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10" CONTRACTOR TABLE SAWS With Riving Knife

- Motor: 1¾ HP or 2HP, 110V/220V, single-phase
- Precision-ground cast iron table wings: 27°D x 44°W
- · Arbor: %
- · Arbor speed: 4200 RPM
- . Table height: 351/4"
- Footprint: 26"W x 261/4"D
- · Capacity: 3/1 @ 90°, 21/4° @ 45°
- Rip capacity: 36" R. 12" L
- · Approx. shipping weight: 328 lbs. (G0713) 338 lbs. (G0661)



G0713 ONLY \$89500 2 HP, LEFT-TILTING SINGLE- PHASE

G0661 ONLY \$92500



10" HYBRID TABLE SAW With Riving Knife

- Motor: 2 HP,110V/220V, single-phase
- · Precision-ground cast iron table size w/ wings : 27" x 40" • Arbor: 3/4"
- · Arbor speed: 3850 RPM
- · Capacity: 31/4" @ 90° 23/10" @ 45"
- · Rip capacity: 12" L, 30" R
- · Cast iron
- · Approx. shipping



G0715P ONLY \$79500

BEAUTIFUL

WHITE COLOR!

12" BABY DRUM SANDERS

- . Sanding motor: 11/2 HP, 110V, single-phase
- Conveyor motor: 1/4 HP, 110V, single-phase,
- variable speed 5-35 FPM Max. stock thickness: 3½"
- . Min. stock length: 8"
- · Sanding drum
- size: 4"
- · Sanding belt: 3" x 70" hook & loop
- Dust collection port: 21/2"
- Approx. shipping weight: 160 lbs. MADE IN TAIWAN



CLASSIC GRIZZLY GREEN COLOR

G0459 ONLY \$59500

POLAR BEAR® DAZZLING WHITE COLOR

G0459P ONLY \$59500



8" JOINTERS

- . Motor: 3 HP, 220V, single-phase, TEFC
- · Precision-ground cast iron table size: 9" x 721/5" · Max.
- depth of cut: 1/4" · Max. rabbeting
- depth: 1/2"
- · Cutterhead dia.: 3" · Cutterhead speed: 5000 RPM (G0656P) 5350 RPM
- (G0656PX) Cuts per minute: 20,000 (G0656P)
- Cuts per minute: 21,400 (G0656PX)
- . Approx. shipping weight: 500 lbs.

WITH 4 KNIFE CUTTERHEAD G0656P ONLY \$82500

WITH SPIRAL CUTTERHEAD G0656PX ONLY \$122500



ISH MOCKS

MOBILE BASE

15" PLANERS

- · Motor: 3 HP, 220V, single-phase
- · Precision-ground cast iron table size: 15" x 20"
- Min. stock thickness: ¾6 . Min. stock length: 8"
- . Max. cutting depth: 1/6"
- · Feed rate:
- 16 FPM & 30 FPM · Cutterhead speed:
- 5000 RPM · Approx. shipping weight:
- 662 lbs. (G0453P) 666 lbs. (G0453PX)



WITH 3 KNIFE CUTTERHEAD G0453P ONLY \$109500 WITH SPIRAL CUTTERHEAD G0453PX ONLY \$169500



20" PLANER

- · Motor: 5 HP, 240V, single-phase
- . Max. cutting width: 20
- · Max. cutting height: 8"
- · Min. stock thickness: Yu'
- · Min. stock length: 8"
- Max. cutting depth: W
- · Feed rate: 16 FPM & 20 FPM
- · Cutterhead diameter: 31/1"
- Cutterhead speed: 4800 RPM
- · Feed rolls:
- solid serrated steel
- Overall dimensions: 55% L x 39
- · Approx. shipping weight: 920 lbs.



G0454 ONLY \$165000



Grizziy

MOBILE BASE

14" DELUXE BANDSAW

- Motor: 1 HP, TEFC, 110V/220V, single-phase (prewired 110V)
- Amps: 11 at 110V, 5.5 at 220V Blade size: 931/2" long
- (1/1" 1/4" wide)
- Cutting cap./throat: 131/2" Max. cutting height: 6"
- Overall size: 671/2"H x 27"W x 30"D
- Footprint: 23/2" x 16/2"
- Table height above floor: 43"
- Table tilt: 45° right, 10° left Approx. shipping weight. 246 lbs. Soul I









14" BANDSAW

- Motor: 1 HP, TEFC, 110V / 220V single-phase, 1725 RPM
- · 4" dust port
- · Cutting capacity/throat: 131/2"
- · Max. cutting height: 6"
- · Overall size: 661/2"H x 263/1"W x 301/4"D
- Precision-ground cast iron table size 14" x 14"
- . Table height: 431/16"
- Tilt: 45° R, 10° L
- · Fence construction: Deluxe extruded aluminum
- Blade speeds: 1500 & 3200 FPM Blade size: 92½ - 93½" (1/1" to 3/1" wide)
- · Approx. shipping weight. 196 lbs. G0555P ONLY \$52500





2 HP DUST COLLECTOR

- Motor: 2 HP, 240V, single-phase, 9A, 3450 RPM
- . Air suction capacity: 1550 CFM
- · Max. static pressure: 11"
- Bag capacity: 5.7 cu. ft. · Impeller: 12%" balanced
- steel, radial fin · Height w/ bags
- inflated 78° · Portable base: 211/4" x 331/4"
- Approx. shipping weight: 122 lbs.



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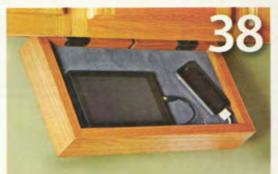
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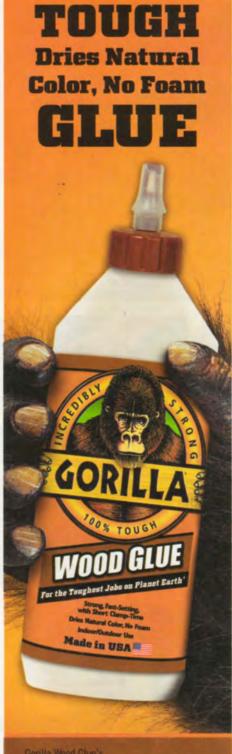
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The "Shop Tip of the Day" app at woodmagazine.com/tips gives you a handy tip every weekday. You can also search for past tips and find...

- Tons of tablesaw tips woodmagazine.com/tablesawtips
- A bevy of bandsaw tips woodmagazine.com/bandsawtips
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 woodmagazine.com/routingtips
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Tip: Add a blast gate opposite the dust-collection port on closed-cabinet tools to improve airflow and ensure better collection.

Blast

gate

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22' & 24'-Deep, Eave-entry, 2/3-Car Garage Plan

Better Homes and Gardens®

March 2013

Vol. 30, No. 1

W00D editors helped improve needy homes for Meredith's "Rebuilding Together" Day (rebuildingtogether.org).

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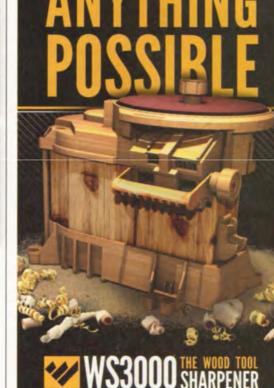
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Editor's Angle

Leaner, cleaner for the new year

very year, I take time off between Christmas and New Year's Day to enjoy the holidays with my family. On one of those days, I love to give my shop a deep cleaning, weeding out some of those "gotta-have" tools and gadgets that turned out to be "neveruse" tools and gadgets. The freshly organized shop always reenergizes me.

As WOOD® magazine begins its 29th year, we've flipped through the pages and "tidied up our shop," so to speak, to make it even better for you.

▶ More projects. You asked for more variety, so starting with this issue, we'll devote about 50 percent more pages to projects, and target a broader range of skill levels. And we'll still build and prove each of those projects in our own shop to guarantee your success.

► Dangerous new voices.

We've found a lot of talented woodworkers with different ways of looking at our craft and we want to share their insights with you. So we've offered them a voice in WOOD magazine. It's like taking advice from a buddy instead of your dad—a little rebellious, sometimes unorthodox, but just as effective. Steve Ramsey kicks off the new series on page 20.

bigger rewards. You could win a bunch of great woodworking tools valued at more than \$5,000 in the "Jet Dream Machine Giveaway." It's our way of thanking you for your loyal readership. Check out the equipment and the details on page 8.

And, just as you wouldn't toss out a favorite old hand plane, we've kept all the things you told us you find most



useful, including Ask WOOD, Shop Skills, the most reliable tool reviews in the business, and more.

I'd love to hear what you think about the changes. My e-mail box is always open for you.

See you in the shop!



Dave Campbell dave.campbell@meredith.com

WOOD magazine March 2013



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- · Cutting capacity:

With track: 131/32" @ 90°, 17/16" @ 45°



Track not included D4362 Track

D4363 Guide Rails

14" BANDSAW

- 1 HP. 110V/220V
- Precision ground cast iron table measures 14" x 14" x 11/2"
- Blade Size: 93½" (1/8" to 3/4" wide)
- Cutting capacity 13½" (throat)
- Cast iron frame and wheels
- Ball bearing blade guides
- · Includes fence and mitre gauge

Feature packed, and an incredible value

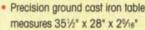
W1706 14" Bandsaw





5 HP SPINDLE SHAPER

 Motor: 5 HP, 220V, single-phase, 25A, 3450 RPM



- Spindle travel: 3¼*
- Spindle sizes: 3/4". 1", 11/4"
- Spindle capacity: 41/4". 45/8", 51/8"



W1827 5 HP Spindle Shaper

10" TABLE SAWS with Riving Knife

- 3 HP, 220V, single-phase motor
- · Cast iron table size: 27" x 401/4" (W1819) 535/8" w/extension. (W1820) 74" w/extension)
- Max. rip capacity: (W1819) 29½", (W1820) 50"
- Camlock fence

Free 10" Carbide-Tipped Blade

with HDPE face

W1819 10" Table Saw

W1820 10" Table Saw w/ Long Ext. Table

SLIDING TABLE and ROUTER TABLE ATTACHMENTS for W1819 & W1820



SLIDING TABLE ATTACHMENT

- Industrial grade anodized aluminum table size: 47" x 9"
- . Max. cross cut: 48"

W1822 ROUTER TABLE ATTACHMENT

- Precision-ground cast iron table size: 27" x 20"
- Universal router mount

OSCILLATING BENCHTOP SPINDLE SANDER

- ½ HP, 120V, single-phase, 3.5A
- Table size: 15" L x 11½" W
- 58 Oscillations per minute
- Stroke length: 5/4"
- 2000 RPM (1/2" spindle)





W1831 Oscillating Benchtop Spindle Sander

OUTSTANDING SHOP FOX® DUST COLLECTORS PORTABLE CYCLONE

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- CFM: 806
- · Filter: 2.0 micron, pleated
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- Maximum static pressure: 10.4"
- Includes remote control



WALL DUST COLLECTOR





- · Air suction capacity: 537 CFM
- · Bag capacity: 2 cubic feet
- Standard bag filtration: 2.5 micron
- . Static pressure: 7.2"

W1826 Wall Dust Collector

3-SPEED HANGING AIR





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- Inner filter: 1.0 micron



W1830 Hanging Air Filter

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Shop Tips

Need a lift? Make and mount one to your tablesaw

Heaving heavy sheet goods onto your tablesaw might be the most physically demanding task in woodworking.

Here's a solution: Add this simple, removable lift to your tablesaw and easily swing even full sheets of plywood or MDF onto the saw table without damaging the stock-or your back. To make it, fit a 12"-long hardwood insert to your tablesaw's fence tube. Then, attach the 3/4"-plywood A-frame so that it just touches the shop floor.

To use the lift, place one edge of the sheet onto the A-frame and slide it until it's centered. Lifting with your legs, swing the A-frame up until the top edge of the sheet rests on the saw table. Nudge the sheet off the frame and onto your tablesaw.

-Dan Martin, Galena, Ohio





HAVE A WOOD-WORTHY

Tell us how you've solved a workshop stumper. If we print your tip, you'll receive up to \$150. And, if the idea garners Top Shop Tip honors, we'll also reward you with a tool prize from Jet Tools worth at least \$300! Send your best ideas, along with photos or drawings and contact info, to shoptips@woodmagazine.com or

Shop Tips, WOOD magazine, 1716 Locust St., LS-221, Des Moines, IA 50309-3023.

Because we try to publish original tips, please send yours only to WOOD* magazine. Sorry, submitted materials can't be returned.

DREAM MACHINE **GIVEAWAY!**



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enjoying all of the Jet machines shown at left by the end of this summer! Visit woodmagazine.com/jetdreammachines to sign up. Enter every day, if you like, to increase your chances of winning!

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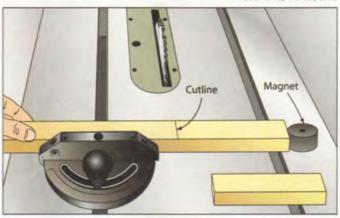
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Shop Tips

Stick on a stop for consistent crosscuts

For a down-and-dirty way to get accurate, repeatable crosscuts on your tablesaw, use a large round magnet (no. 444003, \$6.20, 888-878-1887, centaurforge.com). Line up the first cut with the blade, place the magnet at the end of the workpiece, and make the cut. For each subsequent cut, slide the workpiece over until the end rests against the magnet (being careful not to jar the magnet), and cut again.

-Bob Milko, Mentor, Ohio



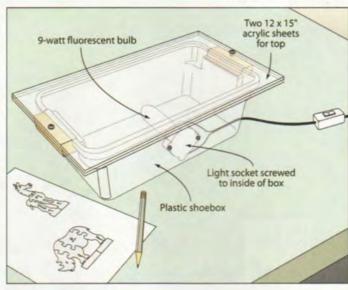
Shop-made light box = poor man's copier

Without a photocopier at home, I found myself going to the office supply store regularly to make copies of woodworking patterns. To avoid this inconvenience, I made a simple light box for tracing patterns by hand.

To make your own, install a porcelain or plastic light socket in a clear plastic shoebox, as shown. Top the box with two 12×15" acrylic sheets secured by pieces of rabbeted scrapwood.

To use the box, slide the pattern between the sheets of acrylic, lay a blank piece of paper directly above the pattern on the top piece of acrylic, turn the light on, and trace.

-Maurice Farrier, Raleigh, N.C.



Dust Collection Since 1993

Projects wear your mark with iron-on tee-shirt labels

After building a wedding gift for friends, I wanted to mark the couple's names and the date of their big day on it. I found that iron-on transfer paper—the kind used to print tee shirts and available at many office supply stores—provided a professional look for just pennies.

To make it work, first design your "imprint" using your computer's word-processing software. (You'll need to reverse or "mirror" the text so it reads correctly when ironed on to your workpiece). Then, print the label on the transfer paper and iron it onto a smooth, discreet place on your project.

-Robert Sawdey, Rockton, III.



continued on page 12

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11





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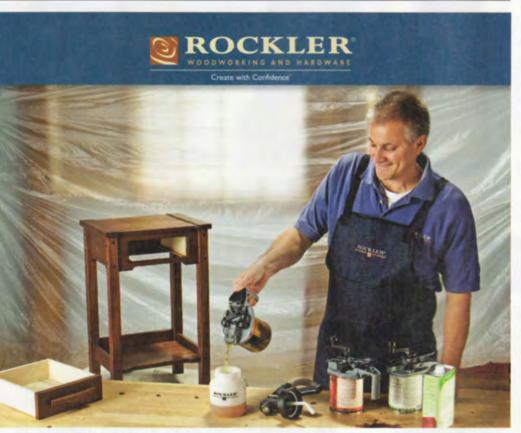
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Shop Tips

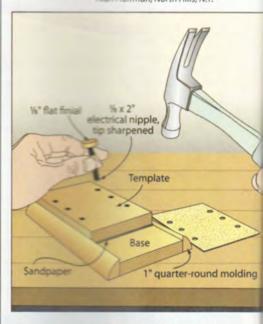
Punch your way to better dust collection

Palm sander manufacturers often include a plastic punch plate for making dust-collection holes in replacement sandpaper. But the jagged holes mine produced didn't allow for much air to move through. To improve dust collection, I made a simple jig for punching perfectly round holes.

