

**LOWE'S**  
creative  
ideas

SPRING/SUMMER 2009

# for Woodworkers



## Create a Tiki Bar

Dress up your poolside  
retreat with this tropical  
classic. PAGE 4

shop  CLASS

**JOIN THE CLASS!**

Introducing the online  
Shop Class series of  
projects. See Adirondack  
Chair on page 10 for  
more information.

**10** Adirondack Chair **14** Picnic Tray



**G**et ready for some fun in the sun! The projects in this issue, Tiki Bar, Adirondack Chair, and Picnic Tray, provide ways to enjoy your outdoor living spaces even more. And check out our new departments—Skill Set, a beginner woodworking series, and Lowe's Build and Grow,

which offers a preview of project clinics just for the kids.

We want to hear from you! Go to [Lowe'sCreativeIdeas.com/WWSurvey](http://Lowe'sCreativeIdeas.com/WWSurvey) to fill out an online reader survey, and you will have a chance to receive a \$100 Lowe's gift card.\* Hurry, the survey ends May 8, 2009.

\*To find complete official rules, go to [Lowe'sCreativeIdeas.com/WWSurvey\\_rules](http://Lowe'sCreativeIdeas.com/WWSurvey_rules).

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## CONTRIBUTORS

### CHRIS HILL

Now that Chris's friends and family have seen his Adirondack



Chair and Picnic Tray, he has a lengthy waiting list for building more. He also has found the Crosscut Sled to be useful in many instances.

### HOSEY HUTSON

Hosey crafted the design of the projects in this issue to minimize construction time and to take advantage of some pre-made components.



### BILL LAHAY

Once again, Bill offers his woodworking and carpentry experience in this issue. He provides a great primer on crosscutting with a table saw in the Workshop column.



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PHOTOGRAPHY BY BRIAN FRANCIS (CHRIS HILL PORTRAIT AND HOW-TO PLAN, NEXT PAGE); PADEN REICH/SPC (HUTSON PORTRAIT); MARY LAHAY (LAHAY PORTRAIT)



# Q & A With the Experts at **LOWE'S**

**Q** I sometimes have trouble with kickback when cutting small parts on the table saw. How can I make this work safer?

**A** **Table saw kickback**—when the table saw blade unpredictably grabs a workpiece rather than cutting it smoothly and cleanly—is never welcome, especially when small parts bring your fingers uncomfortably close to a spinning blade.

To help prevent such incidents, use the right type of blade, ensuring that it is sharp, in a properly adjusted saw. A blade for cutting small parts should have a high number of teeth and a thin kerf to provide less resistance. Make sure your saw arbor spins true and that the blade is aligned properly with any cutting guides such as a rip fence or a miter gauge.

Install a zero-clearance insert in the table so that there is little or no gap between the blade and the support surface around it. This will help keep small workpieces from shifting and thus reduce the chance of kickback.

Keep the workpiece size as big as you can for as long as you can. Project parts often have some machined features, such as a groove or other joinery detail, designed to make them fit together with other parts. Whenever possible, machine these details into the parts while you're working with wider or longer stock, then save the trimming or cutting-to-size for

the final step. This sequence will help you avoid cutting the smaller parts as much as possible.

Use jigs or other holding devices to secure the parts during cutting. Simple shop-built jigs made from plywood or scrap stock can lock small parts in position without requiring you to get your fingers too close to the saw blade.

**Q** Are there any reliable guidelines for helping me decide on nail and screw lengths for my projects?

**A** Always try to nail through the thinner workpiece into the thicker one, and use a nail at least twice as long as the thickness of the top piece. For stock of equal thickness, try to match the nail length to the boards' combined thickness and angle it slightly to prevent a blowout on the back side.

If you don't have at least an inch of thickness for the nail point to penetrate into the second board, or if there are other factors such as material density (extremely soft or hard woods, for example) that compromise the holding power or "purchase" of a nail, use a screw instead. Screws provide much greater holding power and don't require as much stock thickness to get the job done. And don't forget that using wood glue will make the bond even stronger so you don't have to rely on mechanical fasteners alone.

## How-To Plan

To download projects and How-To plans such as our Crosscut Sled, visit us at [Lowe'sCreativeIdeas.com/Woodworkers](http://Lowe'sCreativeIdeas.com/Woodworkers). This project is ideal for crosscutting large pieces of lumber with a table saw.



**P.S.** Tell us about your projects and how you became interested in woodworking. Send your responses to *Lowe's Creative Ideas for Woodworkers*, P.O. Box 523-G, Birmingham, AL 35201. If we profile you in an upcoming issue, you'll receive a free Hitachi 14.4-volt 3/8-inch cordless drill/driver kit.



## Safety Is Your Responsibility

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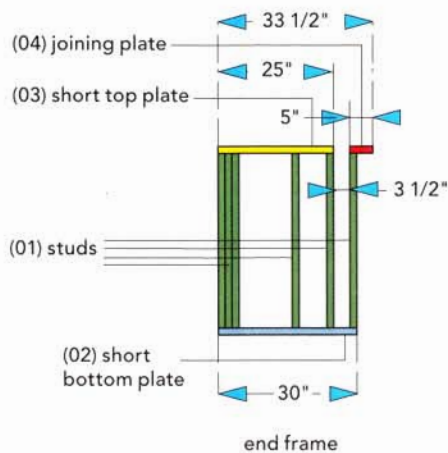
Dress up your  
poolside retreat  
with this  
tropical classic.

# Tiki BAR

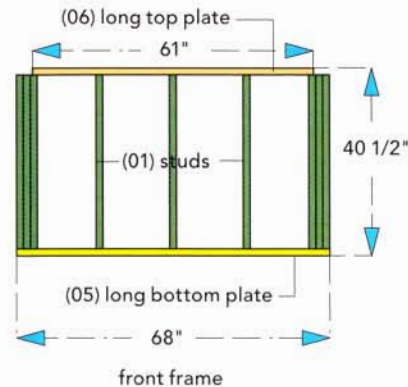
Lowe's carries everything  
you need to clean and  
maintain your pool.



