

LOWE'S
creative
ideas

for Woodworkers

Create this
**TREE
SURROUND
BENCH**

For a unique
and comfortable seat
underneath your
favorite tree. **PAGE 4**

10 Luggage Rack **14** Card Case **16** Shut the Box Game

Crisp fall air is always inspirational after the heat of summer, making this season a great time to get back into the shop! We've provided plenty of projects to inspire you.

Our Tree Surround Bench will make you the envy of the neighborhood, as it is sure to become a central gathering place. Our quick Bonus Plan Birdhouse projects can be built in an hour or two or can be crafted

into fancier versions with a little more effort. Make your holiday guests feel more comfortable with a Luggage Rack to hold their travel bags, and give them a gift—a Business Card Holder or Shut the Box Game—that they will love.

Visit LowesCreativeIdeas.com/Woodworkers to find tons of projects, advice, and *Woodworkers* blog. Also, check out our series of instructional videos at LowesCreativeIdeas.com/ShopClass for step-by-step guidance. Don't miss future projects!

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CONTRIBUTORS

CHRIS HILL

Inspired by other gifts he's made, Chris designed and built the Business Card Holder, Bonus Plan Birdhouses, Luggage Rack, and Shut the Box Game.



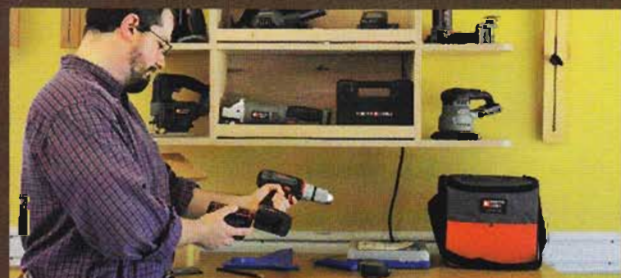
HOSEY HUTSON

Hosey has been tinkering with a design for the Tree Surround Bench, and he finally perfected it in this issue. He prefers an attractive two-toned finish instead of a uniform stain or paint.



GEORGE BREEDEN

George wants to build more of the How-To Plan Power Tool Charging Stations, not only for his woodworking friends, but also for the rechargeable tools he keeps in his own extensive shop.



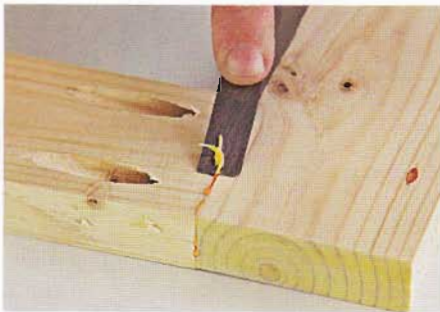
How-To Plan

Visit us online at LowesCreativeIdeas.com/Woodworkers to download projects and How-To Plans, such as our Power Tool Charging Station, which stores portable batteries and tools while they recharge.

Safety Is Your Responsibility

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Q & A With the Experts at



Q I have a hard time getting all the glue off a project I'm staining. I usually discover the spots I've missed after I have applied the stain. I try to wipe off the excess glue while I'm working, but what else can I do?

Some woodworkers immediately wipe off the excess glue with a damp cloth, and this makes sense for most water-soluble woodworking adhesives such as yellow aliphatic resin glue. Another technique is to let beads or lines of excess glue dry but not yet fully cure. The glue will be solid but still soft and pliable and can be scraped clean with a sharp chisel, leaving no residue on the surface. Timing is important, however; if you wait until the glue has fully cured, then it will chip, which can pull fibers and even small chunks of wood from the surface. After you scrape off the excess glue, leave the joint alone for at least 24 hours; then sand the surface and inspect for glue

residue. Test the area by wiping it with a rag dampened with mineral spirits. Glue residue will show up as a different color than the surrounding bare wood. The solvent will evaporate and not interfere with your stains or finishes.

Q What can I do to install hinges better? I have a hard time getting them square, especially small hinges.

The key to attaching hinges and most any hardware involves precise placement and prevention of unwanted shifting or movement when the screws are driven. The traditional means of doing this requires chiseling or routing a mortise that is the exact size of the hinge leaf, which will then nest flush with the surface and be held captive by the mortise shoulders. If you surface-mount the hinge, there's no mortise to restrict the hinge movement. First, consider making a positioning jig that will hold small hinges in place while you fasten them. If the hinges are large enough, you can clamp them directly to the wood before you drive the screws. Second, make sure the pilot holes for the screws are drilled in the center of each hole. A self-centering or hinge bit is designed for this. These bits have a spring-loaded tapered nose that nests in the hinge hole, and the nose retracts as you push the drill bit into the wood.

BONUS PLAN Birdhouses

Craft an attractive home for our fine-feathered friends with these easy birdhouses. Display them nearly anywhere with our cleat system. Find these projects at Lowe'sCreativeIdeas.com/Woodworkers.



P.S. Tell us about your projects and how you became interested in woodworking. Send to *Lowe's Creative Ideas for Woodworkers*, Mail Stop LN312, 1716 Locust Street, Des Moines, IA 50309-3023. If we profile you in an upcoming issue, you'll receive a free Hitachi 14.4-volt 3/8-inch cordless drill/driver kit.



Tree Surround Bench

Take advantage of the shade beneath your favorite tree with this bench.

It comfortably seats six and provides an ideal place to take a break from outdoor chores!

