drawer, it takes two cuts to remove it, each ending at the front left corner



-10 -

Close up the kerfs.

Apply a little glue into the three kerfs you created when removing the drawer.

FLORENCE



-11-

Think outside the box.

Because of the lack of flat surfaces, you'll need to get creative with glue-up. I clamped a 15 lb. weight to the top of the box.

— 12 **—**

Cut the front and back.

Make a ½ in. thick cut to remove the front and back of each drawer. Work smart and use a push paddle to keep your hands away from the blade.



- 13 -

Separate the drawers.

You should now have a total of six pieces for the drawers.



— 14 —

Freehand the drawer opening. Draw out the waste area on the center sections of the drawer. Remove it at the bandsaw.

— 15 **—**

The drawers take shape. After cutting out the waste you should see something similar to the picture on the right.



— 16 —

Reassemble the drawers. Glue up the two drawers using yellow glue and plenty of clamps.

FLORENCE



— 17 —

Attach the back.

Using yellow glue and a few clamps, glue the back onto the box shell.

Shape the drawers.

Sand the assembled drawers to shape. It's okay if you can't see the template line—simply smooth the surfaces while removing as little stock as possible.



— 19 —

Shape the box.

Create the box's final shape using disc and spindle sanders to sand down to the template line. Tight corners can be shaped by hand using rasps and sandpaper.





— 21 —

The final sanding.

For a box that is very smooth and begs to be touched, sand to 320 grit.

— 22 —

Finish it off.

Apply finish to the shell and drawers. Once the finish dries, I flock the inside of the drawers and shells. For more detail on flocking, see pages 22-23.







-24 -

Install the pulls.

Attach the drawer pulls using five-minute epoxy. Simply place a few drops of epoxy in the shallow hole and slide the pull into place.

RAISE A GLASS!

The Florence box has a unique and playful design that was perhaps a challenge to shape and sand but well worth the trouble. As in earlier projects, the exposed edges of the plywood core feature light and dark streaks

that both contrast and complement the walnut faces. The silver pulls lend a touch of class that is perfectly aligned with the refined design.

At least that's what I see. Take a closer look yourself over a beer and be your own judge. Sure, you could do so with a Birra Moretti or a Peroni—both fine Italian beers that have stood the test of time. But after

making a box this unique, you want a special beer from one of the first artisanal brewers in Italy. Try the Xyauyù Barrel from Le Baladin. It's a barleywine beer aged in oak rum barrels that looks like port—a brew as unique as the Florence box design.







Inspired by the Windy City

TOOLS

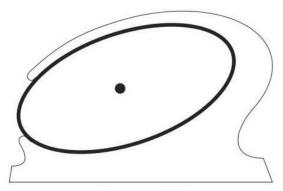
- > Bandsaw
- Yellow wood glue
- > F-style clamps
- > Spray adhesive
- > Disc sander
- Router in router table or rasp
- Palm or random orbit sander
- > Spring clamp
- Flocking fibers and flocking adhesive
- > Disposable brush
- > Drill press
- > Saw

MATERIALS

- > 2 pieces of morado, 3/4 x 8 x 4 in.
- 3 pieces of Baltic birch plywood, ³/₄ x 8 x 4 in.
- Dowel for Drawer Pull, 3/16 in. diameter

The Chicago box is my most popular bandsaw box to date. It has a very non-traditional open end that exposes the drawer and also opens from both sides. This is a fun project that'll surely catch the viewer's eye.

TEMPLATE



Photocopy at 200%.

To download this template online, go to Makesomething.com/bandsawboxbook

CHICAGO



-1-

Cut stock to size.

To start off you need enough material that's at least 8 x 4 in. Depth may vary but the five boards seen here add up to 4 in.

-2 -

Assemble the box blank.

Glue the five boards together using yellow glue. Use a spreader to achieve a thin, even coat on mating faces.



— 3 **—**

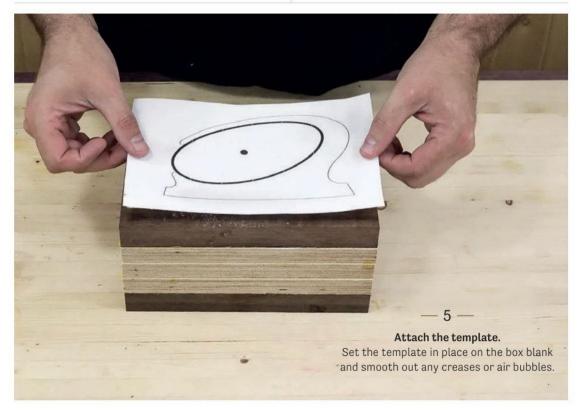
Clamp it up.