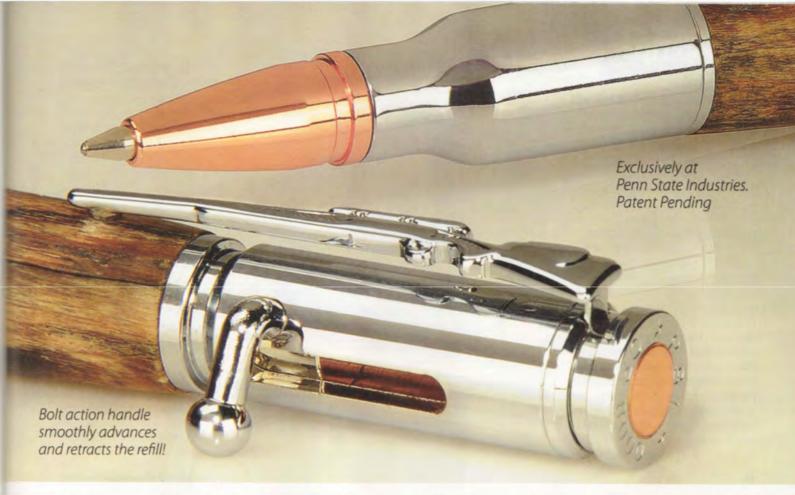
First, make a base and template from ¼" plywood the same width as your palm sander's pad. Crosscut the template to the same length as the sander's pad. Add 1" quarter-round molding to both edges of the base to hold the template in place during use. Now transfer the hole locations from the factory punch plate (or a sheet of sandpaper with holes already punched) to the template. Drill through the template at each marked location.

To make the punch, chuck a 1/8×2" electrical nipple into your drill press, and sharpen one end using a file. Screw on a 1/4" flat lamp finial (found at home centers) to the unsharpened end. Slip a piece (or pieces) of sandpaper between the template and base, insert the punch in a hole, strike it with a hammer, and repeat for the other holes.

- Alan Hoffman, North Hills, N.Y.



continued on page 14



"Wow! You made a Bolt Action Pen?"

Discover the joy of making this completely original and irresistibly fun Bolt Action pen, a gift that will be hard for any hunting or target-shooting enthusiast to put down.

Completely Authentic

Every detail, from the one of a kind bolt-action mechanism to the precisionengineered components, was carefully designed to ensure uniqueness and reliability. The realistic bolt-action handle smoothly advances and retracts to securely lock the refill in place. Includes a bolt-action rifle clip and replica 30 caliber cartridge and rose gold tip for added authenticity.

Our Customers Love Their Bolt Action Pens!

Rod R. of VA wrote, "This pen kit is Awesome - I LOVE IT! Looks and operates beautifully!"

Daryell S. of TN wrote, "I am extremely delighted with this pen. The look and feel is remarkable and the craftsmanship is perfect. This already has become my best selling ink pen."

Easy to Make

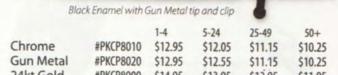
So easy to make, no one will believe you made something of this quality in 15 minutes. Requires a lathe, pen blank, pen mandrel, bushings (Item #PKCP3000BU \$5.95) and 3/8" drill bit (Item #PKEXEC-3/8 \$3.95).

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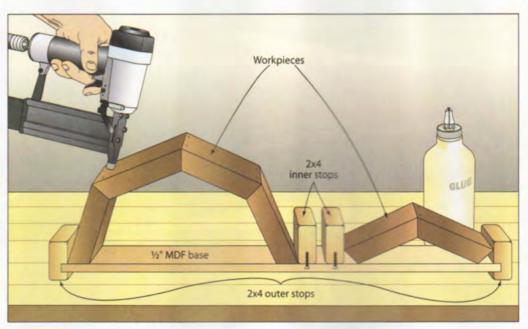
Shop Tips

Jig works like extra hands for mitered piece assembly

When building an octagonal frame for an outdoor ring-toss game, I struggled to hold the mitered pieces together during assembly. So I came up with this simple holding jig.

I made the jig to join two segments at one end and a pair of two-segment assemblies at the other. After building the base from MDF and 2×4s, I held two segments together as they would be when assembled-with an end against one of the outer stops-and marked the opposite end of the assembly on the base. Then, I attached one inner stop on that line. After repeating the process for a four-segment assembly at the opposite end, the jig was complete. Now, when I go to assemble the workpieces, they're fully contained, making assembly much easier.

-Robert Frost, O'Fallon, III.



WOOD magazine March 2013



14

VYes

















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No-rock, easy-roll planer outfeed conveyer

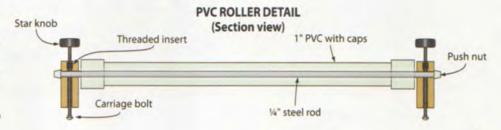
My benchtop planer used to snipe until I came up with this inexpensive outfeed support that rests on my benchtop.

After moving my planer (on its stand) beside my workbench, I measured the height difference between the planer's outfeed table and the workbench and used that dimension to determine the approximate height of the conveyer frame.

I built the frame from 3/4" stock and installed simple "rollers" made from 1" PVC tubing with end caps drilled for 1/4" steel-rod axles. I inserted the rods through holes drilled in the frame and capped the exposed rod ends with push nuts. Finally, six levelers, made from carriage bolts, star knobs, and threaded inserts, help fine-tune the rollers to align them with the planer's outfeed table. When not in use, the conveyer stores vertically to save space.

-Don Riley, Marietta, Ohio

Leveler PVC outfeed roller



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15

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rustrated by patterns you can't remove? Overwhelmed by the assortment of double-faced tapes and spray adhesives at the home center? Ease your mind with these helpful tips.

Spray adhesive: Perfect for patterns

When choosing a spray adhesive to apply paper patterns, you want one with a gentle hold—just enough to keep the pattern in place while cutting. Look

for words like "temporary" and "repositionable" on the can, and avoid those with words like "permanent" or "highstrength." A good spray adhesive shouldn't make the paper pattern soggy, and should allow you to reposition it on the workpiece if necessary. In the WOOD® shop, we prefer using 3M's Spray Mount Artist's Adhesive for those same reasons.

To properly use spray adhesive, begin by spraying the back of your pattern, as shown bottom left. Let it sit for 15–30 seconds. Unlike most gluing tasks in woodworking, you're not racing a setup time; in fact, applying the pattern immediately after spraying will often, depending on the adhesive used, create an even stickier bond.

If you rush the job and the pattern bonds a little too well, no worries. After machining the workpiece, simply apply mineral spirits to a rag and rub it on the pattern to dissolve the adhesive (below).

continued on page 18



Apply a light, even coat when spraying an adhesive, and protect your hand and tabletop from overspray.



Mineral spirits break down the glue bond so you can cleanly remove the pattern. Plus, it doesn't affect how the surface accepts oil-based finish.

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Marquetry Kits

These wood marquetry artworks are unique designs from artist Christy Oates and feature laser-cut wood veneer parts, high-bond adhesive applied to a backer board, and easy to follow instructions. No gluing or sanding required. Kits include only high quality paperbacked veneer in Douglas fir, bubinga, wenge, walnut, and purpleheart species; completed kit measures 8" x 8".



154704 Belcerebon Kit











154702 Aldebaran

154703 Altairian

154704 Belcerebon

154705 Betelgeusian

Double-faced tape: Two types, two strengths

Double-faced tape comes in two types suitable for woodworking: cloth-backed and paper-backed. As with spray adhesives, you choose the type of tape that gives just enough grip for the task at hand. See the chart (bottom) to learn the best uses for each kind.

Before applying either, first wipe clean the surfaces to be attached. Dust and oily films will prevent the tape from taking a firm hold.

After making a cut or completing an operation, you may find that the pieces you taped together won't separate (which can happen if you leave pieces taped together too long). Don't force them apart and risk damaging the wood grain. Instead, drizzle mineral spirits into the joint between the two pieces and give it a few seconds to soak in and weaken the adhesive.

More Resources

- For free plans to build a self-contained spray-adhesive drawer, visit: woodmagazine.com/spraydrawer.
- For a small fee, download the plan for this wall-hung tape dispenser at: woodmagazine.com/tapedispenser.





Apply cloth-backed tape sparingly—putting it on the full length of a piece may make it impossible to separate the pieces without damaging them.



Better suited to adhering pieces not subject to much shear force (like this miter-gauge extension), paper-backed tape allows for some repositioning.

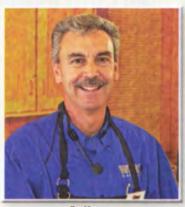
Туре	Aggressiveness	Cost per 36-yard roll	Attributes	Possible uses	Where to get it if the home center doesn't have it	
Cloth-backed Tape	Aggressive— use small pieces of tape only	\$24	Thicker than paper- backed tape (may leave a slight gap between the two adhered pieces), requires scissors to cut, good strength against shear force (sliding motion of parallel pieces)	Pattern routing, attaching turning blanks to lathe face plates, holding crown molding in place during installation	#15D25, 800-225-1153, woodcraft.com	
Paper-backed Tape	Mildly aggressive	\$19	Thin, doesn't stretch, easily tearable, repositionable	Attaching miter-gauge extensions, holding veneer or multiple small pieces together for scroll cuts, positioning drawer fronts before drilling screw holes	#15D28, 800-225-1153, woodcraft.com	

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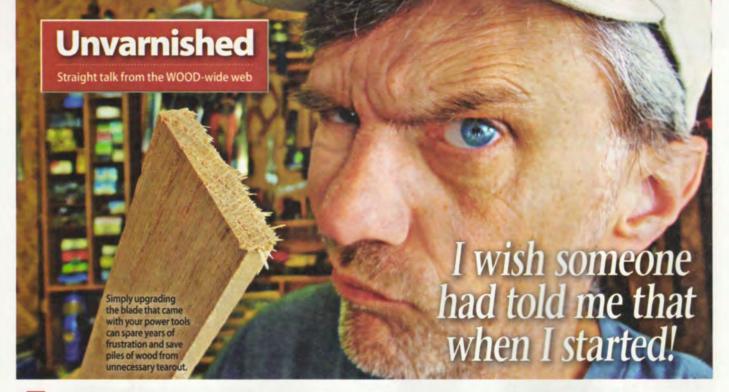
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5 overlooked tips for new (and experienced) woodworkers

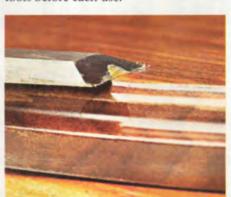
Recently, I asked my Facebook followers to think back to their woodworking beginnings to answer this question: What piece of advice do you wish someone had given you early in your woodworking journey that would have saved you hassle and frustration?

I imagined I would hear about perfecting handsaw techniques, or crafting tight-fitting joints—perhaps wisdom about the importance of buying premium tools. But as the replies rolled in, I got a completely different sense. The things people really wished they'd learned at the start were simple and, for the most part, free. So although the advice aims at brand-new

woodworkers, it serves as a wise reminder for all of us:

1 Don't get hung up on tape measures. Instead, rely on story sticks (bottom left) or simply cutting pieces to fit. Sneak up on cuts, testing on scrap first and fitting along the way. If you mark your cuts with a pencil line, leave the line showing and sand to it.

2 Use sharp tools. Tear-out and chipping caused by dull blades frustrates all woodworkers. Besides, sharp tools cut with less effort, so they're safer. And because they cut cleanly, they'll save you lots of time sanding. Learn basic sharpening skills and spend a few minutes honing your tools before each use.



Fix your goofs—such as slicing away a dried-on finish drip—and then bask in your new-found woodworking confidence.

All woodworkers make mistakes.

Acknowledge them. Learn from them. But, most of all, shut up about them. Most people won't notice mistakes, so stop pointing them out when you show off your project. It will do wonders for your confidence.

Remember that woodworking is a hobby. It's supposed to be fun and relaxing, so take your time, and enjoy the process. Josh Phillips, one of my very talented viewers, told me that he has "no mania for perfection." I love that line. Build to the best of your ability but don't drive yourself crazy.

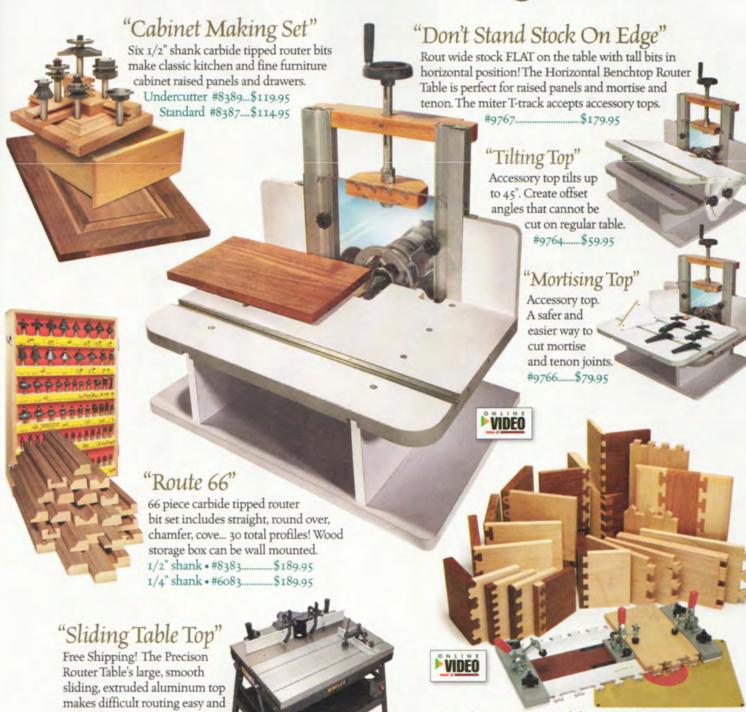
5 Ask for help. Woodworkers are a helpful bunch, eager to share advice no matter what your struggle. And we live in a time in which we can quickly get answers to anything. Get actively involved in online communities such as woodmagazine.com, Facebook, WoodworkingForMereMortals.com, etc. For my videos, I rely heavily on the help given by woodworkers who continually supply solutions and inspiration that I wouldn't have thought of. **●**



A story stick ensures marking accuracy, especially when laying out multiple parts or transferring measurements among workpieces.

—Steve Ramsey's quirky woodworking videos and prolific musings can be found at WoodworkingForMereMortals.com where his goal is to reclaim the woodworking hobby for the average guy.

See our top selling router tables, bits & jigs at MLCSwoodworking.com



exact. Variable opening inserts in "rock solid" fixed cast-iron. Split fence & dust hood.



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Great IdeasFor Your Shop

Mobile Base

o make the most use of your shop space, put stationary tools on wheels so you can roll them out as needed and roll them back when not. This easy-to-resize project captures the metal base of your drill press and moves on locking swivel casters.

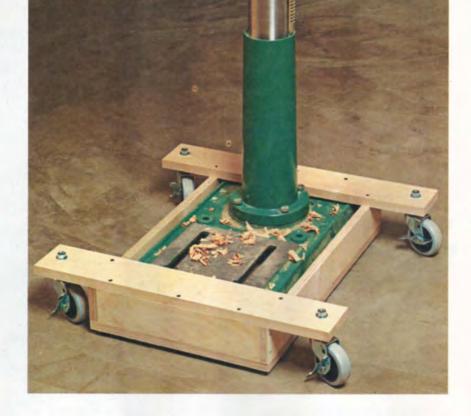
Start by measuring the dimensions of the drill press's base. Then, use the Project Part Calculator (below right) to determine the sizes of the seven wood pieces and cut all of them to size. (We used solid maple for the braces and Baltic birch plywood for the remaining pieces.)

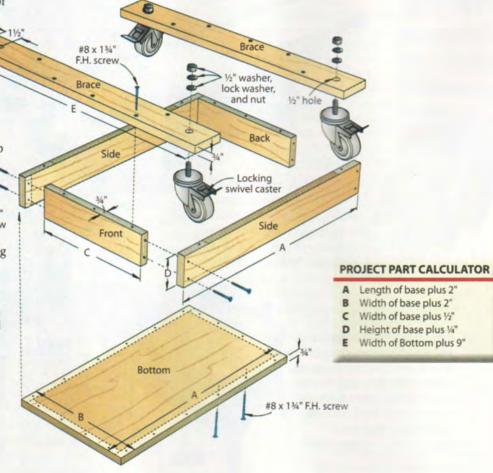
Glue and screw the front, back, and sides to the bottom. Temporarily clamp the braces in place; then drill screw holes through the braces into the front, back, and sides. Remove the clamps, drill the caster H. screw mounting holes, and attach the casters. (Learn more about choosing casters at woodmagazine.com/casters.)