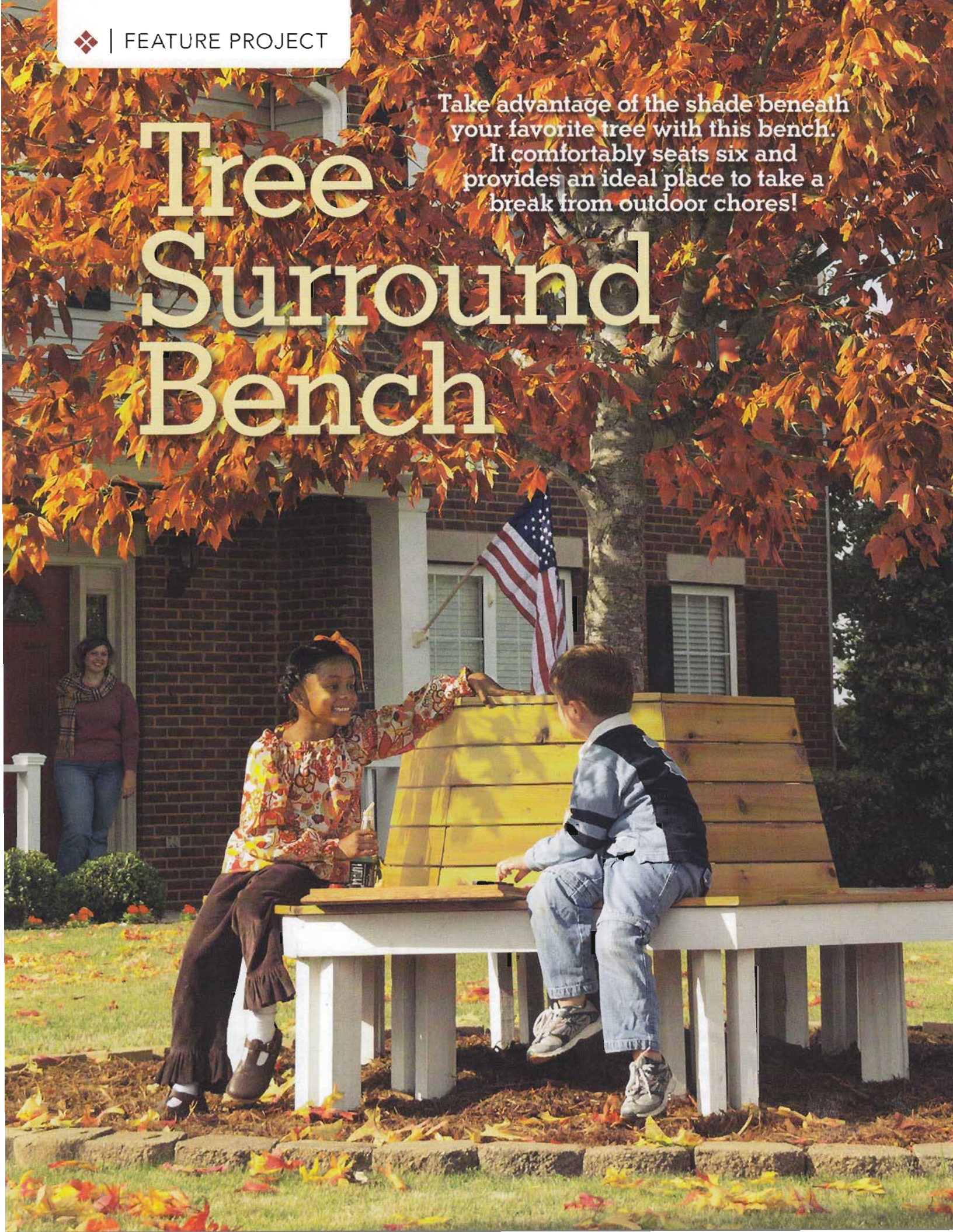
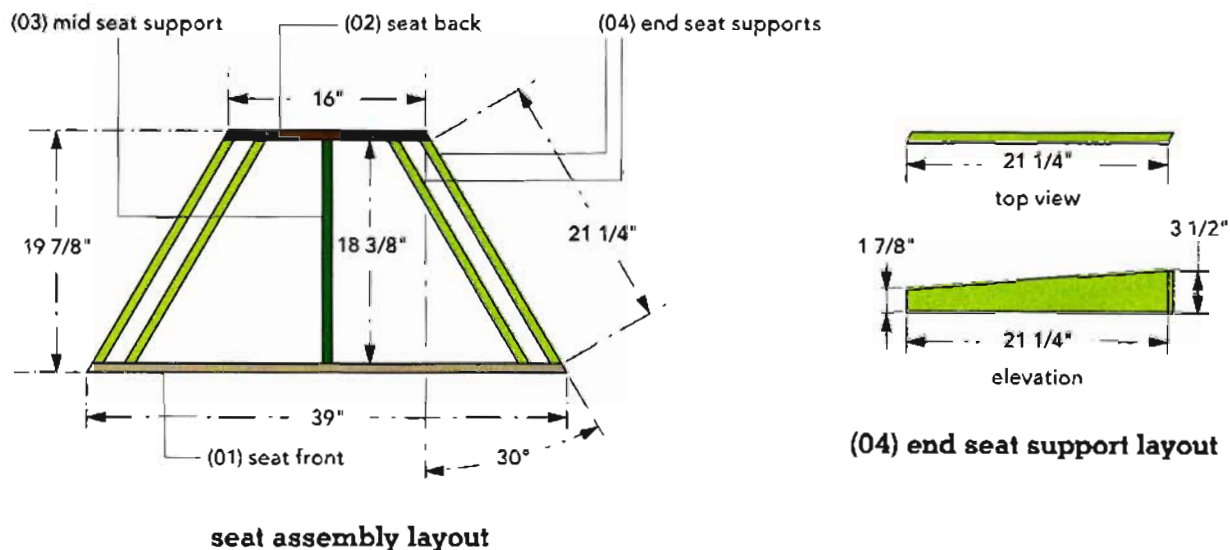
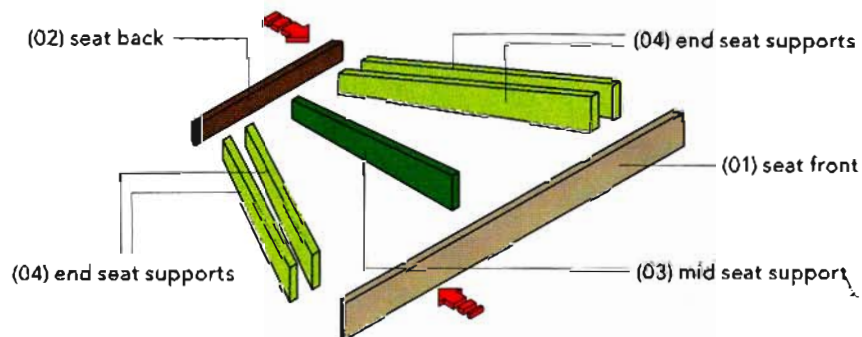


Figure 1



**FINISHED
DIMENSIONS**

HEIGHT
36 inches
 DEPTH
78 1/8 inches
 WIDTH
64 1/8 inches



Instructions:

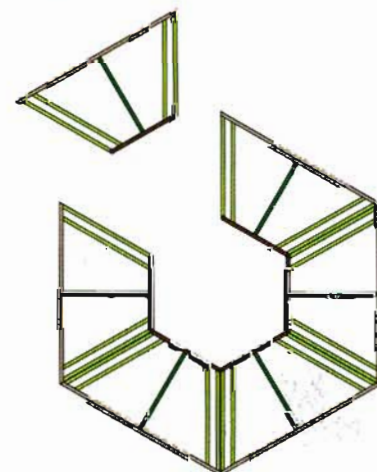
GENERAL: Cut and label the parts as needed, using the Cut List and Cutting Diagram as guides and adjusting for fit.

1 CREATE THE SEAT ASSEMBLY

- Following the seat layouts in Figure 1, measure, mark, and cut five sets of (01) seat fronts, (02) seat backs, (03) mid seat supports, and (04) end seat supports. Be sure to cut mirrored pairs of the (04) end seat supports.
- Following Figure 1, assemble one of the seat assemblies. Use scrap 2 x 4 stock to space the openings between the pairs of (04) end seat supports.

- Attach all parts using glue and nails. Using scrap material, create a jig (see Step 1b detail photo on next page) that fits the shape of the assembly to aid in constructing the remaining assemblies. Build four more seat assemblies.
- Following the layout in Figure 2, join the five assemblies using deck screws and no-glue. Note: The location of the screws should be easily accessible for disassembly later.
- Measure the opening for the sixth seat assembly, and adjust the (01) seat front and (02) seat back dimensions as needed. Cut, build, and attach this final seat assembly to the overall assembly. Mark the final seat assembly so that it can be identified after staining or painting.

Figure 2





■ **Plan for tree growth when you install the bench.** The tree shown here has a diameter of roughly 9 inches and has plenty of room to grow. This bench can be placed around a tree with up to a 2-foot diameter with no concerns about outgrowing the space for years to come. You'll need to adjust the dimensions as needed for larger trees.

2 ATTACH THE BACK PARTS TO THE SEAT ASSEMBLIES

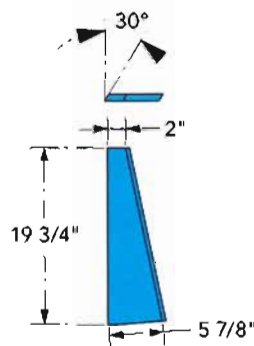
a. Following the seat back layouts in Figure 3, measure, mark and cut six pairs (one right side and one left side) of the (05) seat back ends, and cut six (06) mid seat backs.

b. Position the (05) seat back ends flush with the outer edges of the (02) seat back and outer (04) end seat supports; attach using glue and pocket hole screws.

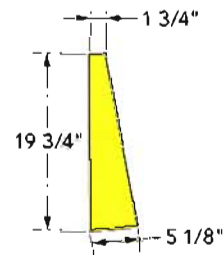
c. Use a straightedge to position the face of the (06) mid seat back in the same plane as the faces of the (05) seat back ends when attaching the (06) mid seat back to the seat assembly. Attach the (06) mid seat back to the seat assembly using glue and pocket hole screws.

d. Position the (07) seat top flush with the back edges of the (05) seat back ends and (06) mid seat back, and flush with the outer edges of the (05) seat back ends. Attach using glue and nails.

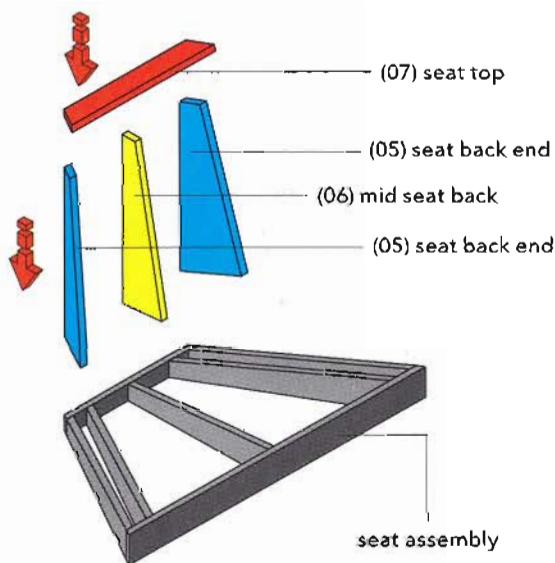
Figure 3



(05) seat back end layout

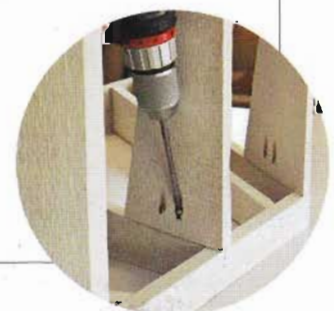
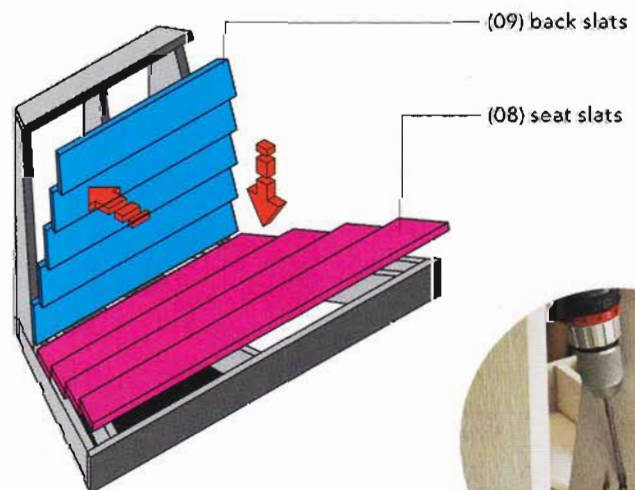


(06) mid seat back layout



Step 1b

Figure 4



Add stone edging and mulch to enhance your bench and create an attractive and functional focal point in your yard.