**Figure 1**



**Figure 2**



**FINISHED  
DIMENSIONS**  
HEIGHT  
100 inches  
DEPTH  
59 inches  
WIDTH  
96 inches

**I**magine entertaining friends by the pool with a custom-built bar. Although traditional tiki bars are made of bamboo and have thatched roofs, we chose more durable materials including solid oak cabinets, cedar cladding, aluminum-covered countertops, and metal galvanized roofing.

### Instructions:

**GENERAL:** Cut and label the parts as needed, using the Cut List as a guide and adjusting for fit.

## 1 BUILD THE END AND FRONT FRAMES

- Following Figure 1, assemble two end frames using the (01) studs, (02) short bottom plates, (03) short top plates, and (04) joining plates with glue and screws.
- With glue and screws, assemble one front frame using the (01) studs, (05) long bottom plate, and (06) long top plate as shown in Figure 2.
- Attach the two end frames to the front frame by driving screws through the (04) joining plates and into the end

(01) studs of the front frame as shown in Figure 3.

## 2 ADD THE POSTS AND PANELS, AND POSITION THE CLEATS

- Scribe to fit and cut one half of the lap joint for each (07) post. The (07) posts will be joined with the (23) post tops later in assembly.
- Slip the (07) posts into the opening in the end frames as shown in Figure 4, and secure them to the frames with glue and screws.
- Prime and paint the (08) inside side

panels, (09) side panels, (10) inside front panel, and the (11) front panel. Then attach to the frames with glue and nails.  
**d.** Position the two (12) cleats between the end frames as shown in Figure 4. This will raise the cabinets off the ground and protect them.

## 3 INSTALL THE CABINETS AND TOPS

- Position the 30-inch base cabinet and two 12-inch base cabinets on top of the (12) cleats, and secure them to the (08) inside side panels and to the (10) inside front panel with screws.

### TOOLS YOU'LL USE



TABLE SAW



MITER SAW



JIGSAW



DRILL/DRIVER



PNEUMATIC  
NAILER

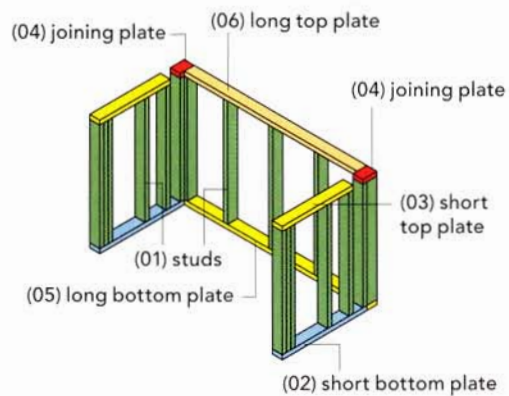
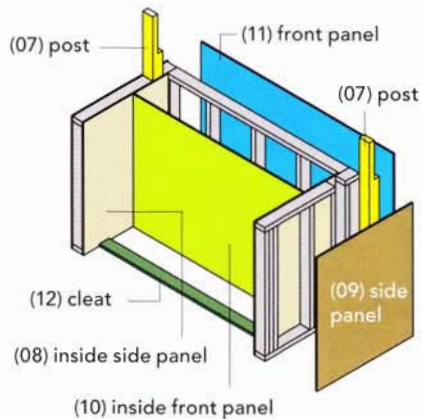
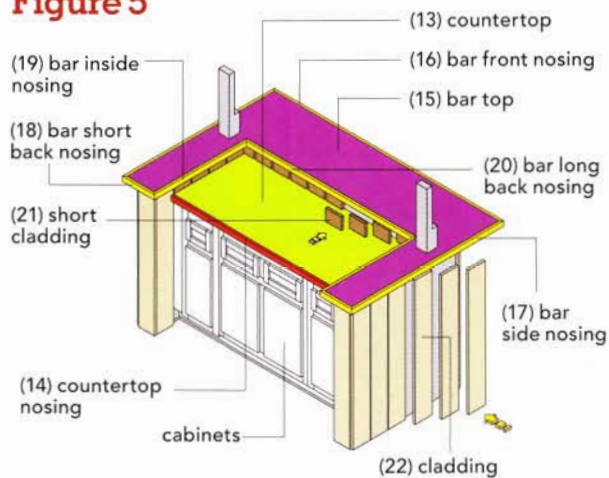
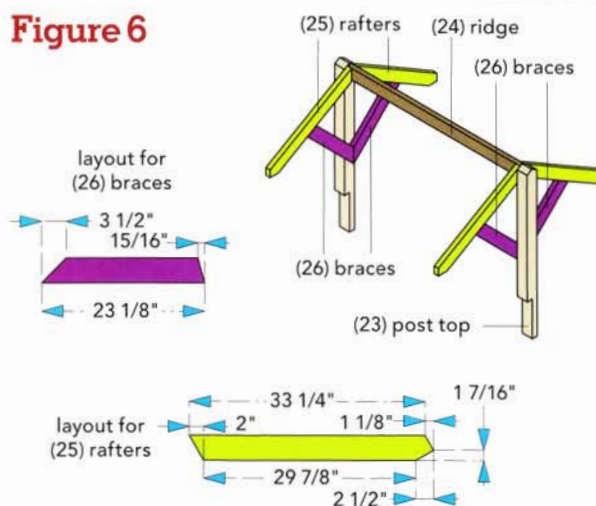
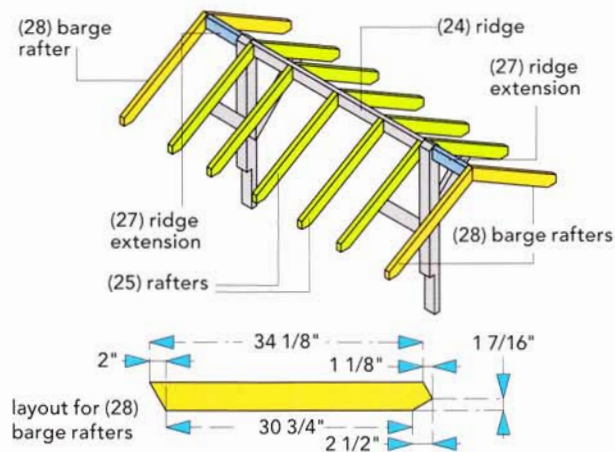
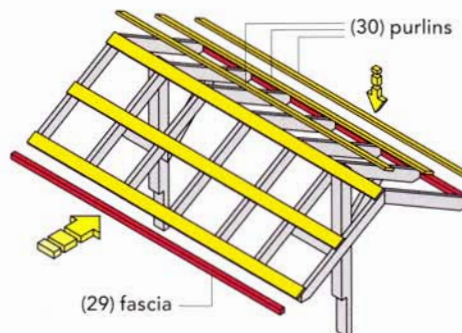
- ◆ TABLE SAW
- ◆ MITER SAW
- ◆ JIGSAW
- ◆ DRILL/DRIVER WITH BITS
- ◆ PNEUMATIC NAILER (OR HAMMER WITH NAIL SET)