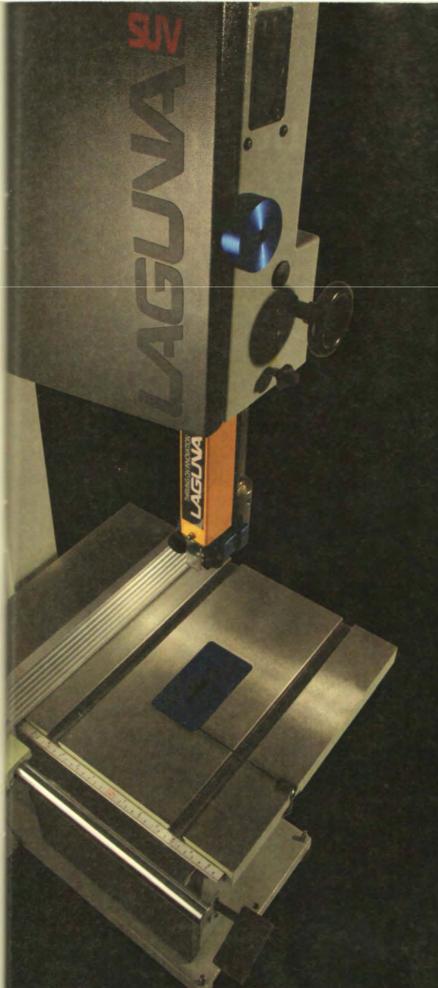
For the final assembly, rest the wood base on 1"-thick blocks sitting on the floor. Then, using a helper if necessary, position the drill press inside the wood base. Glue and screw the brace/caster assemblies, and after the glue dries, carefully remove the spacer blocks.

Before using the tool, always lock all four casters to prevent it from moving during use.

Project Design: Steve Southard, Santa Claus, Ind. Illustration: Lorna Johnson







LOVE SHOP

The fire glistened in the background. She lay with her head in Ben's lap, her blue eyes filled with love, love, love. He looked happy, content and in love.

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Tools & Materials

How to remove a stuck bit

If raw muscle won't break a bit loose from your router's collet, fear not. Other options wait in reserve.

Loose nut, stuck bit

Arm-wrestle it free

If you've loosened the collet nut but the bit won't release, apply a few drops of penetrating lubricant, such as WD-40 or Liquid Wrench, and let it seep into the collet around the bit shank. Next, hold the spindle with a wrench (or spindle lock, if so equipped). Then, with a thick work glove on your other hand, grab the bit and twist back and forth to free it.



Tap in to pop it out

If that doesn't work the bit loose, remove the bearing and washer from the end (if so equipped). With the router standing base-up on a solid surface, hold a hardwood scrap against the bit end (to avoid damaging the threads) and tap it *lightly* with a mallet or hammer. Although driving it deeper into the collet seems counterproductive, a small amount of movement just might free the bit. If that doesn't loosen the bit, strike the block a little harder.



Stuck nut

Bust the nut loose

If you can't even loosen the collet nut, then support it against a piece of hardwood and tap it lightly with a hammer, as shown. Rotate the nut and tap each face of the nut. Then break it loose with the router wrenches.



Torch it

Still stuck? Then it's time to bring the heat. Use a small propane torch to heat the collet and bit shank, as shown. Rotate the router to spread the heat evenly around the shank. Don't get it red-hot, and avoid directing flame toward the router—you don't want to damage the seals around the spindle bearings. After heating it for a short time, go back to your glove and wrench and twist the bit loose. Repeat until the bit works free.



Where there's a problem, there's a prevention

We spoke to router specialists with several tool manufacturers to get their input on this subject. They shared the following pointers for avoiding stuck bits in the first place.

Problem: Giving up when the nut tightens up after initially loosening Prevention: Although it might sound funny if you're familiar with selfreleasing collets, these experts tell us they've helped countless customers who simply needed to continue loosening their collets after feeling them initially loosen. Self-releasing collets—usually identifiable by a snap ring or other device that holds the collet and nut together—have two "break" points: the initial one, and then about two turns later another that releases the bit.

▶ Problem: Dirty collet Prevention: Blow out the collet regularly with a blast of compressed air. If needed, clean the collet and threads with a soft brush and mineral spirits. (For a self-releasing collet, you

might have to remove the snap ring to disassemble it.)

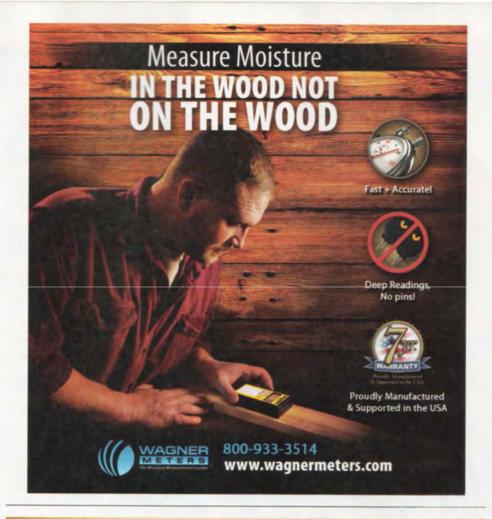
Problem: Dirty bit shanks Prevention: Wipe router bit shanks with a cloth and mineral spirits; lightly sand with 320-grit abrasive to remove rust or tough grime.

Problem: Overtightened nut Prevention: You don't need to tighten a collet nut as much as you would bolts while assembling a machine, such as a tablesaw. Instead, tighten the nut only about one-eighth of a turn after it snugs up.

Problem: Bottomed-out bit Prevention: When installing a bit in the collet, push it to the bottom, and then pull it back up about 1/8" before tightening. This gives the collet some room to expand downward while compressing a firm grip on the shank.

▶ Problem: Leaving bits in a router too long

Prevention: If you're not using a bit and it's been in the collet more than a few days, remove it from your router. Humidity can cause rust even inside a collet, and that can seize a bit shank inside the collet.



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Build-to-suit Study Desk



TOOLS NEEDED

TOOLS NEEDED



Approximate materials cost: \$62

wo base arrangements with the same footprint—a front-facing pedestal and a side-facing book-case—let you customize this desk to fit your space. The Materials List and Cutting Diagram on page 30 detail the parts needed to build the desk as shown, above. Adjust accordingly if you choose to build the desk using two pedestals or two bookcases instead.

Mix or match the pedestal and bookcase

From ¾" plywood, cut two pedestal sides (A), a pedestal top and bottom (B), and a pedestal shelf (C) for each pedestal you plan to build [Drawing 1 and Materials List]. Cut two bookcase sides (F), a bookcase top and bottom (G), and a bookcase shelf (H) for each bookcase you plan to build [Drawing 2]. Cut the desktop dividers (N), bottom (O), top (P), and back (Q) to size [Drawing 3].

Edge-band all plywood edges that will be exposed using the directions on *page* 34. Set the desktop parts (N-Q) aside.

2Drill ¼" shelf-pin holes ¾" deep in the pedestal sides (A) [Drawing 1] and bookcase sides (F) [Drawing 2]. We used a shelf-pin guide (Rockler no. 32991, \$37,

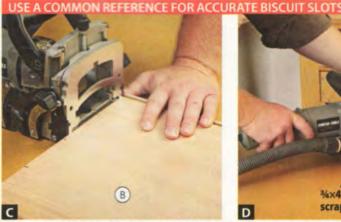
800-279-4441, rockler.com), as shown in **Photo A**. Or, use a scrap of perforated hardboard as a makeshift drilling guide (woodmagazine.com/fastshelfpins).

SPEED SHELF-PIN HOLES WITH A GUIDE Self-centering bit Shelf pin

Mark the first shelf-pin hole's location and use the guide when drilling it. Secure the guide with a shelf pin in the first hole and drill the remaining holes.



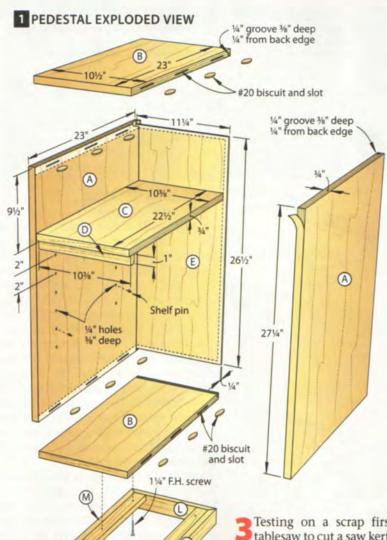
After cutting the kerf in the scrap, reset the fence to widen it. Test-fit the ¼" plywood in the groove before making the second cut on project parts.



To maintain a common reference surface for slot cutting, fold back or remove the fence. Cut with the joiner base and workpiece resting on a flat surface.



The cradle's upright supports the workpiece and the base serves as the joiner's reference surface to cut slots for #20 biscuits at the marked locations.



Testing on a scrap first, use your tablesaw to cut a saw kerf %" deep, ¼" from the edges on the back inside faces of the pedestal sides (A), top, and bottom (B) [Drawing 1] as well as the bookcase sides (F), top, and bottom (G) [Drawing 2]. Widen the groove to fit the backs as shown in Photo B. Then, dry-fit the ped-



Scrapwood blocks prevent marring and distribute clamping pressure. Temporarily support them with small clamps while you position larger clamps.

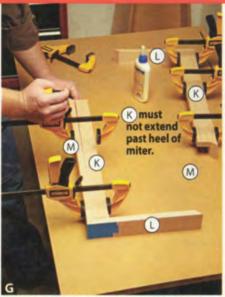
estal and bookcase. Measure from the bottoms of the grooves to determine the final dimensions of the pedestal back (E) and bookcase back (J). Then, cut the backs to size from ¼" plywood.

With the outside faces down, mark locations and cut slots for #20 biscuits in the ends of the pedestal top and bottom (B) [Drawing 1 and Photo C], as well as the bookcase top and bottom (G) [Drawing 2]. Transfer the biscuit locations from the tops and bottoms to the inside faces of the adjoining pedestal and bookcase sides (A, F). Glue together scrap plywood into a biscuiting cradle and use it to support the sides as you cut biscuit slots [Photo D].

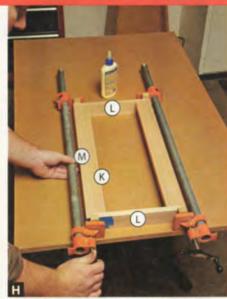
Sand the pedestal and bookcase sides (A, F), tops and bottoms (B, G), and backs (E, J) to 220 grit. Join the pedestal sides (A) to the bottom (B) using glue and #20 biscuits. Slide the back (E) into its groove, attach the top (B), and clamp the assembly [Photo E]. Assemble the bookcase in the same way.



Tape the base sides (M) and ends (L) together in pairs. Add glue to the miter, fold, wipe away excess glue, and clamp the assembly to your worksurface.



After the miter glue sets, unclamp the assembly (M/L) and glue and clamp a base cleat (K) into each half base, aligning the tops flush. Let the glue dry.



Glue and clamp two half-bases (K/L/M) together using clamping blocks. The cleats (K) register against the ends (L) to square the assembly.

From 34" stock, cut the base cleats (K) to size [Drawing 2]. Cut the base ends (L), and sides (M) to size, mitering the ends. Then, follow the steps in Photos F-H to assemble the bases (K/L/M). After the glue dries, sand the bases to 220 grit before drilling pilot holes, gluing, and screwing the bases, centered, to the bottom of the pedestal (A/B/E) and the bookcase (F/G/J).

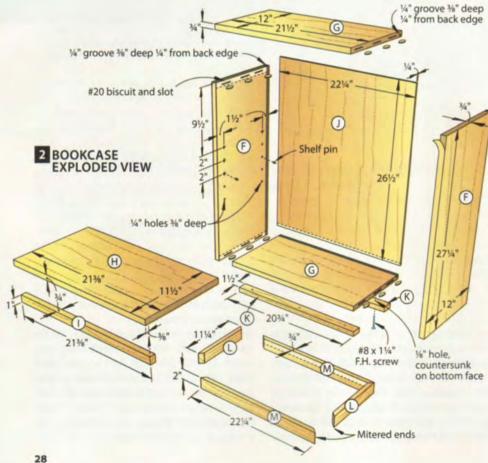
From ¾" stock, cut the pedestal shelf edging (D) and bookcase shelf edging (I) to size. Sand the shelves and shelf edging to 220 grit; then, glue and clamp the shelf edging to the shelves, recessed 3/8" from the front edge [Drawings 1, 2].

Drop on a desktop

Retrieve the desktop dividers (N). Mark and cut slots for #20 biscuits in the top and bottom edges [Drawing 3], as you did with the pedestal and bookcase tops and bottoms (B and G). Then, mark the edges, labeling them top, bottom, left, and right, as well as designating them as left, middle, and right to keep track of their locations and orientations.

Center the middle divider on the length of the desk bottom (O) and trace one side to mark its location. Transfer the biscuit locations from all three dividers to the bottom, taking care to orient them as marked. Place the bottom in the biscuiting cradle to cut the outer slots; then, use it as a guide to cut the center slots [Photo I].

With the best face of the plywood down, lay the top (P) next to the bottom (O) on your worksurface with the front edges touching. Transfer the biscuit locations [Photos J and K]. Once again, clamp the biscuiting cradle to the top as a guide and cut the slots. Then, assemble the desktop unit as shown in Photos L and M, and glue the back (Q) in place [Drawing 3].



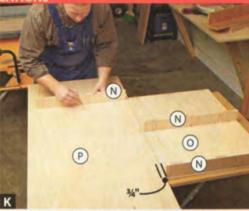
BACK TO THE CRADLE FOR BISCUITS (N) Cradle

Clamp the biscuiting cradle along the marked line, register the joiner base against the cradle, and cut slots for #20 biscuits at the slot marks.

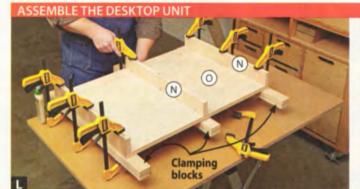
TRANSFER THE DIVIDER AND BISCUIT LOCATIONS



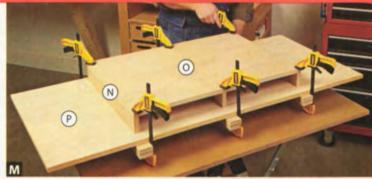
Center the bottom (O) along the top (P) and transfer the locations of the dividers (N). Extend the marks across the top with a framing square.



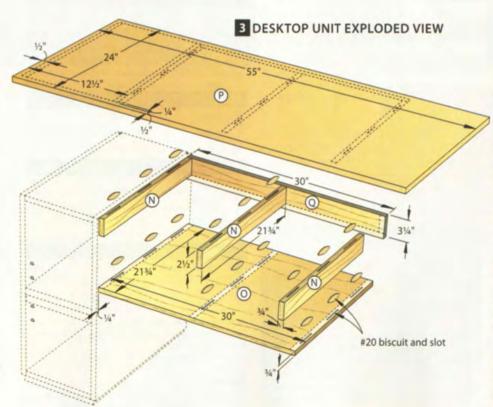
Flip the dividers (N) end-for-end from the bottom (O) onto their marks ¾" from the edge of the top (P) to transfer the biscuit locations.

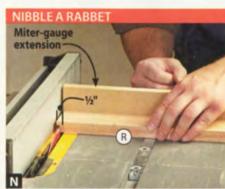


Assemble the bottom (O) and dividers (N) with glue and biscuits, clamping with blocks to distribute the pressure evenly.



Mount the bottom assembly (N/O) to the top (P) using glue and biscuits. Once again use clamping blocks to distribute clamping pressure.





Mark the width of the rabbet on the piece, set your tablesaw fence to stop cutting at the mark, and nibble away with multiple cuts to form the rabbet.

Fill it out with drawers

From ¾" stock, cut the drawer fronts and backs (R) to size [**Drawing 4**]. With an extension attached to your miter gauge and your tablesaw blade set to a height of ½", cut a ½" rabbet into both ends of the fronts and backs [**Photo N**].

2 From ½" stock, cut the drawer sides (S) to size. Using the technique from **Photo B**, cut grooves ¼" from the bottom edges of the drawer fronts, backs (R), and

sides [**Drawing 4**]. Dry-fit and measure for drawer bottoms (T) before cutting them to size from ¼" plywood. Drill ¾2" holes centered in the drawer fronts (R) for drawer pulls. Then, glue and clamp the drawer assemblies together.

After the glue dries, use a brad-point bit to drill three ¼" holes ¾" deep into both ends of the drawer sides (S), into the end-grain of the fronts and backs (R) [Drawing 4]. Pin the holes with

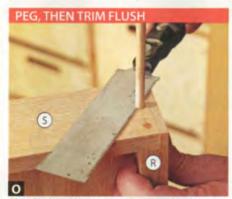
1/4" oak dowel rod [**Photo O**] and sand the drawers to 220 grit.