Clamp up the assembly using plenty of clamps. You should see glue squeeze-out at each of the seams.

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Prepare the template.Evenly coat the back of the printed template with spray adhesive.

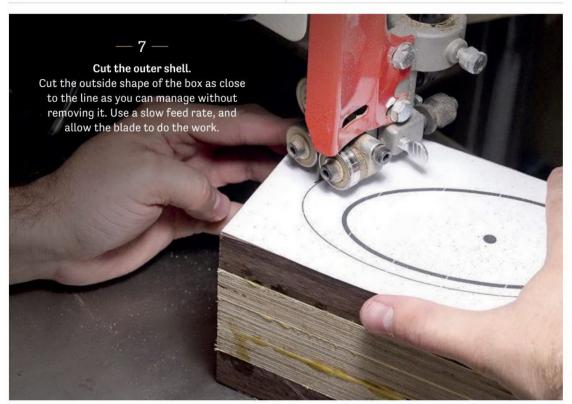




— 6 **—**

Install the right blade.

Use a thin 3/16 in. skip tooth blade with four teeth per inch. A higher tooth count won't remove waste quickly, which causes burning and allows the blade to wander.





-8-

I can see it from here.

Once the shape of the shell is created, you will begin to see how the finished box will appear.

— 9 **—**

Cut out the drawer.

Unlike most boxes in this book, the drawer will open from both sides. Begin to cut out the shape of the drawer by entering and exiting from the open side.



-10 -

Remove the drawer.

Once the drawer is cut away you should have the basic shape of both the shell and the drawer.



- 11 -

Cut apart the drawer. Set the bandsaw fence ½ in. from the blade and remove both the front and back of the drawer. Using a push paddle helps prevent rocking as you cut.

— 12 —

Inspect the drawer.

You should now have the three pieces that make up the box's drawer.



— 13 —

Draw out the drawer.

The opening in the drawer can be sketched onto the stock freehand. Aim for sides that are roughly 3/8 in. thick.



— 14 —

Remove the drawer waste.

Head back to the bandsaw to remove the waste from the center section of the drawer.

— 15 —

Reassemble the drawer.

Use yellow glue and plenty of clamps to glue the three pieces of the drawer back together.



— 16 —

Shape the drawer.

Use a disc sander to sand down to the line. If you can't see the template line, sand it smooth, but remove as little material as possible.



-17 -

Shape the shell.

Sand down to the line on the shell of the box. Use a spindle sander to reach into the tight curves. Alternately, you can use sandpaper wrapped around a dowel.

-18 -

Round the edges.

Use a rasp or heavy sandpaper to put a slight roundover on the edges of the shell and the drawer.



<u>— 19 — </u>

And now some final sanding.

Bandsaw boxes should be smooth and invite touch. To achieve this look, sand down to 320 grit.



-24 -

Add a drawer pull.

This pull design couldn't be more simple. Just drill a hole in the drawer fronts, apply a little glue, and slide a dowel in the hole. Trim the dowel to the desired length. Add some finish and you're all done!

RAISE A GLASS!

Reflect, find center, grab a bottle of beer and consider the Chicago design. Lookit: a C for Chicago. I can do literal, too. This project was rewarding and represented firsts on at least two fronts: the push-through design means that the drawer can be opened from

either side of the box; and the C shape of the box itself was the first I've made where the drawer was not encased on all sides. I still love the horizontal

shadow lines the open box creates on the side of the drawer. I even patted myself on the back and raised a beer.

Chicago is a great town for beer drinkers and boxmakers alike, and you can likely find many

> fine beers that would serve your going with the Daisy Cutter Pale Ale from Half Acre Beer Company or Goose Island's Matilda Belgian-Style

AERE







Inspired by the city known for fashion and design

TOOLS

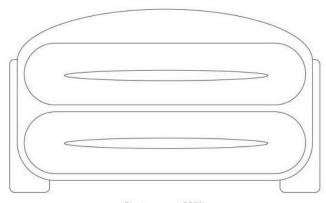
- Bandsaw
- Yellow wood glue
- F-style clamps
- Spray adhesive
- Disc sander
- Router in router table or rasp
- Palm or random orbit sander
- > Spring clamp
- Flocking fibers and flocking adhesive
- > Disposable brush

MATERIALS

- 2 pieces of zebrawood, 3/4 x 9 x 5 in.
- > 4 pieces of Baltic birch plywood, ¾ x 9 x 5 in.
- 2 pieces of walnut, 2 x 9 x 5 in.
- > Drawer pulls

Of all the bandsaw boxes I've designed, the Milan is my favorite. It uses three types of woods—zebrawood, Baltic birch plywood, and walnut—that complement each other nicely. Unlike other bandsaw boxes I've seen, the drawers aren't flush with the front of the box but stick out instead, adding a bit of pop to the overall design.

