



# TAKING MEASURE

# Simon says...

n my old tablesaw, the insert won't take a 3/4" dado stack, and the factory insert is so thin, I can't replace it with a zeroclearance insert, so a tablesaw is probably what I'll buy next." I could have heard talk like that from just about any seasoned woodworker. In fact, that statement came from Simon Carlson, who has about a dozen years of experience.

At life; not woodworking. See, Simon is only 13 years old.

The woodworking bug bit him hard a couple of years ago when he decided to build a carpetball table (think table shuffleboard, but with billiard balls) like the one he'd played on at summer camp. That's when he figured out "that I really like making stuff." Turns out he's good at it, too: His project earned a blue ribbon in the 4-H competition at the Cherokee (Iowa) County Fair.



Simon Carlson checks the surface of an urn side panel he sanded during the Weekend With WOOD Charity Build.

Simon's shop—like those of many of us contains a variety of hand-me-down tools and auction finds. And using that equipment, Simon has made a variety of projects, from a wood "cube-in-cube" and workbench for his younger brother, Kashton, to a lumber storage cart. His to-do list includes a router table, pegboard cabinet, and a grilling cart.

His ambition doesn't end at the shop door. Besides being active in band and choir at school, Simon earned all the money he needed to attend Weekend With WOOD last spring by doing chores for his dad and socking away his birthday and Christmas money.

He won't have to worry about saving up for Weekend next year: Simon's knowledge of woodworking (and frankly, his charm) quickly endeared him to his fellow attendees, who secretly passed the hat and collected enough money to ensure his return. His parents, Tammy and Matt, were floored by the generosity. And Simon can instead save his money for that upgraded tablesaw.





Two summers ago, Simon showed all of these "projects," including the carpetball table he's sitting on, at the county fair.



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OCTOBER 2017 · ISSUE 249

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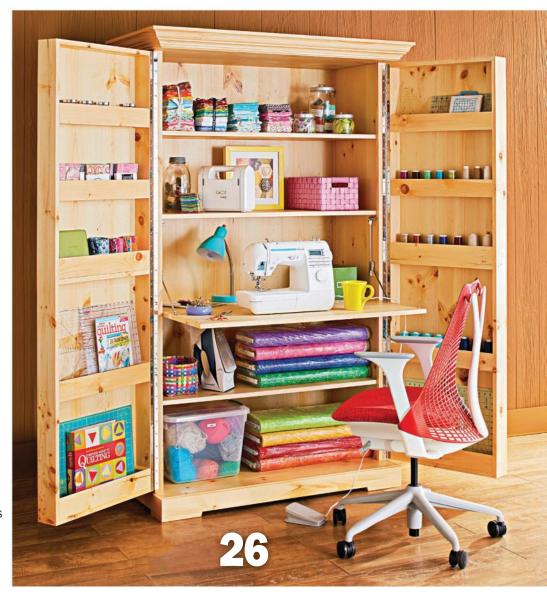
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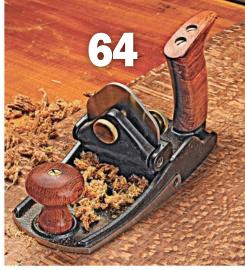
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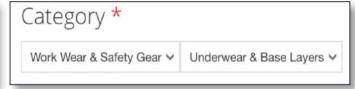


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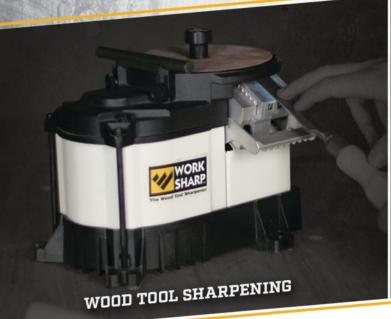
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# Readers sweat pipe details

Just read your article "Plumb your shop for air" in issue 247 (July 2017), but I can't see the need and expense for using copper pipe. Although it's not as pretty as copper, PVC pipe is much simpler, far cheaper, and just as good.

—Ted Schultz

via e-mail

I disagree with the comment regarding avoiding PVC pipe for a compressed-air distribution system because PVC is "not rated for high pressure and can fracture or explode under pressure." In some sizes, schedule 80 PVC has a higher maximum operating pressure rating (MPR) than type M copper pipe. Although PVC pipe also comes in standard sizes rated at pressures of 160 and 200 psi, respectively, even PR-160 pipe should be safe for shop use.

—Norman Aubuchon Mesa, Ariz. I enjoyed your article on shop air, but found an easier way to plumb my shop: I used the kit from RapidAir. It took me about 3½ hours to run 200' of air line and attach all the outlets.

—Roger Bredemeier Littleton, Colo.

Although several readers told us they're using PVC pipe for compressed-air distribution, the National and International Piping Codes specifically prohibit the use of PVC pipe for this purpose. Even the Plastic Pipe Institute and PVC pipe manufacturers themselves recommend against it. PVC becomes brittle with age, temperature fluctuations, and exposure to airborne oils and UV light. And when it fails, it sprays razor-sharp shrapnel through the shop.

We've not tested it yet, but the oil-resistant flexible nylon tubing in the RapidAir kits (rapidairproducts.com) looks promising for a home-shop system. It's pricier than copper, but the quick-connect fittings make installation literally a no-sweat job.

# Foiled by motor oil

While reading your Ask WOOD article in issue 246 (May 2017) about changing the oil in air compressors, I was reminded of the time I nearly ruined my compressor by using automotive motor oil instead of compressor oil. That's when I learned that detergents in automotive oil will foam when mixed with the moisture in the air being compressed.

—Jeff Ament

Tigard, Ore.

Good reminder, Jeff. Always use dedicated compressor oil when adding or replacing it.

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WOOD magazine October 2017



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# Finishing Answers

Each issue, the finishing experts at Varathane answer your staining and finishing questions.

### Question:

What is the best way to achieve high end finish on softwoods like pine, cedar, or redwood?

—Joseph L. - Platte City, MO



### Answer:

Softwoods are inexpensive to obtain through reclaimed lumber or even at big box stores. They can be a great alternative to expensive hardwoods to create beautiful pieces.

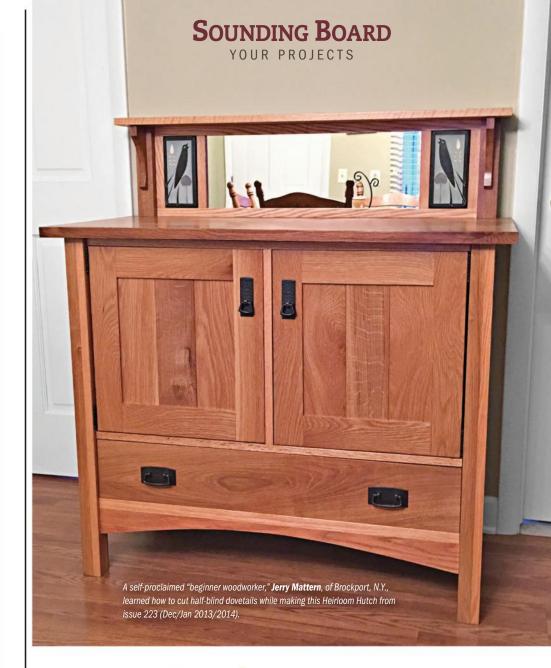
Softwoods are often full of flaws. If finished correctly, the flaws are what give the project character.

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## Send us a photo of your work

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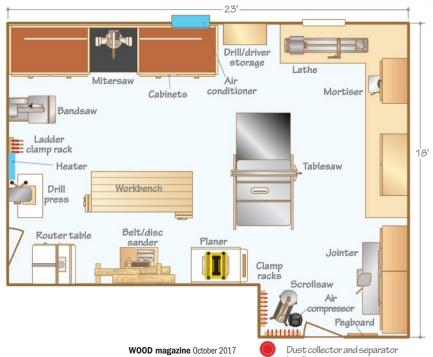




oving from an 8×11' basement shop with 6' ceilings to an 8×16' addition at the rear of his garage provided Lenny Butler some breathing room. For a while. A second addition, nearly tripling the footprint to 16×23', finally made it his "slice of heaven."

A 50-amp subpanel in the garage feeds two 220-volt circuits (used by the tablesaw and 8" jointer) and two 110-volt circuits. Fluorescent and LED fixtures mounted between the trusses provide illumination, supplemented by two skylights.

Lenny parked his 1½-hp dust collector in the adjacent garage, freeing up floor and wall space in the shop and reducing noise. A trash-can separator collects most of the dust and chips fed in by the 6" PVC trunk lines mounted near the ceiling. 4" drops placed around the shop service individual tools. One of those drops evacuates dust from the enclosed base and the fence of his router





**Flip-up wings on a planer cart** provide a place to set boards between planing passes, then fold down for storing the cart. The roller extends on a sliding platform to support long boards.



table, *above*. A floor vent fitted in the front of the base provides make up airflow.

Interior walls covered with T1-11 plywood siding give the shop a warm feel and offer unlimited options for mounting fixtures (and family photos). Among the fixtures: the ladder from Lenny's childhood bunk bed, now holding a few clamps.

An adjustable-height workbench, with a bar-and-pawl mechanism (like an adjustable candlestick) on each leg,

serves as an outfeed for the tablesaw and, when lowered, as an assembly table.

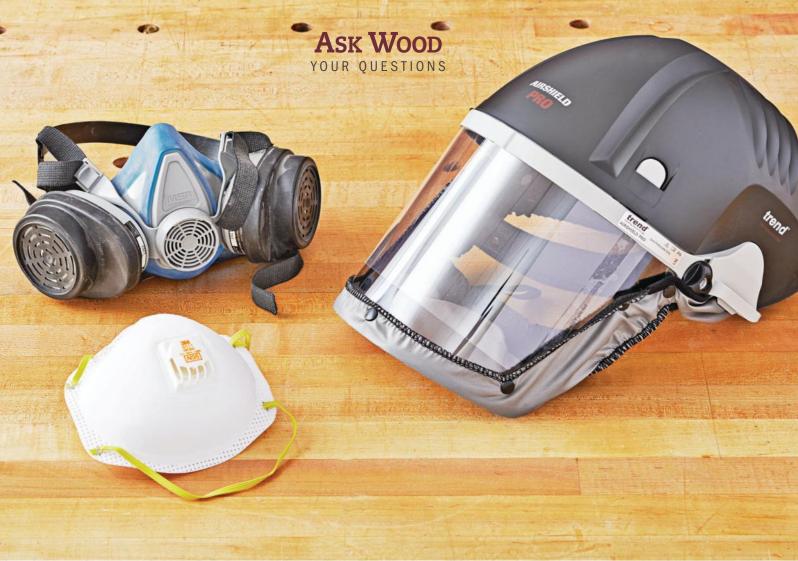
To keep the shop shirtsleeve comfortable, Lenny installed a natural-gas heater and an in-wall air conditioner. Should his wife need him back in the house, a press of a button in the kitchen triggers a strobe light in the shop.

# Show us your shop

Send high-resolution digital photos of your shop to

woodmail@ woodmagazine.com and we may showcase it in the magazine!





Clockwise, from low-dough to high-dollar, three ways to defend your lungs: paper/cloth masks, respirators, or power air shields.

Q

# Don't skimp on your last line of dust defense

Since I installed ceiling-mounted air-filtration units to supplement the cyclone dust collector piped to my machines, the shop has never been so clean! Should I still wear a dust mask? If so, what kind?

—Pat Goodwin, Cleveland, Tenn.

A

Even the best dust-collection equipment can't keep all superfine dust—the stuff most harmful to your lungs—completely out of the air, Pat. So, you'll still need an effective personal respiratory-protection device. Choose from these three types:

▶ Paper or cloth masks. You'll find an array of these available, including disposable ones costing pennies apiece. Better masks include double straps, and valves for easier breathing, but none fit airtight to your face. So fine dust

particles can still sneak in around the edges. These masks provide no protection from solvent fumes.

▶ Respirators. Highly effective and costing as little as \$20, this choice suits most woodworkers. A silicone face seal forms an airtight barricade around your nose and mouth (unless you have facial hair—then see the next option). Fit a respirator with replaceable cartridges made for filtering fine particulates, spray finishes, or various solvents, as your needs dictate.

▶ Power air shields. If you can afford to spend several hundred dollars, you won't regret buying one. A battery-powered fan provides a stream of filtered air that keeps your face cool and prevents fogging. Positive air pressure inside the shield prevents particulates from penetrating around the loose, comfortable-fitting edges. ♣

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# SHOP TIPS

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# Clamp corners with confidence

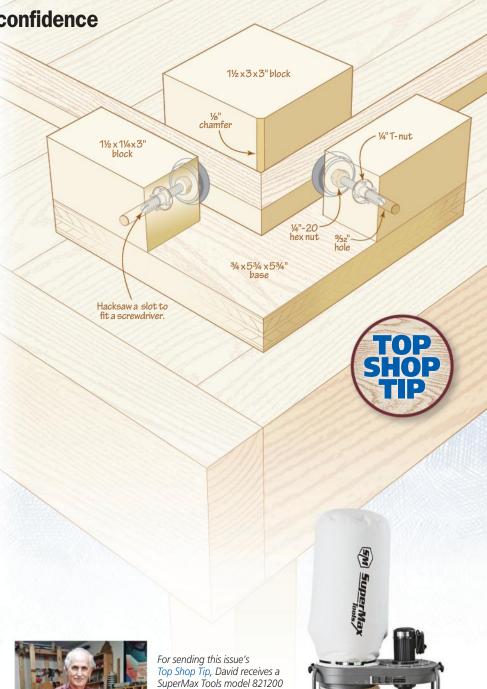
Although you can purchase similar commercial clamps, this shop-made corner clamp works just as well, can be sized to your needs, and costs little to make. It holds box sides or frame members at exactly 90° as your adhesive sets or while you add fasteners such as dowels or pin nails.

First, cut the base and blocks as shown. I use MDF and plywood scraps. Drill a hole into the outside blocks to accommodate a furniture leg-leveling glide (no. 78072, \$2.97 from Lowe's, lowes.com). Use a hacksaw to cut a slot in the threaded end of the glide, as shown. Then, press a T-nut into each hole, and add a hex nut to each glide before threading the glides into the T-nuts. Now mark square alignment lines on the base and use those to position and glue the blocks to the base.

After the glue dries, apply paste wax to the clamp's surfaces to ward off glue squeeze-out. Place your box or frame pieces in the clamp and use the hex nuts to tighten the glide pads against the workpieces. If a wrench isn't available or convenient, use a screwdriver inserted through the holes in the blocks.

The version shown here works well with 3/4"-thick box sides or narrow frames. You can size the clamp parts as necessary for larger or smaller frame or box pieces.

-David Cole, New Kent, Va.



# Tips earn up to \$150.

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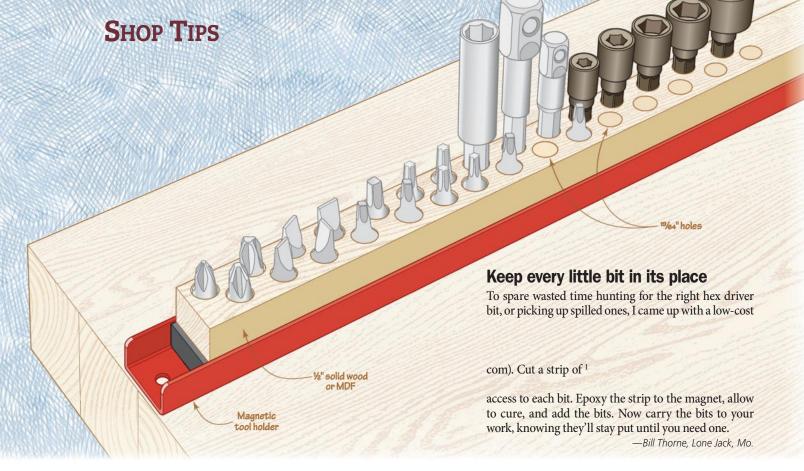
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1½-hp dust collector worth \$450.