Apply stain, if desired; then, add a clear finish. We used Zar Salem Maple oil-based stain followed by four coats of Old Masters water-based satin polyurethane as shown on the *next page*.

5 After the finish dries, attach drawer pulls, stack the desktop unit on the base units, and optionally attach the top

with screws from beneath the bookcase/ pedestal tops using 1½" screws. Now add a chair and kick your feet up!

Produced by Lucas Peters with John Olson Project design: Kevin Boyle Illustrations: Lorna Johnson



Glue the dowel in the peg hole, allow the glue to set, then use a flush-cut saw to trim the excess. Sand the side smooth, removing any blade marks.

Materials List

Part		FINISHED SIZE T W L			Matl.	Qty.
Pe	destal					
Α	sides	3/4"	23"	271/4"	OP	2
В	top and bottom	34"	101/2"	23"	OP	2
C	shelf	34"	10%"	221/2"	OP	.1
D	shelf edging	3/4"	1"	10%"	0	1
E	back	1/4"	111/4"	261/2"	OP	1
Во	okcase		0.51			
F	sides	34"	12"	271/4"	OP	2
G	top and bottom	34"	12"	211/2"	OP	2
H	shelf	34"	111/2"	21%"	OP	1
1	shelf edging	34"	1"	21%"	0	1
J	back	1/4"	221/4"	261/2"	OP	1
Ba	ses		8 6			
K	cleats	3/4"	11/2"	20¾"	0	4
L	ends	34"	2"	111/4"	0	4
М	sides	3/4"	2"	221/4"	0	4
De	sktop Unit					1
N	dividers	34"	21/2"	21¾"	OP	3
0	bottom	3/4"	21¾"	30"	OP	1
P	top	34"	24"	55"	OP	1
Q	back	34"	31/4"	30"	OP	1
Dra	awers					
R	fronts and backs	34°	21/16"	13¾"	0	4
5	sides	1/2"	21/16"	211/4"	0	4
T	bottoms	14"	131/4"	20¾"	OP	2

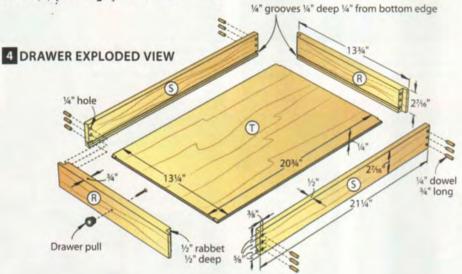
Materials key: OP-oak plywood, O-oak.

Supplies: #20 biscuits, oak edge banding, ¼" oak dowel, #8×1 ¼" flathead screws.

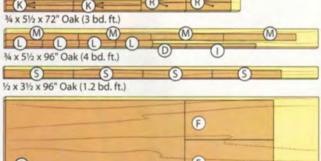
Bits: ¼" self-centering bit, ¼" brad-point bit.

Source

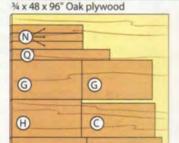
Drawer pulls: Chrome cabinet knob (Lowes.com, no. 340653) (2), shelf pins (Lowes.com, no. 323848) (8).



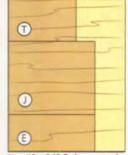
Cutting Diagram







(B)



34 x 48 x 48" Oak plywood

B

14 x 48 x 36" Oak pywood



Spray-finishing is a balancing act between air flow and finish flow. Tip either in the wrong direction and you could end up with spatters and runs or an unsuitably thin coat.

We started our spray-finishing setup with an inexpensive Wagner Control Spray Max HVLP unit that we modified slightly. (See **Dialing In**, *below*.) Though it lacks the oomph to spray paint or unthinned varnishes, this sub-\$130 unit started to outperform its price point when we filled it with a water-based polyurethane.

Although its fast dry time makes it difficult to brush, water-based poly brings a ton of advantages to the spraying world: fewer noxious fumes, virtually no combustibility, its low viscosity requires less air volume to spray, and it cleans up easily with water.

DIALING IN: The photos show you what to look for and how we managed to get the perfect air and fluid flow.



At its minimum finish-flow setting, the gun struggles to atomize even at maximum air pressure. If the spray is readily visible, the finish goes on too thick.



So we added cardboard shims to limit trigger movement, reducing the finish flow to a level the sprayer can properly atomize.



Slowed by the simple modification, the finish atomizes well and the spray becomes nearly invisible to the naked eye.

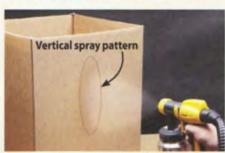
Spraying tips

If you've never sprayed a finish before, take some time to polish your technique. A cardboard box, *right*, makes a great project stand-in, with both interior and exterior surfaces to practice on.

Unlike their oil-based counterparts, water-based finishes take a few seconds to begin soaking into the wood grain to give it the familiar wet, dark look. This can trick you into applying too much finish. A raking light more accurately reveals the finish, far right.

Swinging the gun in an arc causes uneven coverage. Instead, hold the gun at a constant distance from the project, trigger the spray off of one edge (essentially spraying into open space), move the gun across the project, and release the trigger after passing over the opposite edge. (See *top* photo.)

The Wagner HVLP kit is a "bleeder" unit—meaning air constantly blows through it whether or not you are spraying. So avoid pointing the gun at the



On large surfaces, a vertical spray pattern and horizontal motion work best. Practice to dial in gun speed and distance needed for a smooth coverage.

project when you aren't spraying to keep from blasting away the wet finish.

Lightly sand between coats using 220grit sandpaper. Add coats to your liking; for an open-pore wood, like oak, we recommend at least four coats.



A light shining across your project at a low angle makes the finish more visible as you apply it so you can instantly evaluate your results.

Fall in Love with Frameless-Cabinets

hy go frameless? Two reasons: First, this style of cabinet serves equally as well as a modern, unbroken canvas for displaying gorgeous wood grain as it does for creating a traditional raised-panel kitchen. Second, they build and install easier than their face-framed cousins. But there are many more advantages to a frameless cabinet design:

▶ Eliminating the face frame also takes away nearly half the work—milling, math, and machining.

No-fuss biscuit joinery speeds case construction.

▶ Replacing the toe-kick with a ladder base means shorter sides for the base cabinets. So each sheet of plywood yields two additional base sides for large installations, saving you money.

▶ The ladder-base design also makes it easier to install and level this cabinet configuration.

▶ Making doors and drawer fronts from edge-banded plywood reduces work, cost, and moisture-induced movement.

▶ Innovative hardware provides flexibility and adjustability in door and drawer mounting.

Materials and measurements

For the cabinets shown, we used mapleveneered plywood. Hardwood-veneer medium-density fiberboard (MDF) or melamine-covered particleboard also work well.

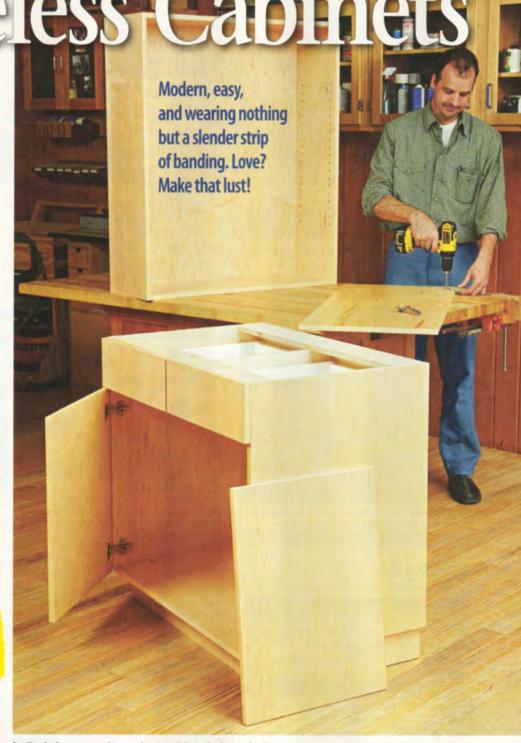
Note: Carefully check your material thickness. Sheet-goods' thickness varies, so you'll need to adjust the lengths of the stretchers and bottom slightly to compensate. The dimensions we used assume a true ³/₄" plywood.

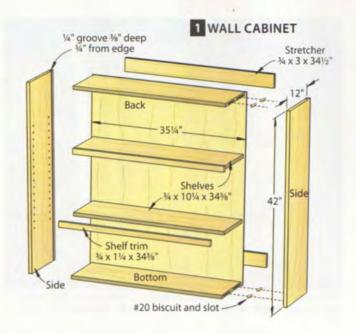
Standards provide a design assist. Cabinet dimensions have been standardized over the years based on an average person's height and comfortable reach.

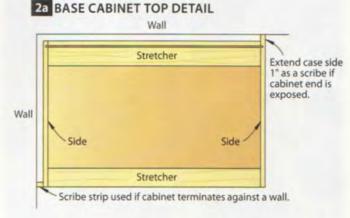
▶ Standard base cabinets measure 36" high and 24" deep. Frameless cabinet design achieves these measurements with a 30½" case resting on a 4" ladder base and topped with a 1½"-thick, 24"-deep countertop.

▶ Feel free to adjust the width of the cabinets to fit your space. But keep in mind that the wider the door, the greater its tendency to sag—an error that full-overlay doors amplify. Also, the wider the doors, the more clearance you'll need in front of the cabinet to open them.

- ▶ For easy access to the countertop below, standard upper cabinets typically measure 12" deep or less.
- ▶ Upper cabinets commonly mount 18" above the countertop. This places the tops of our upper cabinets against an 8' ceiling for a floor-to-ceiling look.







Center divider 34 x 51/4 x 221/2 Stretcher 1/4" groove % x 3 x 341/2" Stretchers 3/8" deep 36 34 x 3 x 341/2 34" from edge 231/2 Side Back Shelf 34 x 21 x 3436 301 Side Shelf trim 14 x 11/4 x 343/6" Bottom 341/2 2 TYPICAL FRAMELESS BASE CABINET #20 biscuits and slots 341/2" Cleats 34 x 2 x 1834 201/4 Mitered ends

Customize for your space. To fit built-in cabinets into an opening, you'll need to allow some margin for out-of-square walls in your design. To do this, make the total width of a set of cabinets at least 2" narrower than the opening, narrowing or widening cabinets to fit. (You'll fill the gap during installation.) To calculate part lengths for cabinets wider or narrower than the one shown in Drawings 1 and 2, follow this formula:

- 1. Measure the opening and subtract 2" for an installation flanked by two walls or 1" for an installation that abuts a wall on only one side.
- 2. Divide this dimension by the number of cabinets you plan to install in the opening. This is the final width of each cabinet.
- **3.** Multiply the thickness of your cabinet side material by two and subtract this from the Step 2 result. This will be the length of the base cabinet bottoms and

stretchers, as well as the upper cabinet top and bottom. Any shelves will be 1/8" shorter than that.

For example, for a 72" wall-to-wall opening to be filled with two cabinets made from ²/₃₂" plywood, cut the base bottom and stretchers and the upper top and bottom 33%6" long.

For a set of cabinets with an exposed end, add 1" of additional width to the rear edge of the terminating case side [Drawing 2a].

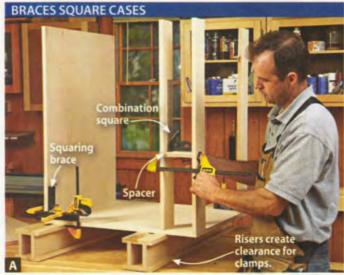
Case construction

For a base cabinet dimensioned as in **Drawing 2**, you'll cut all the parts except the back from a single 4×8' sheet of plywood. Start by ripping two side pieces to the cabinet's depth; then, crosscut them to length. Label them left and right on the inside faces.

From the offcut, rip four 3"-wide stretchers and crosscut them to length. Rip the center divider 1" wider than the planned drawer-box height, and save a 3"-long offcut. You'll use it as a spacer during assembly. Finally, cut to size the bottom and, if desired, a shelf and, from matching hardwood, a piece of shelf trim. Then, edgeband all front-facing plywood edges as shown on page 34, and glue the shelf trim to the shelves.

In your tablesaw, install a stacked dado set to match the thickness of the back material. Use the thickness of a stretcher to set the fence distance from the blade. With the blade height set to \%", cut a groove along the back inside face of each side. If you'll be adding an adjustable shelf, lay out and drill shelf-pin holes on both sides.

Case assembly. Mark and cut slots for #20 biscuits where parts adjoin, labeling the



Squared up and clamped in place, the spacer maintains the correct stretcher position. Squaring braces align the top rear stretcher and bottom.



When the diagonal measurements in both directions are equal, the case is square. Otherwise, loosen the clamps, adjust the case and retighten.

locations and orientation of each stretcher before setting them aside. Use the 3"-long spacer you cut earlier to aid in locating the lower front stretcher.

Lay a side panel on your workbench with the grooved face up. (The flatter the assembly surface, the less chance for twists and out-of-square joints.) Add glue and biscuits to the slots in the side; then, glue the adjoining edges and slots of the bottom and the stretchers and add them to the side, squaring as shown [Photo A]. The braces in the photo are

from Woodpecker (woodpeck.com, no. CS6075X2, \$35/pair), but you can easily make your own. (See **More Resources** on page 37.)

Glue, biscuit, and clamp the opposite side in place and check for square [**Photo B**]. After the glue dries, unclamp the case, measure the opening for the back, and cut the back to size from ¼" plywood. Add glue to the grooves, insert the back, and allow the glue to dry. Then, glue the back stretcher and center divider in place to complete the case.

Minus the stretchers and drawer divider, cut and assemble the upper cabinet in the same way.

Doable doors

We chose simple, edge-banded plywood panels for doors and drawer fronts to maintain a modern look. But you can easily alter the style by choosing a different door design, such as the traditional raised panel look [Photo C].

Size the doors to fit your installation. For the base door heights, measure from the

Hide the plies with veneer edging

Iron-on edge-banding quickly and reliably covers plywood edges. And with no machining involved, you'll save a ton of time. Veneer edging comes in a variety of species to complement your plywood choice. We chose an edging (rockler.com, no. 21304, \$23 for 50 ft.) with hot-melt ethylene-vinyl acetate (EVA) glue that forms a fast-acting bond. You'll also need a few specialty tools: an electric iron

(a laundry-room castoff will work fine), a screwdriver (for burnishing), a veneer edge trimmer (rockler.com, no. 43208, \$22), and a veneer guillotine (rockler.com, no. 28542, \$43). Practice the steps, below, on scrap before banding the visible edges of your plywood panels. Watch a video of this process at

woodmagazine.com/irononedging.



Using a dry iron set on medium heat, press a slightly over-length strip of edging onto the plywood. Position the edging by feel ahead of the iron, maintaining an overlap on both sides.



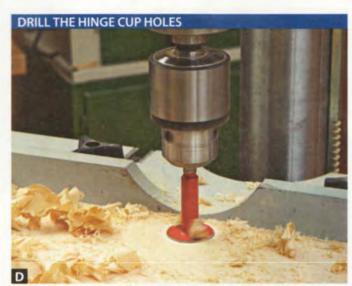
As the glue cools, seal the banding tight by burnishing it with the shaft of a screwdriver. Then use a veneer guillotine (above) to create a flush, square cut at the ends of the panels.



Last, use a veneer edge trimmer to pare away the excess along the faces. A smooth cut requires only light pressure. Clean up all the cuts with a light sanding pass using 220-grit sandpaper.



Substitute raised-panel doors and drawers in a frameless cabinet for a stylish alternative that doesn't compromise the easy construction techniques.



Although the hinge instructions call for 35mm holes to fit the hinge cups, a 1%" Forstner bit matches close enough to save buying a bit.

bottom of the case to the center of the lower stretcher and subtract ½6" (for a ½" reveal). For the width, divide the cabinet width by two and subtract ½6". (If you're building a bank of cabinets, subtract ½" from all but the end doors to maintain an even reveal among multiple doors.)

Find the width of the upper doors in the same way, and make the door height 1/8" less than the height of the cabinet to clear the ceiling. After cutting the doors to size, edge-band all four edges—left and right edges first, and then top and bottom ends.

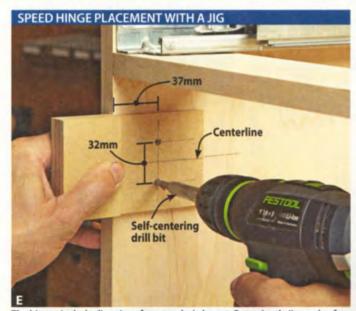
Mount the doors. Thanks to their built-in adjustability, Euro-style hinges make

mounting and fitting doors incredibly easy. We chose Blum 120° clip-top hinges (woodcraft.com, no. 142852, \$11). We also added the optional Blumotion snap-on soft close mechanisms (woodcraft.com, no. 147966, \$4) to slow the final few inches of the hinge's closing action to eliminate door slams.