3 ATTACH THE SLATS TO THE SEAT/BACK ASSEMBLIES

- Use a router fitted with a 1/4-inch round-over bit to cut a slight roundover on the long edges of the stock for the (08) seat slats and the (09) back slats
- Position the (08) seat slats centered on the seat assembly and spaced 1/4 inch apart. Using only nails, attach them one at a time, as shown in Figure 4. Before attaching the next slat, trim each one with a handsaw to fit flush with the seat assembly edges
- Position one (09) back slat centered on the back assembly and 1/2 inch above the top of the (08) seat slats. Attach using only nails, then trim with a handsaw to fit flush with the back assembly edges
- Position the remaining (09) back slats centered and spaced 1/4 inch apart, and attach using nails only, trimming to fit as you assemble
- Remove the (08) seat slats and the (09) back slats and label them, so that after staining, they can be reattached to the same seat/back assembly
- Stain the seat/back assemblies, and apply waterproofing sealant to the (08) seat slats and the (09) back slats. Stain the (10) legs before assembly

TOOLS YOU'LL USE



TABLE SAW



MITER SAW



PNEUMATIC NAILER



KREG JIG K4



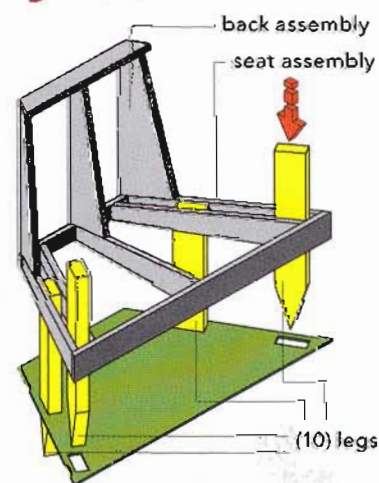
GRACO PAINT SPRAYER

- ◆ TABLE SAW (OR CIRCULAR SAW WITH A STRAIGHTEDGE GUIDE)
- ◆ MITER SAW (OR HANDSAW WITH MITER BOX)
- ◆ PNEUMATIC NAILER (OR HAMMER WITH NAIL SET)
- ◆ KREG JIG K4

- ◆ GRACO PAINT SPRAYER
- ◆ JIGSAW
- ◆ ROUTER WITH A 1/4-INCH ROUNDOVER BIT
- ◆ DRILL/DRIVER WITH BITS
- ◆ POWER SANDER AND VARIOUS GRITS OF SANDPAPER
- ◆ HANDSAW

- ◆ LEVEL
- ◆ STRAIGHTEDGE GUIDE
- ◆ CLAMPS
- ◆ RUBBER Mallet
- ◆ TAPE MEASURE
- ◆ PAINTBRUSH (WHIZZ GREEN)
- ◆ PENCIL

Figure 5



4 INSTALL THE LEGS

- Remove one or two seat/back assemblies as necessary for you to slide the bench around the tree and position it on the ground. Replace the removed assemblies.
- Center the assembly with the tree.
- Between the (04) end seat supports as shown in Figure 5, drive a (10) leg into the ground using a rubber mallet. Repeat at approximately 4 to 6 locations around the perimeter of the assemblies.
- With a helper, slide the assembly up the (10) legs until you reach a mean height of 17¼ inches from the ground to the top edge of the seat frame.
- Using deck screws, attach the assembly to the (10) legs. Drive just enough of

the legs into the ground to stabilize the location of the bench. Turn the balance of the (10) legs upside down, placing each flat end onto the ground. Using a handsaw, trim the portion of the (10) leg that extends above the seat assembly.

- Attach the balance of the legs in the same way, using deck screws.

5 APPLY FINISHING TOUCHES

- Reattach the (08) seat slats and (09) back slats to the seat assemblies using glue and nails, as shown in Figure 6.
- Touch up the paint or stain as needed on all parts of the assembly using a Whizz Green paintbrush.

Lowe's List

□ Rough cost estimate: \$400*

Lumber: \$310

Hardware & supplies: \$90

LUMBER**

- 30 cedar boards, 1 x 4 x 8
- 3 cedar boards, 1 x 6 x 8
- 3 cedar boards, 1 x 8 x 8
- 8 treated southern yellow pine boards, 2 x 4 x 8

HARDWARE & SUPPLIES

- 1 box of (1¼-inch) deck screws
- 1 package of (1¼-inch) pocket hole screws, coarse thread
- 1 box of 4d galvanized finishing nails
- wood filler (Elmer's)
- wood glue (Titebond III)

□ 1 gallon of stain (Cabot PRO.V.T. Solid Color Acrylic Stain, White Base)

□ 1 gallon of waterproofing sealant (Olympic Maximum Toner, Cedar Neutral Tone)

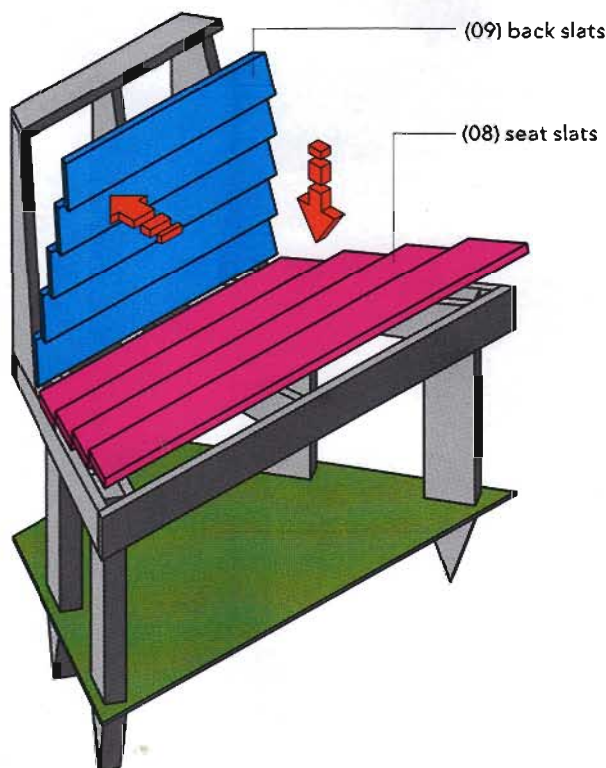
*Does not include applicable taxes, which vary by market, or the cost of tools. Pricing for commodity items may vary due to market conditions.

**Availability varies by market for lumber species and sizes.



To download the Cutting Diagram for this project, go to Lowe'sCreativeIdeas.com/Woodworkers.

Figure 6



Cut List

#	PART NAME	QUANTITY	MATERIAL	SIZE (in inches)
01	seat fronts	6	1 x 4	¾ x 3½ x 39
02	seat backs	6	1 x 6	¾ x 1⅞ x 16⅞
03	mid seat supports	6	1 x 4	¾ x 3½ x 18⅞
04	end seat supports	24	1 x 4	¾ x 3½ x 21¼
05	seat back ends	12	1 x 8	¾ x 5⅞ x 19¾
06	mid seat backs	6	1 x 6	¾ x 5⅞ x 19¾
07	seat tops	6	1 x 6	¾ x 5⅞ x 19¾
08	seat slats	24	1 x 4	¾ x 3½ x 48
09	back slats	30	1 x 4	¾ x 3½ x 24
10	legs	24	2 x 4	1½ x 3½ x 30

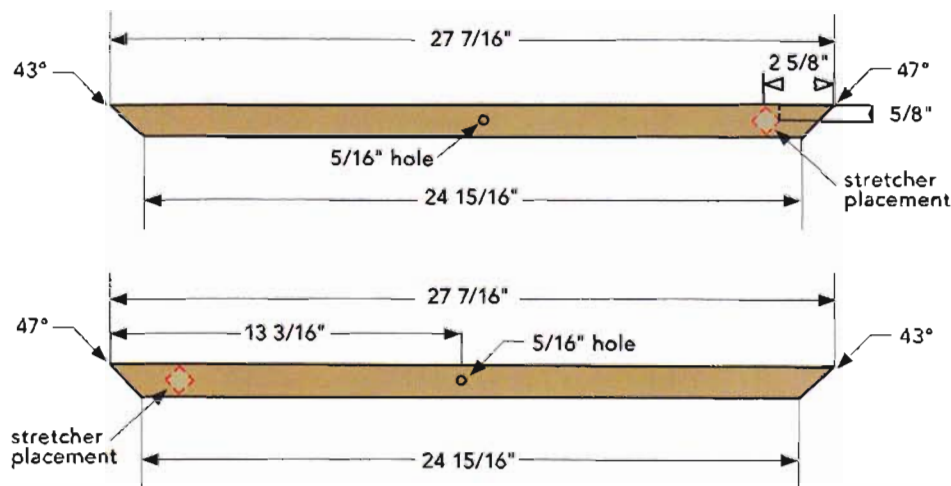
Luggage Rack

Make living out of a suitcase easier on guests with this attractive solution.