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# Cut dead-on angles with a portable circ saw

controllable cuts.

hardboard large enough to provid hole for hanging the guide

Sometimes you simply can't angle-cu ample coverage across the width of you the end of a board using a tablesaw o workpiece, with room to support you mitersaw because of the length of th saw's shoe, and space for a handhold the bottom of the guide to give it a cush workpiece or where you're workin Along one edge glue on a½×1" stop For those times I use shop-made fence. On the opposite face glue on a the guide with your marked cutline, an fixed-angle guides and a portable ci similar saw fence at exactly the ang cular saw to get accurate, smooth, an you need relative to the stop fence (45 in the example shown). Mark the angl Start with a piece o<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" plywood or on the guide for future reference. Add

Use your saw to cut the base's angle edge. Glue rubber or gasket material ioned grip. Now align the angled edge o saw with steady precision. If you need t slightly tweak the angle of the cut, sim ply place a thin shim or two between th stop fence and workpiece edge

-Paul Fiebich, Derby, Kan

# Put the brakes on stopped-up nozzles

Makers of aerosol finishes typically suggest yo clean a nozzle by tipping the can upside down an spraying. That wastes finish and propellant, an you may still end up with a clogged nozzle. Here a better way I've used with success for yea

When you're done spraying, remove the nozz and attach it to a can of brake parts cleaner (av able at auto parts stores). Give a brief spray, w the tip of the nozzle with a rag, and replace th nozzle on its original can. That's it! You will like need two cans of brake parts cleaner: one th accepts male-type nozzles and one that fits fema type nozzles. My aerosol cans never run out o propellant, and I have bags of leftover clean nozzl to share with friends who still clog them

-Jim Jackson, Fruitport, Mich



# SHOP TIPS

# Extend the life of disposable glue brushes

Soldering flux brushes work great for applying glue to small parts and tight spots. I used to go through a lot of them in the course of building a project, and that struck me as wasteful. Then I hit upon this remedy.

Drill a ¼" hole in the cap of a disposable water bottle and fill it with enough water to immerse the brush bristles. The water keeps the glue from hardening. When you need the brush simply unscrew the cap and squeeze the bristles between paper towels. By keeping the cap in place on the brush, it holds the glue-loaded bristles off your bench when set down.

—Arthur Morse, Olympia, Wash.

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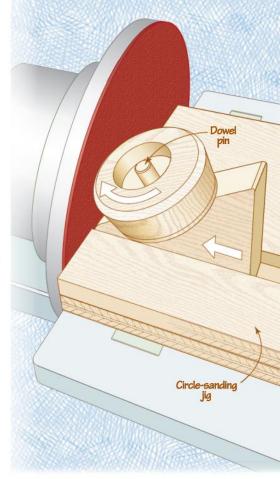
I think I need a moisture

### Chamfer wheels on the same tool you sand them round

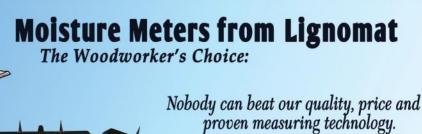
I regularly use a circle sanding jig (woodmagazine.com/circlesander) to round toy wheels, and I figured out a way to modify that jig to add a nice-looking chamfer. Here's how to do it.

Cut a length of ¾×4" scrap with one end angled 45°. Mount the dowel pin in the angled end (its exact location depends on the diameter of your wheel). Place the wheel on the pin, slide the jig forward in the slot until the corner of the wheel contacts the spinning disc, and rotate the wheel to make a chamfer.

—John Carter, Jenks, Okla.



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to replicate you firing the gun. Right above the cylinder you'll find a black metal grip that mimics a revolver handle. And the bullet cartridge pen tip represents your favorite revolver bullet. Requires a pen making mandrel, bushings (Item # PKREVBU \$5.95) and 3/8" drill bit (Item # PK10-10 \$3.95). Patent pending.

# WORKS LIKE A REAL REVOLVER 6 Barrel Revolving cylinder Fig.3 Grip Fig.2 Trigger Fig. 5 Gun Barrel Mechanism Fig. 4 Bullet Cartridge Press Pull Refill extends and Refill retracts and Cylinder spins when pen cylinder spins extends and retracts cylinder spins



Bolt action handle smoothly advances and retracts the refill



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Gun Metal



Antique Pewter

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| Antique Pewter | #PKCP8DHAP | \$16.95 | \$15.95 | \$14.95 | \$13.95 |





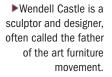


STRAIGHT TALK FROM THE WOOD-WIDE WEB

# Search and Research

Digging for information may have been a drag in school, but in the shop, research makes each project better than the last.

by Rob Porcaro



urniture designer Wendell Castle once commented that often, not enough time is spent designing a piece. The same can be said of *researching* a piece.

Neglecting adequate research before a build can lead to a lot of wasted effort, resulting in disappointment. The research phase of a project should be enjoyable as you explore the possibilities and expand your woodworking knowledge.

Here are three areas that require attention. To illustrate the research phase, I'll use lessons learned from a wedding wine box [above] I built.

- **1. Function.** Almost all woodwork is functional. Think of it this way: making a baseball bat requires more than understanding wood and turning; you have to know something about baseball. For my wine box, I researched the dimensions of numerous wine bottles to design a cradle that would accommodate a range of sizes.
- **2. Materials.** This is not an area for guessing or shortcuts. Processes that are routine in one species can be fraught with surprises in another. What's more, nearly every project involves nonwood materials that woodworkers need to understand.

A few boards of gorgeous curly ovangkol (shedua) caught my eye. I had not worked

Practice on the chosen wood species provided understanding of the working characteristics of the material. This allowed fine-tuning techniques for flawless joinery.





The internet contains vast resources for research. Just be sure that the information is valid and balanced against your own skills, experience, and knowledge.

with this species before. So I looked at data on its physical properties and movement characteristics. Most important, I practiced sawing, chiseling, and planing it to learn its working properties. I also tested finishes and glues, and researched leather.

**3. Techniques and tools.** Every project provides opportunities to develop as a woodworker by learning new techniques and reinforcing your skills. Almost every piece I make involves at least one modified or nonstandard construction technique. If you never venture from the conventional, you miss out on a lot of fun in woodworking. It really helps to consider solutions that other woodworkers have used, though it's important to use sound principles and experience to distinguish good information from bad.

With this project, I sat at the drawing board for a long time, scratching my head and then making mock-ups of the cradle before finding a solution.

And yes, there is also the excuse to buy a new tool, which, by the way, has to be studied and tuned. In this project, because I did not do enough research on installing the lock I chose, I needed to buy drawer-lock chisels to bail me out.

Research is part of smart woodworking. Don't cheat on your homework.

▶ Rob Porcaro has more than 35 years experience in woodworking. He has exhibited work in premier juried artisan shows, fine galleries, and numerous national and regional publications. Find more of his writing at rpwoodwork.com.

Processes that are routine in one species can be fraught with surprises in another.





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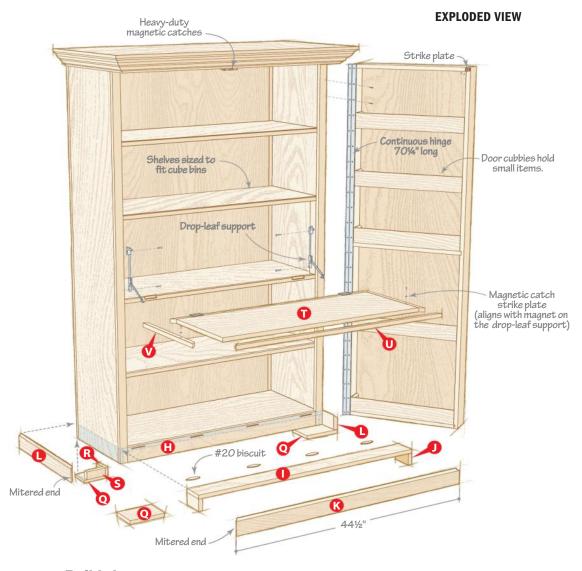




# Crafter's Project Center

Convert any room into a crafting workshop.

f your dining room doubles as a crafting space, this cabinet will corral the clutter with shelves sized to fit widely available fabric-covered cube bins. It also features oodles of storage on the doors and a spacious fold-down worksurface. When not in use, close the doors and presto! Your workshop hides behind the doors of an attractive traditional-style cabinet (see *page 32*).



# **Build the case**

Tip! To check the case for square, measure it diagonally from corner to corner. Equal dimensions ensure a square case. 1 Cut the case sides (A), top and bottom (B), and shelves (C) [Materials List]. Cut the shelf trim (D) and glue them to the shelves [Drawing 1]. Dado the case sides [Drawing 2]. Finish-sand the parts and glue the case.

**2** Cut and rabbet the back retainers (E) **[Drawing 1]**. Finish-sand the retainers and glue and screw them to the case with the outside edges flush. Cut the back (F) to size, finish-sand it, and set it aside.

**3**Cut the stiles (G) and rails (H). Drill pocket holes in the rails and assemble the

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Glue and clamp the face frame (G/H) to the case with the stiles (G) equally overhanging



face frame. Attach the face frame to the case [Photos A and B].

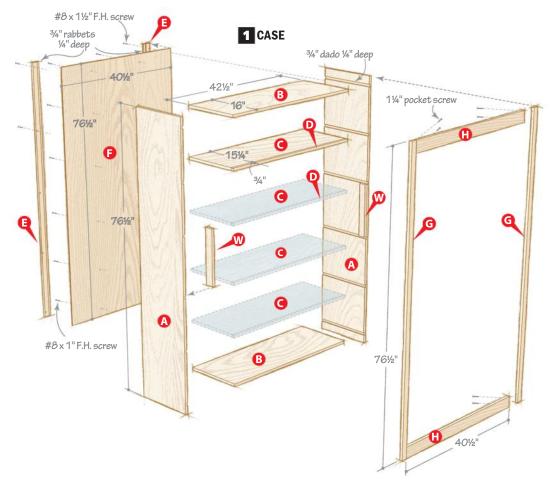
Cut the extensions (I, J). Biscuit the side 4 Cut the extensions (a, j). 2-2 sions [Exploded View, Drawing 3]; then attach the extension assemblies to the case.

# Wrap the case with moldings

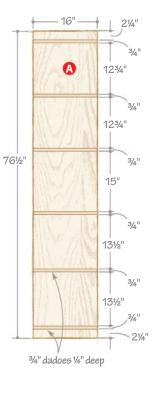
■ Cut the cove moldings (K, L) 1" longer than listed. Rout ½" coves along one edge and miter-cut the moldings to length. Glue the moldings to the case sides (A), top and bottom extensions (I), and side extensions (J) [Exploded View, Drawings 3 and 3a].

2 Cut to shape the crown supports (M) [Drawing 4], and glue them to the cove moldings (K, L) [Drawing 3]. Cut the side and front crowns (N, O) 1" longer than listed and then compound-miter-cut them to length [Skill Builder, next page]. Glue the crown moldings to the cove moldings (K, L) and crown supports.

**Note:** Check the spring angle of your crown molding [Drawing 4]. If it is different from the molding we used, modify the shape of the crown supports (M) to match.



# 2 CASE SIDE



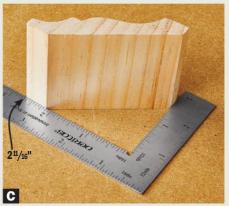
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# **SKILL BUILDER**

# Stand-up method for cutting crown molding

Not all miter saws tilt to allow cutting the compound angles needed to miter crown molding with the molding flat on the saw bed. And some saws that do only tilt in one direction. Even if you have a dual-tilt miter saw, setting the proper angles can be confusing. By positioning the molding at an angle against the saw fence [Photos C, D, and E], you simply set the saw to the desired miter angle and cut.

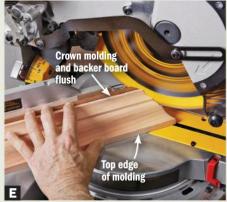
➤ Watch a free video on mitering crown molding. woodmagazine.com/ moldingvideo



Place a crown-molding scrap against a square with the upper horizontal and lower vertical edges in full contact. Measure the vertical dimension (the rise).



**Cut a backer board to a width equal** to the rise of the crown molding. Attach the backer to the saw fence with double-faced tape.



Set the saw to the miter angle and position the crown molding upside down against the backer with the bottom of the molding and top of the backer flush. Make the cut.

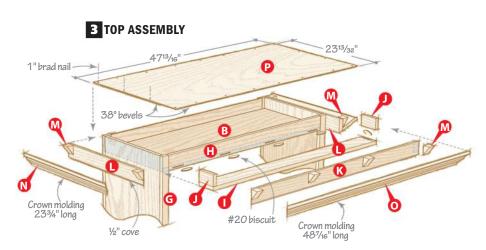
**Tip!** Use 23-gauge pin nails to secure the crown molding while the glue dries.

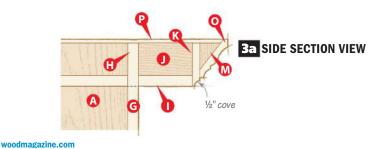
3 Cut the case top (P) and bevel the front and side edges for a tight fit against the crowns (N, O). Finish-sand the top and glue and brad-nail it to the case.

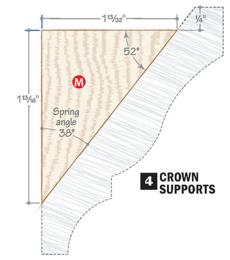
4 Cut the feet (Q), rear foot spacers (R), and rear foot rails (S). Bevel the inside edge and end of each foot [Drawing 5], making mirrored pairs front and back. Glue the front feet to the bottom of the case, flush with the faces of the cove moldings (K, L).

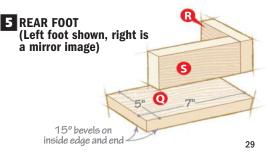
**5**[Drawing 5]. Glue these assemblies between the rear feet and the case bottom (B) as you glue the rear feet in place [Exploded View].

6 Cut the drop-leaf panel (T). Miter-cut the trim (U, V) to fit around the panel [Exploded View]. Glue the trim to the panel and finish-sand it. Mortise the edges of the worktop and adjoining shelf for hinges [Sources].











Clamp a dead-flat scrap to the shelf and drop leaf, then screw the Stopmatic Supports to the drop-leaf stops (W).

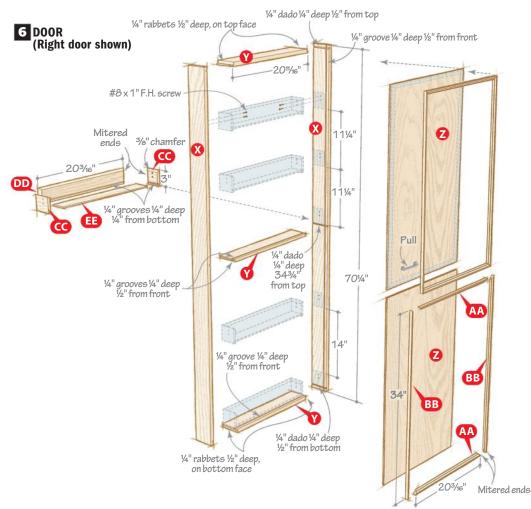
Cut the drop-leaf stops (W) and glue them to the case sides, against the back of the face-frame stiles (G) [Drawing 1]. Screw the hinges in place and, following the instructions included with the Stopmatic Supports, install them so the front face of the magnetic catch aligns with the rear face of the face frame [Sources, Exploded View, Photo F].



The tongues on the ends of the tops, bottoms, and dividers (Y) fit into the side (X) dadoes. The joints are exposed so make them a snug fit.

### Make the doors

- 1 Cut the door sides, tops, bottoms, and dividers (X, Y). Dado, rabbet, and groove these parts [Drawing 6, Photo G].
- 2Cut the door panels (Z) and finish-sand them. Dry-fit the door assemblies to check the fit, then glue them together, making sure they are square and flat.



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Rout the profile along the edge of the board, rip the molding to width, and repeat until you have eight each of parts AA and BB.

3 Plane 1×4s 22" and 36" long to thickness for the door moldings (AA, BB). Rout the cove-and-round profile [Blade and bits, Photo H]. Miter-cut the moldings and glue and pinnail them to the doors [Drawing 6].

4 Cut the cubby sides and fronts (CC, DD) 1" longer than listed. Cut the cubby bottoms (EE). Groove the sides adn fronts, and cut the chamfers and miters [Drawing 6]. Glue up the cubbies and set them aside.

## Finish it up

Remove the drop-leaf hardware. Finishsand the cabinet where needed. Apply a clear finish. (We sprayed on a Sherwin Williams satin catalyzed varnish.)

**2**With the finish dry, slide the case back (F) into place and screw it to the top and bottom (B) and shelves (C) [Drawing 1].

Move the case to the desired location. Install the drop leaf. Clamp the doors to the sides (A) in the fully open position and attach them with continuous hinges. Install magnetic catches and door pulls [Sources, Exploded View].

Position the cubbies in the doors and screw them in place from the inside [Drawing 6]. Organize your craft supplies into bins and arrange them on the shelves. Place small items in the door cubbies, fold down the drop leaf, pull up a chair, and start planning your next project!