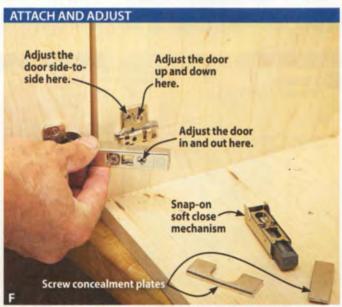
Begin the installation by drilling 13%" holes ½" deep with a Forstner bit [**Photo D**]. We centered the holes 4" from the top and bottom of the door and 13/6" from the edge. (And we added a third, centered hinge to the upper cabinet doors to support the additional weight of the oversize door.)

Place a hinge cup in a hole, squaring it with the door edge; then mark the centers of the mounting-screw holes, drill 3/32" pilot holes, and install the hinge with #6 screws.

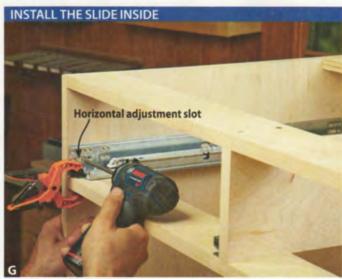
Mark centerlines 4" down from the top of the cabinet's lower cleat and 4" up from the bottom of the cabinet. Build a jig like the one pictured [Photo E] to drill the hinge mounting-plate holes. Then, install the mounting plates, clip the door in place and adjust the door location for a perfectly aligned reveal using the hinge's adjustment screws [Photo F]. Add the snap-on, soft-close mechanisms and the screw concealment plates.



The hinges include directions for screw hole layout. But a simple jig made of layers of $\frac{1}{2}$ MDF automatically positions your drill bit.



Built-in hinge adjustments give you a fairly wide margin of adjustment. Use these to fine-tune the door position after installation.



Clamp the slide flat against the stretcher and $\frac{1}{10}$ " back from the cabinet edge. Screw through the horizontal slot to allow for later adjustments.



The locking mechanism captures the front of the slide and features a side-toside adjustment wheel that allows for fine-tuning.

Two options in adjustable drawers

European hardware manufacturers have also driven rapid improvement in drawer slide technology. For these cabinets, we used two drawer-and-slide combinations that have quickly become standards in the cabinet industry due to their easy installation and adjustability.

Build your own. The first drawer style is a shop-built lock-rabbet drawer box. A few alterations [**Drawing 3**] accommodate the Blum undermount, full-extension slides (wwhardware.com, no. B563.5330B, \$24) and optional locking side-to-side adjustment mechanism (wwhardware.com, no. BT51.1901, \$5).

Measure the drawer openings and design the drawer boxes to leave ½"

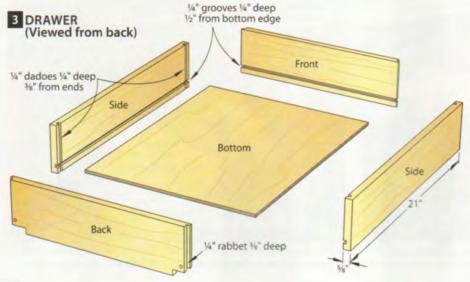
clearance on both the top and bottom and $\frac{3}{6}$ " on each side. Cut the fronts and backs $\frac{3}{4}$ " shorter than the intended drawer box width to allow for the $\frac{1}{4}$ " lock-rabbet joint [**Drawing 3**]. For the undermount slides we used, the slide itself dictates the drawer length—21", in the case of our $23\frac{1}{2}$ "-deep cabinet.

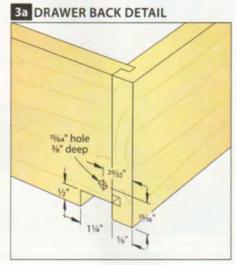
After cutting the grooves, dadoes, and rabbets in the front, back, and sides of the drawer, use a dado blade and a mitergauge extension to cut a notch in the drawer back to accommodate the slide [Drawing 3a]. Then drill the adjustment hole where shown.

After installing the slides in the cabinet [Photo G] and the adjusters to the drawer boxes [Photo H], attach the boxes to the slides [Photo I].



A pin in a cam adjuster fits in the hole in the back of the drawer, allowing you to adjust the drawer up or down to align the drawer with the case.







Use shims and double-faced tape to temporarily position the drawer face before drilling and screwing it in place from inside the drawer box.



Attach the clips included with side/slide combination hardware to add the drawer face. The clips engage with the adjustment mechanism.

Size the drawer faces as you did the doors, edge-band them, and attach as shown in **Photo J**.

The hardware alternative. A time-saving second option—side/slide-mount drawers—eliminates drawer construction altogether. Commonly used in utility rooms or shops, this drawer concept requires you to cut only a bottom, back, and face to the hardware's specifications. We used Hafele's Moovit drawer hardware. The online order form (hafele.com/us/products/20504.asp) lets you specify your drawer dimensions and features to order the hardware.

The hardware clips the parts in place to form an integrated drawer/slide [**Photo K**]. Like the undermount slides, these feature full adjustability for worry-free installation.

Build a ladder-like base

Constructing the base as a separate component from the case greatly simplifies the leveling and installation process. Assemble the base as shown [Drawing 2] and finish all of the cabinet components. Then, level and mount the base [Photo L]. Once leveled, simply rest the case on the base and screw it to the wall through the back stretcher, shimming where necessary between the cabinet and wall.

For cabinet installations terminating against walls, cut a scribe strip slightly wider than the clearance you allowed [Drawing 2a]. Tape the strip to the case side and use a compass to transfer the shape of the wall onto the scribe strip [Photos M and N]. Cut and sand to the line. Check the fit and repeat if neces-

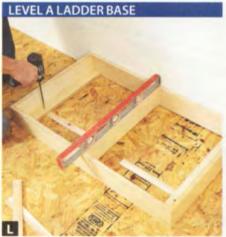
sary before finishing the strip. Tack the piece in place through the case side.

For open-ended cabinet installations, use the same technique on the case side allowance you left before affixing the cabinet to the wall.

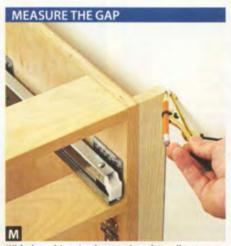
Produced by: Lucas Peters with Kevin Boyle Ilustrations: Lorna Johnson

More Resources

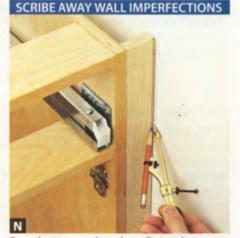
- Want to nix raised-panel door goofs? Go to woodmagazine.com/doorgoofs.
- For a right-angle clamping brace plan, see woodmagazine.com/clampingbrace.
- For a small fee, find instructions for traditional faceframe cabinets at woodmagazine.com/easycab.



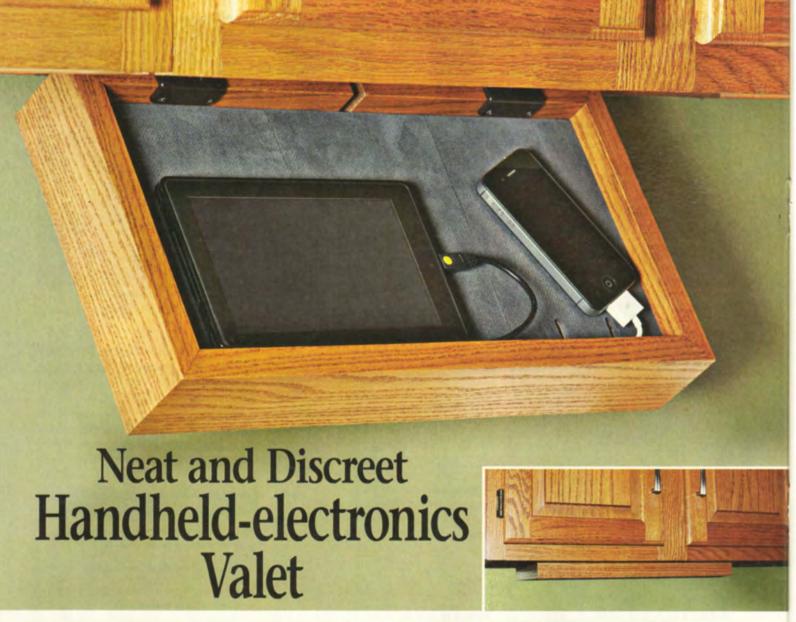
Use shims to level the ladder base in both directions. Once level, attach the base to the floor, screwing through both cleats and shims.



With the cabinet in place against the wall, set your compass width to match the largest gap between the scribe strip and wall.



Draw the compass along the wall to mark an exact replica of any uneven or out-of-level spots before removing the scribe strip for shaping.



f the kitchen counter turns into a rat's nest of charging cords for your family's mobile phones, portable music players, and tablet computers every night, we feel your pain. So we tackled the tangle with this tidy, tuck-away tray that mounts beneath a kitchen cabinet. And wait until you see our one-cord solution for charging multiple devices!

Nata Granzaw Ganaral Interest Editor

First, build the box

Note: Choose a material and finish for your valet that matches or complements your cabinetry.

1 From ¾" stock, cut the front and back (A) and sides (B) to size [Materials List, Drawing]. Cut 45° miters on the ends of each piece, making sure opposing pieces are identical lengths. Quick Tip! Dry-fit the box assembly (A/B) to check for tight joints before moving on.

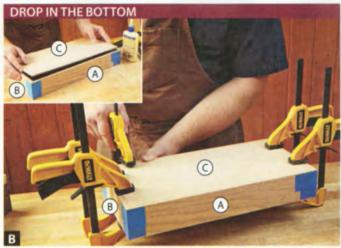
Mark the bottom edges of the front and back (A) and sides (B) with a pencil. Install a ¾" straight bit in your router



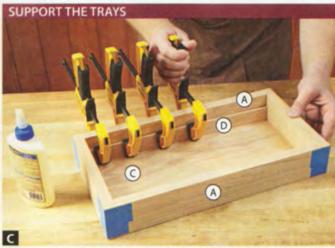
Adjust the bit for a $\frac{3}{5}$ deep cut and set the fence to cut a rabbet that matches the thickness of the $\frac{1}{5}$ plywood bottom (C).

table, and rout a ¼" rabbet ¾" deep along the inside bottom edge of all four parts [**Drawing**, **Photo A**].

Tape together three of the mitered corners of the box assembly (A/B). Unfold the taped assembly, apply glue to



Apply a thin layer of glue to the rabbets in the front and back (A) and sides (B) before dropping in the bottom (C). Clamp it in place and let dry.



With two tray supports (D) cut to length, glue and clamp them to the inside faces of the valet's front and back (A), tight against the bottom (C).

each miter joint, then roll up the box-taping the final joint to complete the glue-up.

Measure between the rabbets in the box (A/B) to find the bottom (C) dimensions. Cut the bottom to size and glue it in place [Photo B].

From ¼" plywood, cut the tray supports (D) to size [Drawing]. Trim them to length for a snug fit and glue them in place [Photo C].

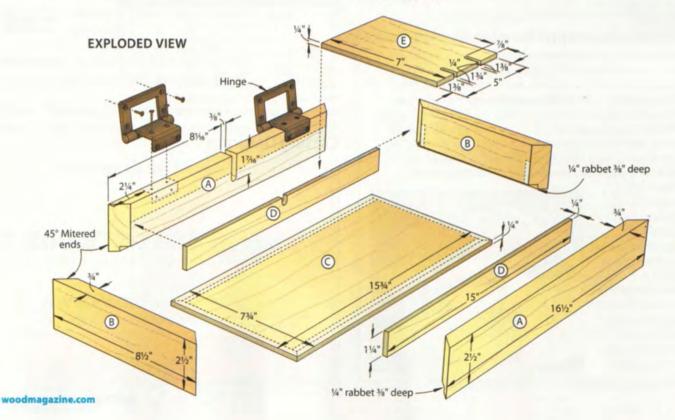
Now, cut for cords

Lay out the location of the power-cord slot along the back (A)—a 3/8" width should accommodate most power cords. Next, clamp a scrap backing board to the inside face of the back tray support (D) and drill the bottom of the slot with a 3/8" brad-point bit [Photo D].



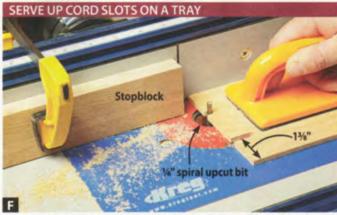
Before drilling the bottom of the power-cord slot, clamp a backing board to the tray support (D).

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For optimal results, use a short backsaw (a handsaw with a stiff rib on its back) with 14–22 teeth per inch when cutting the slot.



Position a ¼" spiral upcut bit (a ¼" straight bit will also work) 1%" from the router-table fence. Clamp a stopblock to make %"-long slots.

2 Using a handsaw, cut from the top of the back (A) to the drilled hole to complete the slot [**Photo E**].

Now, cut the trays (E) to size and test their fit atop the tray supports (D) inside the box (A/B/C). At the router table, rout cord slots in the trays [**Photo F**]. With the trays complete, apply adhesive-backed high-friction sheet material [**Sources**] to each—this keeps the electronics from sliding down when opening the charging station.

Apply finish to your valet to match your cabinets. When the finish dries, install hinges [Sources] on the station's back (A). For help mounting the valet, see No-fuss template trick for mounting your valet (below).

Produced by Nate Granzow with John Olson
Project design: John Olson Illustrations: Lorna Johnson

Sources: High-friction sheet material, \$9.90, no. 88K59.05, Lee Valley, 800-871-8158, leevalley.com; 60-pound lid-stay torsion hinges [pack of 2], \$53.99, no. 36275, Rockler, 800-279-4441, rockler.com; Belkin Mobile USB hub, \$11.99, no. N82E16817394106, 800-390-1119, newegg.com

No-fuss template trick for mounting your valet

A template helps you avoid the acrobatics necessary to hold your valet in position while driving the screws. From ¼" plywood, cut a blank the same length as the valet, and %" wider (to account for the hinge barrels). Hold the blank against the valet's back (A), as shown *below*, and transfer the hinge holes to it with a sharp pencil. Drill pilot holes through the blank on the marked hinge locations.

Then, apply double-faced tape to the top face of the template, orient it with the pilot holes toward the wall, and stick it in place, tight behind the cabinet's face frame. Drill pilot holes into the

cabinet bottom
through the
template's holes.
Remove the
template and
mount the valet in
place. If your
cabinet bottoms
are thinner than ¾",
leave the template
in place to keep
screws from poking
into the cabinet.





Rather than cram a power strip and chargers under the trays (E), drop in an AC-powered USB hub to charge your devices instead.

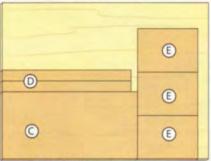
Materials List

		FIN	NISHED	SIZE		
Pa	rt	T	W	L	Matl.	Qty
Α	front & back	3/4"	21/2"	16½"	0	2
В	sides	3/4"	21/2"	8½"	0	2
C	bottom	3/4"	7¾"	15¾"	OP	1
D	tray supports	1/4"	11/4"	15"	OP	2
E	trays	1/4"	5"	7"	OP	3

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

Bits: %" and %" spiral upcut or straight router bits, %" brad-point bit.

Cutting Diagram



1/4 x 18 x 24" Oak plywood

B	B		
A		A	

34 x 51/2 x 36" Oak (1.6 bd. ft.)



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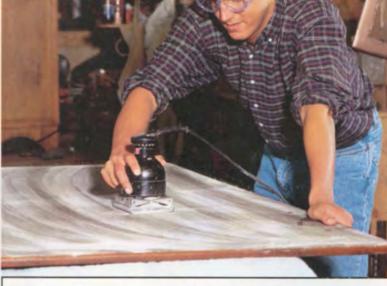












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Because you can tighten these clamps with one hand while holding your work with the other, every shop needs a selection of one-hand bar clamps. We like 'em so much we have 142 of various lengths and brands in the WOOD® magazine shop! (And very few sit idle long enough to gather dust.)

The original clamp in this category, the Quick-Grip, debuted in 1989. But these days you have many models and brands to choose from; so how do you know which to buy? And in what lengths? Read on to find out.