- ◆ KREG JIG K4
- ◆ POWER SANDER AND VARIOUS GRITS OF SANDPAPER
- ◆ SOCKET WRENCH SET
- ◆ TIN SNIPS

- ◆ CLAMPS
- ◆ FRAMING SQUARE
- ◆ TAPE MEASURE
- ◆ PAINTBRUSH/RAGS
- ◆ GLOVES (WHEN STAINING)
- ◆ PENCIL



Go to [LowesCreativeIdeas.com/Woodworkers](http://LowesCreativeIdeas.com/Woodworkers) to download the Cutting Diagram for this project.

**Figure 3****Figure 4****Figure 5****Figure 6****Figure 7****Figure 8**



- b.** Temporarily flip the assembly on its front face, and secure the (12) cleats to the bottom of the base cabinets with screws. Attach nail-on furniture glides to the (12) cleats.
- c.** Using glue and nails, attach the (13) countertop to the base cabinets as shown in Figure 5. Attach cabinet filler strips as needed.
- d.** Cut aluminum to fit the (13) countertop; spray the (13) countertop and the back of the aluminum with spray adhesive. Carefully position the aluminum on the (13) countertop, and press it firmly in place.
- e.** Using glue and nails, attach the (14) countertop nosing to the front edge of the (13) countertop.

- f.** Scribe to fit and cut the (15) bar top to shape, and then cut out the holes for the (07) posts.
- g.** Slide the (15) bar top over the (07) posts, and secure it to the frames with glue and nails. Attach the (16) bar front nosing, (17) bar side nosing, (18) bar short back nosing, (19) bar inside nosing, and the (20) bar long back nosing pieces to the edges of the (15) bar top using glue and nails.

#### 4 ADD THE CLADDING

- a.** Using glue and nails, attach the (21) short cladding and the (22) cladding to the panels.



Metal galvanized roofing (above) and aluminum-covered countertops (left) make this a durable structure.

## 5 BUILD THE ROOF FRAMING

- a.** From the centerline of the (23) post tops, mark and cut opposing 30-degree bevels on the upper ends. On the bottom end of the (23) post tops, scribe to fit and cut the second half of the lap joint.
- b.** Attach the (23) post tops to the (07) posts using bolts, washers, and nuts.
- c.** Using glue and pocket hole screws, attach the (24) ridge to the (23) post tops so that the upper edges are flush with the bevel cuts on the (23) post tops.
- d.** Following the Figure 6 layouts, cut the (25) rafters and the (26) braces to shape.
- e.** Attach the (25) rafters to the (23) post tops and to the (24) ridge with glue and pocket hole screws.
- f.** Position the (26) braces as shown in Figure 6, and secure them to the (23) post tops and to the (25) rafters with glue and pocket hole screws.

## 6 ADD THE REMAINING RAFTERS, AND ATTACH THE RIDGE EXTENSIONS AND THE BARGE RAFTERS

- a.** Using glue and pocket hole screws, attach the remaining (25) rafters, spacing them evenly along the (24) ridge as shown in Figure 7.



b. Align the (27) ridge extensions with the (24) ridge, and attach them to the (23) post tops with glue and pocket hole screws.

c. Following the layout in Figure 7, cut the (28) barge rafters to shape, and then attach them to the (27) ridge extensions with glue and screws.

## 7 ADD THE FASCIA AND PURLINS

a. Attach the (29) fascia to the ends of the (25) rafters and to the (28) barge rafters with glue and screws (see Figure 8).

b. Attach the (30) purlins to the (25) rafters with glue and screws.

## 8 ADD THE ROOFING AND FINISHING TOUCHES

a. Using tin snips, cut the metal roofing so that it overhangs the (28) barge rafters 1 inch on each end.

b. Secure the roofing to the (30) purlins using self-sealing roofing screws.

c. Cut the angle flashing to length, and secure it to the roof assembly with self-sealing roofing screws.

d. If desired, add trim from the leftover pieces of 1 x 6 where the (07) posts meet the bar top.

e. Fill all nail holes, and sand any sharp corners. Apply stain to the completed piece as desired.