Produced by Craig Ruegsegger with Brian Bergstrom and Jan Svec

Project design: John Olson

Shop for fabric bins.

woodmagazine.com/ fabricbins

Illustrations: Roxanne LeMoine, Lorna Johnson

**Materials List** 

|         |                                  |          | FINISHED SIZE |          |       |      |
|---------|----------------------------------|----------|---------------|----------|-------|------|
| Par     | t                                | T        | W             | L        | Matl. | Qty. |
|         | Case                             |          |               |          |       |      |
| Α       | sides                            | 3/4"     | 16"           | 76½"     | Ply   | 2    |
| В       | top and bottom                   | 3/4"     | 16"           | 42½"     | Ply   | 2    |
| С       | shelves                          | 3/4"     | 15¼"          | 42½"     | Ply   | 4    |
| D       | shelf trim                       | 3/4"     | 3/4"          | 42½"     | Р     | 4    |
| Ε       | back retainers                   | 3/4"     | 21/4"         | 76½"     | Р     | 2    |
| F       | back                             | 1/4"     | 40½"          | 76½"     | Ply   | 1    |
| G       | stiles                           | 3/4"     | 1½"           | 76½"     | Р     | 2    |
| Н       | rails                            | 3/4"     | 3"            | 40½"     | Р     | 2    |
| I       | top and bottom extensions        | 3/4"     | 3¾"           | 43½"     | Р     | 2    |
| J       | side extensions                  | 3/4"     | 3¾"           | 21/4"    | Р     | 4    |
| K*      | front cove moldings              | 1/2"     | 3"            | 44½"     | Р     | 2    |
| L*      | side cove moldings               | 1/2"     | 3"            | 21¾"     | Р     | 4    |
| М       | crown supports                   | 1½"      | 113/32"       | 113/16"  | Р     | 8    |
| N*      | side crown                       | %16"     | 3¼"           | 23¾"     | Р     | 2    |
| 0*      | front crown                      | 9⁄16"    | 3¼"           | 481/16"  | Р     | 1    |
| Р       | case top                         | 1/4"     | 2313/32"      | 4713/16" | Ply   | 1    |
| Q       | feet                             | 3/4"     | 5"            | 7"       | Р     | 4    |
| R       | rear foot spacers                | 3/4"     | 2¼"           | 4¼"      | Р     | 2    |
| S       | rear foot rails                  | 3/4"     | 2¼"           | 5"       | Р     | 2    |
| T       | drop-leaf panel                  | 3/4"     | 14½"          | 38¾"     | Ply   | 1    |
| U*      | front and back trim              | 3/4"     | 3/4"          | 40¼"     | Р     | 2    |
| ٧*      | side trim                        | 3/4"     | 3/4"          | 16"      | Р     | 2    |
| W       | drop-leaf stops                  | 3/4"     | 2¼"           | 15"      | Р     | 2    |
|         | Doors                            |          |               |          |       |      |
| X       | doorsides                        | 3/4"     | 3¾"           | 70¼"     | Р     | 4    |
| Υ       | door tops, bottoms, and dividers | 3/4"     | 3¾"           | 2011/16" | Р     | 6    |
| Z       | door panels                      | 1/4"     | 2011/16"      | 34½"     | Ply   | 4    |
| AA*     | horizontal molding               | 1/2"     | %"            | 20¾6"    | Р     | 8    |
| BB*     | vertical molding                 | 1/2"     | 5/8"          | 34"      | Р     | 8    |
| CC*     | cubby sides                      | 1/2"     | 3"            | 3"       | Р     | 20   |
| DD*     | cubby fronts                     | 1/2"     | 3"            | 20¾16"   | Р     | 10   |
| EE      | cubby bottoms                    | 1/4"     | 2¾"           | 1911/16" | Ply   | 10   |
| *Dort i | nitially out oversize. See the   | inotruot | iono          |          |       |      |

\*Part initially cut oversize. See the instructions.

Materials key: Ply-pine plywood, P-pine.

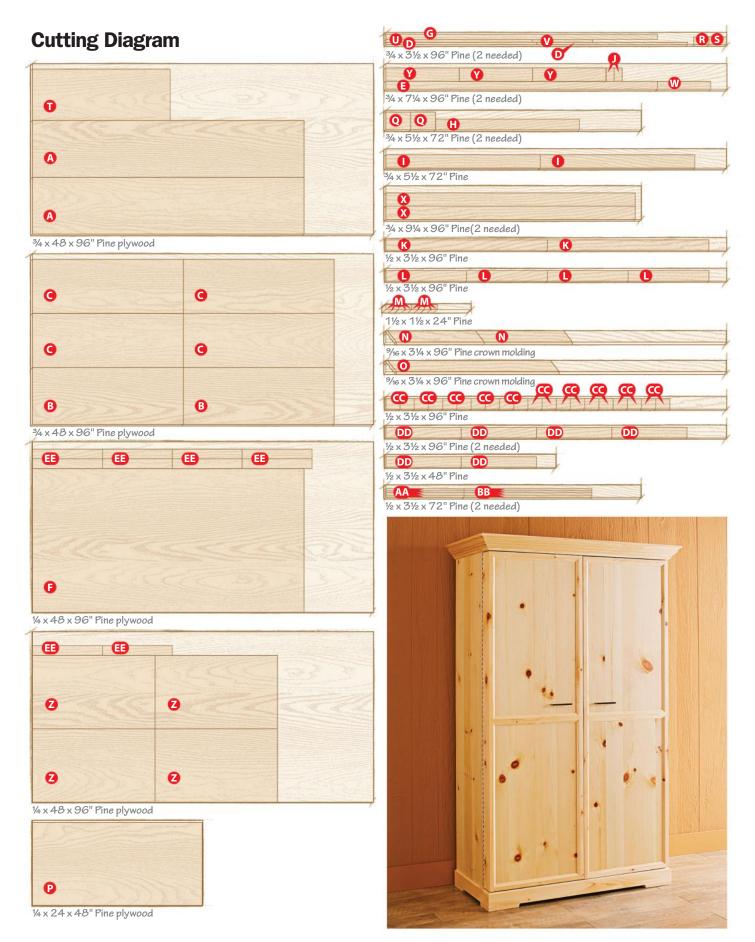
Supplies: 1½" pocket screws (8), #8×1" flathead screws (32), #8×1½" flathead screws (10), #20 biscuits (12), 1" brad nails.

Blade and bits: Dado set; bottom-bearing flush-trim, ½" cove, classical cove-and-round (Freud no. 38-614) router bits.

**Sources:** Stopmatic Support with magnetic catch, no. 30741, \$16 ea. (2); butt hinges,  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " L×1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " W, satin nickel, no. 54646, \$6 pr.; continuous hinge, 72" L×1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " W, no. 39170, \$25 ea. (2); magnetic catch, no. 40332, \$4.49 ea. (2), Rockler, 800-279-4441, rockler.com. Sutton door pulls, satin nickel, no. 635-96SN, \$9.85 ea. (2). Hardware Resources. 800-463-0660. hardware resources.com.

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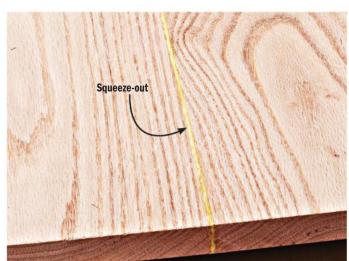




aking wide boards from narrow ones can be tricky. Ironically, the glue that sticks them together can make clamping a slippery mess, and the clamps themselves may accidentally damage the wood. Here are six tips to nip dings, dips, and dark spots in the bud.

To prevent a panel from bowing during glue-up, keep the clamping pressure centered on the edge of the workpiece. For thin stock, use scrapwood supports, as shown *above*, to raise the panel to the clamp's line of pressure, typically the center of the jaws.

**2**An overtightened clamp damages delicate wood, and causes excessive glue squeeze-out and a weakened joint. This often results from counting on your clamps to fix joints that aren't straight and square to begin with. For edge-glued panels, joint the board's face first and then square an adjacent edge to the face. During glue-up, when the joint is closed and even, an additional half-turn on the clamps will give you a consistent, light bead of squeeze-out along the length of the joint, like that shown at *right*.



**Aim for a consistent, light glue bead.** This indicates a sufficient amount of glue in the joint. Anything more requires additional cleanup and wastes glue.

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**Clean clamps don't ding wood surfaces.** Mineral spirits cleans most debris from clamps. Scrape off dried glue with a putty knife. Soften stubborn glue with heat and a damp rag.

Hardened glue residue on clamps can dent or scratch your workpiece. Clean or replace clamp pads that have stuck-on glue burrs, and wipe down metal surfaces with mineral spirits.



**Apply a waxed-paper or tape barrier.** Keep the ends of the paper or tape a couple of inches away from the jaws so the jaws have room to move in during clamp-up.

**5**Wrap waxed paper or painter's tape around clamp bars where they might contact glue. That prevents the glue from reacting chemically with the metal and staining the wood. And you won't have to worry about delicate plywood veneers sticking to the tape or waxed paper.



**Add materials that cushion jaws.** Scrap leather, self-adhesive furniture pads, cork, or even scraps of hardboard all prevent crushing the edges of panels during a glue-up.

4 When hard metal clamp jaws press on relatively softer wood, metal wins. To prevent denting the wood, use store-bought pads, *previous page*, or adhere cushions to your clamp jaws using hot-melt glue.

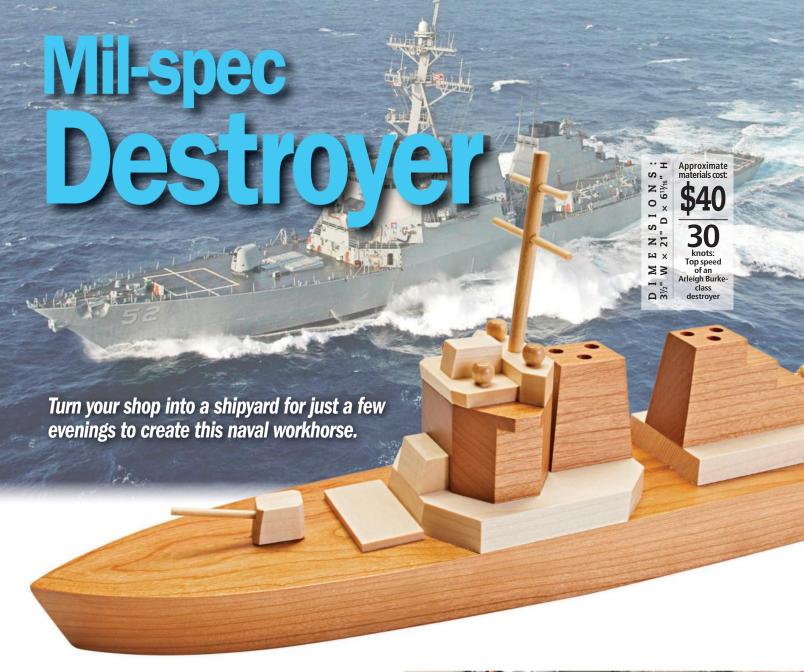
Make your own wood clamp pads. woodmagazine.com/cpad



Take a tip from a crutch. It's not as cruel as it sounds. You can find them at many drug stores and at medical-supply stores.

6 Sharp threads on the ends of pipe clamps can scratch or gouge a workpiece while you position the clamp, especially when you're rushing to stay ahead of the glue's open time. Cover those threads with a tip from a cane or crutch to prevent damage.

► Discover how to achieve perfect clamp pressure. woodmagazine.com/ clamppress



esigned to defend against threats from the air, sea, and even below the sea, destroyers accompany carrier strike groups, and also patrol independently. Assign this one to duty on a shelf, and it will leave nothing but compliments in its wake.

## Lay the hull

Start your build by preparing a  $1\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{2} \times 22$ " blank for the hull (A), a  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ " blank for parts F, G, and H, and a  $\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{4} \times 18$ " maple blank for parts B, C, I, J, and M.

Photocopy and connect the Hull Full-size Patterns, (pages 40 and 41) apply the pattern to the hull blank, and cut the helicopter platform [Photo A].

2 Bandsaw the hull profile from the line on the pattern back to the rabbeted end of the blank. Then bevel the front edges of the



**Set the rip fence for the innermost cut**, then move the blank away to widen the rabbet for the helicopter platform. Use a dado blade if you have one to work faster.

► The 450,000 square feet of hull insulation in a destroyer could cover the roof of the Superdome. hull [Photo B]. Drill the hole and counterbore. Sand the hull smooth, blending the bevel cuts into the vertical edges.

From the ½" maple blank, crosscut the fore deck (B), then cut it to shape, beveling the indicated edges [Drawing 1].

Learn to cut and

shape small parts

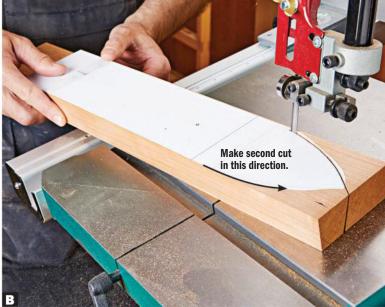
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safely.

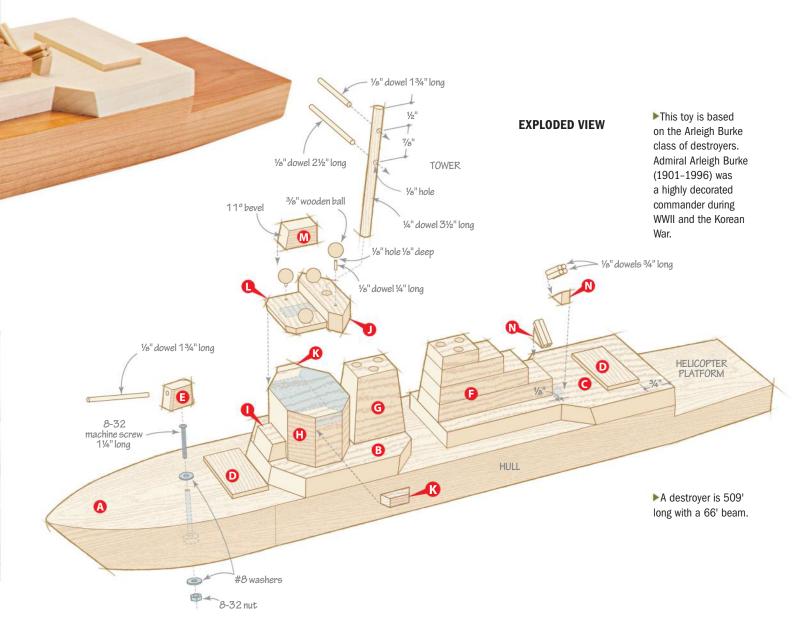
Crosscut the aft deck (C) from the maple blank. Bevel-rip the edges of the aft deck at 14°. Then rip a 5%" strip from each edge, Miter-cut the ends of the cutoffs [Drawing 2], then glue them back to the blank.

**5** Glue the fore and aft decks in place [Hull Patterns]. Cut the missile tube covers (D) and glue them in place [Exploded View].

6 For the turret gun (E), bevel-rip the edge of a %"-thick blank [Drawing 3]. Crosscut the gun from the blank, grip it in a hand-screw, and chamfer the corners. Drill the



Tilt the bandsaw table  $14^{\circ}$  and cut to the line on one side of the hull and from the line on the other side.





Offset the ends 34" when regluing the blank. Keep the strips in their original order for seamless glue joints.

Trace around three sides of the tower base (H), then lay out the two remaining angles [Drawing 7].

holes. Glue a dowel into the front hole, and epoxy a machine screw into the bottom hole [Exploded View].

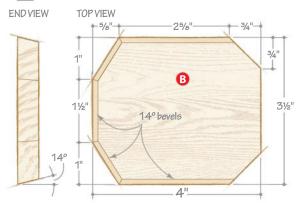
#### **Start on the superstructure**

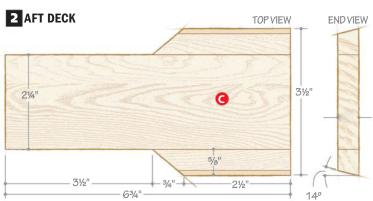
1 From the cherry blank, crosscut the tower base (H) and set it aside. Plane the remaining blank to 1¼" thick. Rip off three ½"-wide strips and reassemble them, stag-

gered to make a blank for the exhaust towers (F, G) [Drawing 4, Photo C].

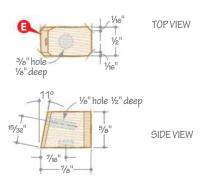
- 2 Tilt your bandsaw table and rip the edges of the blank [Drawing 4]. Then cut the towers (F, G) to length. Bevel both ends of G and the front end of F. Drill the holes in the top of each tower.
- Retrieve the tower base (H). Cut it and the phalanx platform (I) to size and shape [Drawings 5, 6].