The force may be with you

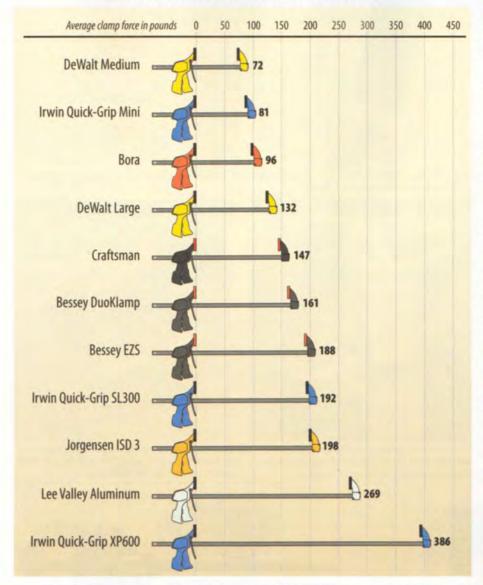
Despite most of the tested clamps being light and made of plastic composites, the majority demonstrated surprising force. To test this aspect, we asked WOOD staff members to use one hand to squeeze a hydraulic ram with pressure gauge in each clamp until they "maxed out" the clamp's poten-

tial, as shown *above*. We then averaged the results and multiplied by the surface area of the ram (1.08") to find maximum clamping force. (See the chart on the *next page* for the results of our tests. Your results might vary based on your hand strength.)

Irwin's largest Quick-Grip, the XP600, topped the test with an average of 386 pounds of force. It achieves this with beefy components and the smallest jaw-travel-per-handle-squeeze (%") for greater torque. By comparison, only

one other clamp, the Lee Valley Aluminum, averaged more than 200 pounds of force. But you typically need only about 100 pounds of force to pull together well-fitted joints. So most of the clamps we tested will do the job when it comes to gluing up a project. And even the lightweight clamps that fall below this threshold work well enough for holding things in place, such as an auxiliary face to your tablesaw's rip fence or a workpiece to your benchtop while you chop dovetails.

ONE-HANDED CLAMPING POWER



In addition to clamping strength, a clamp's jaws should close parallel—and stay parallel—for best results when gluing up assemblies. The Bessey EZS and Jorgensen ISD 3 clamps did this best in our tests. On the other hand, the Quick-Grip XP600 jaws deflected more than the others, especially as we increased the force, causing glued butt joints to slip, slide, and misalign. Still, these clamps—which weigh more than any other in the test—would be suitable for construction and heavy-duty work-holding tasks.

Let's give the boys a hand

Regardless of a clamp's strength, if it doesn't feel comfortable in your hand, or squeezing the trigger to close the jaws seems unintuitive, you probably won't like it. The Craftsman clamp, shown on page 44, feels awkward with its ratcheting trigger behind the handle, so you squeeze with your palm rather than your fingers. To work around this, we held the Craftsman "backwards," with the fixed jaw nearer to our bodies. Bessey's DuoKlamp, shown on page 44, also differs from the field in that its trigger and handle run inline with the bar rather than a typical pistol-grip style. In some cases, such as clamping below waist level, this orientation works well, but it takes some getting used to.

Once you tighten a clamp, at some point you have to release it. All but the Bora disengaged easily with a pull of the trigger release, but the more force we applied, the more difficult some were to unlock. With the Bora we often had to knock the release loose with a mallet.

Other considerations

clamp lengths. We like 6" and 12" clamps for their light weight and for work-holding, where their shorter bars won't get in the way. We also like 24" lengths for some larger assemblies because they weigh less than pipe or crank-handle bar clamps. However, these 2-footers lack the clamping force those heavier clamps deliver. (Quick Tip: Buy bar clamps in multiples of four because rectangular projects typically require four clamps at a time during assembly.)

All the tested brands have 12" models, and all but Lee Valley offer 6" lengths. DeWalt's Medium and Large clamps, though similar in appearance, perform differently based on their size: The 6" and 12" lengths have only half the strength of the 24"- and 36"-long clamps. The Jorgensen ISD 3 clamps uniquely combine by interlocking, as shown below, to double capacity and possibly save you the cost of buying additional, longer clamps. This works well, but setup takes some time.

LINK TWO CLAMPS FOR EXTRA REACH



Jorgensen's jigsaw-puzzlelike connectors at the ends of the fixed jaws hook together for added length (above). You must first flip both fixed jaws as shown (below). Either of the sliding jaws will tighten the combined clamp.



woodmagazine.com 43

but those on the Bora clamps slipped off routinely. All but two models have smooth pads; the textured pads on the Bora and Jorgensen clamps can mar your wood, as shown at *right*.

Both jaws on the Quick-Grip XP600 pivot 3° upward or 12° downward to accommodate non-parallel assemblies, such as that shown in the *left* photo *below*. On the Quick-Grip SL300, only the fixed jaw pivots. The jaws on both models lock square to the bar when pivoting isn't needed.

Medium and the Quick-Grip Mini, all the clamps feature jaws that reverse for spreading, such as when disassembling a mortise-and-tenon or dovetail project, far right. This proves an easy task with all but the Bora clamps, which require a screwdriver to reconfigure.



Add your own review of these clamps and read more reviews from your fellow woodworkers at toolreviews.woodmagazine.com.

MAKING A BAD IMPRESSION



The wafflelike pattern on the Jorgensen clamp pads left indentations (revealed here by pencil rubbings) on softer woods when clamped tightly.



The jaws of the Quick-Grip XP600 can pivot, allowing them to conform to curved and angular shapes, an otherwise difficult clamp-up.



Bessey's DuoKlamp proved easiest to convert to a spreader: Swap the pads to the opposite jaw sides and rotate a dial on the sliding jaw.



	P	ERFO	RMA	NCE	RATIN	IGS (1)	DIMENSIONS, INCHES				WEIGHT, LBS-OZ (3)				
BRAND/MODEL	CLAMPING FORCE	EASE OF TIGHTENING CLAMP	EASE OF RELEASING CLAMP	PARALLEL CLAMPING ABILITY	ABSENCE OF BAR DEFLECTION	PAD RETENTION ON JAWS	EFFECTIVENESS AS SPREADER (2)	JAW TRAVEL PER SQUEEZE	ЈАМ ДЕРТН	JAW WIDTH	AVAILABLE LENGTHS (MAXIMUM OPENING BETWEEN JAWS)	12" CLAMP	24" CLAMP	WARRANTY, YEARS (4)	COUNTRY OF ASSEMBLY (5)	SELLING PRICE (6)
BESSEY DUOKLAMP	В	Α	A-	В	A-	Α	В	3/16	33/8	13/16	6, 12, 18, 24	1-9	2-2	1	C	\$18-32
BESSEY EZS	B+	Α	Α	A	B-	A	A	3/16	31/4	11/2	6, 12, 18, 24, 36	1-13	2-5	L	T	18-32
BORA	C	C-	D	В	A-	C	D	3/8	31/4	13/8	6, 12, 18, 24, 36	1-11	2-9	1	1	17-34
CRAFTSMAN	В	В	B-	В	Α	A	Α	1/4	35/8	15/8	6, 12, 24, 36	2-10	2-13	L	5	17-27
DEWALT MEDIUM	C-	Α-	A-	В	A-	Α	N/A	1/4	3	11/8	6, 12	0-15.5	N/A	L	C	12-25
DEWALT LARGE	B-	Α	Α	В	В	A	A	3/8	41/8	15/8	24, 36	N/A	2-14	L	C	25-4
IRWIN QUICK-GRIP MINI	C-	Α	A-	В	A-	B+	N/A	3/16	23/8	1	6, 12	0-12.5	N/A	L	C	10-17
RWIN QUICK-GRIP SL300	B+	Α	Α	A-	A	Α	A	1/4	21/8	11/2	6, 12, 18, 24, 36	1-8	2-5	L	C	18-3
RWIN QUICK-GRIP XP600	Α	B+	B+	C	В	Α	Α	1/8	11/8	17/16	6, 12, 18, 24, 36, 50	2-14	3-10	L	C	20-5
JORGENSEN ISD 3	B+	В	В	Α	B-	Α	Α	1/4	33/8	13/8	6, 12, 18, 24, 36	1-12	2-5	1	C	18-3
LEE VALLEY ALUMINUM	A-	A-	В	A-	B-	Α	Α	1/4	31/4	13/6	12, 24	2-5	2-14	L	G	29-3



2. (N/A) Not reversible for spreader use

3. (N/A) Not available in this length

4. (L) Limited lifetime warranty

5. (C) China

(G) Germany

(I) Israel (S) Slovakia

(T) Taiwan

 Price per clamp, current at time of article production and does not include shipping, where applicable. Price range includes all lengths listed in "Available Lengths" column.





Irwin Quick-Grip Mini 800-464-7946; irwin.com



Go for the gold (and blue)

At the end of our tests, we found ourselves reaching most often for the Bessey EZS and the Quick-Grip SL300 clamps. They'll both do a great job with anything you ask of them, and they share our Top Tool award. The Besseys sell for about

20 percent less per clamp—effectively netting you five for each set of four Quick-Grips. But the Quick-Grip SL300 clamp exhibits slightly greater clamping force, weighs a few ounces less in the shorter lengths, and has the pivoting jaw.

Produced by Bob Hunter with Matt Seiler

woodmagazine.com



Don't settle for metal. Build a chest beautiful enough to pass for fine furniture.

Dimensions: 30½"W × 21"D × 50¾6"H Approximate materials cost: Lumber and plywood-\$320. Hardware-\$240.

he inspiration for this cabinet came from the steel mechanics' tool chests seen in so many garages. We took that basic design and classed it up to suit a woodworking shop.

For years to come, you'll gain satisfaction from tugging on the brass knobs and feeling the drawers—sized to hold everything from pencils and chisels to full-size routers—glide open effortlessly on full-extension slides. A lidded top tray provides quick access to frequently used tools and a place to set them while working. Casters hidden below the base allow you to roll everything wherever needed in your shop.

We joined the carcase with biscuits to simplify and speed up construction. And even though each drawer looks slightly taller than the one above it, we designed only three drawer-box sizes to minimize tool setups and reduce stacks of differently sized parts. Simple and strong lock-rabbet joints, cut entirely on the tablesaw with a 4" dado blade, make drawer construction a snap.

John Olson, Design Editor

Put an edge on plywood parts

Using a circular saw guided by a straightedge and fell straightedge, and following the Cutting Diagram on page 52, rip one 8'-long blank 18%" wide and another 18%" wide from a sheet of 3/4" walnut plywood.

Quick Tip! To prevent chip-out, use a 60-tooth plywood blade, cut with the good face of the plywood down, and cover the cutline on the top face with painter's tape.

Set the wider blank aside for the top/ bottom panels (E), divider panel (J), and lid panel (GG).

From the 18%"-wide blank, crosscut two side panels (A) to 411/8" long,

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stack them with their factory edges flush, and, with your circular saw, crosscut them to finished length [Drawing 1]; then rip them to final width at the tablesaw. Finish-sand the outside faces of the side panels to 220 grit.

3 Cut the long panel edging (B) and the short panel edging (C) 1/8" wider and 1" longer than finished size [Materials List, page 52]. Cut the top/bottom panel edging (D) 1/8" wider than listed, but to finished length [Drawing 2].

Miter the long panel edging (B) and short panel edging (C) to fit around the side panels (A). Cut a piece of 1/4" plywood to about 16×36" and lay a side panel on it, inside face up [Photo A]. Glue and clamp the long and short panel edging to the side panel. Install a flush-trim bit in your router and rout only the inside face of the edging [Photo B].

Cut the top and bottom panels (E) to size; then glue the top/bottom panel



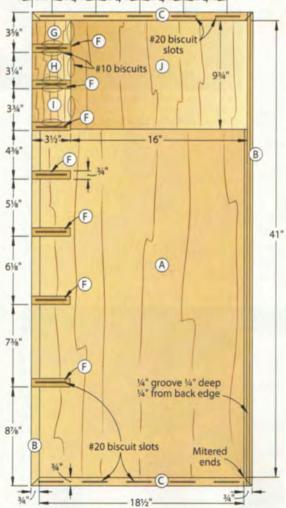
A scrap of 1/4" plywood below the side panel (A) creates an even lip with the long and short panel edging (B, C) on the outside face of the panel.

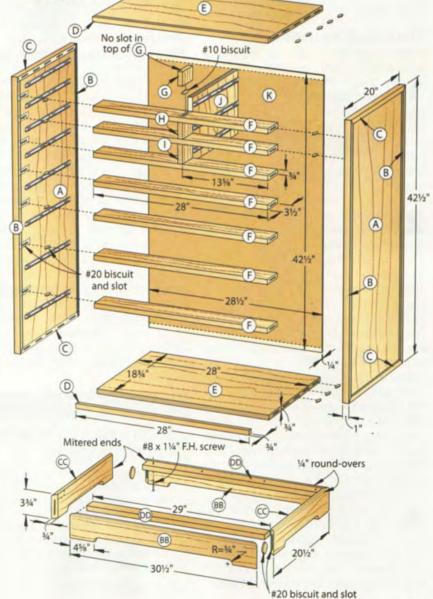
2 CARCASE

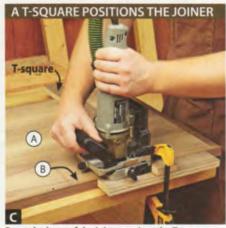


Support each side-panel assembly (A-C) on edge while routing the panel edging (B, C) flush with the inside faces of the side panels (A).

1 SIDE VIEW (Left side, inside face) #20 biscuit







Press the base of the joiner against the T-square and align the mark on the center of the tool's fence with the mark 1¾" from the front edge. Cut the slot.

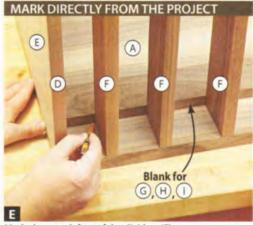
BRACE THE SIDE PANELS FOR JOINERY

B

Cradle

C

The cradle supports the side assembly (A–C) and provides a flat surface for registering the biscuit joiner while cutting the slots.



Mark along each face of the dividers (F) to determine the exact lengths of the top, middle, and bottom vertical dividers (G, H, I).

edging (D) to the panels [**Drawing 2**]. After the glue dries, flush-trim both faces of the edging and finish-sand the panel assemblies (D/E).

The biscuiting begins

Note: Cut all biscuit slots on this project with the biscuit joiner fence folded up.

On the inside face of each side assembly (A/B/C), lay out the bottom edge of each divider (F) [**Drawing 1**]. Mark an intersecting line on each layout line 1¾" from the front face of the long panel edging (B). Then lay out the five biscuit-slot locations on the short panel edging (C) and the mating locations on the top and bottom panels (D/E).

Prom 2×12" and 2×24" scraps of ¾" plywood, build a T-square like the one shown in Photo C. Clamp it along each layout line and set the biscuit joiner to cut slots ¾" above the base of the tool. With the base of the joiner facing the bottom of the panel and resting against the edge of the T-square, cut #20 biscuit slots for the dividers (F). To help cut the slots in the short panel edging (C), make a cradle from scrap plywood [Photo D]. Cut mating biscuit slots in the ends of the top and bottom panels (D/E).

3Cut the dividers (F) to size [**Drawing** 2] and sand them to 150 grit. With their bottom faces down, cut #20 biscuit slots in each end of each divider. Place #20 biscuits in the slots and dry-fit a side assembly (A/B/C), the top panel (D/E), and the three top dividers.

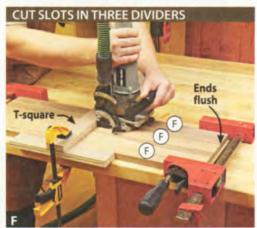
Cut a 34x31/2x12" blank for the top, middle, and bottom vertical dividers (G, H, I) and butt it against the top panel (D/E) and the rear edges of the dividers (F) [Photo E]. Mark the lengths of the top, middle, and bottom vertical divid-

ers; then crosscut the three vertical dividers to length. To locate the groove for the back panel (K), mark the rear edge of the top panel on the side assembly (A/B/C). Cut a ¼" groove ¼" deep along the mark [Drawing 1].

5 Cut #10 biscuit slots centered in the ends of the top, middle, and bottom vertical dividers (G, H, I) [**Drawing 1**; **Shop Tip** below]. **Note:** Cut a slot in only the bottom end of the top vertical divider (G).

Clamp three dividers (F) together with their ends flush [Photo F], and mark a line %" to one side of the centerline. Align the T-square with this line and cut biscuit slots centered on the length of the dividers. Set one divider aside, transfer the line around to the opposite faces of the two remaining dividers, and cut slots on these faces.