When not in use, this project can fold up and be easily stored underneath a bed, behind a door, or in a closet.

Figure 1



(01) leg layout

Instructions:

GENERAL: Cut and label the parts as needed, using the Cut List and Cutting Diagram as guides and adjusting for fit.

1 BUILD THE LEG ASSEMBLIES

a. Following the layout in Figure 1, measure, mark, and cut the two pairs of (01) legs. Drill $\frac{5}{16}$ -inch holes centered on the face and $13\frac{3}{16}$ inches from the long point of the 47-degree end.

FINISHED DIMENSIONSHEIGHT
20 inchesDEPTH
 $18\frac{3}{4}$ inchesWIDTH
 $26\frac{1}{2}$ inches

b. Position the (02) short rail and (03) short stretcher as shown in Figure 2. Attach the (02) short rail to the (01) legs using glue, pocket hole screws, and 4d finishing nails. Attach the (03) short stretcher using glue and nails.

c. Position the (04) long rail and (05) long stretcher as shown in Figure 2. Attach the (04) long rail to the (01) legs using glue, pocket hole screws, and nails. Attach the (05) long stretcher using glue and nails.

TOOLS YOU'LL USE

TABLE SAW



MITER SAW



PNEUMATIC NAILER



DRILL/DRIVER



KREG JIG K4

- ♦ TABLE SAW (OR CIRCULAR SAW WITH A STRAIGHTEDGE GUIDE)
- ♦ MITER SAW (OR HANDSAW WITH MITER BOX)
- ♦ PNEUMATIC NAILER (OR HAMMER WITH NAIL SET)

- ♦ DRILL/DRIVER WITH $\frac{5}{16}$ -INCH BIT
- ♦ KREG JIG K4
- ♦ POWER SANDER AND VARIOUS GRITS OF SANDPAPER
- ♦ CLAMPS

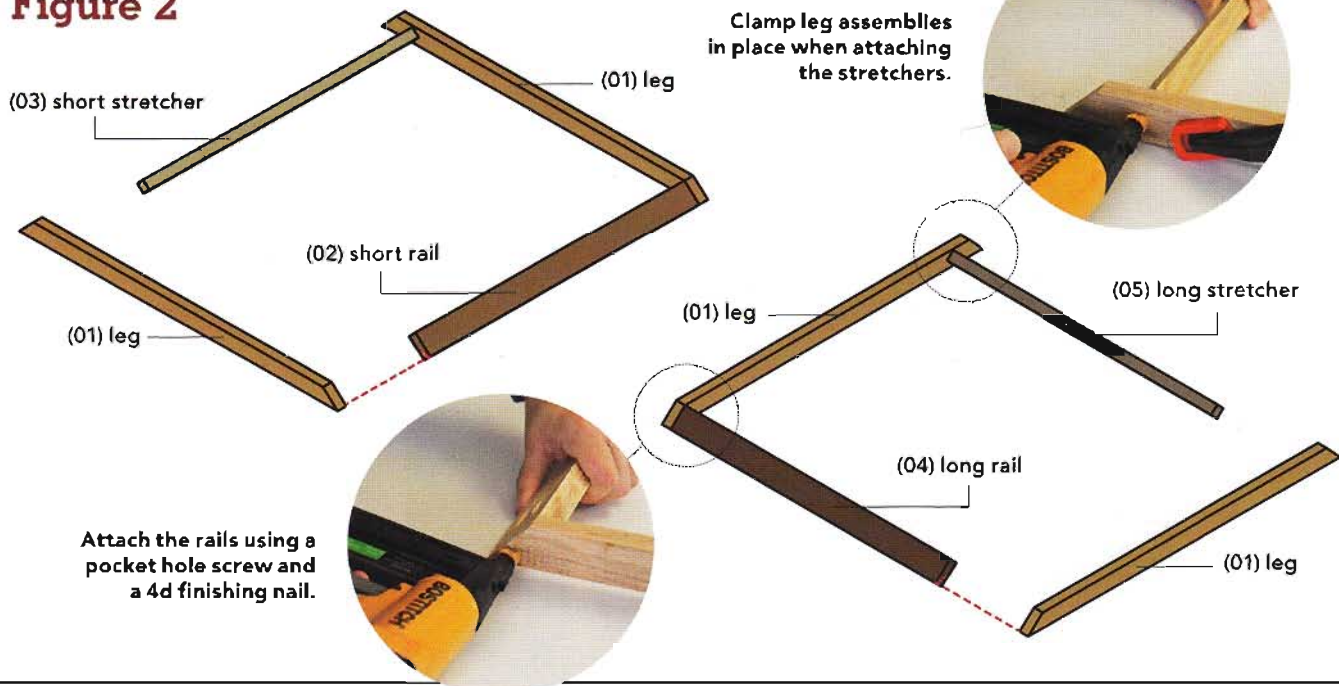
- ♦ TAPE MEASURE
- ♦ PAINTBRUSH (WHIZZ GREEN)
- ♦ GLOVES
- ♦ PENCIL

web
FOR MORE

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PHOTOGRAPHY BY BRIE HUCKABAY

Figure 2



2 JOIN THE ASSEMBLIES, AND ATTACH THE SUPPORTS

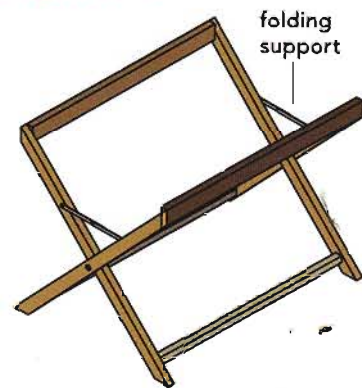
- Place a brass wood insert nut in each $\frac{5}{16}$ -inch hole in the (01) legs.
- Following the layout in Figure 3, position the short assembly inside the long assembly. Align the holes on one side. Place nylon washers between the assemblies, and temporarily clamp the assemblies together.
- Attach the two assemblies on each side using a machine screw, washers, and acorn nut.
- Following the layout in Figure 3, attach a folding support to the legs on each side of the assembly. Center the supports and place them $8\frac{1}{16}$ inches from the

long point of the top end on the outside faces of the short assembly and inside edges of the long assembly

3 APPLY FINISHING TOUCHES

- Fill all holes, sand, and apply stain as desired. Allow to dry.
- Apply polyurethane. When dry, apply a coat of paste wax. Allow to dry.
- Attach nail-on furniture glides to the bottoms of the (01) legs.
- Cut 1 piece of a lashing strap to 27 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches. Test-fit by fully extending the supports and positioning one end of the strap flush with the inside top edge and end of the (02) short rail; clamp in place. Wrap the strap around the (02)

Figure 3



Step 2a



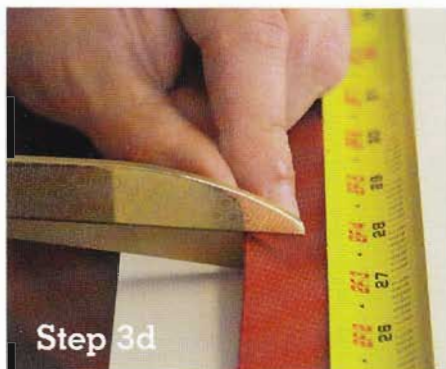
Step 2c



Cut List

#	PART NAME	QUANTITY	MATERIAL	SIZE (in inches)
01	legs	4	1 x 6	$\frac{3}{4}$ x $1\frac{1}{4}$ x 27 $\frac{7}{16}$ *
02	short rail	1	1 x 6	$\frac{3}{4}$ x $1\frac{3}{4}$ x 23 $\frac{1}{4}$
03	short stretcher	1	1 x 6	$\frac{3}{4}$ x $\frac{3}{4}$ x 23 $\frac{1}{4}$
04	long rail	1	1 x 6	$\frac{3}{4}$ x $1\frac{3}{4}$ x 25
05	long stretcher	1	1 x 6	$\frac{3}{4}$ x $\frac{3}{4}$ x 25

*From long point to long point.