TEMPLATE



Photocopy at 250%.

To download this template online, go to Makesomething.com/bandsawboxbook



-1-

Glue up the blank.

Start off by gluing 9 x 5 in. boards together using yellow glue and clamps. I'm using two pieces of 3/4 in. zebrawood and four pieces of 3/4 in. Baltic birch plywood.

-2 -

Apply the template.

Once the glue dries, apply the printed template to the front of the box blank using spray adhesive.



— 3 **—**

Shape the shell.

At the bandsaw, cut the outside of the box shell to shape. Cut as close to the line as you can without touching it.



The box takes shape.
Once the shell is cut to shape you begin to see how the finished box will appear.





— 6 **—**

Use a thin blade.

Make sure you're using a thin blade like the 3/16 in. skip tooth blade seen here—to better handle the sharp turns of the drawers.





Preparing the blank.

Once the back is removed and the two drawer openings are removed, you should have two pieces that look similar to this.

— 9 **—**

Sand the inner shell.

Before gluing the back on, sand the insides of the drawer openings. A spindle sander comes in handy for this.



-10 -

Re-attach the back.

Use yellow glue and plenty of clamps to attach the back. To create gluelines that are invisible, make sure the grain lines up.



- 11 -

Prepare the drawer blanks.

Print another template, cut out the drawer sections, and glue them in place on the 2 in. thick walnut stock you're using for the drawers.

— 12 —

Cut the drawers to shape.

Cut the drawer blanks to shape. Notice that for this box the blank should be deeper than the box blank, which allows the drawers to project beyond the front of the box shell.



— 13 —

Remove the fronts and backs.

On each drawer blank, cut away ½ in. from the back and about ¾ in. off the front. You'll want the front to be thicker so you can round over the sides.



— 14 —

Take a look at the drawers.

To create the drawers, you should end up with six pieces that appear like the photo to the left.

— 15 **—**

Draw the cutout.

Using a pencil, freehand the waste area of the drawer boxes. Cut the lines at the bandsaw.



— 16 —

Glue up the drawers.

Once the waste is removed from the center sections, glue the drawer fronts and backs in place using yellow glue and clamps.



-17-

Sand the shell.

Use a disc sander to shape the outside of the blank by sanding to the template lines.



Soften the edges.

Break all the edges and round the corners of the shell by hand using heavy sandpaper.



Finish sand the shell.

Because the outside of the shell is easy to reach, a random orbit sander works well to give the box a final smoothing.





Prepare the feet.

Once the curve of the shell is traced onto the foot blanks, draw out the rest of the necessary cuts by hand.

MILAN



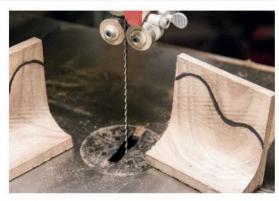
-22 -

Cut the feet to shape.

Use the bandsaw to cut the feet to shape. Use care to make sure you keep your fingers away from the blade. Alternately, use a handclamp to hold the workpiece.

— 23 —

Spice up the feet.Once you cut the feet to fit the box, draw in a few curves to add decoration.



- 24 - Sand the feet smooth.

A spindle sander makes quick work of sanding the feet to shape, but sanding by hand works just as well.



THE NEW BANDSAW BOX

92

— 25 —

Finish off the feet.

Round over all the edges using 120 grit sandpaper and then smooth them to 320 grit. The rounded edges will create a nice shadow line when attached to the shell.







— 28 —

Install the pulls.

Flock the inside of the drawers and install the drawer pulls of your choice. For more on flocking, see pages 22-23.







RAISE A GLASS!

This is easily the most involved box build in this book, and I hope you found it worth the trouble. I know I did. With two drawers and handsomely shaped feet, I like to think of this as a full-size chest of drawers for any 6 to 8 in. aliens that may one day visit in search of well-made and functional craft furniture.

In Milan, style is king. Luckily, a few pioneer breweries cooked up Milanese brews that are



as refined and individual as this box. Baladin Milano is perhaps the most well-known Milan-made beer, and Birrificio Lambrate offers a variety of outstanding beers with Milanese appellations. But, unless you have a beer shop that knows its stuff, some of these beers might be tough to find in the States. So, I recommend



as it was founded in Udine, Italy-the same

city that launched Freud Tools.