#### 1 FORE DECK

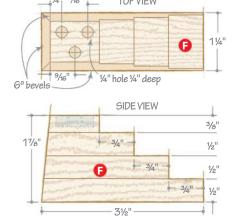


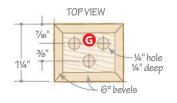


# 3 TURRET GUN



# **4** EXHAUST TOWERS





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Create the angle for the tower by resting the rear con tower (J) blank on a 1/16"-thick ruler or scrap.



Secure the tower with double-faced tape in a V-block. Drill 1/8" holes.

4 Rip the rear con tower (J) to width from the maple blank. Place the tower base (H) on the con tower blank and trace around it [Photo D]. Drill the holes [Photo E, Drawing 7], then cut and sand the rear con tower to shape. Glue it to the tower base (H), with their rear faces flush.

**5**Cut the con decks (K) to size and glue them to the sides of the tower base (H), flush with the top. Sand bevels on their ends to match the shape of the tower base.

**Put it together** 

1 Glue the phalanx platform (I) flush to the front edge and centered on the width of the fore deck (B) [Exploded View]. Glue the tower assembly (H/J/K) behind it, followed by the exhaust towers (F, G).

2Cut the con tower (L) to size, miter the corners, and sand the bevels [Drawing 7].

Glue it against the front of the tower base (H) [Exploded View].

Cut the con tower top (M) to size and bevel the front end [Exploded View]. Glue it to the con tower (L), against the rear con tower (J).

Cut the torpedo mounts (N) to size [Drawing 8]. To make the torpedoes, adhere four ¾" lengths of ½" dowel together, stacked two by two, using cyanoacrylate (CA) glue [Exploded View]. Use CA glue to adhere one of these assemblies to each torpedo mount. Glue the torpedo mounts to the aft deck.

**5** Cut and drill a ½" dowel for the tower [Exploded View, Photo F]. Use CA glue to secure the ½" cross dowels. Then glue the tower to the rear con tower (J).

6 Drill holes in four 3/8" wooden balls, glue in lengths of dowel, and glue these to the rear con tower and con tower [Exploded View]. Apply a finish and put your destroyer on patrol.

► Four gas-turbine engines generate 100,000 shaft horsepower, turning two shafts.

Produced by Craig Ruegsegger with Kevin Boyle Project design: Kevin Boyle Illustrations: Roxanne LeMoine, Lorna Johnson

## 5 TOWER BASE

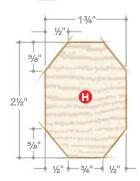
▶The Arleigh

production.

Burke class was

commissioned on July

4, 1991, and is still in



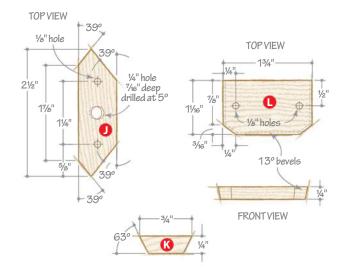
#### 6 PHALANX PLATFORM

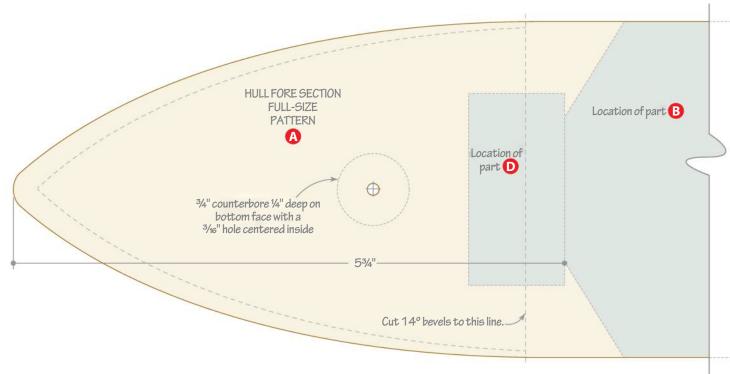


#### **8** TORPEDO MOUNT



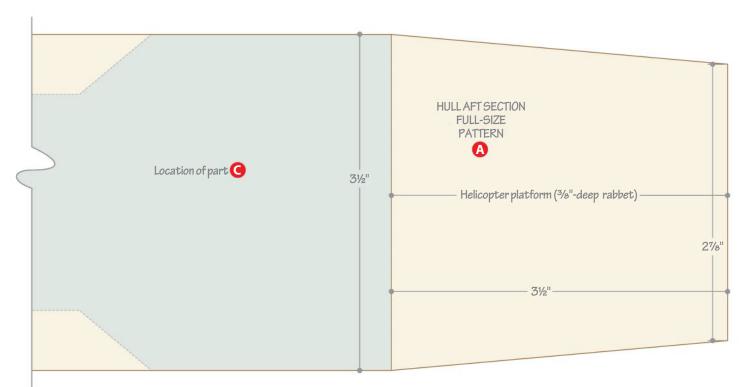
#### **7** CON TOWERS



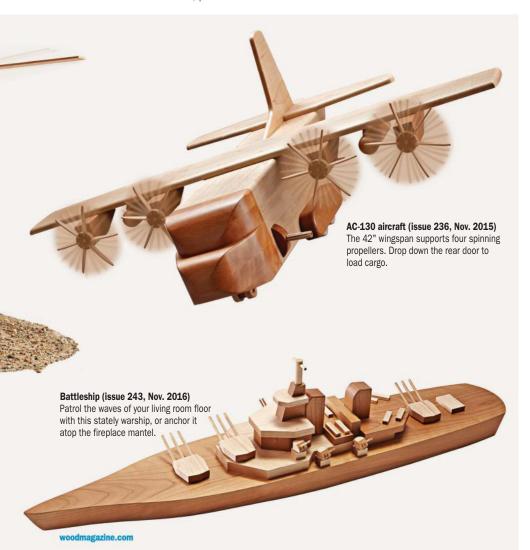


Connect the Hull Patterns with straight lines to create a 21"-long pattern.





Connect the Hull Patterns with straight lines to create a 21"-long pattern.



# **Materials List**

|            | <u>iatoriais</u>      |       |        |      |       |      |
|------------|-----------------------|-------|--------|------|-------|------|
|            |                       | F     | INISHE |      |       |      |
| Pai        | rt                    | T     | W      | L    | Matl. | Qty. |
| <b>A</b> * | hull                  | 1¼"   | 3½"    | 21"  | С     | 1    |
| B*         | fore deck             | 1/2"  | 3½"    | 4"   | М     | 1    |
| C*         | aft deck              | 1/2"  | 3½"    | 6¾"  | М     | 1    |
| D          | missile tube covers   | 1/8"  | 1"     | 2"   | М     | 2    |
| Ε          | turret gun            | 5/8"  | 1/2"   | ½"   | М     | 1    |
| F*         | aft exhaust tower     | 11/4" | 1%"    | 3½"  | С     | 1    |
| G*         | forward exhaust tower | 11/4" | 1%"    | 1¼"  | С     | 1    |
| Н          | tower base            | 1½"   | 2½"    | 1¾"  | С     | 1    |
| Ι          | phalanx platform      | 1/2"  | 1/2"   | 1"   | М     | 1    |
| J*         | rear con tower        | 1/2"  | 3/4"   | 2½"  | М     | 1    |
| K          | con decks             | 1/4"  | 1/4"   | 3/4" | С     | 2    |
| L          | con tower             | 1⁄4"  | 11/16" | 1¾"  | М     | 1    |
| М          | con tower top         | 1/2"  | 1/2"   | %"   | М     | 1    |
| N          | torpedo mounts        | 1/4"  | 3/8"   | 1/2" | М     | 2    |
| *D .       |                       |       |        |      |       |      |

\*Parts initially cut oversize. See the instructions.

Materials key: C-cherry, M-maple. Supplies: Cyanoacrylate glue, ¾" wooden balls (4), ¼×4" dowel, ½×16" dowel, 8-32 machine screw and nut, #8 washers (2). Bits: ¼", ¾" Forstner bits.



Designed for today's ultra-compact battery-powered mitersaws but customizable to your saw, this slender stand boasts ample outfeed when in use, but politely stays out of your way when not needed.

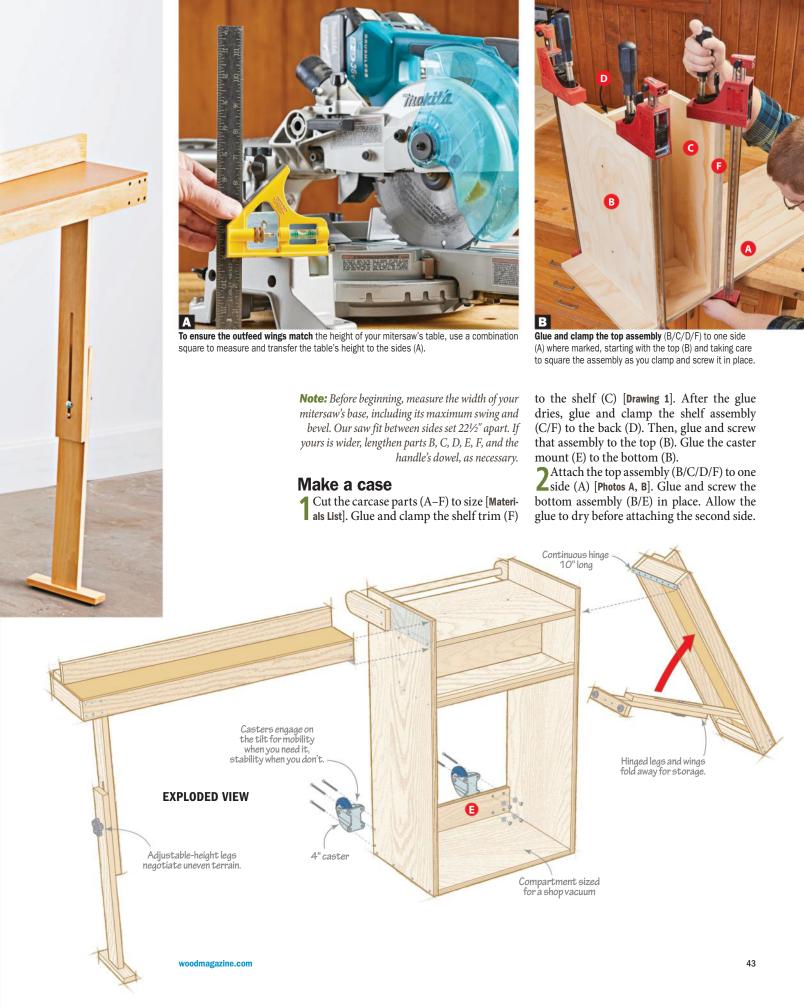


Tip! Big-box store materials often ship with high moisture content and can experience multiple climates traveling across the country. For carcase-based projects, cut parts quickly after purchase and assemble them quickly after cutting to lock them in place, reducing warping as they acclimate.

O N S × 34¾" | M E N S I H × 20½" D ×

**Approximate** 

Wingspan:





Supports elevate the wing frame assembly (G-I), allowing you to continue the glue-up without having to wait for the clamped sub-assemblies (G/H) to dry.



Align the bit to one side of the starter hole and lock in your router edge guide. Rout one side of the slot from hole to hole. Rotate the leg and rout from the opposite edge to center the slot. Flip and repeat from the opposite face to complete the slot.

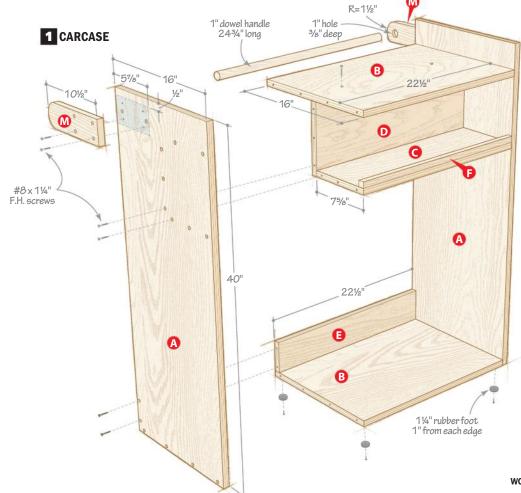
#### Give it wings

1 Cut parts G–K to size [Drawing 2]. Glue and clamp two leg supports (G) to an end (H). To that assembly, glue and clamp a front and back (I) [Photo C]. Then, glue and clamp the opposite end in place. Repeat for the other wing. After the glue dries reinforce the joints with screws.

**2**Measure the wing frame assemblies (G-I) and cut the top panels (L) to fit. Glue them in place.

Mark the slot location in two of the legs (J) [Drawing 2]. Start each slot by drilling a 5/16" hole at each end. Chuck a 1/4" straight bit in your edge-guide-equipped router, set the

**Tip!** Find free plans for this router edge guide. woodmagazine.com/edgeguide





**Temporarily affix the hinge**, centered, to the leg support (G) with double-faced tape. Then use a self-centering drill bit to drill the screw holes. Remove both the hinge and the tape.

# **SKILL BUILDER**

# Make clean cuts in continuous hinge

Cutting the thin metal of continuous hinge can sometimes leave a mangled mess. For clean cuts, support the hinge by sandwiching 1/8"-thick scrap between the leaves. Clamp the hinge in a vise with the cutline extended just beyond the jaws. Then, use a hacksaw to make the cut. File off any burrs.



bit depth to just over half the thickness of the leg, and rout between the holes to complete the slot [Photo D].

In each of the remaining lower legs, drill two holes [Drawing 2] and glue a dowel into the lower ones.

**5** Cut two 3" lengths of 1½" continuous hinge, leaving at least two screw holes for

attachment [Skill Builder, above]. Drill screw holes for the hinge in the leg support (G) [Photo E] and in the upper leg (J) ends. Screw the hinges to the leg, then to the leg support.

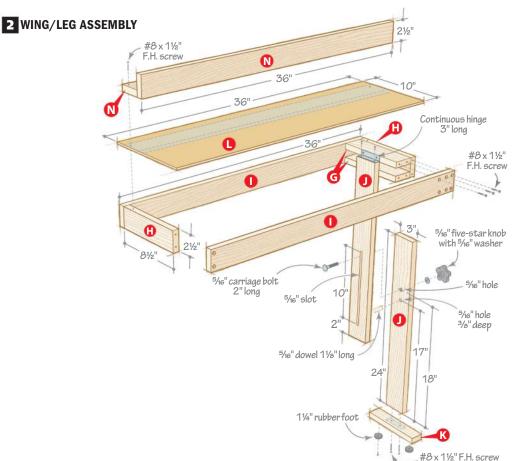
Glue and screw the feet (K) to the lower legs (J), centered [Drawing 2]. Fasten one

lower leg to each upper leg with a five-star

knob, washer, and carriage bolt.

centering bit. woodmagazine.com/ hingebit

Purchase a self-





Butt one wing against the upside-down carcase. Hold a length of continuous hinge in place while drilling. Then, screw it in place. Repeat with the opposite wing.

Put it all together

Cut two 10" lengths of continuous hinge and use them to attach the wings to the carcase [Exploded View, Photo F].

Cut and shape the handle supports (M) [Drawing 1]. With a 1" Forstner bit, drill a 3/8"-deep hole at the center point of the radius. Clamp the handle supports in place and measure from hole to hole to determine the handle length. Cut and test-fit the handle from 1" dowel. Glue and screw one handle support in place at a height that won't interfere with your saw's rearward travel. Add glue to the supports' holes, insert the dowel, and attach the remaining support.

Cut the fences (N) [Drawing 2] and glue 4them together. While the glue dries, position your mitersaw on the stand. Mark the locations of the mounting holes in its base. Drill bolt holes and attach your mitersaw. Use a straightedge to align the fence assemblies to the mitersaw fence and attach them to the wings, screwing into the wing ends (H) where the screws will hold securely. Remove the knobs and mitersaw and apply your favorite clear-coat. Drill and bolt 4" casters to the caster mount (E) [Exploded View] positioning each 1" above floor level. Attach

Download the cutting diagram for this project. woodmagazine.com/249msstandcd

11/4" rubber feet to the bottom (B) and feet (K)

[Drawings 1 and 2]. Reattach your mitersaw and

the knobs. Now cut away.