Step 3d



Step 3e

short rail starting from the inside edge to the outside edge and over the top. Continue wrapping the strap over the top of the (04) long rail to the outside edge and flush with the inside top edge; clamp in place. If the strap seems too loose, trim it in small increments to fit. Cut four more straps to this length.

e. Space the straps equidistantly as shown in Figure 4, and attach to the rails on their inside faces using stainless steel screws and finishing washers.

Figure 4



Brass and stainless steel hardware and colorful straps add eye-catching accents.

Lowe's List

☐ Rough cost estimate: **\$85***

Lumber: \$20

Hardware & supplies: \$65

LUMBER**

☐ 1 oak board, 1 x 6 x 6

HARDWARE & SUPPLIES

☐ 1 package of (1 1/4-inch) pocket hole screws, fine thread

☐ 1 package of (1/4 x 2-inch) pan-head slotted brass machine screws

☐ 2 packages of (#12 x 3/4-inch) stainless steel screws

☐ 1 box of 4d finishing nails

☐ 2 packages of (1/4-20) brass wood insert nuts

☐ 1 package of (1/4-20) brass acorn nuts

☐ 1 package of (1/4-inch) brass washers

☐ 1 package of (3/16-inch) nylon washers

☐ 2 packages of (1/4-inch) stainless steel finishing washers

☐ 1 left-side folding support

☐ 1 right-side folding support

☐ 1 lashing strap

☐ 1 package of nail-on furniture glides

☐ stainable wood filler (Elmer's ProBond)

☐ wood glue (Titebond III)

☐ 1 half-pint of stain (Cabot, Cherry)

☐ 1 half-pint of polyurethane (Cabot, semi-gloss)

☐ paste wax

*Does not include applicable taxes, which vary by market, or the cost of tools. Pricing for commodity items may vary due to market conditions.

**Availability varies by market for lumber species and sizes



Business Card Holder

FINISHED DIMENSIONS

HEIGHT
2½ inches

DEPTH
1½ inches

WIDTH
4¼ inches

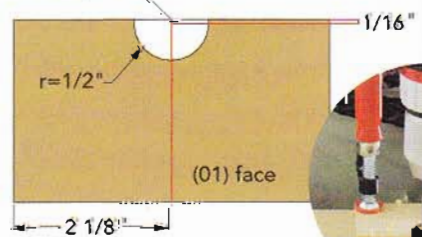
A simple gift is more meaningful when it's homemade. This project can be created in just a few hours from only one board, but it's guaranteed to be used for years to come.

Instructions:

GENERAL: Cut and label the parts as needed, using the Cut List and Cutting Diagram as guides and adjusting for fit

Figure 1

center point for drill bit



1 ASSEMBLE THE PROJECT

- Following the layout in Figure 1 (at left), measure, mark, and cut the (01) face. Use a 1-inch Forstner bit to drill the opening on one long edge.
- Apply glue to one long edge of each (03) side, and position each flush with the ends and sides of the (02) back as shown in Figure 2. Clamp in place until the glue dries.
- Measure the distance between the (03) sides and make any adjustments as needed when cutting the length of the (04) bottom to fit.



Go to LowesCreativeIdeas.com/Woodworkers to download the Cutting Diagram for this project.



d. Following the layout in Figure 2, apply glue to one long edge and to the ends of the (04) bottom, and then position the part flush with the ends of the (03) sides and edge of the (02) back. Clamp in place until the glue dries.

e. Apply glue to the top edges of the (03) sides and (04) bottom, and position the (01) face flush with the assembly's edges as shown in Figure 2. Clamp in place until the glue dries.

2 APPLY FINISHING TOUCHES

a. For a personalized touch, add a monogram. Use a stencil or print letters from your computer, mark the front of the (01) face, and carve out the impression using a Dremel with cutting bit.

b. Sand the assembly, apply a coat of stain, and allow to dry.

c. Apply a coat of polyurethane, allow to dry, and sand with high-grit sandpaper. Apply a second coat of polyurethane. For additional luster and protection, apply a coat of paste wax. Allow to dry.

Lowe's List

□ Rough cost estimate: \$30*

Lumber: \$5

Hardware & supplies: \$25

LUMBER**

□ 1 oak board, 1/4" x 3-inch x 2-foot

HARDWARE & SUPPLIES

□ wood glue (Titebond III)

□ 1 half-pint of stain (Cabot, Gunstock)

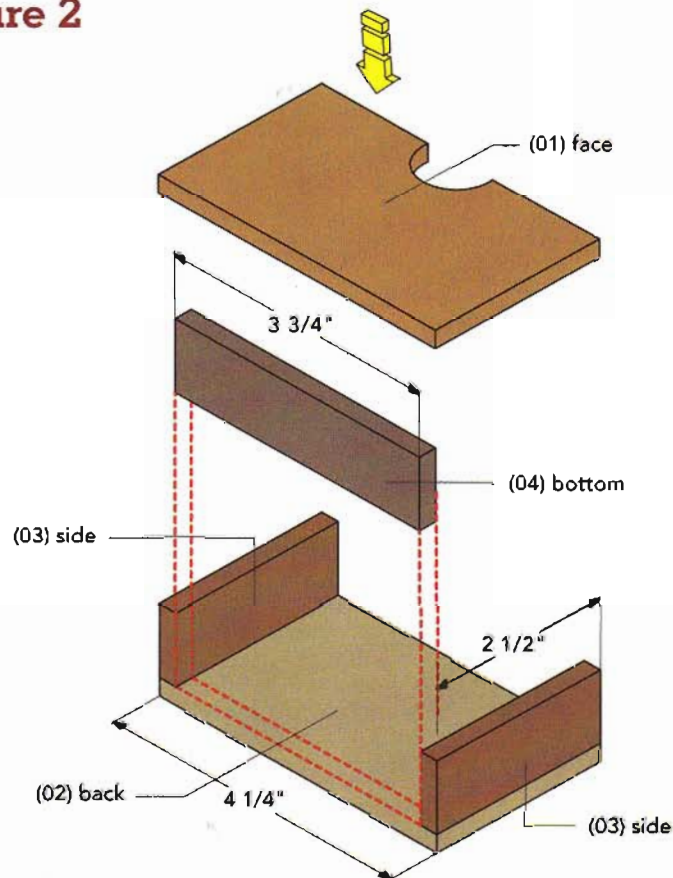
□ 1 half-pint of polyurethane (Cabot, semi-gloss)

□ paste wax

*Does not include applicable taxes, which vary by market, or the cost of tools. Pricing for commodity items may vary due to market conditions.

**Availability varies by market for lumber species and sizes.

Figure 2



TOOLS YOU'LL USE



TABLE SAW



MITER SAW



DRILL/DRIVER



DREMEL



POWER SANDER

◆ TABLE SAW

◆ MITER SAW (OR HANDSAW WITH MITER BOX)

◆ DRILL/DRIVER WITH 1-INCH FORSTNER BIT

◆ DREMEL WITH CUTTING BIT

◆ POWER SANDER AND VARIOUS GRITS OF SANDPAPER

◆ CLAMPS

◆ TAPE MEASURE

◆ COMPASS

◆ PAINTBRUSH (WHIZZ GREEN)

◆ PENCIL

Cut List

#	PART NAME	QUANTITY	MATERIAL	SIZE (in inches)
01	face	1	1/4 x 3	1/4 x 2 1/2 x 4 1/4
02	back	1	1/4 x 3	1/4 x 2 1/2 x 4 1/4
03	sides	2	1/4 x 3	1/4 x 1 x 2 1/2
04	bottom	1	1/4 x 3	1/4 x 1 x 3 3/4

Shut the Box

Create this centuries-old game that can be played and mastered by the entire family.