Inspired by the Volunteer State

TOOLS

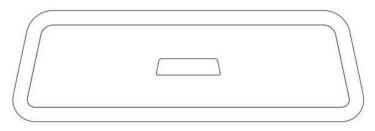
- Bandsaw
- Yellow wood glue
- F-style clamps
- Spray adhesive
- Disc sander
- Router in router table or rasp
- Palm or random orbit sander
- > Spring clamp
- Flocking fibers and flocking adhesive
- > Disposable brush

MATERIALS

- > 2 pieces of walnut, 3/4 x 8 x 3 in.
- > 3 pieces of Baltic birch plywood, 3/4 x 8 x 3 in.

The Tennessee box has a simple, but elegant design. The repeating lines of the Baltic birch plywood core emphasize the shape, and the sleek horizontal drawer pull adds continuity to the overall look. But while the box looks simple, the tight radiuses make for a challenging cut on the bandsaw. Before attempting the cuts for the project, practice a few tight cuts on some scrap to get a feel for the cut. Getting that tight cut requires the right blade (as mentioned on page 100) as well as turning and pushing at the right speed. Think of it like driving a stick shift that requires a balance between the clutch and the accelerator.

TEMPLATE



Photocopy at 200%.

To download this template online, go to Makesomething.com/bandsawboxbook

97

TENNESSEE



-1-

Collect your materials.

Stock should be at least 8 x 3 in. The depth can vary but my five boards add up to 4 in. I'm using ¾ in. walnut faces and ¾ in. thick Baltic birch plywood for the core.

-2 -

Glue it up.

Spread glue on mating faces of each board.
Using a small 4 in. brush or paint roller
makes it easy to apply a smooth, even coat.



-3-

Clamp it all together.

Use F-style clamps to glue up the five boards. Use plenty of clamps to ensure even pressure throughout. You should see glue squeeze out all around. Let this sit and dry for at least four hours.



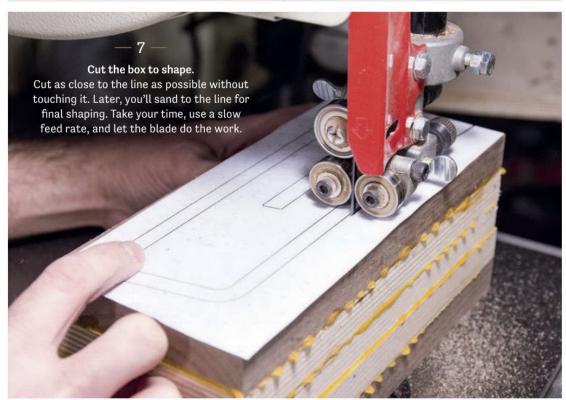
Apply the template.
Print up the template and trim it to size.
Apply an even coat of spray adhesive to the back of the template.





— 6 **—**

Choose your blade. I prefer a 3/16 in. skip tooth blade with four teeth per inch. A blade with a higher tooth count doesn't remove waste fast enough, which causes burning and the blade to wander.





— 8 **—**

Check out your work.

After the initial outside cut is made, take a look at the overall shape. Any rough cuts or edges can be cleaned up later.

-9-

Swith out the blade.

Although it's not completely necessary, I like to switch to a ½ in. resaw blade for the next cut. It leaves a smoother surface and, when used with a fence, cuts a straight line.



<u> — 10 — </u>

Cut off the back.

The next step is to remove the back of the box. Set your fence 1/2 in. from the blade and feed the stock slowly.

TENNESSEE



— 11 —

Cut out the drawer.

Using your 3/16 in. skip tooth blade, start your cut from the end of the box going with the grain. It's important to take your time and cut right on the line. At the ends, take the corners slowly and as precisely as possible.

— 12 —

Put it back together.

With the drawer blank set aside, glue together the entrance cut using a few F-style clamps.



— 13 —

Glue on the back.

Use clamps and yellow glue to re-attach the back to the sides of the box. Align the grain of the two pieces before tightening down the clamps. If properly aligned, the glue line will be invisible when dry.

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— 14 —

Start building your drawer.

Begin by removing the back and front of the drawer from the drawer blank. Cut ½ in. from the front and ½ in. from the back.

— 15 **—**

The drawer takes shape.

With the front and back removed, you're ready to start work on the center section of the drawer.



— 16 —

Sketch out the drawer.

Use a pencil to freehand the inside shape of the drawer. Aim for a drawer bottom and sides that are about 3/8 in. thick.

TENNESSEE



— 17 —

Remove the waste.

Back at the bandsaw, cut away the inside of the drawer. Again, use a slow feed rate and cut as closely to the line as possible.

— 18 —

A drawer takes shape.