**Materials List** 

| Pa | rt              | FINISHED SIZE T W L |                  |      | Mati. | Qty. |
|----|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|------|-------|------|
|    | Carcase         |                     |                  |      |       |      |
| Α  | case sides      | 3/4"                | 16"              | 40"  | Ply   | 2    |
| В  | top/bottom      | 3/4"                | 16"              | 22½" | Ply   | 2    |
| С  | shelf           | 3/4"                | 7%"              | 22½" | Ply   | 1    |
| D  | shelf back      | 3/4"                | 8½"              | 22½" | Ply   | 1    |
| E  | caster mount    | 3/4"                | 4"               | 22½" | Ply   | 1    |
| F  | shelf trim      | 3/4"                | 3/4" 3/4" 221/2" |      | Р     | 1    |
|    | Wings           |                     |                  |      |       |      |
| G  | leg supports    | 3/4"                | 2½"              | 8½"  | Р     | 4    |
| Н  | ends            | 3/4"                | 2½"              | 8½"  | Р     | 4    |
| Т  | front/back      | 3/4"                | 2½"              | 36"  | Р     | 4    |
| J  | legs            | 3/4"                | 3"               | 24"  | Р     | 4    |
| K  | feet            | 3/4"                | 1%"              | 8"   | Р     | 2    |
| L* | top panels      | 1/4"                | 10"              | 36"  | MDF   | 2    |
| М  | handle supports | 3/4"                | 3"               | 10½" | Р     | 2    |
| N  | fences          | 3/4"                | 2½"              | 36"  | Р     | 4    |

<sup>\*</sup>Cut to fit. See the instructions.

Materials key: Ply-plywood, P-pine, MDF-medium-density

**Supplies:** #8 × 1½" flathead wood screws; 1½" continuous hinge, 36" long; 5/16" dowel; 1" dowel; 5/16" carriage bolt, 2" long (2); 5/16" washer (2); 5/16" 5-star knob; 4" casters (2) with mounting bolts, nuts, and washers; 11/4" rubber feet with screws (8).

**Blade and bits:** Self-centering drill bit, 1" Forstner bit, 1/4" straight router bit.

**Supplies on Demand:** Purchase the casters, star knobs, and feet. woodmagazine.com/249msstand

Produced by Lucas Peters with John Olson and Joshua Steele Project design: Kevin Boyle

Illustrations: Lorna Johnson and Roxanne LeMoine



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# Work-Smarter-Not-Harder Bundle

from the **WOOD** Store





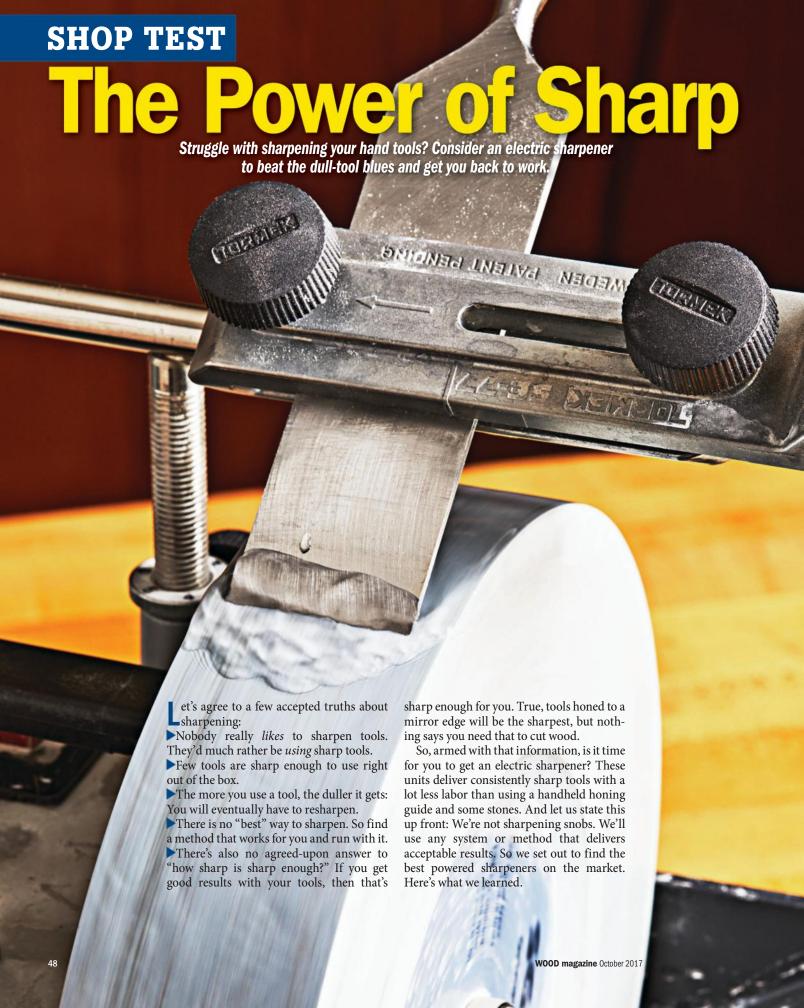


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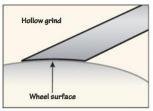
woodstore.net/shopgadgets

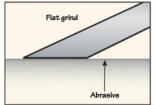
# TURN YOUR ORDINARY CIRCULAR SAW INTO A PRECISION CUTTING TOOL

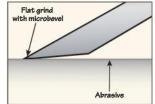




# **Getting to know the grind**







► A microbevel is a 1-2° variation from the primary bevel at the tip. This allows you to resharpen only this tip when dull, saving time versus resharpening the entire bevel.

▶ For testing consistency, we used Irwin Marples chisels and Veritas plane irons in three steel alloys with each sharpener.

#### Wet or dry?

With all of these machines, you can sharpen most widths of bevel-edge chisels and plane irons. For plane irons 2" or wider, for most machines, you'll need to sharpen freehand or slide the blade side-to-side as the abrasive spins. You also can sharpen carving chisels, turning tools, and nearly any cutting-edge tool minus a flat edge, although you might have to freehand them. The nine tested

machines all delivered sharp tools, but by quite different means.

The six wet-wheel sharpeners use a stone wheel (*previous page*) turning at 90 to 125 rpm. A water bath keeps the stone lubricated as it turns and washes away metal filings (swarf), while also keeping the tool from overheating. With these units you can secure the tool in a holder to sharpen at an angle of your choice, rest the tool against the

**Note:** When emptying a water tray, never dump the contents down a drain. The fine stone sludge will act like cement and plug your drain.

# **Gauges and holders make setting bevel angles easy (and repeatable)**



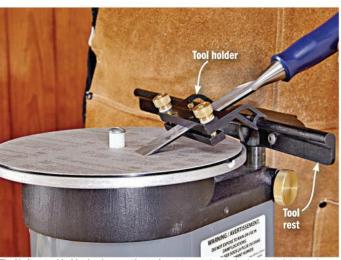
The gauge for wet-wheel sharpeners rests on the stone wheel and the tool. You set the gauge for the desired tool angle, and then raise the tool rest until the gauge sits flat on the tool. This Tormek gauge also accounts for the diminishing diameter of the wheel.



**WorkSharp's tool rest tilts to the desired bevel angle** and locks in place. You then insert the tool bevel up and sharpen against the bottom face of the plate.



**Lap-Sharp's gauge rests on the abrasive plate** and against the tool held in the tool holder. You raise the tool rest until the gauge rests flat on the tool.



**The Veritas tool holder hooks over the tool rest** (set to the desired angle height), and you extend the tool until the bevel rests flat on the abrasive plate. An included gauge makes it easy to establish a new bevel angle.

tool rest, or simply freehand the tool. No matter the method, the result is a hollow-ground bevel, shown *previous page*. Three machines (the Tormek T4 and T8 and the Triton TWSS10) come with accessories for cleaning or grading their stone wheels. All three have a two-sided dressing stone, with which you can flatten the stone and change the abrasive level to either coarse (about 220 grit) for shaping a tool edge or fine (about 1,000 grit) for sharpening. The T8 also comes with a diamond-tipped jig for trueing the wheel parallel to the tool rest.

After sharpening the tool on the stone wheel, you finely hone the edge on the leather strop wheel using honing compound. Bottom line: This method produces edges sharp enough to cut wood, but generally not as sharp as those sharpened with machines using sandpaper abrasives because of the many finer grits available. In our experience, a tool with a finely polished and refined edge stays sharper longer than one not sharpened to that degree.

The three sandpaper machines use aluminum or glass plates with abrasive discs adhered to both faces. You then sharpen on the top or bottom of the plate at 180–650 rpm, flipping the plates as you progress through finer abrasives. By doing this, you get sharp tool edges as refined as you want to continue honing. The Veritas MK.II and WorkSharp WS3000 sharpen only with dry abrasives, but the Lap-Sharp LS-200 can be used dry or with a water/dish-soap mixture. This keeps tools cooler, but creates a bit more mess than dry sharpening. We found no sharpness advantage between the dry and wet methods.

Obviously, you'll need to replace abrasives as they wear out, so plan on that ongoing cost. Sandpaper discs will generally sharpen 2–4 tools before needing replacement, depending on how much material you remove from each tool. And you might not use the full width of the disc if you sharpen in the same spot all the time (as with the WorkSharp). A stone wheel should last several years in a typical home shop.

▶ Read reviews of other sharpening tools from the WOOD® shop and the shops of other readers. You can also post your own reviews.

woodmagazine.com/sharptools



# **Grizzly T10097A, \$130**

800-523-4777, grizzly.com

#### **High Points**

▲Despite its small size, it displayed good torque and never bogged down.

▲A microadjuster makes it easy to fine-tune the tool rest's height.

#### **Low Points**

▼Although rated at 220 grit, the stone wheel was the roughest and most porous of those in the test. As a result, it did not sharpen as well as the other models.

▼The tool rest was not square to the stone wheel, requiring adjustments to the mounting screws (a process not detailed in the owner's manual).

▼The seam in the leather strop wheel has a bump, resulting in a "hop" each time the tool hits it. And the provided honing compound, more greaselike than others, proved ineffective.

▼Its water tray was difficult to remove and clean.

▼It does not come with a stone-dressing tool, but one is available as an optional accessory (no. T24707, \$11.50).

## Rikon 82-100. \$250

877-884-5167, rikontools.com

#### **High Points**

▲Its angle-setting jig compensates for reduced wheel diameter for reliability as the wheel wears over time.

▲With better mounting tabs than the Grizzly and Triton models, the water tray was easier to remove and install.

▲A wide, sturdy handle makes it easy to lift and carry this unit.

#### **Low Points**

The tool rest lacks a microadjuster.

▼The stone wheel had a noticeable side-toside wobble, but once we dressed it, we could sharpen effectively on its face.

▼It does not come with a stone-dressing tool.



# **Grizzly T10010ANV, \$200**

800-523-4777, grizzly.com

#### **High Points**

▲It displayed good torque, never bogging down. ▲Its leather strop wheel performed nicely, and comes with a better honing compound than the T10097A.

#### **Low Points**

▼The tool rest lacks a microadjuster.

▼When sharpening plane irons, water dripped off the blade's edges, missing the tray.

VIt does not come with a stone-dressing tool, but one is available as an optional accessory (no. T24707, \$11.50).

#### **More Points**

The water tray was easy to clean, but fussy to remove and attach.

In use, the stone wheel ran longer than most before needing to be dressed.



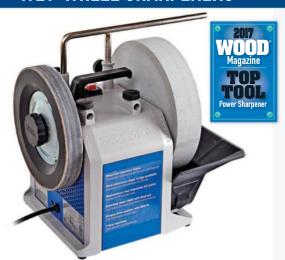
#### **More Points**

The motor has an audible "throb" to it, and it heats up more than the other units. Still, it was not a problem in our testing.

Its leather strop wheel is spongier than others, but honed tools nicely.

You can run this unit either forward or backward, but we can't come up with a reason why that's an advantage.

# **WET-WHEEL SHARPENERS**



# Tormek T8, \$700

866-588-0395, tormekus.com

#### **High Points**

▲It displayed excellent torque and never bogged down.

▲We found the numbered microadjuster on the tool rest easiest for fine-tuning the tool rest's height.

▲The water tray was easiest to use among the wet sharpeners: It adjusts up and down after sliding onto a pair of arms, and has a magnetic scraper to clean the tray.

▲It comes with a diamond trueing jig (below) and stone-dressing tool.

▲We liked its robust tool holder best, with adjusters that allow you to grind a slight camber (slightly rounded corners) on tools, if desired.

▲Its angle-setting jig compensates for reduced wheel diameter for reliability as the wheel wears over time.

▲The stone wheel did not seem to load up with tool filings the way others did.

▲It has the best carrying handle of the group.

▲The leather strop and honing compound delivered the best final finish of the water sharpeners.

▲Includes a test-best 7-year warranty.

#### **More Points**

This unit has the most optional accessories available for sharpening other tools for the shop and home (many of which also fit the Grizzly and Rikon sharpeners).



# Tormek T4, \$400

866-588-0395, tormekus.com

#### **High Points**

▲This model shared the T8's attributes for torque, tool-rest adjustment, tool-angle setting, leather stropping, and warranty.

▲The water tray is easy to install, remove, and clean.

▲The included two-sided grading stone flattens and cleans the stone wheel, letting you change the wheel's abrasive level to coarse or fine.

#### **Low Points**

▼The tool holder does not come with the machine, but is available as an optional accessory (no. SE-77, \$66).

#### **More Points**

The smaller-diameter wheel spins faster than the Tormek T8, but it's hardly noticeable in use.

Accessories sold for the Tormek T8 also work on this unit.



# **Triton TWSS10, \$340**

800-624-2027, tritontools.com

#### **High Points**

▲The 10" stone wheel seemed to be of a finer grit than its rated 220, and it sharpened tools better than all the wet-wheel units except the Tormeks. But this also resulted in longer sharpening times for harder steel alloys.

▲The included two-sided grading stone flattens and cleans the stone wheel (below), letting you change the wheel's abrasive level to coarse or fine.

▲A microadjuster on the tool rest lets you better fine-tune a tool's bevel angle.

▲A torque adjuster lets you increase or reduce the motor's ability to spin the wheels as resistance calls for it.

▲Its angle-setting jig compensates for reduced wheel diameter for reliability as the wheel wears over time.

▲A sturdy handle makes it easy to lift and carry this unit.

#### **Low Points**

▼The water tray is difficult to install and remove, resulting in a mess when removing it full of water.

#### **More Points**

The owner's manual has good directions and tips, but it's written in such small type you'll likely need magnification.



A grading stone nattens the surface of a wheel and clears away metal fillings. Use the coarse side to create a more aggressive surface, or the fine side for a smoother surface for honing.

51



Nothing trues up a stone wheel better than the Tormek T8's diamond-tipped jig. It attaches to the tool rest, then you turn the thumbwheels to guide it across the spinning stone surface. The slower you go, the smoother the surface will be.

# SANDPAPER SHARPENERS



# Lap-Sharp LS-200, \$800

707-527-3358, woodartistry.com

#### **High Points**

dishwashing soap.

▲The direct-drive disc never bogged down.

▲You can sharpen wet or dry with this unit; the manufacturer recommends spritzing the disc with a mixture of water and a few drops of

▲Running at the lowest speed (180 rpm) of the sandpaper sharpeners, tools heat up less.

- ▲Aluminum discs maintain a flat surface for sharpening.
- ▲A foot switch controls the on/off function, letting you keep both hands on the tool. (You can also use the unit without this switch.)

#### **Low Points**

▼The plastic angle templates make setting tool angles fussy, and tiny thumbscrews on the tool holder can be difficult to operate.

▼Stubby butt chisels can be difficult to sharpen with the tool holder.

▼Ongoing cost of abrasive discs: selling in multipacks or singles from about \$1 to as much as \$25 per disc, depending on the abrasive type.

#### **More Points**

A reversible switch lets you operate this sharpener backward or forward, but we can't see an advantage in this.



# Veritas MK.II, \$380

800-871-8158, leevalley.com

#### **High Points**

▲Stops for setting the tool rest to common bevel angles make angle setting easy and precise.

▲Securing the tool in the holder proves easy, and the holder grips solidly against the tool rest for quick, repeatable honing.

▲Two aluminum discs come with this unit: a thick disc for coarse abrasives on each face, and a thin one for fine abrasives. Switching to the thin disc automatically creates a 1° microbevel on the tool you're sharpening.

**▲**Comes with a 5-year warranty.

#### **Low Points**

▼Ongoing cost of abrasive discs: selling for \$3.70 to \$6.90 per replacement disc.

▼Running at a higher speed (650 rpm) than the Lap-Sharp, this dry-sharpening unit heats up tools more quickly.

#### **More Points**

We could not bog it down, so power is not a concern, but you might have to replace the drive belt down the road.