7 Glue biscuits in the slots and clamp the vertical dividers (G, H, I) to the three dividers (F). Ensure the assembly is square and that the front edges are flush. After the glue dries, cut the divider panel (J) to length [**Drawing 1**]. Mark three locations for #10 biscuits on the front edge of the divider panel and the rear of



The T-square ensures that the biscuit slots for the vertical dividers (G, H, I) align across the centers of all three dividers (F).

the vertical dividers, and cut slots on these marks [**Shop Tip**, opposite page]. Then glue the divider panel in place.

Begin assembling the carcase by gluing the top panel (D/E) to a side panel (A/B/C). Glue the divider assembly (F–J) to the top and side panel [Photo G]. Then glue the remaining dividers (F) and bottom panel (D/E) to the side

SHOP TIP

Secure short pieces to simplify slotting

To safely hold the vertical dividers (G, H, I), trap them in a jig made from scrap sheet goods. First, screw your biscuit joiner to a base and clamp the base to your bench. Clamp a fence on the base square to the face of the joiner. Keep your hands away from the cutter at the front of the tool by holding another scrap behind each divider as you cut the slots.



SHOP TIP

To cut slots, go over the edge

To support the divider assembly (F–I) when cutting the biscuit slots in the vertical dividers (G, H, I), extend two 3"-wide scraps past the edge of your bench. Clamp the divider assembly to the scraps and rest the biscuit joiner on the scrap when cutting the slots.





Check each divider (F) as you clamp it in place to ensure that it lies flush and square with the front of the long panel edging (B).



Drive only two screws, each into the elongated holes in the drawer slides, to allow for adjusting the drawer positions later.

panel. Glue the remaining side panel in place and check the assembly for square.

Measure for the back panel (K) [Drawing 2], cut it to size, and set it aside.

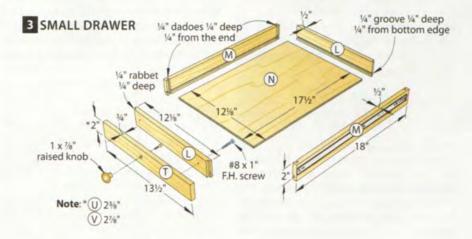
Build a bunch of drawers

Quick Tip! Instead of planing down ¾"-thick stock for the ½"-thick drawer parts, maximize your yield by resawing and planing 6/4 stock.

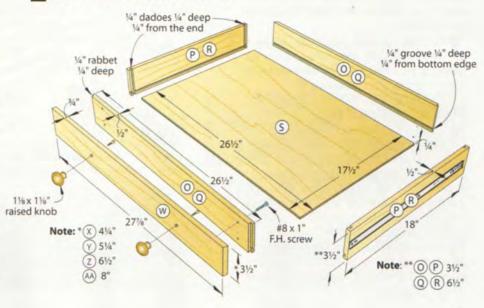
Cut the drawer fronts and backs (L, O, Q) and sides (M, P, R) to size [Materials List, Drawings 3 and 4]. To form the lock-rabbet joints, rout or cut a ¼" dado ¼" deep, ¼" from the end of each drawer side. Cut rabbets on each end of the drawer fronts and backs to create tongues that fit the dadoes in the sides. Next, cut a ¼"-deep groove in each piece to accept the plywood for the drawer bottoms (N, S); then cut the drawer bottoms to size. Finish-sand the inside faces of the drawer parts to 220 grit; then glue up the drawers.

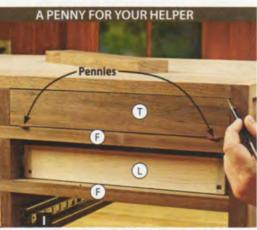
2 Draw a line across each side panel (A) and the center panel (J) centered in each drawer opening. Center the cabinet half of a drawer slide on each line, using the T-square made earlier to position it, and secure each slide with two screws [Photo H].

Screw the drawer half of each drawer slide to the drawer sides (M, P, R), flush with the front end and centered on the width of the side. Test the fit and operation of the drawers in the carcase. Make any needed adjustments to the drawer slides, then drive the remaining screws into each half of the slides.



4 MEDIUM AND LARGE DRAWER





Rest each drawer face (T–AA) on pennies to create a $\frac{1}{16}$ " gap below; then mark any areas needing to be trimmed for a uniform gap all around.

Straight bit Scrap

Align the edge of a ¾" straight bit with the far side of a hole in a base trim (BB) piece. Lock the fence against the straightedge and rout away the waste.



Turn the carcase upside down and center the base (BB-DD) on it. Apply glue to the base cleats (DD) and screw them to the bottom panel (E).

To allow 1/16" clearance all around, cut the drawer faces (T-AA) 1/26" narrower and shorter than their respective drawer openings. Dry-fit each drawer face in its opening, and scribe any areas that need trimming [Photo I].

Quick Tip! Label the back of each drawer face, and mark an arrow pointing up to help you realign the faces when reattaching them.

5 In the back of each drawer face (T-AA), lay out and drill counterbores and shank holes for the machine screws that secure the knobs [**Drawings 3** and **4**]. Install the knobs. Affix a short strip of double-faced tape to the back of each drawer face and, again resting the drawer face on pennies, press it against its respective drawer. Gently pull out the drawer and face far enough to allow you to drive screws through the drawer fronts (L, O, Q) and into the faces.

6 Remove the drawers, detach the faces (T–AA), and remove the double-faced tape and knobs. Finish-sand the drawer faces.

7Retrieve the back panel (K). Apply a ribbon of glue into the grooves in the long panel edging (B), and slide the back panel in place [**Drawing 2**].

The base helps it roll

1 From 4"-wide stock, miter-cut the long base trim (BB) and short base trim (CC) to finished length [Drawing 2]. On the outside face of each piece, lay out a point 5%" from each end and 3¾" from the top edge. Drill 1½" holes centered on these marks, and connect the top edges of the holes with a straight line.

2 Rip the bottom edge of the long and short base trim (BB, CC) to bring the pieces to 3¾" wide. To remove the waste

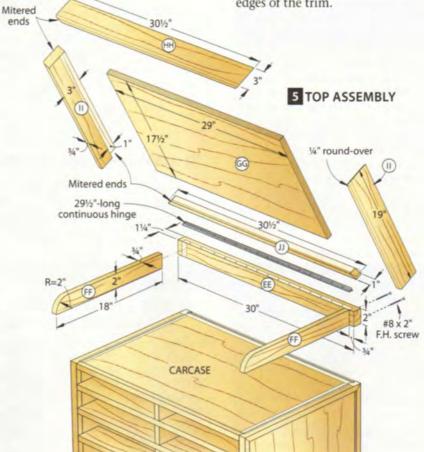
between the holes, bandsaw to within %" of the line.

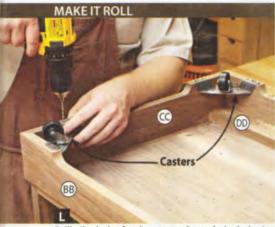
Complete the profile by mounting a ¾" straight bit in your table-mounted router and raising it ¾" above the table. Adhere a straight-edged scrap to the face of each base trim piece (BB, CC), flush with the bottom edge, and rout between the holes in each piece [Photo J]. Raise

the bit to ¹³/₁₆" and rout away the remaining waste on each piece.

Switch to a ¼" round-over bit in the router table, and round over the top outside edges of the long and short base trims (BB, CC). Cut #20 biscuit slots in the miters, and glue and clamp the base trim pieces together.

5Cut the base cleats (DD) to size and glue them to the inside faces of the long base trim (BB) flush with the top edges of the trim.





Drill pilot holes for the screws through the holes in each caster; then secure a caster to each corner of the base trim (BB/CC).



Cut a kerf in each side lid trim (II) as deep as the width of the back lid trim (JJ). The kerf should exit right at the corner of the side lid trim.



Draw lines on the face and end of the side lid trim (II) to connect the ends of the kerf. Saw along the lines with a handsaw to remove the waste.

6 After the glue dries, glue and screw the base assembly (BB-DD) to the bottom panel (D/E) [Photo K]. Screw a caster [Source] to each corner [Photo L].

Put a lid on it

Laminate two pieces of $\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{2}{8} \times \frac{30}{8}$ " walnut for the tray back (EE). After the glue dries, plane it to $\frac{1}{4}$ " thick and rip and crosscut it to $\frac{2}{3}$ 0". Cut the tray sides (FF) to size and shape the 2" radius at the front end [**Drawing 5**]. Glue and screw the tray sides to the tray back. After the glue dries, glue this assembly to the top panel (E) and short panel trim (C), flush at the back and centered from side to side.

Cut the lid panel (GG) to size [Drawing 5]. From ¾" stock, cut the front, side, and back lid trims (HH, II, JJ) ½" longer than listed. Miter-cut the front ends of the side lid trims (II), clamp them to the lid panel, and miter-cut the front lid trim (HH) to fit between them. Fit the back lid trim (JJ) against the back edge of the lid panel and mark the finished length of the side lid trim. Crosscut the side lid trim on the marks.

3 Set your tablesaw miter gauge to 45° and attach an extension to it. Raise the tablesaw blade to match the width of the back lid trim (JJ) and make a cut through the extension. Clamp a side lid trim (II) to the extension, top edge down, aligning the top outside corner with the near edge of the kerf in the extension, and cut a kerf [**Photo M**]. Reset the miter gauge to the opposite 45° setting and repeat this procedure for the remaining side lid trim.

With a handsaw, trim away the waste created by the kerf in the side lid trim (II) [Photo N]. Glue and clamp the front lid trim (HH) and side lid trim to the lid panel (GG); then glue the back lid trim (JJ) in place. After the glue dries, position the lid over the tray sides (FF) and screw a length of continuous hinge to the back lid trim and tray back (EE) [Photo O, Drawing 5]. Check that the lid opens and closes, then remove it from the hinge and rout a ¼" round-over along the outside bottom edge of the front and side lid trim.

5Remove the continuous hinge. Apply a finish. We used the proce-

ATTACH THE CONTINUOUS HINGE

(G)

(E)

Center the lid (GG–JJ) from side to side on top of the carcase. Press the side lid trim (II) against the tray back (EE) and screw the hinge in place.

dure described in Bring out the beauty in walnut, below.

6 Reattach the knobs, and screw the drawer faces (T–AA) to the drawers. Position the lid (GG–JJ), secure the continuous hinge, and your new cabinet is ready to house your tools.

Produced by Craig Ruegsegger with John Olson Project design: John Olson Illustrations: Lorna Johnson

Bring out the beauty in walnut

To more closely match walnut's light sapwood with its dark heartwood, we applied a coat of Lockwood water-based dye, no. 43 English Brown Mahogany, over all surfaces. To get a seamless result, apply the dye with a foam brush, and immediately wipe each pass with a moist rag to smear the wet edge and blend the line between adjacent passes, right. Start your strokes away from inside corners and edges where the dye may pool. Instead, use the rag to help work dye into those areas.

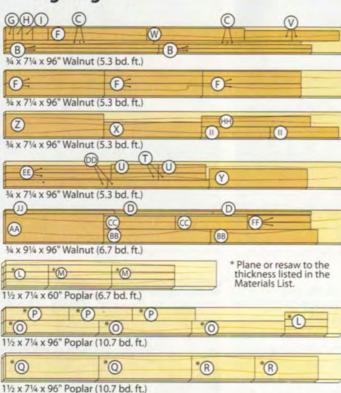
Water may raise the grain, making it feel fuzzy, so after the dye dries, sand lightly with 220-grit sandpaper. If needed, apply a second coat of dye to areas that remain too light, blending the edges with a rag.

The dye evened out the color variations in the walnut, but added a redder tone than we wanted, so we then applied a coat of Varathane stain no. 260 American Walnut for a browner hue. After the stain dried, we sprayed on three coats of a satin-finish oil-based lacquer.



continued on page 52

Cutting Diagram



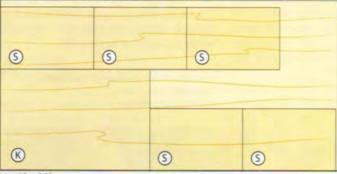
E (66) (E) 0

Waste

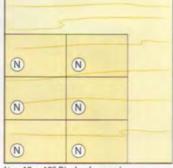
(A)

34 x 48 x 96" Walnut plywood

(A)



1/4 x 48 x 96" Birch plywood



Source

leevalley.com.

Hardware: 25×780mm brass-plate

piano hinge no. 00D5225 (1), \$7.20; #3×3/4"

brass F.H. screws [10 pk] no. 91Z0305X (2),

\$1.00; Frame casters, no. 00K2501 (set of 4), \$14.90; 18" 100-lb. full-extension zinc

1x3/8" raised knobs no. 02W3200 (6) \$4.20;

11/8×11/8" raised knobs no. 02W3201 (10), \$4.50. Lee Valley Hardware, 800-871-8158,

drawer slides no. 02K3018 (11), \$13.10;

1/4 x 48 x 48" Birch plywood

Matariale Liet

Par		T	W	L	Matl.	Qt
Car	case				-20	
A*	side panels	34"	18½"	41"	WP	2
B*	long panel edging	¾"	1"	421/2"	W	4
C*	short panel edging	34"	1"	20"	W	4
D*	top/bottom panel edging	34"	34"	28"	W	2
E*	top/bottom panels	34"	18¾"	28"	WP	2
F	dividers	3/4"	3½"	28"	W	7
G	top vertical divider	34"	3½"	21/9"	W	1
Н	middle vertical divider	34"	31/2"	21/2"	W	1
į.	bottom vertical divider	34"	3½"	3"	W	1
J*	divider panel	34"	16"	9¾"	WP	1
K	back panel	1/4"	28½"	42½"	BP	1
Dra	wers			BUL		
L	small drawer fronts/backs	1/2"	2"	12%"	Р	12
М	small drawer sides	1/2"	2"	18"	Р	12
N	small drawer bottoms	14"	12%"	17½"	BP	6
0	medium drawer fronts/backs	1/2"	3½"	26½"	Р	6
P	medium drawer sides	1/2"	3½"	18"	P	6
Q	large drawer fronts/backs	1/2"	6½"	26½"	P	4
R	large drawer sides	1/2"	61/2"	18"	Р	4
5	medium/large drawer bottoms	34"	17½"	26½"	BP	5
T	drawer 1** faces	34"	2"	13½"	W	2
U	drawer 2** faces	3/4"	2%"	131/2"	W	2
٧	drawer 3** faces	¾"	2%"	13½"	W	2
W	drawer 4** face	3/4"	31/2"	27%"	W	1
Χ	drawer 5** face	¾"	41/4"	27%"	W	1
Υ	drawer 6** face	3/4"	51/4"	27%"	W	1
Z	drawer 7** face	34"	61/2"	27%"	W	1
AA	drawer 8** face	3/4"	8"	27%"	W	1
Bas	e					
3B*	long base trim	3/4"	3¾"	301/2"	W	2
C*	short base trim	34"	3¾"	20½"	W	2
DD	base cleats	34"	2"	29"	W	2
Lid						
E*	tray back	11/4"	2"	30"	LW	1
FF	tray sides	3/4"	2"	18"	W	2
G*	lid panel	3/4"	171/2"	29"	WP	1
H+	front lid trim	3/4"	3"	30½"	W	1
*	side lid trim	34"	3"	19"	W	2
JJ*	back lid trim	3/4"	1"	301/2"	W	1

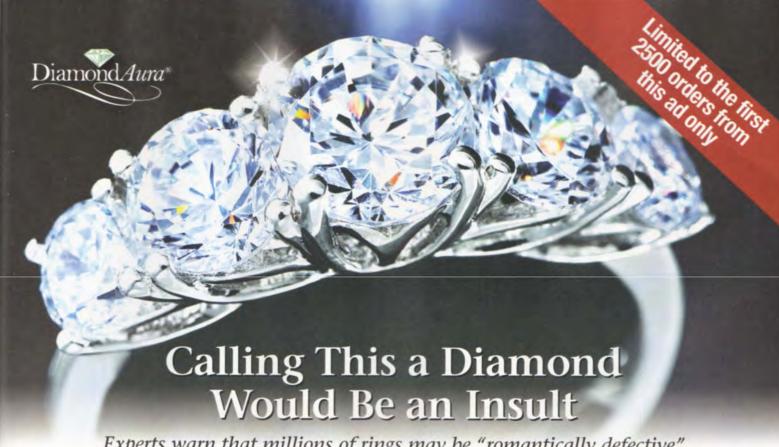
*Parts initially cut oversize. See the instructions.

**Drawer faces numbered from top to bottom.

Materials key: WP-walnut plywood, W-walnut, BP-birch plywood, P-poplar, LW-laminated walnut.

Supplies: Double-faced tape, #10 biscuits (8), #20 biscuits (38), #8×1" flathead screws (32), #8×11/4" flathead screws (8), #8×2" flathead screws (4).