With the waste from the inside of the drawer removed, the three separate parts begin to resemble a drawer.

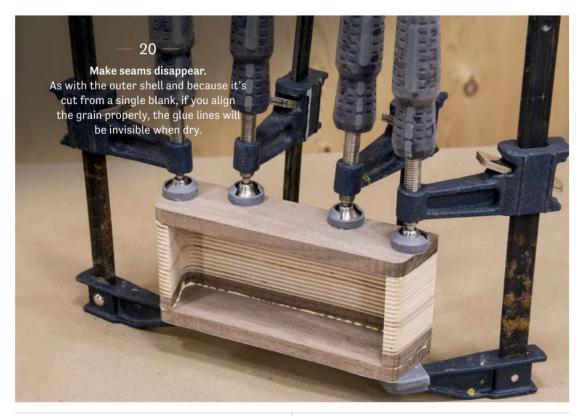


— 19 —

Glue up the drawer.

Apply and spread an even coat of yellow glue to the edges of the drawer's core.
Then set the front and back in place.

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Sand it smooth.

Take the outer shell of the box to disc and spindle sanders, and sand it down to the line. In a pinch, you can perform the same task with almost any sander or by hand.

TENNESSEE



— 22 —

Can you ignore the template?

If you made a few rough cuts or can't see the template lines, don't worry. Just sand it smooth without removing too much material. The more material that is removed, the looser the drawer will fit.

-23 -

Round over the edges.

Using a 1/s in. round over bit mounted in a router table, smooth the edges of the shell and the drawer. If you don't have a router table, just use a rasp or sandpaper.



— 24 —

The final sanding.

A box with smooth edges not only looks good, it also invites touch. Use a random orbit sander or handsand, progressing through grits up to 320.



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— 25 —

Make the drawer pull.

Make your drawer pull from offcuts. For this box, I chose walnut with only a few thin layers of Baltic birch plywood.







-28 -

Flock it.

Tape the top edges of the drawer and apply the flocking to the inside of the drawer and inside of the outer shell. See pages 22-23 for more detailed instructions on flocking.







RAISE A GLASS!

If you've reached this project after crafting all the other boxes in the book, this is really a time to celebrate! If this is the first box you decided to make, even better because this box can be a tough one for a first-time bandsaw box builder. Either way, this a fine time to consider what you've learned building the Tennessee box and to think about what you might like to



do differently the next time around. Perhaps you'd switch out the woods or alter the shape, but I guarantee that you'll come up with enough to

get your mind rolling as you think about your next project.

So do some thinking and raise a glass to your Tennessee box with a good bottle of hefeweizen brewed in Tennessee's capital city of



Company. It's an authentic Bavarian hefeweizen that makes any time of the year feel like summer. If you can't get your hands on a bottle of Yazoo, look to one of the many other Tennessee breweries doing great work: Blackberry Farm and Hutton & Smith Brewing in East Tennessee, Wiseacre across the state in Memphis, or Tennessee Brew Works and Jackalope, a couple of favorites in Nashville. Now, with your beer in hand, squint your eyes and consider the box again. See, now it looks like the shape of Tennessee.





Calling all Bandsaw Boxes...

Not long ago, followers of The Drunken Woodworker were asked to submit photos of their own bandsaw box projects. The response was impressive—in only a few days we had dozens of boxes representing a range of styles and approaches to box design. To see more examples, visit makesomething.com.





≈ Joshua Peters Louisville, Kentucky, USA



≈ Dan Sanford Colorado Springs, Colorado, USA



≈ Andrew Le Gear Limerick, Co. Limerick, Ireland











≈ John Parilla Reston, Virginia, USA



≈ Cristiana Felgueiras Porto, Portugal



≈ Vince Ruscetta Thornton, Colorado, USA













≈ Cy MarsZachary, Louisiana, USA



≈ Ryan Authier Austin, Texas, USA



≈ Doug Williams Tucson, Arizona, USA

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A MODERN SPIN ON A CLASSIC PROJECT

Requiring little material and offering lots of challenges, the wooden box is on the short list of fun and satisfying woodworking projects. In *The New Bandsaw Box Book*, David Picciuto, creator of the irreverent and popular *Makesomething.com*, presents his spin on this classic project with a collection of stylish boxes to make with your trusty bandsaw.

The New Bandsaw Box Book features:

- Eight easy-to-make boxes using beautiful, but everyday wood
- A clean step-by-step format that gets to the point
- Handy tool lists and printable templates
- Helpful tips and techniques that guarantee success
- Beer ideas to "raise a glass" and reflect on your completed box
- A gallery of bandsaw boxes by fellow woodworkers