## Cut List

| #  | PART NAME             | QUANTITY | MATERIAL              | SIZE (in inches) |
|----|-----------------------|----------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 01 | studs                 | 21       | 2 x 4 x 10            | 1½ x 3½ x 37½    |
| 02 | short bottom plates   | 2        | 2 x 4 x 10            | 1½ x 3½ x 30     |
| 03 | short top plates      | 2        | 2 x 4 x 10, 2 x 4 x 8 | 1½ x 3½ x 25     |
| 04 | joining plates        | 2        | 2 x 4 x 10            | 1½ x 3½ x 5      |
| 05 | long bottom plate     | 1        | 2 x 4 x 10            | 1½ x 3½ x 68     |
| 06 | long top plate        | 1        | 2 x 4 x 10            | 1½ x 3½ x 61     |
| 07 | posts                 | 2        | 4 x 4                 | 3½ x 3½ x 58½    |
| 08 | inside side panels    | 2        | OSB                   | ¾ x 30 x 40½     |
| 09 | side panels           | 2        | OSB                   | ¾ x 33¼ x 40½    |
| 10 | inside front panel    | 1        | OSB                   | ¾ x 40½ x 60¼    |
| 11 | front panel           | 1        | OSB                   | ¾ x 40½ x 68     |
| 12 | cleats                | 2        | 1 x 4 x 6             | ¾ x 3½ x 60¼     |
| 13 | countertop            | 1        | plywood               | ¾ x 24 x 60¼     |
| 14 | countertop nosing     | 1        | 1 x 8                 | ¾ x 1½ x 60¼     |
| 15 | bar top               | 1        | plywood               | ¾ x 48 x 73¾     |
| 16 | bar front nosing      | 1        | 1 x 8                 | ¾ x 1½ x 74¾     |
| 17 | bar side nosing       | 2        | 1 x 8                 | ¾ x 1½ x 49½     |
| 18 | bar short back nosing | 2        | 1 x 8                 | ¾ x 1½ x 10¾     |
| 19 | bar inside nosing     | 2        | 1 x 8                 | ¾ x 1½ x 31      |
| 20 | bar long back nosing  | 1        | 1 x 6                 | ¾ x 1½ x 55¾     |
| 21 | short cladding        | 19       | 1 x 6                 | ¾ x 3½ x 5½      |
| 22 | cladding              | 29*      | 1 x 6                 | ¾ x 5½ x 40½     |
| 23 | post tops             | 2        | 4 x 4                 | 3½ x 3½ x 50¾    |
| 24 | ridge                 | 1        | 2 x 4 x 8             | 1½ x 3½ x 61     |
| 25 | rafters               | 10       | 2 x 4 x 8             | 1½ x 3½ x 34¾    |
| 26 | braces                | 4        | 2 x 4 x 8             | 1½ x 3½ x 23¾    |
| 27 | ridge extensions      | 2        | 2 x 4 x 8             | 1½ x 3½ x 12     |
| 28 | barge rafters         | 4        | 2 x 4 x 8             | 1½ x 3½ x 35¼    |
| 29 | fascia                | 2        | 2 x 4 x 8             | 1½ x 1½ x 95     |
| 30 | purlins               | 6        | 1 x 4 x 8             | ¾ x 3½ x 95      |

\*You may need to scribe one additional part to fit as needed.

## Lowe's List

PROJECT #WSpr091

### LUMBER\*

- ☐ 2 boards, 1 x 4 x 6
- ☐ 6 boards, 1 x 4 x 8
- ☐ 16 boards, 1 x 6 x 8
- ☐ 1 board, 1 x 8 x 8
- ☐ 10 boards, 2 x 4 x 8
- ☐ 9 boards, 2 x 4 x 10
- ☐ 2 boards, 4 x 4 x 10
- ☐ 2 sheets of plywood, ¾-inch x 4- x 8-foot
- ☐ 3 sheets of oriented strand board (OSB), ¾-inch x 4- x 8-foot

### HARDWARE & SUPPLIES

- ☐ 1 box (3-inch) screws
- ☐ 2 boxes of self-sealing roofing screws
- ☐ 2 boxes (2½-inch) pocket hole screws
- ☐ 1 box of 4d finishing nails
- ☐ 4 (⅝- x 4½-inch) bolts
- ☐ 4 (⅝-inch) fender washers
- ☐ 4 (⅝-inch) nuts
- ☐ 3 (3- x 8-foot) sheets of metal galvanized roofing
- ☐ 1 angle flashing
- ☐ 1 roll (20-inch x 50-foot) aluminum
- ☐ 1 package of nail-on furniture glides
- ☐ 2 unfinished oak filler strips (for cabinets)
- ☐ 1 (30-inch) unfinished oak base cabinet
- ☐ 2 (12-inch) unfinished oak base cabinets
- ☐ wood glue (Titebond III)
- ☐ stainable wood filler (PL)
- ☐ 1 quart of primer (Valspar Exterior)
- ☐ 1 quart of paint (Valspar Ultra Premium Exterior, Dark Kettle Black 4011-2, semi-gloss)
- ☐ 1 gallon of stain (Cabot, Australian Timber Oil, Jarrah Brown)

\*Availability varies by market. Cedar, redwood, and treated southern yellow pine are appropriate for this project. Some dimensions are available by Special Order.

Once class begins  
you won't take a seat,  
you'll make one.

week 1



week 2



week 3



week 4



**LOWE'S** CREATIVE IDEAS FOR  
**woodworkers**

shop  CLASS

Build an Adirondack chair in Lowe's **online** Shop Class. We'll post new videos every week for four weeks that give you step-by-step instructions, and we'll also email you great offers. For more information, and to register, visit **[LowesCreativeIdeas.com/ShopClass](http://LowesCreativeIdeas.com/ShopClass)**.



# Adirondack Chair

Sit back, relax, and  
enjoy the outdoors  
with this timeless piece.



shop  CLASS

Join the class! To view a  
four-segment video on building  
this Adirondack chair, visit  
[LowesCreativeIdeas.com/  
ShopClass](http://LowesCreativeIdeas.com/ShopClass).



**W**ith our Shop Class videos and easy-to-follow steps, even a beginner can have success in building this classic project. You'll soon be basking in the sun with a stylish addition to your outdoor living space.

## Instructions:

**GENERAL:** Cut and label the parts as needed, using the Cut List as a guide and adjusting for fit. All parts are secured with glue and countersunk screws unless otherwise specified.

## 1 BUILD THE LEG AND SUB FRAME ASSEMBLIES

**NOTE:** The (01) A leg parts are ripped from a 1 x 6.

a. Draw a grid with 1-inch squares on a 36-inch-long piece of 1 x 6. Refer to the (01) A leg layout in Figure 1, and scribe the pattern onto the 1 x 6 piece.

b. Cut the (01) A leg to shape, and then use it as a template to cut a second (01) A leg.

c. Using the dimensions shown in Figure 2, attach one (01) A leg to one (02) B leg. Build a second leg assembly to mirror the first leg assembly as shown in Figure 3. You can use the leftover 2 x 4 stock to help position and stabilize the parts during assembly.

d. Using pocket hole screws, attach the (03) leg brace to the leg assemblies as shown in Figure 3. The ends of the (03) leg brace should be parallel to the front edges of the (02) B leg parts.