To sharpen tools with curved cutting edges on the WorkSharp, use its slotted disc. The abrasive on the underneath side hones the edge as you roll the tool, viewing it through the slots as the disc spins.





# WorkSharp WS3000, \$200

800-597-6170, worksharptools.com

#### **High Points**

▲Stops for setting the tool rest to common bevel angles make angle setting easy and precise.

▲You get two glass plates, allowing you to use four different abrasives—a handy and quick way to sharpen through several grits.

▲A small strip of fine-grit abrasive on the tool holder removes the burr from the back of the tool as you slide the tool in and out.

▲An included gum eraser cleans metal residue from the abrasive.

#### **Low Points**

▼Discarded metal residue created during sharpening builds up beneath the abrasive wheel and must be cleaned periodically.

#### **More Points**

Ongoing cost of abrasive discs: selling in multipacks for a little more than \$1 per disc. And if you sharpen tools of mostly the same width, you'll use only that corresponding portion of the disc before wearing it out. Still, they're the lowest-priced discs, and for the lowest-priced sandpaper sharpener.

It can be tippy when not secured to a workbench, but built-in bolt holes on the base make it easy to attach to a solid surface.

▶ Using the included slotted plastic disc and abrasives, you can freehand-sharpen tools, such as carving and turning gouges, *left*. It takes some getting used to and longer time, but is effective.

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|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
|                      | PERFORMANCE RATINGS (1)    |                                |                            | ABRASIVE                              | ACCESSORIES (2)                        |                                |            |               |             |             |                 |                         |                   |
|                      | PRIMARY SECONDARY          |                                |                            |                                       |  |                                |            |               |             |             |                 |                         |                   |
| BRAND                | EASE OF SHARPENING CHISELS | EASE OF SHARPENING PLANE IRONS | EASE OF CHANGING ABRASIVES | EASE OF CLEANING ABRASIVE AND MACHINE | EASE OF FILLING/EMPTYING WATER<br>TRAY | SIZE OF ABRASIVE WHEEL, INCHES | STANDARD   | OPTIONAL      | WEIGHT, LBS | CORD LENGTH | WARRANTY, YEARS | COUNTRY OF ASSEMBLY (3) | SELLING PRICE (4) |
| WET-WHEEL SHARPENERS |                            |                                |                            |                                       |  |                                |            |               |             |             |                 |                         |                   |
| GRIZZLY T10097A      | С                          | C-                             | В                          | В                                     | С                                      | 8 × 1½                         | H, T       | D, K, P, R    | 21          | 6'          | 1               | СН                      | \$130             |
| GRIZZLY T10010ANV    | В                          | C+                             | В                          | В                                     | B-                                     | 10 × 2                         | Н,Т        | D, K, P, R    | 41          | 6'8"        | 1               | СН                      | \$200             |
| RIKON 82-100         | В                          | В                              | В                          | В                                     | В                                      | 8 × 1%6                        | H, T       | G             | 23          | 6'          | 2               | СН                      | \$250             |
| TORMEK T4            | В                          | В                              | A-                         | A                                     | A-                                     | 8 × 1%                         | D, H       | K, L, P, R, T | 18          | 7'          | 7               | S                       | \$400             |
| TORMEK T8            | А                          | A-                             | A-                         | A                                     | A                                      | 10 × 2                         | D, G, H, T | K, L, P, R    | 32          | 7'          | 7               | S                       | \$700             |
| TRITON TWSS10        | A                          | В                              | В                          | В                                     | D                                      | 10 × 2                         | D, H, T    | C, G, K, R    | 32          | 6'3"        | 3               | СН                      | \$340             |
| SANDPAPER SHARPENERS |                            |                                |                            |                                       |  |                                |            |               |             |             |                 |                         |                   |
| LAP SHARP LS-200     | B+                         | A                              | А                          | A                                     | N/A                                    | 8                              | T          | 0             | 25          | 7'4"        | 2               | US                      | \$800             |
| VERITAS MK.II        | A-                         | A                              | А                          | A                                     | N/A                                    | 8                              | B, T       |               | 23          | 3'          | 5               | CA                      | \$380             |
| WORKSHARP WS3000     | В                          | В                              | В                          | В                                     | N/A                                    | 6                              | S, T       | K, W          | 15          | 6'          | 2               | US                      | \$200             |

Excellent В Good C Fair

> D Poor N/A Not applicable

- 2. (B) Bevel-angle gauge
  - (C) Carving-tool jig
  - (D) Dressing stone
  - (G) Diamond stone-grading jig
  - (H) Honing compound (K) Knife jig/system
  - (L) Drill-bit jig
- - (0) Honing guide
  - (P) Planer/jointer knife jig
    - (R) Scissors jig
      - (S) Slotted plastic plate
      - (T) Tool holder
      - (W) Wide-blade holder
- 3. (CA) Canada
  - (CH) China
  - (S) Sweden
  - (US) United States

# **Gain your edge with these sharp machines**

Interested in what sharpening systems the WOOD editors use in their own shops? woodmagazine.com/ sharpeditors The Tormek T8 was a runaway Top Tool among the wet-wheel sharpeners. It comes with the most and best accessories, made sharpening chisels and plane irons easiest, and cleans up best. Granted, \$700 is a big investment, but this machine should reward you for many years.

All three sandpaper sharpeners fared well, but the Lap Sharp LS-200 and Veritas MK.II rose to the top. Ultimately, we like the Veritas unit best for its easier-to-use tool holder and fast results, and it sells for \$420 less than the Lap Sharp. It wins the Top Tool honor by a nose.

4. Prices current at time of article production and do not include shipping, where applicable.

Earning the Top Value award is the Work-Sharp WS3000. Selling for \$200, this machine delivers quick, consistent, sharp results with little setup or learning curve.

Produced by Bob Hunter with Peter Kasper



Slide-away Hideaway



Approximate materials cost: N S I O N S 5%" D × 201/2" \

excluding mirror glass шχ

≖ּב

16" Typical



Note: Measure the distance between the studs and verify that they are plumb. If they are greater or less than 14½" apart, adjust the lengths of parts B, C, and I, and the width of part F to compensate, allowing space to shim the box plumb if necesary. You may want to have a professional builder open up the wall for the box.

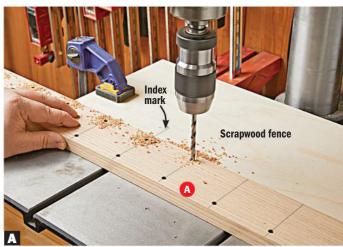
#### **Build the hiding place first**

Locate a pair of wall studs on 16" centers where you want to install the box, making sure no plumbing, wiring, or HVAC ducting runs through the installation area. Cut away the finished wall flush with the inside of the studs.

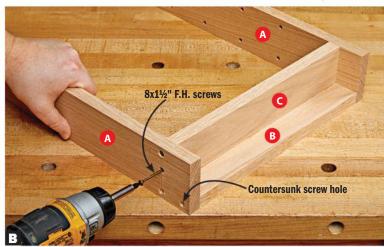
21]. Drill the shelf-pin holes and screw holes in both sides (A) [Drawing 2, Photo A].

**3** Glue a spacer (B) to each top/bottom (C). Glue and screw the B/C assemblies between the sides (A) [Drawing 1, Photo B].

**Tip!** Lay the sides flat next to each other with their ends flush. Then, lay out centerlines for the shelf-pin holes across both sides at once using a 12" square.



**Set your drill-press fence** to position the shelf-pin holes uniformly from each edge. Layout lines on the part and an index mark on the fence keep spacing even.



**Drive screws through the sides (A)** into the B/C assemblies. Fully countersink the heads so the box slides easily between wall studs at installation time.

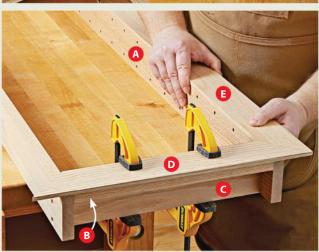
# SKILL BUILDER

# Mark miters directly for superior cornering

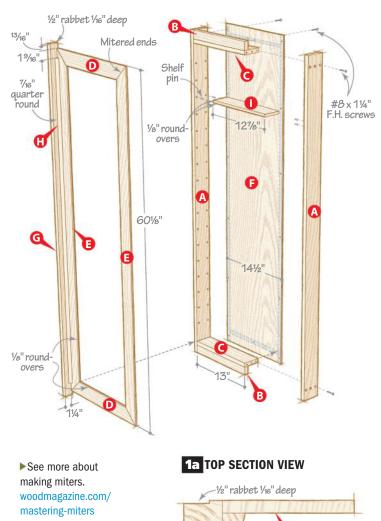
For tight-fitting mitered corners on the rails and stiles, don't try to cut the parts to measurements. Instead, cut each one to fit. Start by miter-cutting one end of one rail. Lay that rail across the top of the box assembly (A–C) [top photo, below].

Then, scribe the second miter location directly from the box corner. A sharp pencil or marking knife ensures maximum accuracy. Cut the miter, test its fit, and glue the rail to the box. Next, cut one end of a stile and mate it to the rail [bottom photo]. Again, mark the bottom miter directly from the box. Miter-cut the stile to length and glue it on. Similarly, cut and attach the other stile followed by the bottom rail.





# 1 WALL BOX (viewed from front)



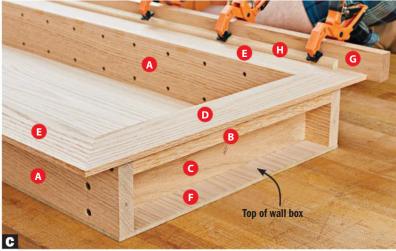
Tip! Without the back in place, you can clamp the stiles and rails with clamps inside the box for a firmer grip.

4 Cut the rails and stiles (D, E) a few inches longer than listed. Miter-cut the ends [Skill Builder], and glue the rails and stiles around the opening, flush on the inside. Round over the inside edges [Drawing 1].

**5** Cut parts F-I to size. Glue and screw the back (F) to the box [**Drawing 1**]. Round over the front edges of the shelves (I) and set them aside for now.

Rabbet the stop (G) [Drawing 1a] to provide a shadow line when installed. Glue it to the edge of the left-side stile (E).

7 To make the quarter-round molding (H), plane a 5' length of 2"-wide stock to \%6" thick. Then, rout one edge with a \\\\\\\'2\'' round-over bit and rip off that edge. Attach the quarter-round trim molding [Photo C].



Glue and clamp the trim (H) to the stile (E) and stop (G) to strengthen the stile/stop joint.

and trim (H) to the right-side stile (E) and the inner stile (M) to the left side of the mirror frame [Make the

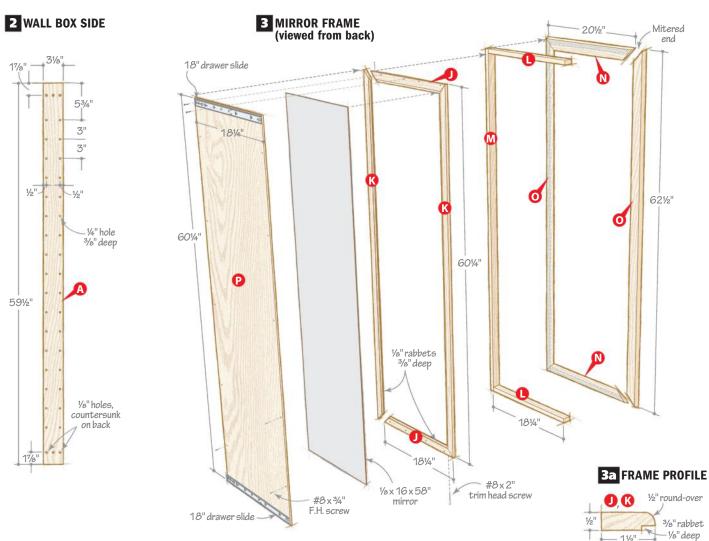
**Note:** The mirror

*slides open to the right*.

To make it open to the

*left, glue the stop (G)* 

sliding mirror, Step 3, and Photo E].



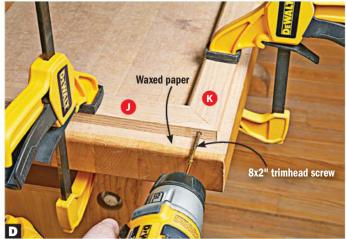
#### Make the sliding mirror

1 Cut the frame rails and stiles (J, K) to size. Rabbet and round over the edges [Drawings 3 and 3a]. Then, miter-cut the ends.

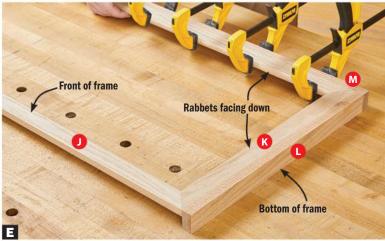
Glue the frame together on a flat surface.

After the glue sets, drive a screw into each joint [Photo D].

- **3** Cut the inner rails and stile (L, M) to size. Glue them to the mitered frame (J/K) [Drawings 3 and 4, Photo E].
- 4 Cut stock for the molding rails and stiles (N, O) ½" wider and 4" longer than indicated on the Materials List.



**Drill pilot holes in the miters** and drive trimhead screws to reinforce the joints. Waxed paper laid on the bench before assembly prevents gluing the frame to the worksurface.



Align the rail and stile edges (L, M) flush with the front (non-rabbeted) face of the frame. The stile (M) goes on the right side as you look at the front of the frame.





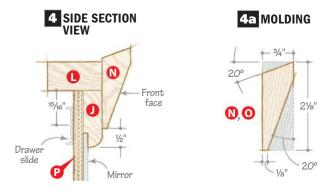
With the tablesaw blade tilted to 20°, rip the molding face (left) and edge (right). Allow enough extra thickness and width to sand out saw marks as these moldings show prominently on the installed project.



**Glue the moldings in place,** maintaining a ½" reveal around the opening. **Tip!** Attach self-adhesive sandpaper to scraps of bevel-cut stock to make effective clamp blocks.



Attach the slides to the wall box tight against the stop (G) and flush with the outer edges of the rails (D). Make sure the slides are parallel.



5 Install a zero-clearance insert in your tablesaw and rip the bevels on the moldings [Drawing 4a, Photos F and G].

6 As you did with the wall-box rail and stiles, miter-cut and glue the moldings

around the frame assembly (J–M), starting with a rail [Drawings 3 and 4, Photo H].

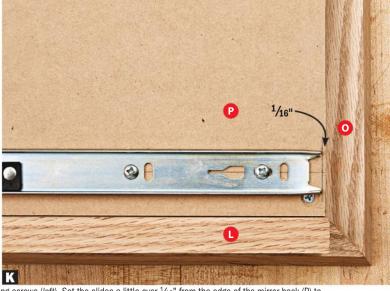
**7** Cut the mirror back (P) to size and screw it to the frame assembly (J–O). Leave the mirror out for now.

# Add the sliding hardware

- Screw the main body (cabinet side) of an 18" drawer slide to the top and bottom of the wall box [Exploded View, Photo I].
- 2 Attach the removable parts of the drawer slides to the back (P) of the mirror frame [Drawing 3, Photos J and K].
- 3 Slide the two assemblies together (you may need a helper) and check for free motion. Then, remove the hardware and apply a finish of your choice. (We sprayed the box interior and frame with clear lacquer.)

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Mark a centerline <sup>15</sup>/16" from each inner rail (L) and drill pilot holes for the drawer-slide mounting screws (left). Set the slides a little over ½s" from the edge of the mirror back (P) to allow for slack (right).

**Tip!** You can fasten the box in place with screws through the stiles (E) into the studs if that makes installation easier.

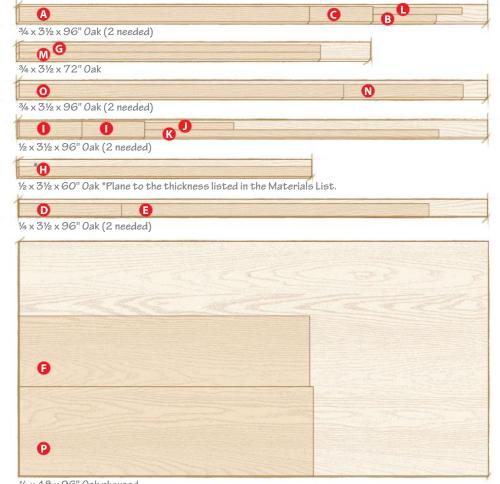
#### Installing the secret wall box

1 Slide the box into the cavity, pushing the rails and stiles (D, E) flush against the wall surface. Plumb the box, and secure it with screws driven through the sides (A) into the wall studs.

Remove the mirror back (P), fit the mirror glass in the frame, and reinstall the back. Reinstall the drawer slides and join the frame to the box. Install the shelves. Then, reflect on your work as you hide some things away.