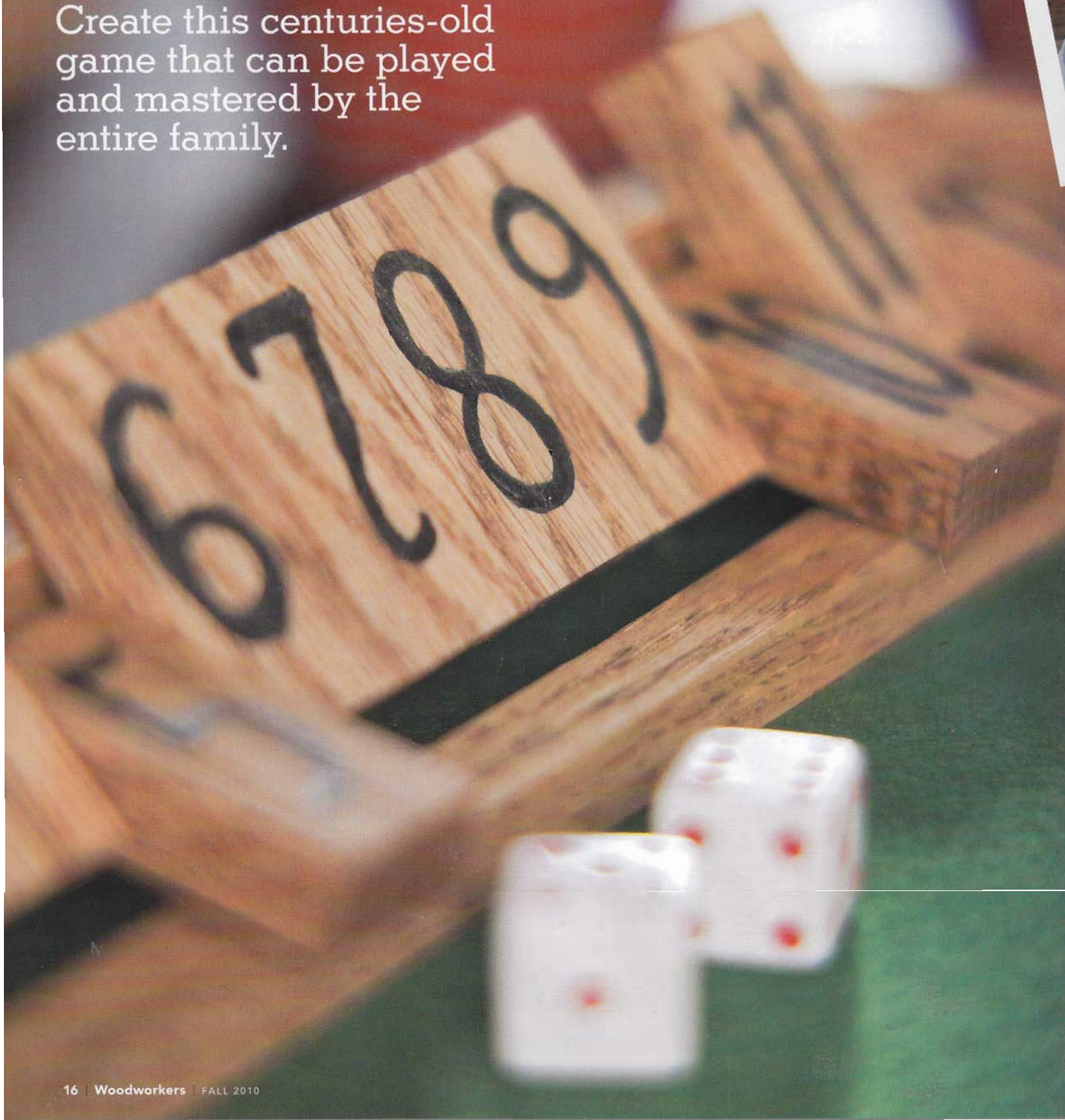
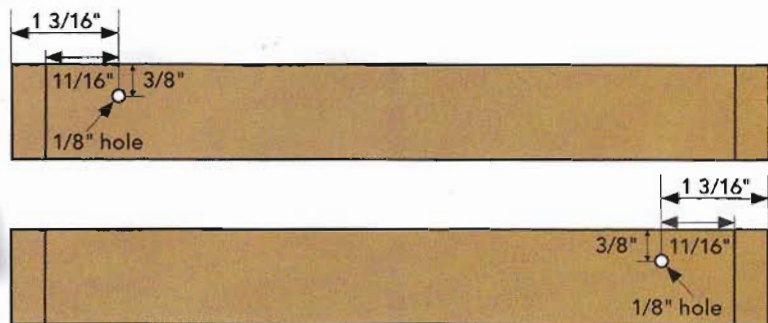




Figure 1



(01) base ends layout

Figure 2

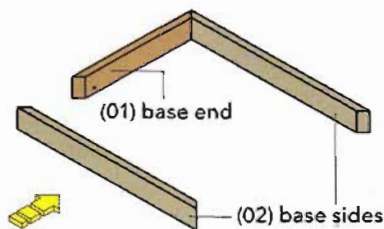


Figure 3

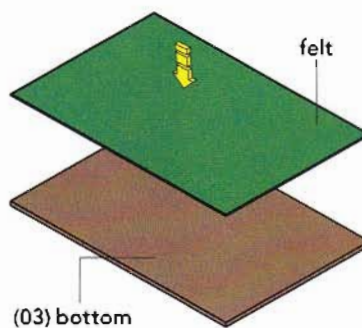
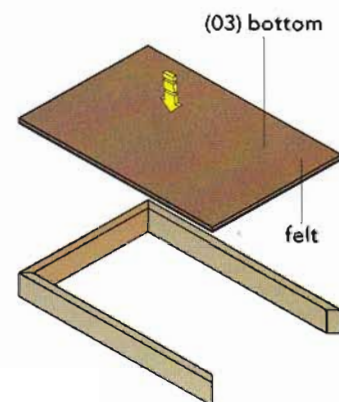


Figure 4



Instructions:

GENERAL: Cut and label the parts as needed, using the Cut List and Cutting Diagram as guides and adjusting for fit.

1 ASSEMBLE THE BASE

- Following the layout in Figure 1, measure, mark, and cut the (01) base ends, and drill a 1/8-inch-diameter hole 1/4 inch deep where indicated.
- Position one (01) base end and the (02) base sides as shown in Figure 2, and attach using glue and 1 1/4-inch brads.
- Sand a slight roundover on the outer top edge of the assembly (where the hole in the (01) base end is nearest the edge) and on the other (01) base end.
- Apply stain only to the inside face of the assembly, and allow to dry.
- Cut a sheet of felt to fit the (03) bottom,

and attach using small dots of glue (see Figure 3).

f. Position the base assembly so that the hole in the (01) base end is closest to the

work surface. With the felt facing down, place the (03) bottom flush with the outside edges of the base assembly. Attach using 1 1/4-inch brads (see Figure 4).

TOOLS YOU'LL USE



TABLE SAW



MITER SAW



PNEUMATIC NAILER



DRILL/DRIVER WITH BITS



ROUTER

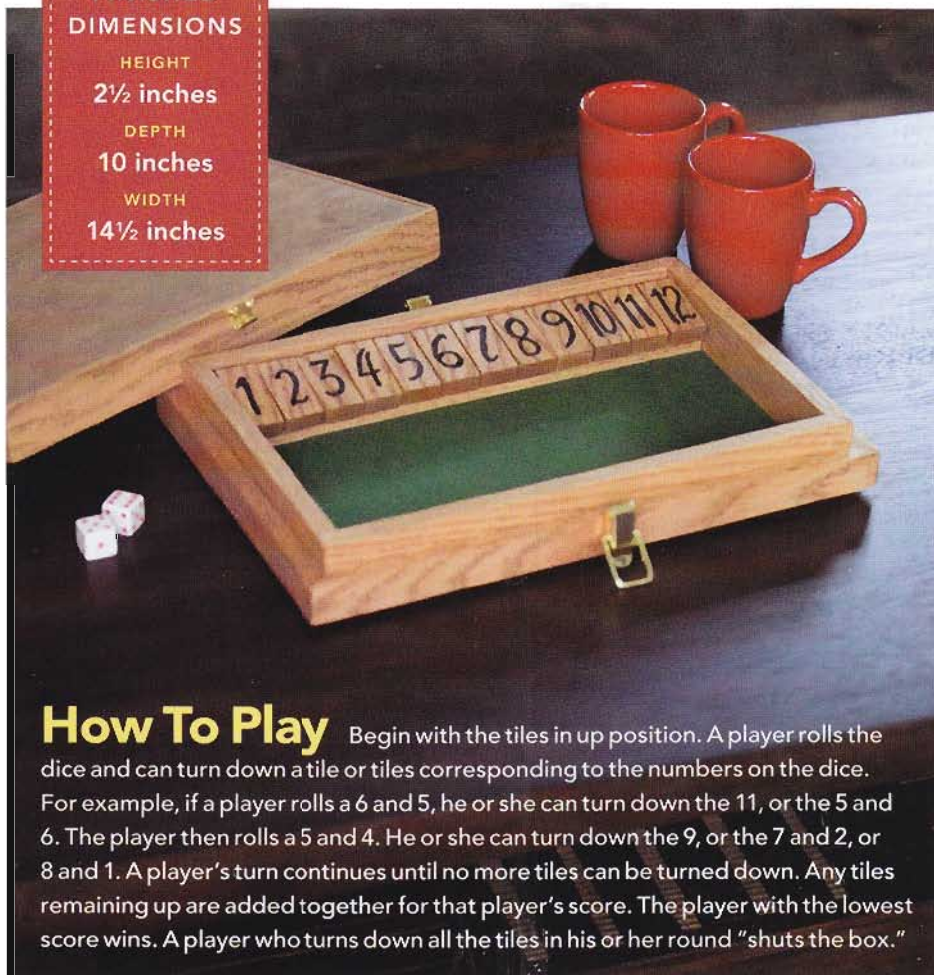
- ◆ TABLE SAW
- ◆ MITER SAW (OR HANDSAW WITH MITER BOX)
- ◆ PNEUMATIC NAILER (OR HAMMER WITH NAIL SET)
- ◆ DRILL/DRIVER WITH BITS