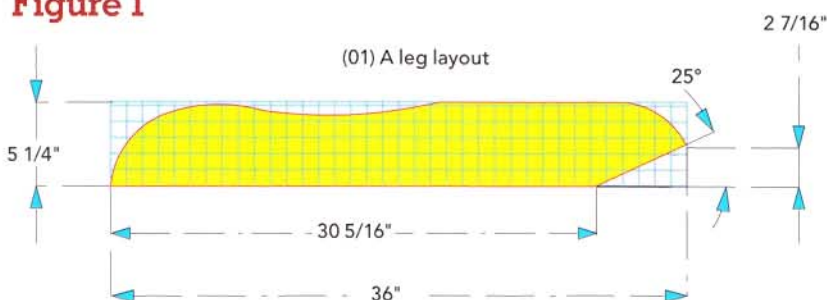
e. Position the (04) back leg brace on top of the (01) A leg parts so that its front edge is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch back from the long curve as shown in Figure 3.

## 2 BUILD THE BACK ASSEMBLY

a. Cut a 25-degree bevel along one long edge of the (07) arm support.

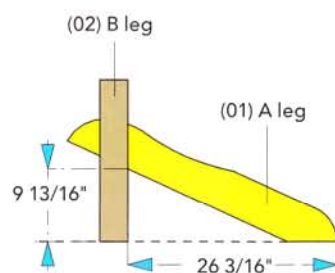
b. Lay out a 1-inch radius on the bottom outside corners of the (07) arm support

**Figure 1**

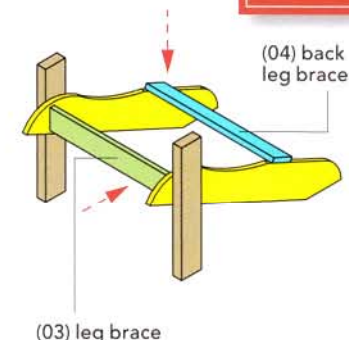


**FINISHED DIMENSIONS**  
HEIGHT  
38 $\frac{5}{8}$  inches  
DEPTH  
34 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches  
WIDTH  
33 inches

**Figure 2**



**Figure 3**



## TOOLS YOU'LL USE



TABLE SAW



MITER SAW



ROUTER



JIGSAW



DRILL/DRIVER

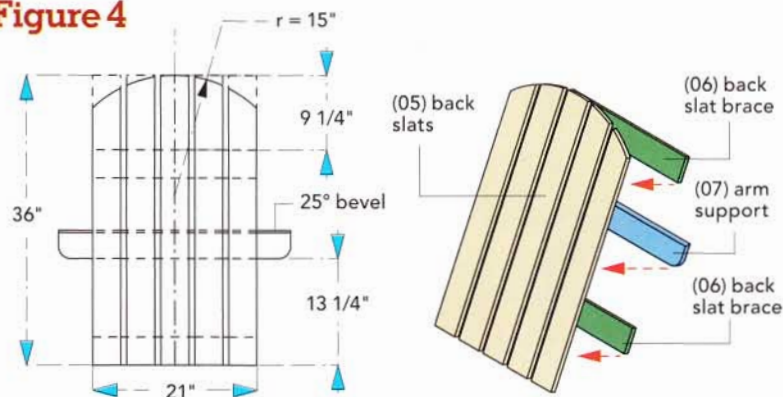
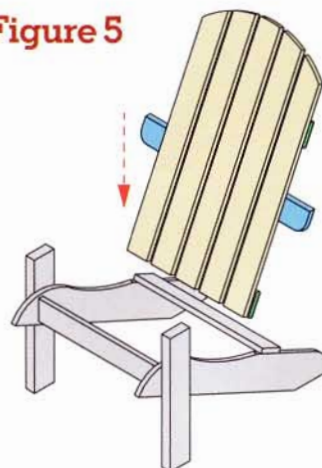
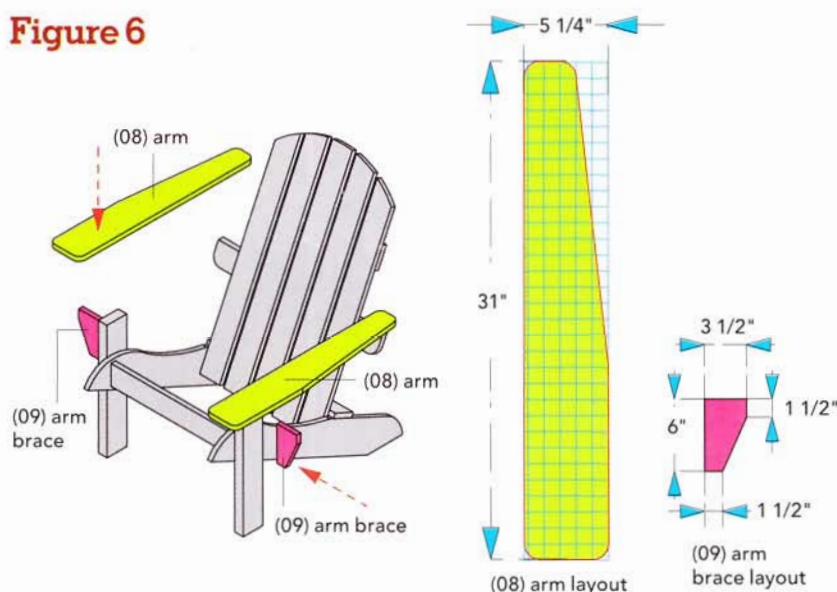
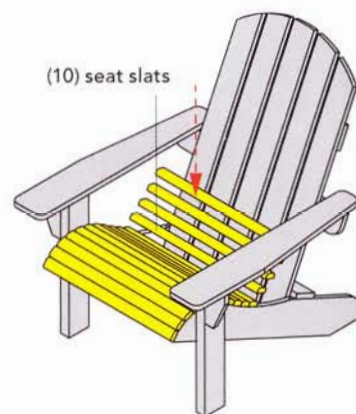
- ◆ TABLE SAW
- ◆ MITER SAW
- ◆ ROUTER WITH A  $\frac{1}{4}$ -INCH ROUNDOVER BIT
- ◆ JIGSAW
- ◆ DRILL/DRIVER WITH BITS INCLUDING #10 COUNTERSINK BIT

- ◆ POWER SANDER AND VARIOUS GRITS OF SANDPAPER
- ◆ KREG JIG K4
- ◆ COMPASS AND BEAM COMPASS
- ◆ CLAMPS

- ◆ FLEXIBLE METAL RULER
- ◆ COMBINATION SQUARE
- ◆ TAPE MEASURE
- ◆ PAINTBRUSH
- ◆ PENCIL



Go to [LowesCreativeIdeas.com/Woodworkers](http://LowesCreativeIdeas.com/Woodworkers) to download the Cutting Diagram for this project.