Produced by Larry Johnston with John Olson Project design: John Olson Illustrations: Roxanne LeMoine, Lorna Johnson

**Cutting Diagram** 



¼ x 48 x 96" 0ak plywood

This project requires 12 board feet of 4/4 oak, 5 square feet of  $\frac{1}{2}$  oak, and 5 square feet of  $\frac{1}{2}$  oak.

#### **Materials List**

|     |                   | т'   | INISHED |                                  |       |      |
|-----|-------------------|------|---------|----------------------------------|-------|------|
| Par | Part              |      | W       | L                                | Matl. | Qty. |
|     | Wall box          |      |         |                                  |       |      |
| Α   | sides             | 3/4" | 31/8"   | 59½"                             | 0     | 2    |
| В   | spacer            | 3/4" | 1½"     | 13"                              | 0     | 2    |
| С   | top/bottom        | 3/4" | 31/8"   | 13"                              | 0     | 2    |
| D*  | rails             | 1/4" | 29/16"  | 181/8"                           | 0     | 2    |
| E*  | stiles            | 1/4" | 29/16"  | 60%"                             | 0     | 2    |
| F   | back              | 1/4" | 14½"    | 59½"                             | OP    | 1    |
| G   | stop              | 3/4" | 1½"     | 61¾"                             | 0     | 1    |
| H*  | trim              | ½6"  | 7⁄16"   | 57"                              | 0     | 1    |
|     | shelves           | 1/2" | 3¼"     | 12%"                             | 0     | 4    |
|     | Mirror            |      |         |                                  |       |      |
| J   | frame rails       | 1/2" | 1½"     | 18 <sup>1</sup> ⁄ <sub>4</sub> " | 0     | 2    |
| K   | frame stiles      | 1/2" | 1½"     | 60¼"                             | 0     | 2    |
| L   | inner frame rails | 3/4" | 17/16"  | 18¼"                             | 0     | 2    |
| М   | inner frame stile | 3/4" | 17/16"  | 61¾"                             | 0     | 1    |
| N*  | molding rails     | 3/4" | 21/8"   | 20½"                             | 0     | 2    |
| 0*  | molding stiles    | 3/4" | 21/8"   | 62½"                             | 0     | 2    |
| Р   | back              | 1/4" | 18¼"    | 60¼"                             | OP    | 1    |

\*Parts initially cut oversize. See the instructions.

Materials key: 0-oak, OP-oak plywood.

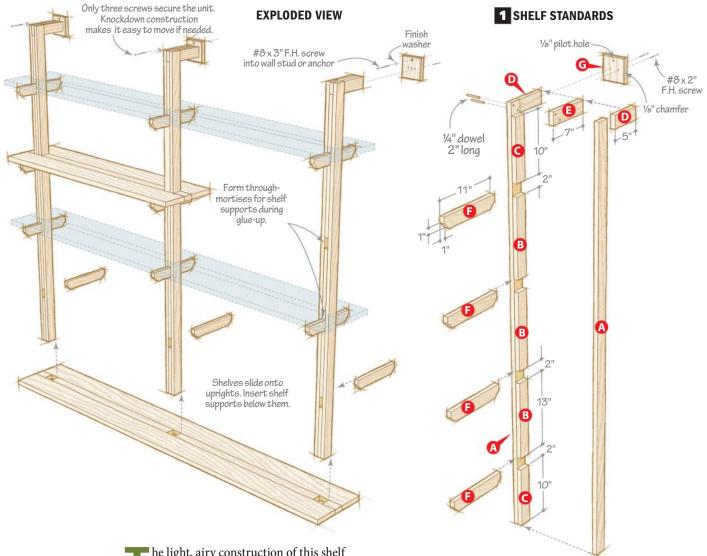
**Supplies:** 18" full-extension drawer slides (1 pair),  $\frac{1}{2}$  x16x58" mirror (1), shelf pins (16),  $\frac{1}{4}$  flathead screws,  $\frac{1}{4}$  trimhead screws,  $\frac{1}{4}$  brads.

Bits: 1/8", 3/8", and 1/2" round-over bits.

# Built-to-fit Stand-up Shelving

Outfit any room with maximum shelf space using minimum materials.





he light, airy construction of this shelf unit keeps it from overpowering even small rooms. Shelf standards fall on 32" centers for secure fastening to wall studs. Build the unit as shown or make it longer or shorter to fit your needs by adding or eliminating shelf standards and customizing the shelf lengths.

#### **Build the shelf standards**

1 Cut ten ¾×2½×70" blanks for parts A–E [Drawing 1]. Set six blanks aside for the upright faces (A). From three remaining blanks, cut the long spacers (B) and three short spacers (C) [Materials List]. Cut another three short spacers to 10½" long. From the last blank, cut the brace faces (D) and brace spacers (E) 1" longer than listed. Cut the shelf supports (F), retaining a 6"-long scrap of shelf-support stock to use in assembling the uprights and braces. Set the brace parts and shelf supports aside.

2 Assemble the uprights [Drawing 1, Photo A]. With the glue dry, glue and clamp a second face to each assembly.

B
Overlength C

**Glue and clamp the spacers (B, C) to an upright face (A).** Start flush at the bottom with the overlength spacer (C). Position the remaining spacers by temporarily inserting the shelf-support scrap between them. A couple of 23-gauge pin nails keep the spacers from shifting when applying clamps.

Tip! For consistent color, cut the spacers (B, C) from the blanks in the sequence in which they will be assembled. As you cut the parts, mark the part letters and their assembly order. Make sure the overlength short spacers (C) are at the bottom of each upright.

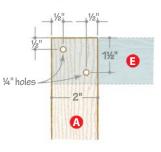


Dry-assemble the upright and brace. Drill 2"-deep holes for 1/4" dowels.



Apply glue, reassemble the parts, and drive in 1/4" dowels. Trim the dowels flush.

# **2** JOINT DETAIL



293/41 ĸ 401/211 3 SHELVES 293/41 0 ĸ 21/8" 0 725/8"

**Note:** If you don't have a jointer and planer, simply rip the uprights to width, removing material from both edges, and then sand them smooth.

**Note:** The upright/ brace joints should be self-squaring, but verify before drilling the dowel holes.

Remove glue squeeze-out from the notch 3 at the top of each upright and from the mortises. Joint one edge of each upright and plane them to width. Measure 10" from the upper end of the lower short spacer (C) and trim the end of each upright [Drawing 1]. Insert the shelf-support scrap between the upright faces at the top of each upright and mark a cutline. Cut the uprights to finished

Glue the brace faces (D) to the brace 4 spacers (E) [Drawing 1], using the shelfsupport scrap to position the faces on the spacers. Joint and plane the braces to width and cut them to finished length.

Assemble the uprights and braces [Draw-Jing 2, Photos B, C. Finish-sand the shelf standards.

Cut and chamfer the mounting plates (G) [Drawing 1]. Drill in each one a pilot hole for the wall-mounting screw and two countersunk holes for brace-mounting screws. Finish-sand the plates. Pin-nail the plates to the braces, drill pilot holes, and screw the plates to the braces.

Plane just enough (about 1/64") from one edge of each shelf support (F) to allow you to push them through the shelf-standard mortises by hand. Bevel-cut the bottom corners of the supports [Drawing 1] and finishsand them.

#### Make the shelves

1 Cut the shelf rails (H, I) and shelf short spacers (J) 1" longer than listed. Cut the shelf long spacers (K) to finished length and three 2%"-wide scrapwood assembly spacers about 6" long.

Tor each shelf, glue and clamp the spac-Lers (J, K) to one rail [Drawing 2], inserting

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Lay the shelf standards on the floor with the braces up. Slide each of the shelves onto the standards, and insert the shelf supports.

the assembly spacers to make openings for the shelf standards. Remove the assembly spacers and let the glue dry. Glue and clamp a second rail to each shelf. Remove squeezeout from the openings.

3 Sand both faces of the shelves flush. Measure 3" from the inside ends of the short spacers and mark cutlines [Drawing 2]. Trim the shelves to finished length and finishsand them.

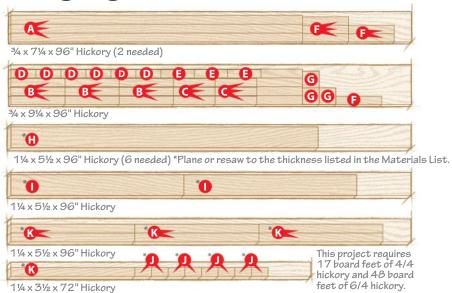
#### Finish it up

Examine all parts and finish-sand where needed. Apply a clear finish to all parts.

2 Mark 32"-on-center wall-stud locations 70" from the floor. Install the shelves and supports [Photo D].

Stand the shelf unit against the wall. (There should be a small gap between the rear edges of the shelves and the wall.) Center the mounting plates on the marked stud locations and plumb the shelf standards in both directions. Using the holes in the mounting plates as guides, drill pilot holes into the wall studs and drive screws capped with finish washers. Get all that really cool stuff out of the closet and arrange it on the shelves for everyone to admire.

# **Cutting Diagram**



#### **Materials List**

| IV  | ialtiiais           | LIS  | L         |           |       |      |
|-----|---------------------|------|-----------|-----------|-------|------|
| Pai | rt                  | т    | FINISHED: | SIZE<br>L | Matl. | Qty. |
| A*  | upright faces       | 3/4" | 2"        | 69"       | Н     | 6    |
| B*  | long spacers        | 3/4" | 2"        | 13"       | Н     | 9    |
| C*  | short spacers       | 3/4" | 2"        | 10"       | Н     | 6    |
| D*  | brace faces         | 3/4" | 2"        | 5"        | Н     | 6    |
| E*  | brace spacers       | 3/4" | 2"        | 7"        | Н     | 3    |
| F   | shelf supports      | 3/4" | 2"        | 11"       | Н     | 11   |
| G   | mounting plates     | 3/4" | 4"        | 4"        | Н     | 3    |
| H*  | long shelf rails    | 1"   | 5"        | 72%"      | Н     | 6    |
| *   | short shelf rails   | 1"   | 5"        | 40½"      | Н     | 2    |
| J*  | shelf short spacers | 1"   | 21/8"     | 3"        | Н     | 8    |
| K   | shelf long spacers  | 1"   | 21/8"     | 29¾"      | Н     | 7    |
|     |                     |      |           |           |       |      |

\*Parts initially cut oversize. See the instructions.

Materials key: H-hickory.

**Supplies:**  $\frac{1}{4}$ " maple dowel  $\frac{1}{2}$ " long,  $\frac{1}{8}$  × 2" flathead wood screws (6),  $\frac{1}{8}$  × 3" flathead wood screws (3),  $\frac{1}{8}$  finish washers (3).

Produced by **Craig Ruegsegger** with **Kent Welsh** and **Jan Svec** Project design: **Kevin Boyle** 

Illustrations: Roxanne LeMoine, Lorna Johnson



# **Anatomy of a Scraping Plane**



#### First, burnish the blade

As with any bench plane, clean cuts depend on a sharp blade, so sharpen a scraping plane blade as you would a conventional blade. Slightly round the ends of the bevel to keep the blade from leaving marks with each pass.

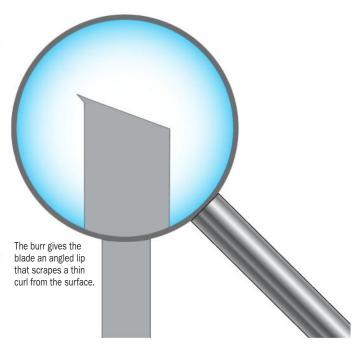
Next, form a burr on the sharpened edge. To do this, make a guide block from a 2"-thick scrap about 6" long and ½" wider than the

blade. Bevel-cut one end at 15° or the angle specified for your plane. Clamp the guide block and blade in a vise with the blade about \(^4\)" proud of the block [Photo A]. With the block as your angle guide, use a burnisher [Sources] or the hardened shaft of a screwdriver or chisel to roll the burr [Photo A].

Find details on several sharpening methods. woodmagazine.com/ sharpening

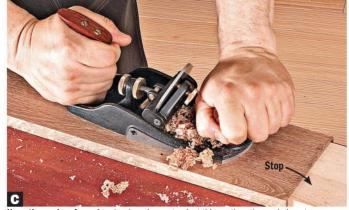


**Press firmly as you push or pull the burnisher** from the center to one edge while simultaneously sliding it diagonally. Then slide the burnisher from the center to the opposite edge. Repeat until you feel an even burr form as the edge rolls over.





Place two pieces of typing paper about 2" apart on a flat wooden surface such as your workbench. Then rest the sole of the plane on the papers with the opening in the sole (called the "throat") between them.



**Keep the worksurface clear** by clamping a stop just thinner than the workpiece to your benchtop. Butt the workpiece against the scrap.

#### Install and adjust the blade

A properly burred and installed scraping blade should remove a paper-thin shaving. Open the lever cap knob and insert the blade with the burr facing forward (avoid dinging the burr against the plane body) and resting on the benchtop [Photo B]. Then adjust the frog angle until it's about 80° to the sole. Tighten the lever cap knob.

For a shallower cut, use just one piece of paper beneath half the plane sole. For the shallowest cut, place the sole directly on the benchtop and press down on the blade while tightening the lever cap knob.

Now test the setting on a piece of scrap, but don't be surprised if nothing happens. To peel off an even curl of wood, the frog must be adjusted to an angle where the burr snags the wood.

The blade changes depth as you change the frog angle, so loosen the lever cap knob just enough to free the blade. Then back away the two frog adjustment wheels by about ½". After you secure the frog, retighten the lever cap knob. Repeat this process until the blade bites into the wood and shaves thin curls from your scrap (see *below*).

#### Using a scraping plane

Scraping planes work slowly by taking thin curls, so start with a surface flattened with a power planer or hand plane. As when using a smoothing plane, grip the scraping plane by the front knob and rear handle [Photo C].

Working in the direction of the grain, hold the plane with the blade off the worksurface and the toe firmly pressed against it. Push against the rear handle hard enough to begin cutting and build momentum to complete the stroke. For hard or difficult woods, such as quilted maple, start the cut while holding the plane at roughly a 25° angle to the grain for a shearing motion.

Equalize your hand pressure on the toe and heel by midcut. At the opposite end of the workpiece, shift pressure to the heel as the blade nears the edge. That reduces the chance of rounding over the worksurface.

Take the next stroke so it slightly overlaps the previous one. Test your work periodically by wiping the surface with mineral spirits to reveal any plane marks. If you notice any, reduce the depth of cut, round over the blade edges, or use the blade bow thumbscrew to eliminate the problem.

See a video demonstrating how to use a scraping plane. woodmagazine.com/ scraperplane

#### **Sources**

Scraping planes. No. 85 Cabinet Maker's Scraper, \$215. Lie-Nielsen Toolworks, 800-327-2520, lie-nielsen.com. Kunz No. 112 scraping plane, \$130. Highland Hardware, 800-241-6748, highlandwoodworking.com. Veritas scraping plane (05P29.01), \$179. Lee Valley Tools, 800-871-8158. leevalley.com Triangular burnisher. Two Cherries triangular burnisher (520-5085), \$28. Di Legno Workshop Supply. 412-331-1236, dlws.com.

# Shavings tell how you're scraping by







Examine the wood and your plane shavings to diagnose problems. If the blade cuts too deeply, *left*, loosen the lever cap knob and reduce the blade depth. If a freshly sharpened blade still leaves just tiny curls and sawdust, *center*, adjust the pitch of the frog until the burr bites into the wood surface. If a worn blade goes from making curls to making sawdust, resharpen the blade and restore the burr. Aim for long, wide, and thin shavings, like the one shown *right*.

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# 6 Essential Drill Bits

**Good advice for boring jobs** 







by Jim Heavey

oodworkers have come a long way since the days of the bit and brace. Though we may romanticize those times, limited bit options meant craftsmen often settled for holes that were "good enough." Today, we can choose from specialized bits, many of which create clean, tear-out-free holes, and others that drill specially shaped holes, something that eluded woodworkers of long ago. These bits fit most of the needs of today's woodworker.

► Prevent overdrilling with these tips. woodmagazine.com/drillstop



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**Tip!** The larger the bit, the slower the drill-press speed to prevent overheating the bit. Secure the workpiece against a fence or to the table with clamps.

**>BRAD-POINT BITS.** Guided by a centerpoint, these bits resist wandering. Sharp corners, or spurs [Photo A], cut cleanly across the grain, eliminating tear-out and producing a hole with clean side walls. The deep flutes clear chips quickly. You'll find these bits in diameters ranging from ½" to 1".