- ◆ ROUTER WITH A 1/4-INCH RABBETING BIT
- ◆ HACKSAW
- ◆ POWER SANDER AND VARIOUS GRITS OF SANDPAPER

- ◆ CLAMPS
- ◆ TAPE MEASURE
- ◆ UTILITY SCISSORS
- ◆ PAINTBRUSH (WHIZZ GREEN)
- ◆ PENCIL

**FINISHED
DIMENSIONS**

HEIGHT
2½ inches
DEPTH
10 inches
WIDTH
14½ inches



How To Play Begin with the tiles in up position. A player rolls the dice and can turn down a tile or tiles corresponding to the numbers on the dice. For example, if a player rolls a 6 and 5, he or she can turn down the 11, or the 5 and 6. The player then rolls a 5 and 4. He or she can turn down the 9, or the 7 and 2, or 8 and 1. A player's turn continues until no more tiles can be turned down. Any tiles remaining up are added together for that player's score. The player with the lowest score wins. A player who turns down all the tiles in his or her round "shuts the box."

g. Apply stain to three sides of the (04) tile rest, and allow to dry.

h. Flip the base assembly over with the (03) bottom facedown as shown in Figure 5. Position the (04) tile rest with the unstained side down, and attach to the (03) bottom using ¾-inch brads.

i. Cut the brass round to 13 inches long using a hacksaw, and insert one end into the ⅜-inch-diameter hole as shown in Figure 5.

2 ADD THE TILES AND BASE TRIM

a. Following the layout in Figure 6, cut the (05) tiles to size, and drill a ⅜-inch-diameter hole as shown.

b. Paint the numbers 1 through 12 on both faces of the (05) tiles, position the top of the numbers toward the end with the hole on one face, and position the numbers upside-down on the other face. Allow the paint to dry.

c. Apply stain to the (05) tiles, and allow to dry. Apply a coat of polyurethane to all sides of the (05) tiles; allow to dry.

d. Slide the (05) tiles onto the brass round as shown in Figure 6. Be sure to place them in ascending order from left to right (1, 2, 3, 4, etc.).

e. Apply stain to the inside face of the second (01) base end, and attach to the open miters of the (02) base sides using glue and 1¼-inch brads as shown in Figure 7.

f. Position the (06) base end trim and (07) base side trim flush with the bottom of the assembly, and attach using glue and ¾-inch brads as shown in Figure 8.

3 BUILD THE LID AND APPLY FINISHING TOUCHES

a. Using a router fitted with a ¼-inch rabbeting bit, route a ¼-x-¼-inch rabbet along one edge of the stock for the

Figure 5

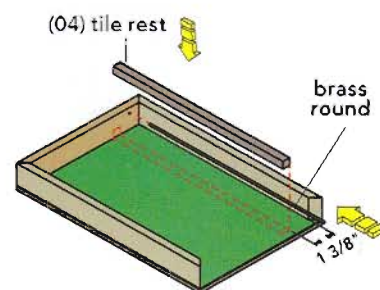
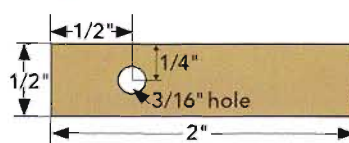


Figure 6



(05) tile layout

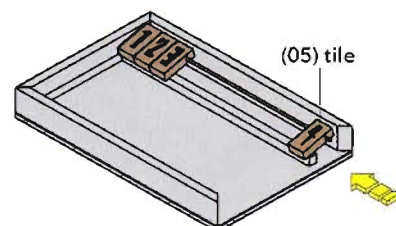
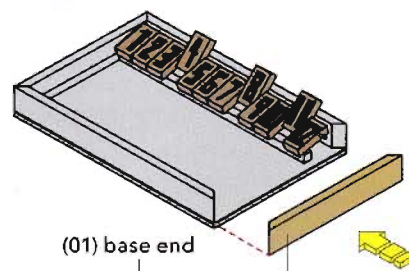


Figure 7



Draw catches make this game easy to transport.

Figure 8

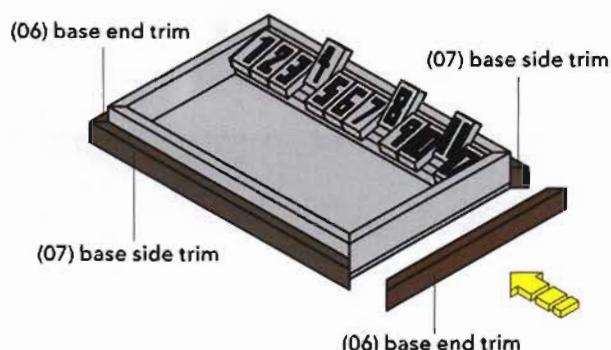
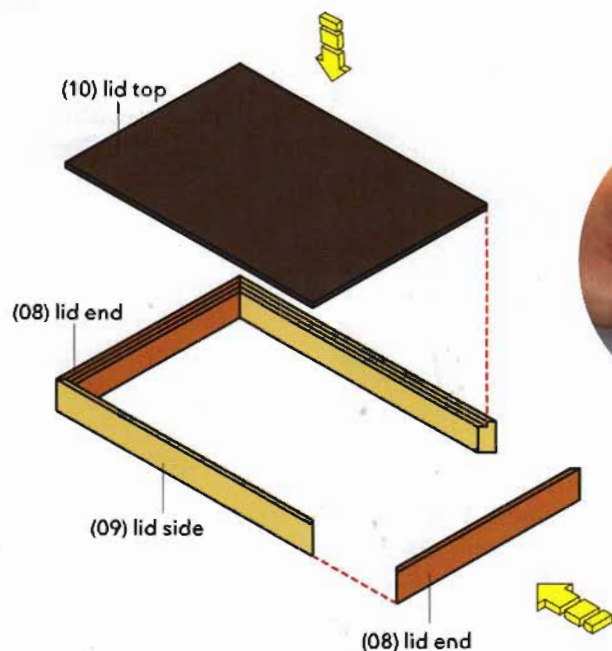


Figure 9



(08) lid ends and (09) lid sides before the mitered ends are cut.

b. Position the (08) lid ends and (09) lid sides as shown in Figure 9, and attach using glue and 1/4-inch brads.

c. Position the (10) lid top as shown in Figure 9, and attach using glue and 3/4-inch brads.

d. Sand a roundover on the inside edges of the (08) lid ends and (09) lid sides.

e. Apply stain and polyurethane to the remainder of the base assembly and to the lid assembly, and allow to dry.

f. Position the lid assembly on the base assembly, and attach one draw catch on each side.

Lowe's List

☐ Rough cost estimate: \$45*

Lumber: \$15

Hardware & supplies: \$30

LUMBER**

☐ 1 oak board, 1/2" x 6-inch x 4-foot

☐ 1 sheet of birch plywood, 1/4-inch x 2' x 2-foot

HARDWARE & SUPPLIES

☐ 1 brass round, 1/8-inch x 3-feet

☐ 1 package of brass draw catches

☐ 1 package of (#18 x 1 1/4-inch) wire brads

☐ 1 package of (#18 x 3/4-inch) wire brads

☐ wood filler (Elmer's)

☐ wood glue (Titebond III)

☐ 1 half-pint of paint (Valspar Ultra Premium, Dark Kettle Black 4011-2, semi-gloss)

☐ 1 half-pint of stain (Cabot, American Pecan)

☐ 1 half-pint of polyurethane (Minwax, semi-gloss)

*Does not include applicable taxes, which vary by market, or the cost of tools. Pricing for commodity items may vary due to market conditions.