**Figure 4**

**Figure 5**

**Figure 6**

**Figure 7**


opposite the beveled edge as shown in Figure 4. Cut the rounded corners, and sand smooth.

**c.** Space the (05) back slats evenly over the length of the (06) back slat braces. Following the dimensions shown in Figure 4, attach the (05) back slats to the (07) arm support and to the (06) back slat braces.

**d.** Locate the center of the middle (05) back slat, and then use a beam compass to draw a 15-inch radius curve on the tops of the five (05) back slats, following the layout in Figure 4. Cut this radius to shape, and then sand the edges smooth.

### 3 ATTACH THE BACK ASSEMBLY AND ARMS

**a.** Position the back assembly on the sub frame assembly so that the top of the lower (06) back slat brace locks under the front edge of the (04) back leg brace (see Figure 5). The angle of the back assembly should be 90 degrees to the top edge of the back flat portion of the (01) A leg. Secure the back assembly by attaching the lower (06) back slat brace to the (04) back leg brace.

**b.** Use the layout in Figure 6 for the (08) arm, and scribe the pattern on a 31-inch-long piece of 1 x 6. Note: The (08) arms are ripped from the 1 x 6.

**c.** Cut the (08) arm to shape, and use it as a template to cut a second (08) arm. Use a sander to round over the top edges of each (08) arm.

**d.** Following the layout in Figure 6 for the (09) arm brace, cut two (09) arm braces to shape.

**e.** Attach the (08) arms to the (07) arm support and to the tops of the (02) B leg parts with an equal overhang on each end as shown in Figure 6.

**f.** With pocket hole screws, attach the (09) arm braces to the (02) B leg parts so that they are flush with the front edges of the (02) B leg parts. Attach the (09) arm braces to the (08) arms with glue and screws.



Build a matching Adirondack set for the little ones to complement the large Adirondack chair.



Go to [LowesCreativeIdeas.com/Woodworkers](http://LowesCreativeIdeas.com/Woodworkers) to download plans for this kid-sized Adirondack chair, ottoman, and side table.

## Good To Know

To save time when making this project again in the future, create templates of the leg and arm layouts. Simply trace the parts on scrap lumber, cut, and store.

## Lowe's List

PROJECT #WSpr092

### LUMBER\*

- ☐ 1 board, 1 x 4 x 8
- ☐ 2 boards, 1 x 4 x 10
- ☐ 1 board, 1 x 6 x 10
- ☐ 1 board, 1 x 6 x 12
- ☐ 1 board, 2 x 4 x 8

### HARDWARE & SUPPLIES

- ☐ 1 box (1 1/4-inch) screws
- ☐ 1 box (1 1/4-inch) pocket hole screws, coarse thread
- ☐ 1 package nail-on furniture glides
- ☐ wood glue (Titebond III)
- ☐ paintable wood filler (PL)
- ☐ 1 quart of exterior primer (Valspar)
- ☐ 1 quart of exterior paint (Valspar Ultra Premium, Dark Mango EB3-1, semi-gloss)
- ☐ (stain option) 1 quart of stain (Cabot, Australian Timber Oil, Jarrah Brown)

\*Availability varies by market. Cedar, redwood, and treated southern yellow pine are appropriate for this project.

## 4 ATTACH THE SEAT SLATS, AND APPLY FINISHING TOUCHES

**NOTE:** The (10) seat slats are ripped from a 1 x 6.

- a. Use a router fitted with a 1/4-inch round-over bit to round over the top long edges of each (10) seat slat.
- b. Attach the (10) seat slats to the leg assemblies as shown in Figure 7.
- c. Fill pocket holes with wood filler. Prime and paint, or stain, as desired.
- d. Attach nail-on furniture glides to the bottoms of the leg assemblies.

## Cut List

| #  | PART NAME        | QUANTITY | MATERIAL              | SIZE (in inches)       |
|----|------------------|----------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 01 | A legs           | 2        | 1 x 6 x 12            | 3/4 x 5 1/4 x 36       |
| 02 | B legs           | 2        | 2 x 4                 | 1 1/2 x 3 1/2 x 20 1/4 |
| 03 | leg brace        | 1        | 1 x 4 x 8             | 3/4 x 3 1/2 x 21       |
| 04 | back leg brace   | 1        | 1 x 4 x 8             | 3/4 x 3 1/2 x 22 1/2   |
| 05 | back slats       | 5        | 1 x 4 x 8, 1 x 4 x 10 | 3/4 x 3 1/2 x 36       |
| 06 | back slat braces | 2        | 1 x 4 x 10            | 3/4 x 3 1/2 x 21       |
| 07 | arm support      | 1        | 1 x 4 x 10            | 3/4 x 3 1/2 x 29       |
| 08 | arms             | 2        | 1 x 6 x 12            | 3/4 x 5 1/4 x 31       |
| 09 | arm braces       | 2        | 1 x 4 x 8             | 3/4 x 3 1/2 x 6        |
| 10 | seat slats       | 15       | 1 x 6 x 10            | 3/4 x 1 1/2 x 22 1/2   |



You can build this project in no time! Made from just two parts, it only requires a handful of cuts and a little finish work for great results.

# Picnic Tray

This portable project lets you take the party with you.

## FINISHED DIMENSIONS

HEIGHT  
25 inches

DEPTH  
9 1/4 inches

WIDTH  
18 inches



**P**erfect for intimate or impromptu outdoor dining—whether enjoying a neighborhood barbecue or for an extra table at the beach—our picnic tray will come in handy. Just push the stake in place, and it's ready. Slotted holes in the ends hold wine glasses for an afternoon toast.