**▶FORSTNER BITS.** For drilling flat-bottomed holes, overlapping holes to create mortises, or partial holes that extend off the edge of a board, use a Forstner bit. Here again, a center spur ensures an accurate start. The sharpened rim produces clean edges, and angled cutters between the spur and rim plane away waste. Because of the large shavings they create, occasionally retract the bit from the hole while drilling to clear chips and reduce the chance of the bit binding or overheating. These bits may have a smooth rim or a saw-tooth rim [Photo B] and come in diameters from ¾6″ to 4″.

Use bits larger than %" in a drill press to control the rotational torque created by the large cutting surface.

**PTAPER AND COUNTERSINKS.** Ideal for drilling pilot holes for screws, they create a hole for the screw shank as well as a recess that allows the screwhead to sit flush with the wood surface, or be counterbored as needed. Adjust the collar around the bit up or down to match the screw length. Find bits sized to match #4–#12 screws.

**>SELF-CENTERING BITS.** The spring-loaded nose, sized to fit the screw hole on a hinge leaf, retracts when drilling, centering the pilot hole. That ensures hinge screws seat fully in the countersink in the leaf, and hinges end up where intended. Bits sized for #4, #6, and #8 screws prove most useful.

**PTWIST BITS.** Wander into any woodshop and you'll find common twist drill bits, the utility players of drilling. Available at hardware stores, this versatile bit has a 118° tip [Photo C] that drills into wood, plastic, and metal. Because the cut begins at the center of the tip and moves to the outside edge, wood fibers on the periphery of a hole suffer tear-out.

▶ SPADE BITS. Though generally not used in furnituremaking, these bits make short work of drilling holes in construction-grade wood projects. Again, a centerpoint guides the bit, and outside spurs reduce tear-out on the edge of the hole. Find these in diameters from ¼" to 1½". Back up the material when drilling a through-hole to reduce blow-out as the bit exits the board.

So there's the drill. Add these bits to your workshop to open up a "hole" world full of boring possibilities.



**The brad point starts the bit on target,** and the spurs cut clean edges, but they leave a ridge in the bottom of a counterbore (a hole that doesn't go through a workpiece).



Saw-tooth rims dissipate heat better than smooth rims, so larger-diameter bits typically use this design.



Twist bits typically tear out most across the grain. The bottom contour of a counterbore matches the bevel of the drill-bit tip.

Forstner bits.
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▶Download a free drill-press speed chart. woodmagazine.com/ dpspeed

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# **Turn ordinary tapered legs** into stunners with these here's a simple, understated simple upgrades. elegance to tapered legs. They appear light, yet have the strength to solidly support a table, sideboard, or desk. And for some projects and furniture styles, that's all you need. But a little extra pizazz can push a good project to stunning. Try these four ways to add sex appeal to your legs. Download a free article on making and using a simple tablesaw tapering sled. woodmagazine.com/taper WOOD magazine October 2017



# Slip into some slippers

This technique calls for simply inlaying veneer around the feet on all four faces. Two pieces angle upward to form a pinnacle at the outermost corner of each leg. Two other pieces wrap the leg's inner faces to connect the lower corners of the outer pieces.



**On an outer face of the leg, lay out and score** the inlay's top edge with a sharp knife and a sliding T-bevel set to the angle of your choosing (45° shown here).



**Chisel out a recess** equal to or just less than the thickness of your veneer from the toe up to the scored line. Keep the recess at a consistent depth for best glue adhesion.



**Cut a piece of veneer** slightly wider and longer than the recess, and with an angled top that perfectly matches the recess.



Glue the veneer in place and speed up the glue set by holding a dry iron on it for 10-15 seconds. This evaporates moisture from the glue for a quick hold, letting you do all four sides in minutes.



**Trim the veneer flush with the leg** once the glue dries, and then sand or scrape the top surface flush with the leg face. Repeat the process for the other faces.

woodmagazine.com 73



# Wrap your legs

Inlay banding adds instant attraction to a leg, especially when it's made of sharply contrasting woods. You can buy ready-made banding or use a strip of contrasting solid wood or veneer.

**Sources:** Inlay banding, \$6.69-\$32.99, Woodcraft Supply, 800-225-1153, woodcraft.com; \$6.49-\$21.99, Rockler Woodworking and Hardware, 800-279-4441, rockler.com.



Dado all four faces of the leg so that the inlay banding fits flush and snug. If the banding will be above the leg's taper, cut the dadoes before the tapers.



For inlay bands on tapered surfaces, cut the tapers first and plane or sand smooth; then cut the dadoes.



**Apply the inlay banding** starting on an outer face, and centering the banding's pattern. Glue it in place, allow to dry, then trim with a chisel or flush-cut saw, and sand flush. Repeat for the other faces, wrapping the banding so the pattern looks continuous.

# Sculpt in shadowy appeal

A shapely recess, such as a profiled dado, adds eye-catching detail. Experiment on scrap stock with router bits without a bearing at the end until you find a pleasing profile, or purchase a bit with a profile you like.





**Rout dadoes on each face** with the profile bit of your choice. Install an auxiliary fence on your miter gauge to prevent tear-out, and hold the stock securely to it. Use the fence as a stop to ensure the dadoes line up precisely.







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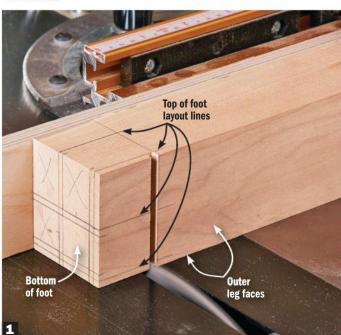
# They're not high heels, but...

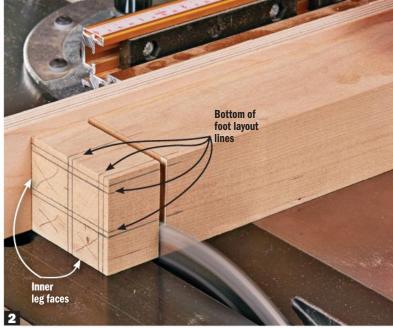
With furniture, brass cup feet add classy elegance. You can buy cup feet in various styles, shapes, and metal finishes to complement your project. We prefer to make a cup foot fit flush with the leg's faces rather than simply slipping it over the foot. This integrates it into the leg, rather than appearing to be an afterthought.

To do this, cut a shouldered foot to fit the cup (essentially a tapered tenon, as this cup foot is tapered). Cut the foot first on a leg blank a few inches longer than final length, and taper the legs after crosscutting to length. Why? Do the difficult parts first: If you mess up, simply cut off the mistake and try again.

**Source:** Brass cup feet, seven sizes in two finishes (antique brass and old brass), \$6.80-\$12.30 each, Lee Valley, 800-871-8158, leevalley.com.

Produced by **Bob Hunter** with **Terry Moore** 





After laying out the location for the tapered foot, crosscut the shoulders to depth with a miter gauge and crosscut blade. The shoulder depth will be the same for the outer faces of the leg, but deeper for the inner faces to allow for the tapers, which you'll cut later.



**Bandsaw the tapered foot to shape,** staying just outside the layout lines. Repeat for all four sides of the foot.



**Trim the foot until the cup fits snugly.** Use a shoulder plane, rabbeting plane, sanding block, or a chisel wider than the foot.



Secure the cup foot with the included brad nail or screw on an inner leg face. If none was included, drill a hole for one and use a close-matching fastener. A friction fit might seem good enough at first, but could loosen with seasonal humidity changes.

WOOD magazine October 2017

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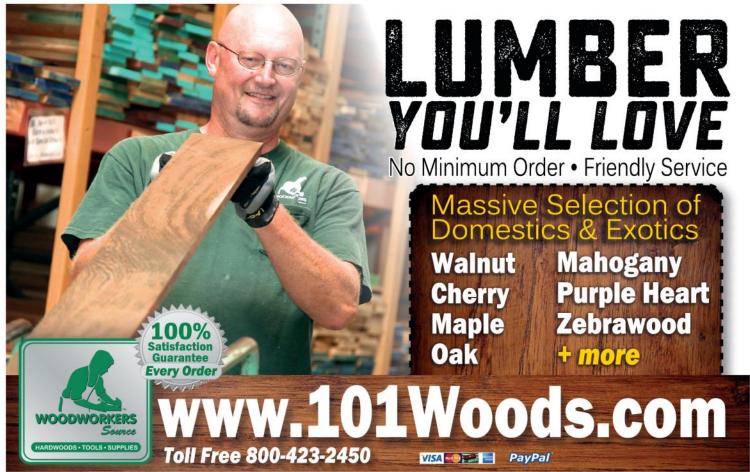


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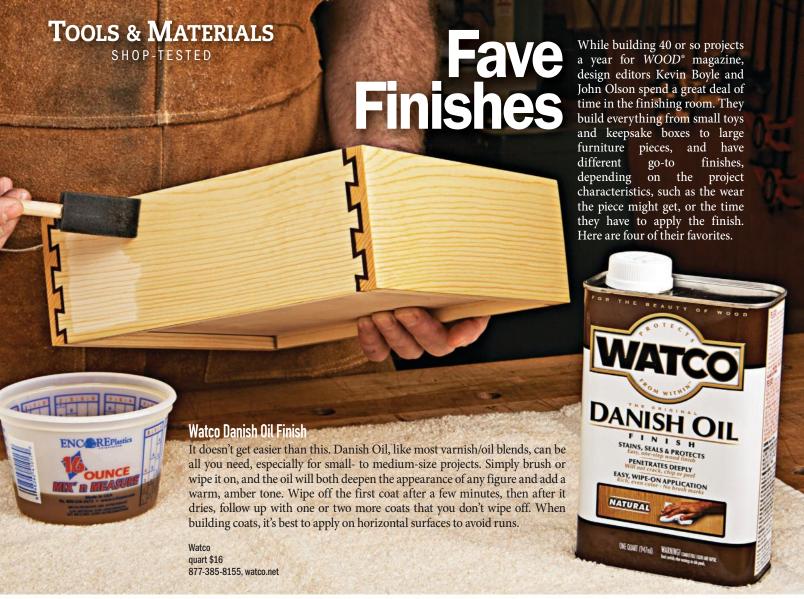
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# **Bulls Eye SealCoat**

Although this dewaxed shellac is marketed as sanding sealer, it makes a great base coat for almost any project. It's especially helpful in preventing blotchiness with some wood species, such as pine and cherry. Just brush or spray on a coat, sand smooth, and cover with a stain or dye for an even coating. Every topcoat finish sticks to it well, and it can be its own topcoat, but it will take 3–5 applications to build a good protective finish.

ZINSSER

Zinsser quart \$15, gallon \$40 877-385-8155 zinsser.com

▶ Read more about finishing techniques. woodmagazine.com/

woodmagazine.com

# **Enduro-Var Water-Based Urethane**

Water-based topcoats provide a key advantage over oil-based products: fast dry time. That's important for two reasons. First, the faster it dries, the fewer airborne dust particles will settle on the wet finish. And second, you can apply two or three coats in a day. Enduro-Var provides great protection for wear surfaces, such as tables, desks, and chairs. Plus, it adds a slight amber tone we like. It's best to spray Enduro-Var because it dries quickly, but if you must apply it by hand, use a foam brush to prevent streaks.

General Finishes quart \$35, gallon \$100 800-783-6050 generalfinishes.com



# MagnaMax High Performance Precatalyzed Lacquer

Here's another fast-drying topcoat that's best sprayed. MagnaMax creates a glassy-smooth finish that's very durable, perfect for furniture and cabinets. Two coats is often all you need. As with all precatalyzed lacquers, it must be used within a month or so before it becomes unuseable. So don't buy it unless you know you'll use it soon. MagnaMax can only be bought through paint stores and woodworking retailers; check the dealer locator on the company's website.

M.L. Campbell gallon \$45 800-364-1359 mlcampbell.com



continued on page 82







# **TOOLS & MATERIALS**

SHOP-TESTED

# Bore perfect dog holes with ease

3/4" dog hole bushing, no. 15J79.03, \$8.40; 3/4" brad-point drill bit, no. 07J02.48, \$32.90

This bit-and-bushing set eliminates the biggest problems with drilling bench-dog holes in a workbench top: imperfectly sized or misaligned holes. Here's how it works. You make a simple jig (such as ours, at *left*). Using a drill press, bore a 1" hole in your jig. Tap the bushing into the hole. Then lay out the locations for the holes, and drill as shown. This setup produces precisely perpendicular holes without tear-out, thanks to the high-speed-steel brad-point bit. You might use this tool only once—unless you or a friend build another workbench—but it's well worth the investment.

—Tested by Bob Hunter, Tools Editor

Lee Valley 800-871-8158, leevalley.com



# Big power gets smaller

18-volt subcompact drill/driver and impact driver combo kit, no. CX200RB. \$230

I own Makita's full-size 18-volt drill and impact driver, and work them like crazy. But when it comes to building furniture and small projects, they're simply too big. That's why I love this subcompact combo kit: These tools have nearly all the power of the larger 18-volt tools, but at the size of 12-volt tools. What's more, the battery packs are fully compatible with all Makita 18-volt tools and chargers. The smaller size makes these tools easier to maneuver, resulting in less arm fatigue. The drill has a ½" chuck, brushless motor, and two speed ranges; the impact driver has a slow spin mode, for starting screws, that ramps up as they gain purchase.

—Tested by Kevin Boyle, Senior Design Editor

Makita Tools 800-462-5482, makitatools.com





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NEW AND NEXT

# Take the plunge with a trimmer

1-hp trim router with fixed and plunge bases, no. 9060, \$95; plunge base only, no. 9064, \$39.95 MLCS launched the Rocky 30 trim router a few years ago, outfitted with a fixed base. Now you can buy a plunge base for the Rocky 30 that features  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " of vertical travel and three turret depth stops. The base comes with an edge guide and dust-collection hood.

MLCS Router Bits & Woodworking Supplies 800-533-9298, mlcswoodworking.com



# These ear plugs can be your jam Music ear plugs, no. 425-0400, \$25

Protect your hearing while also listening to your favorite tunes, without bulky muffs. These ear plugs have a noise-reduction rating of 25 decibels—ample protection for most shop noise—and a 3.5mm audio plug. Silicone and

foam ear plugs are included.



# Small-parts crosscut sled

Small-parts tablesaw sled, no. 55916, \$70 Guided by a single tablesaw miter slot, this sled provides zero-clearance crosscuts for workpieces too small for a miter gauge or larger sled. It comes with a miter-slot stop to limit forward travel in order to prevent exposure to the blade behind the sled. (Hold-down clamps, \$5–\$10 apiece, not included.)

Rockler Woodworking and Hardware 800-279-4441, rockler.com



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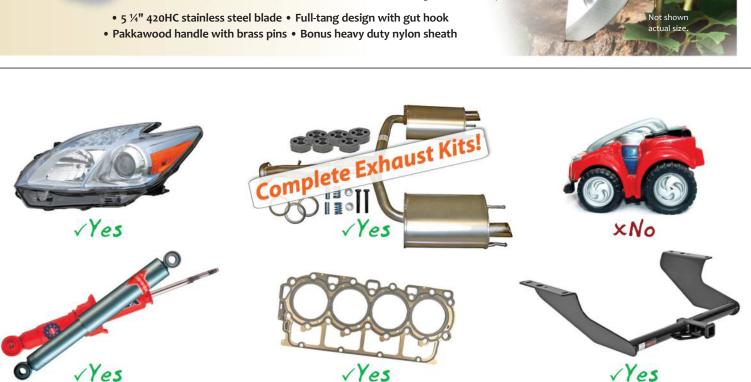
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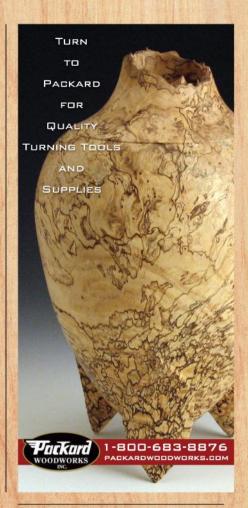




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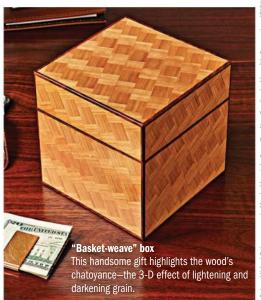
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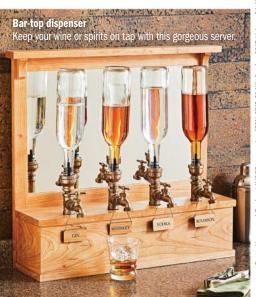


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