**Availability varies by market for lumber species and sizes.

Cut List

#	PART NAME	QUANTITY	MATERIAL	SIZE (in inches)
01	base ends	2	1/2 x 6	1/2 x 1 1/2 x 9*
02	base sides	2	1/2 x 6	1/2 x 1 1/2 x 13 1/2*
03	bottom	1	plywood	1/4 x 9 x 13 1/2
04	tile rest	1	1/2 x 6	1/2 x 1/2 x 12 1/2
05	tiles	12	1/2 x 6	1/2 x 1 x 2
06	base end trim	2	1/2 x 6	1/2 x 1 x 10*
07	base side trim	2	1/2 x 6	1/2 x 1 x 14 1/2*
08	lid ends	2	1/2 x 6	1/2 x 1 1/2 x 10*
09	lid sides	2	1/2 x 6	1/2 x 1 1/2 x 14 1/2*
10	lid top	1	plywood	1/4 x 9 1/2 x 14

*From long point to long point.



To download the Cutting Diagram for this project, go to LowesCreativeIdeas.com/Woodworkers.

HOLIDAY G

New tools and accessories are fantastic gifts for



Porter-Cable 16-inch Scroll Saw With Stand (#93926)

FEATURES: die-cast aluminum table top that tilts for bevel cuts; 2-inch maximum cut at 90 degrees; dust blower.

DeWalt 10-inch Sliding Compound Miter Saw (#294575)

FEATURES: 11 positive stops; 48-degree maximum bevel; 14-inch cutting capacity at 90 degrees; 50-degree maximum right miter cut; 60-degree maximum left miter cut.



Porter-Cable 14-inch Two-Speed Band Saw (#78159)

FEATURES: cabinet-style stand with storage; 16- x 16-inch cast-iron table; table tilts up to 45 degrees for bevel cuts.



Porter-Cable 7 1/4-inch Circular Saw (#40078)

FEATURES: laser guide; 15-amp motor; ball-bearing construction; spindle lock for quick blade changes; kerf cut indicator.



Porter-Cable 10-inch Table Saw (#101711)

FEATURES: cast-iron top; right side ripping capacity of 30 inches; 15-amp motor; dust chute; one step caster stand system for easy transport.



For Little Woodworkers



Red Toolbox (#329999)

FEATURES: a real tool set for kids ages 8 and up; includes hammer, two screwdrivers, file, work goggles, level, tape measure, clamp, handsaw, and tool belt.

IFT GUIDE

woodworkers of all skill levels this holiday season.

Porter-Cable 10-inch JobSite Table Saw (#89913)

FEATURES: transportable; die-cast aluminum top with 24½-inch right side ripping capacity; blade shroud with a 2½-inch dust port.



DeWalt 5-inch Random Orbit Sander Kit (#121351)

FEATURES: dust-sealed switch; 3-amp motor operating at 12,000 orbits per minute; ball-bearing construction; textured anti-slip top and body grip.



DeWalt Miter Saw Stand (#152961)

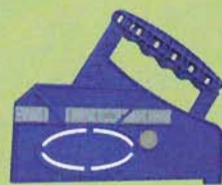
FEATURES: supports all brands of miter saws; beams extend to support material up to 16 feet long and 400 pounds.

Bosch Router Table (#131779)

FEATURES: 15½" x 25½"-inch top; 4⅞"-inch-high fence; two dust collection ports.



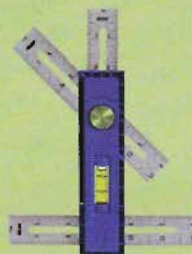
Stocking Stuffers



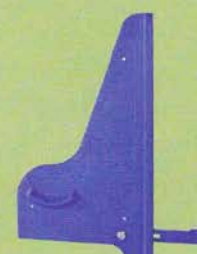
Kreg Multi-Purpose Push Stick (#318917)



Kreg True-FLEX Featherboard (#318899)



Kreg Multi-Mark Layout Tool (#326022)



Kreg Square-Cut Saw Cutting Guide (#326185)



CMT 12-inch Fine-Finish Miter Saw Blade (#103022)



GatorGrit 80-Grit 5-inch Sanding Disc (#250971)

For additional gift ideas, visit
Lowes.com/PowerTools

How To Prime And Paint

Make your project shine with a **perfect finish**.



TIP: Use paintbrushes with natural bristles for oil-based finishes and synthetic bristles for water-based finishes.

1 Select materials and supplies. After you decide on the type of paint you will use (interior or exterior; latex or oil-based), choose a primer that works with it. Use wide brushes for larger areas and smaller brushes on edges and details. Cover your work surface with a drop cloth, newspaper, or old tablecloth.



TIP: Always paint in a well-ventilated area.

3 Prime. Stir the primer, and dip your brush halfway up the bristles. Dipping the brush halfway allows you to paint without constantly reloading. Apply one coat of primer, and allow to dry according to the manufacturer's instructions. Sand the primed areas with fine-grit sandpaper to smooth the surface.



2 Prepare. Use a finishing cloth to clean the sanded surface of your project. To make cleaning your paintbrush easier after painting, pre-condition it with a cleaner that is recommended for your primer and paint (water for latex paints and mineral spirits for oil-based paints). Squeeze the liquid from the brush.



TIP: Paintbrushes can last longer than paint rollers if they are cleaned and stored properly.

4 Paint. Use a clean, pre-conditioned brush for the first coat of paint. Be sure to apply smooth brush lines in long, even strokes. Avoid dabbing the brush on the project surface. Allow the first coat to dry, and then apply a second coat. Add subsequent coats if needed to attain full coverage.

Tools You'll Need



PAINTBRUSH



SANDING SPONGE

Materials You'll Need

- ☐ primer (Valspar)
- ☐ paint (Valspar)
- ☐ drop cloth
- ☐ finishing cloth
- ☐ fine-grit sandpaper (180 or higher)
- ☐ mineral spirits (if using oil-based paint)



To find more beginner woodworking tips and projects, visit LowesCreativeIdeas.com/Woodworkers.

Antique Finish

Give a new project instant character.

Your recent woodworking project looks and feels like a new piece of furniture—but you may prefer an aged-wood appearance, instead. Several techniques can mimic the finish of antique furniture.

HOW-TO TIPS:

- **Prep the wood for painting** by cleaning and/or sanding all surfaces
- **Apply your first coat of paint** once you create a good bonding base. This color will be seen the least when you are finished. Let dry thoroughly.



Create the appearance of a well-loved piece of furniture with a few simple steps. Apply a light color over a dark color, and then sand to reveal the layers and raw wood.



- **Mimic a layered look** by applying coats of one or two other paint colors. After reaching your desired number of layers, use coarse-grit sandpaper to scrape away paint on any portion of the piece that might be exposed to normal wear. You can continue this process using a finer grit paper.
- **Create an antique finish** by applying a crackle glaze to the paint layers. This will make cracks and fissures in the paint

surface. For another look, apply a wiping glaze or a thinned coat of dark latex paint over the entire piece, and immediately wipe with a rag. The darker pigment will look like grime collected in the crevices and corners of the furniture.

- **Add battle scars** to the surface. Several well-placed hammer blows, a rap or two with a length of chain, and a few pokes with a screwdriver or an awl will do the job nicely.

MEMBER PROFILE | Melinda O'Keefe

Her Passion Started in Wood Shop

When Melinda O'Keefe was given a choice to take home economics or wood shop in seventh grade, she chose wood shop. "I was always the only girl in the class," she recalls, "but that never bothered me."

Melinda enjoyed the class so much that she stuck with it throughout high school. "I would skip lunch and study hall to work in the shop," she says with a laugh. Encouraged by her shop teacher, Mr. Potter, Melinda began undertaking projects

that won awards in a local woodworking contest.

Her favorite project was a queen-size bed with a carved headboard and footboard and four storage drawers beneath, which she created during her senior year of high school. "It was

designed to be the focal point of the room," she says. She won first place and created a striking piece of furniture that has lasted. Many years after her high school graduation, she still sleeps in the bed.

In addition to her teacher, Melinda credits her father for her woodworking skills. "He was very handy," she recalls, "and my brothers and I were always allowed to use his tools." In fact, Melinda's brothers became master cabinetmakers. She didn't go into woodworking professionally, but her talent has paid off. Through her business Melindesign, (Melindesign.com), she crafts handmade jewelry for designers.



In her spare time, Melinda still enjoys woodworking, especially refinishing old furniture for her New York State home. She recently bought a pair of inexpensive orange end tables on an online auction. "I stripped them down and found they were solid oak," she says. "I've always loved taking wood and turning it into something useful."





Let's Build Something Together™

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Build and Grow

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- **Encourages** kids to read and follow directions.
- **Offers** parents and children quality time together.

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UPCOMING PROJECTS



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Get spooky with this moving decoration.



OCTOBER 23, 10 A.M.
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Create an optical illusion with this carnival hit.



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Periscope
Peek around a corner and pretend to be a spy.



NOVEMBER 20, 10 A.M.
Snowman
Present a gift card in a cute package.



DECEMBER 4, 10 A.M.
Train Caboose
Bring up the rear with this wooden classic.