## Instructions:

**GENERAL:** Cut and label the parts as needed, using the Cut List as a guide and adjusting for fit.

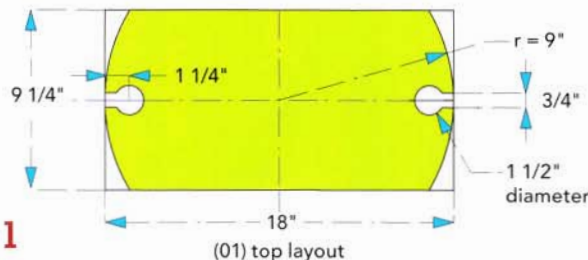
## 1 MAKE THE TABLE

- Cut a 9¼- x 18-inch piece for the (01) top.
- Locate the center by drawing lines from end to end and from side to side on the (01) top's face and back.
- Following Figure 1, lay out the pattern for the (01) top.
- From the center, draw a 9-inch-radius arc on each end of the (01) top using a beam compass.
- Mark and drill 1½-inch-diameter holes on the centerline 1¼ inch from each end of the (01) top as shown in Figure 1.
- Use a combination square to lay out the ¾-inch-wide slot at each drilled hole as shown in Figure 1.
- Cut the radius and the slot on each end using a jigsaw; sand smooth the face and edges.
- Attach a straight-top plate centered on the underside of the (01) top with the included screws.

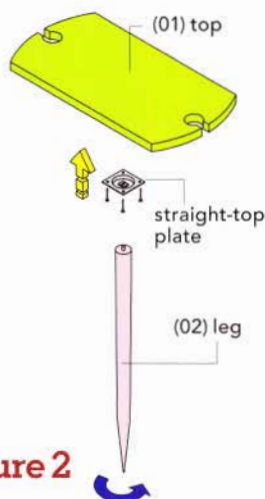
## 2 ADD THE LEG, AND FINISH AS DESIRED

- Cut off the metal tip on the bottom of the (02) leg.
- Use a sander to shape a point on the bottom of the (02) leg. (Note: The length of the leg and the sharpness of the point will depend on the type of soil in your area.)
- Screw the (02) leg into the straight-top plate. The (02) leg can be removed for storage.
- Sand, prime, and paint the (01) top and (02) leg.

**Figure 1**



**Figure 2**



## Lowe's List

PROJECT #WSpr093

### LUMBER

- ☐ 1 board, 1 x 10 x 4\*
- ☐ 1 (28-inch) pre-made round taper table leg

### HARDWARE & SUPPLIES

- ☐ 1 straight-top mounting plate
- ☐ 1 quart of primer (Valspar Exterior)
- ☐ 1 quart of paint (Valspar Ultra Premium Exterior, Tranquil Bay 5004-5B, semi-gloss)

\*Availability varies by market.

## Cut List

| #  | PART NAME | QUANTITY | MATERIAL           | SIZE (in inches) |
|----|-----------|----------|--------------------|------------------|
| 01 | top       | 1        | 1 x 10             | ¾ x 9¼ x 18      |
| 02 | leg       | 1        | pre-made table leg | 1¼ x 1¼ x 24*    |

\*Length is determined by soil type in your area.

## TOOLS YOU'LL USE

|                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                      |                                                                                       |                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| CIRCULAR SAW                                                                        | MITER SAW                                                                           | JIGSAW                                                                               | DRILL/DRIVER                                                                          | SANDER                                                                                |
| ♦ CIRCULAR SAW WITH A STRAIGHTEDGE GUIDE                                            | ♦ MITER SAW (OR HANDSAW WITH MITER BOX)                                             | ♦ JIGSAW                                                                             | ♦ DRILL/DRIVER WITH A 1½-INCH FORSTNER BIT                                            | ♦ BEAM COMPASS                                                                        |
|                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                      | ♦ POWER SANDER AND VARIOUS GRITS OF SANDPAPER                                         | ♦ COMBINATION SQUARE                                                                  |
|                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                      |                                                                                       | ♦ TAPE MEASURE                                                                        |
|                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                      |                                                                                       | ♦ PAINTBRUSH                                                                          |
|                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                      |                                                                                       | ♦ PENCIL                                                                              |



# ON the Table

When it comes to the main tool of the shop, be sure to pick the **table saw** and **blades** that suit your needs.

## Table Saws

**E**very woodworker has favorite tools, but in most shops the table saw is the most versatile. It can be used to cut joinery and to rip, crosscut, and resaw boards. With the right accessories, you also can true up crooked boards and even use your table saw as a shaper and molder. Table saw blades are visible above the cutting surface, offering a good vantage point for making cuts. You can easily adjust blades for material thickness and angles.

Select your table saw carefully, as you will likely use it for many years to come. Here's a look at a few options available at Lowe's.

### Entry Level

**1** Benchtop models are typically aimed at those new to using a table saw. They are the smallest table saws available, but they aren't lacking in power. Many come with a stand but can be affixed to a shop-made bench.

■ **Skil Model 3305-01**, 15-amp motor, 16¼" x 26-inch tabletop (#5685)

■ **Skil Model 3400-12**, 15-amp motor, 34½" x 31½-inch tabletop (#197823)





## Mid-Range

**2** These level saws, sometimes referred to as contractor saws, are beefier than the benchtop models, offering a bigger top surface and sturdier fence. Their blades are driven by belts attached to the motor, instead of the direct drive mechanism of benchtop models.

- **Hitachi Model C10FL**, 15-amp induction motor, 27- x 40-inch tabletop (#159372)
- **Jet Model JWTS-10**, 1½-horsepower motor, 27- x 44-inch tabletop (with extensions) (#93017)



## High-End

**3** These are the saws that most woodworkers aspire to own. The models below offer an extensive table surface for cutting large pieces of stock.

- **DeWalt Model DW746X**, 1¾-hp motor, 27- x 40¾-inch tabletop (#93653)
- **Hitachi Model C10LA**, 1½-hp motor, 27½- x 40⅞-inch tabletop (#93317)

What's a saw without a blade? Circular blades for table saws are available based on function, such as ripping, crosscutting, or cutting dadoes and grooves. The number of teeth (T) on a circular blade reveals its function. The more teeth, the finer and smoother the cut.

# Saw Blades



## Crosscutting Blades

Crosscutting blades, or finish blades, have 60 teeth or more. Because the blade is crossing the fibers, more teeth are needed to cut through the stock cleanly.

- **Avanti 10-inch 80T ultra fine crosscut blade** (#33606)



## Ripping Blades

Blades for ripping (cutting parallel to the grain) have 40 teeth or fewer. These work well for ripping because the blade is not forcing itself across the fibers of the wood. Rather, the blade cuts between the fibers.

- **Irwin 10-inch 40T Marathon blade** (#175238)



## Combination Blades

A combination blade is an all-purpose blade that can adequately rip and crosscut but will not provide as smooth a finish as a crosscutting blade. They generally have 50 teeth.

- **Avanti 10-inch 50T thin kerf combination blade** (#97234)



# Skill Set

As a cornerstone of woodworking, the box is a major component to any project. Mastering a few key skills will help you get started.



# Build a Box



**1 Measure and mark.** Place the tip of the tape measure at the end of the board, and mark a V at the desired measurement. (You will cut two 5½-inch-long pieces and two 4-inch-long pieces.) Place a speed square with the lip pressed against the edge of the board and with the square's other edge bisecting the V. Mark a line, and then re-measure it.



**3 Glue and clamp.** Apply a thin bead of glue along one edge of a short piece. Position one of the long pieces against the short piece, as shown, so that the boards are evenly matched (or flush). Clamp in place using corner clamps.



**2 Cut.** Place the board on a sturdy work surface, with the measured section of the board extending past the table. Make a few short strokes with the handsaw to create a starter cut. Once this cut is established, start sawing with evenly paced, long strokes that use the full length of the blade. Tip: Measure, mark, and cut separately for each part.



**4 Nail.** Lightly tap the nail, driving it in just enough to make sure it's straight, and adjust if needed. Space the nails 1½ to 2 inches apart. Repeat Steps 3 and 4 with the remaining two pieces, and then glue, clamp, and nail the assemblies together.

## Tools You'll Need



HANDSAW



HAMMER



CORNER CLAMPS



SPEED SQUARE



TAPE MEASURE



PENCIL

## Materials You'll Need

□ 1 board,  
1 x 6 x 4\*

□ 1 box of  
4d finishing nails

□ wood glue  
(Titebond II)

\*Availability varies  
by market.



To find more beginner woodworking tips and projects, visit [LowesCreativeIdeas.com/SkillSet](http://LowesCreativeIdeas.com/SkillSet).



## WORKSHOP

# Table Saw Crosscuts

Use shop-made jigs and some basic tips to perfect this cutting technique.

**T**able saws excel at ripping solid lumber, handle sheet stock readily, and can accurately cut an amazing range of joinery, even with a standard blade. Crosscutting lumber, however, can be a challenge with this tool.

Our shop-built crosscut sled is one way to improve your table saw crosscuts. (To find the plans for building the jig shown here, visit [LowesCreativeIdeas.com/Woodworkers](http://LowesCreativeIdeas.com/Woodworkers). See page 3 for more information.) This jig will help support wide or long boards during crosscutting and help keep them from shifting. It provides



This crosscut sled features a plywood platform, a stationary backing fence, and a hardwood guide strip.

enough surface area on its fence to ensure a consistent and square cut.

For another solution, you can apply some of the same features to your standard miter gauge. Attach a sacrificial wood auxiliary fence to extend the support area and/or add a cutoff stop, and line the front of the fence with sandpaper so workpieces don't shift.

Keep in mind a couple of basic tips. Never use the saw's rip fence as an end

stop when you're guiding workpieces with the miter gauge or a cutoff jig; doing so can trap the waste piece between the blade and fence, causing a kickback. (See The Pros Know on page 3 for more about kickback.) Also, check your saw's adjustments to make sure the blade is aligned exactly parallel to the miter gauge slots in the table. Without careful tuning, a jig or accessory will not be able to produce consistent and accurate results.

## MEMBER PROFILE | RYAN WOOLDRIDGE

# An Ingrained Passion



Wooldridge built this bar, featuring cherry-veneered plywood and aluminum accents, for his in-laws.

One of Ryan Wooldridge's best memories is building a tiny sailboat with his grandfather for a Boy Scout regatta. "My granddad showed me how to use files and saws, and we painted it together," Ryan recalls. The boat they made flew by the others and won a trophy. "That," Ryan says, "set the stage for my future love of woodworking."

As Ryan grew older, his interest in the craft deepened. After learning

the basics from his father and both grandfathers, he honed his skills in middle school industrial arts classes. And while pursuing a degree in interior architecture at Kansas State University, Ryan spent hours in the shop building a variety of items ranging from a marker box to tables to an entertainment center.

Today the architectural designer employs his talents to enhance the Kansas City, Missouri, home he shares with his wife, Becky, and their

young daughter, Avery. His first major project was a backyard deck. "Every part and piece came from Lowe's," he says. Ryan also designed a floating entertainment center for his family.

But his favorite project is an extensive custom-built bar for Becky's parents. A hanging unit graces the wall behind it.

And what does this woodworker love most about the art? "By using simple tools, you can do such beautiful things with wood," he says.



Let's Build Something Together

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**LOWE'S BUILD AND GROW**

# Family Fun

Kids will be proud  
to say, **"I built it!"**

**L**ooking for an enjoyable way to help your child develop confidence and learn basic woodworking skills? Try out a Lowe's Build and Grow™ clinic, offered on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. Bring the kids into any Lowe's store and build a free wooden project. Each participant will receive a free apron, goggles, a project-themed patch, and a merit certificate. For a schedule and to sign up for a clinic at your local Lowe's, visit [Lowe.com/BuildandGrow](http://Lowe.com/BuildandGrow).



## Build and Grow

- Teaches skills with hand tools
- Encourages reading and following directions
- Offers parents and children quality time together



## UPCOMING PROJECTS

**MAY 9, 10 A.M.**

### Planter

Create a Mother's Day gift that includes a free plant.

**MAY 23, 10 A.M.**

### Ready-To-Go Kit

This handy project will help families prepare for natural disasters.

**JUNE 13, 10 A.M.**

### Putting Green

Dad would love to receive this great desktop game for Father's Day.

**JUNE 27, 10 A.M.**

### Pirate Ship

The perfect project for any buccaneer, big or little.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BRIAN FRANCIS