Blade and bits: Dado blade; 1/16", 1/12" drill bits; flushtrim, ¼" round-over, ¾" straight router bits.



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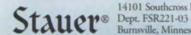
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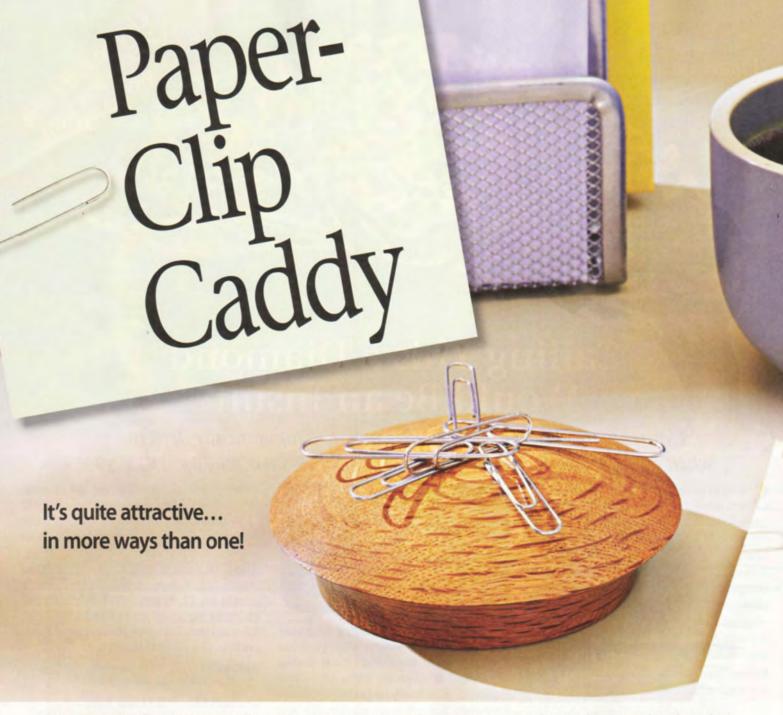
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ysteriously, metal paper clips cling to the top of this wood turning. The secret, of course,

is a rare-earth magnet (see **Source** on *page 56*) tucked away just below the domed top. With a cleverly hidden and

nearly invisible joint, friends and coworkers will wonder how you got the magnet in there.

Prepare your materials

Note: Most any scrap of wood will make a great-looking caddy. We made ours from quartersawn white oak.

Draw diagonal lines from corner to corner on both faces of a 1¾x4x4" blank to find the centerpoint. From the centerpoint, lay out a 3¾" diameter on one

face and a 2" diameter on both faces. Resaw the blank into a 1"-thick piece for the base and a %"-thick piece for the top. Quick Tip! Resaw as carefully as possible so the resawn faces require minimal surfacing on the lathe. This helps hide the joint line in the completed caddy.

Adhere the blanks back together with double-faced tape, and rough-cut them to just over 3¾" in diameter. Separate the blanks, cut two ¼×2"-diameter circles from scrap material, and glue one centered in the 2" circle on each blank. Allow the glue to dry.

Shape the inside face of the top

Tools: %" bowl gouge, square-nose scraper Speed: 1,500 rpm

Mount a four-jaw chuck to the headstock of your lathe and secure the waste block on the top blank in the chuck. Position

Four-jaw chuck

1/4 × 2" hardwood waste block centered on top blank

3/4"

1 Turn face flat.

2 Form
1/4" recess.

the tool rest at about a 30° angle to the face of the blank. Using your \%" bowl gouge, flatten the face of the top, work-

ing from the center to the outside. Work slowly and stop frequently to check your progress with a straightedge, right.

Reposition the tool rest parallel to the face, and mark a 2" diameter on the face of the top. To do this, make a dot with your pencil as near to the center of the top as possible. Then measure 1" from the center of the dot and, with the lathe running, lightly mark the diameter. Cut a 1/4"-deep recess inside the line using a square-nose scraper, right. Remove the top from the chuck; you will turn it to its final diameter later.





Turn the inside face of the base

- 5/8"-

Tools: %" bowl gouge, square-nose scraper Speed: 1,500 rpm

Secure the base blank's waste block in the chuck. With the bowl gouge, true up the face of the blank as you did with the top.

Reposition the tool rest parallel to the lathe bed; then, working from right to left, turn the outer edge to 3¾" diameter. Mark a 2"-diameter circle on the face of

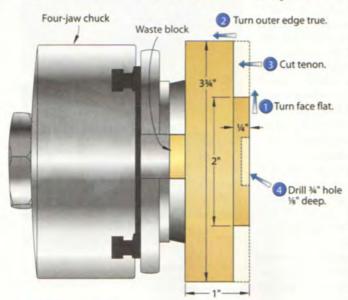
the blank. Measure ¼" from the exposed face of the blank and mark a line around the edge at this point. Lock the tool rest parallel to the face of the base.

Switch to the square-nose scraper. Working from the edge toward the center, push the tool forward into the base

to create a 1/4" long tenon, right, stopping frequently as you get close to the line to check the fit of the tenon in the recess in the top. Once the tenon fits snug and the top seats on the base with no gap, mount a 34" Forstner bit in a drill chuck in the tailstock. Drill a 1/8"-deep hole in the tenon, right, and check the fit of the magnet in the hole. The top of the magnet should rest flush with the top of the tenon.







Give the outside of the base some curves

Reduce diameter to 3½".

Part off waste block.

Turn recess from

Turn cove from right to left.

center out.

Tools: Parting tool, %" bowl gouge Speeds: 1,500 rpm for shaping, 500 rpm for sanding

Reverse the base, gripping the tenon in the chuck. Part-off the waste block, *right*, then true the face of the base.

Continuing with the bowl gouge, reduce the blank's diameter to 3½", cut-

Four-jaw chuck

ting from left to right. Mark a 2¾" diameter on the bottom face. Using the left wing of your bowl gouge, swing the tool's handle to the right to shape a cove between the line and the top outer edge

of the workpiece, below right. Cut slowly as you near the outer edge to prevent tear-out.

Mark a 21/8" diameter centered on the face of the base. Use the bowl gouge to turn a 1/16"-deep recess inside the line.

Remove the tool rest. Slow the lathe to 500 rpm and sand the bottom and edge of the base to 220 grit. Remove the base from the lathe.







Tools: Parting tool, 36" bowl gouge Speeds: 1,500 rpm for shaping, 500 rpm for sanding

21/8"

Mount the top blank to the lathe by expanding the chuck's jaws into the recess. Part-off the waste block; then, true the face with the bowl gouge. Reposition the tool rest and, cutting from left to right, reduce the top's outside diame-

ter to 3½". Mark a dot on the centerpoint of the top's face, and form a crown from the center to the outside edge. Work carefully as you approach the edge.

Reduce the lathe speed to 500 rpm and sand the top to 220 grit. Remove the

top from the lathe and dryfit it with the base, checking that the grain between the two aligns all around.

Quick Tip! To help realign the pieces during glue-up, put a ½"-long strip of painter's tape across the joint line; then open the top like a clamshell and cut the tape along the joint.

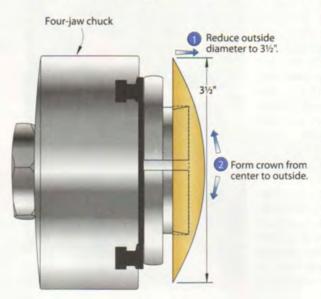
Place the magnet in the base, apply glue to the area surrounding the tenon, and reassemble the top and base, aligning the edges of the tape. Clamp the pieces until the glue dries.

Remove the painter's tape, sand the caddy to 320 grit, and apply a finish. We wiped on three coats of an oil-and-urethane finish, buffing lightly with a 320-grit sanding sponge between coats.

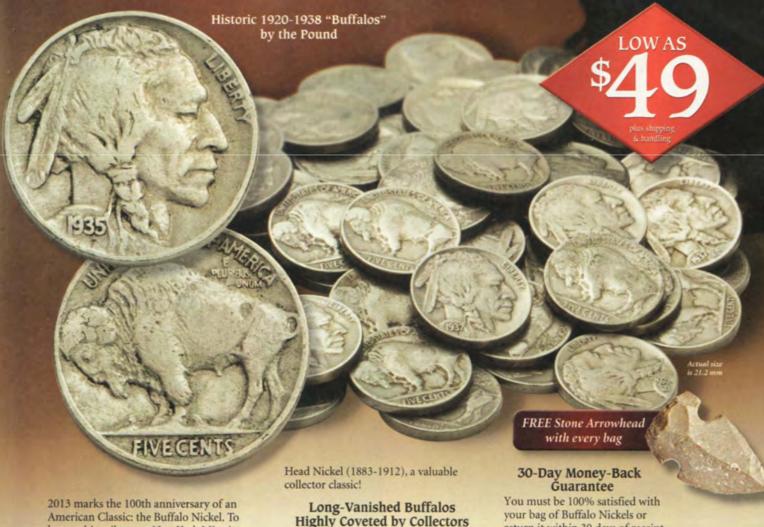


Source: ¾x½" rare-earth magnets [pack of 6], \$15.79, no. 151008, Woodcraft, 800-225-1153, woodcraft.com.

Produced by **Craig Ruegsegger** with **Brian Simmons** Project design: **Brian Simmons** Illustrations: **Kevin Boyle**



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Finely Crafted Architectural Box

Inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright



his handsome box takes design inspiration from the low profiles and horizontal lines of Prairie School architecture, left. Careful machining and attention to detail will reward you with a truly unique tabletop creation.

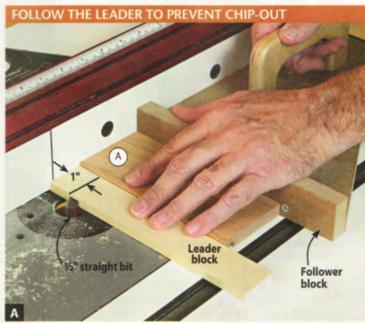


Build the base

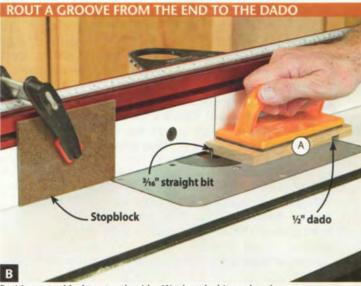
To successfully complete the base, you'll need to carefully control the thickness of the sides (A) and feet (B). Start by installing a ½" straight bit into your table-mounted router, and rout a ¼"-deep dado in a piece of scrap to serve as a thickness guide. Then plane a ¾×3×30" blank for the sides and a ¾×1¼×15" blank for the feet and handle (I) [Materials List, page 63] using the dado in the scrap as a guide to ensure the finished ½" thickness. The parts should fit tightly in the dado. Finish-sanding will make room for glue and allow for a snug assembly after the parts are machined. Cut the foot blank into two 6"-long pieces, and set aside the remaining piece for the handle blank.

2Cut the bottom (C) to size from ¼" plywood, and finish-sand it.

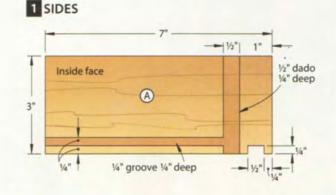
3 From the planed side blank, cut the sides (A) to their finished size. With the ½" straight bit in your table-mounted router, rout ¼"-deep dadoes [**Drawing 1**, **Photo A**]. Then switch to a ¾6" straight bit and rout a groove for the bottom (C) in each side [**Photo B**]. Make one pass ¾" from the bottom edge, reposition the fence, and make a second pass to match the thickness of the plywood bottom.



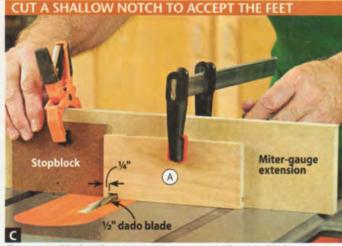
Using a leader block and a follower block to prevent chip-out, rout $\frac{1}{2}$ "-deep dadoes in the sides (A).



Position a stopblock to stop the sides (A) when the bit reaches the $\frac{1}{2}$ dado, and rout grooves for the bottom (C) in two passes.



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Clamp a stopblock to the miter-gauge extension $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the blade, and cut a $\frac{1}{4}$ "-deep notch in each side (A).

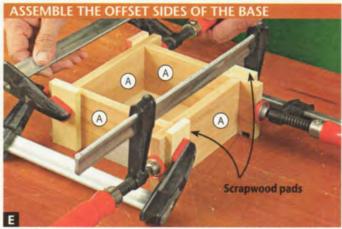
Install a ½" dado blade and a zero-clearance insert into your tablesaw. Cut a ¼"-deep dado in scrap and check the dado for a snug fit on the sides (A). Shim the dado blade as necessary. Attach an extension to the miter gauge so the blade will cut through it about 7" from the right end. (We used a ¾x4x18" piece of MDF.) Clamp a stopblock to the extension, and cut a ¼"-deep notch in the bottom edge of each side [Drawing 1, Photo C]. Finish-sand the sides.

Setrieve the two 6"-long foot (B) blanks. Raise the ½" dado blade to cut 2" deep, and notch both ends of each blank [Drawing 2, Photo D]. Then crosscut the feet to length and finish-sand them.

Glue and clamp the side (A) and bottom (C) assembly [Drawing 2, Photo E]. Check it for square. When the glue dries, apply glue sparingly to the inside surfaces of the foot (B) notches, and clamp them in place, interlocking the foot and side notches.



Center the foot (B) blank on the dado blade, and flank it with stopblocks. Cut one notch, flip the blank, and cut a second notch.



Apply glue sparingly to the side (A), dadoes, and grooves, and glue and clamp the sides, capturing the bottom (C) within the grooves.

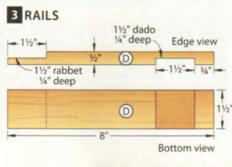
A A A 511/16" 511/16"

2 BASE EXPLODED VIEW

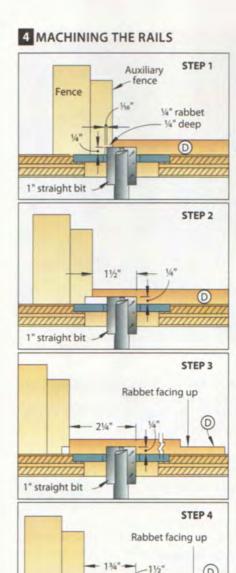
60

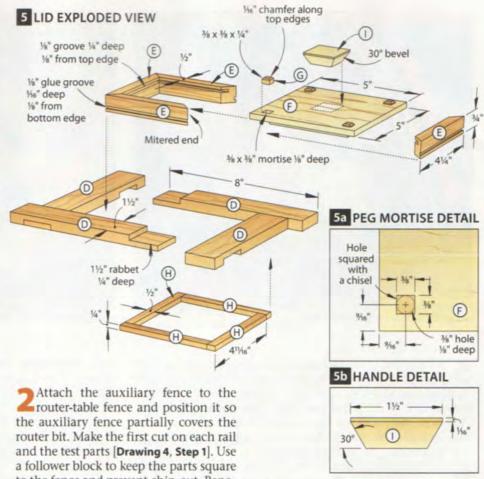
Make the lid parts

Cut the rails (D) to size, and finish-sand them. To test the router-table setups for cutting the rabbets and dadoes [Drawing 3], cut and finish-sand several extra parts from scrap. Chuck a 1" straight bit into your table-mounted router and adjust it to cut ¼" deep. Make test cuts to verify a cutting depth equal to one-half the thickness of the rails. Then to ensure a clean cut at the end of each rail rabbet, rout a ¼" rabbet ¼" deep along the edge of an auxiliary fence.



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router-table fence and position it so the auxiliary fence partially covers the router bit. Make the first cut on each rail and the test parts [Drawing 4, Step 1]. Use a follower block to keep the parts square to the fence and prevent chip-out. Reposition the fence, verify the setup with the scrap parts, and finish the rabbets [Step 2]. Move the fence, flip the parts over, and make the first cut to form the dadoes [Step 3]. Reposition the fence, test the setup, and finish the dadoes [Step 4].

Cut a ½×¾×18" blank for the risers (E). Cut a ½" groove ¼" deep ½" from the top edge into the inside face, and a

1/6" groove 1/16" deep 1/6" from the bottom edge into the outside face [**Drawing 5**]. Miter-cut the risers to length for a snug fit into the rail (D) frame opening.

Cut the panel (F) to size. To form mortises for the decorative pegs (G), drill \(\lambda\)"-deep holes with a Forstner bit and square them with a chisel [Drawings 5 and 5a]. To make perfectly placed, perfectly square mortises, see the Shop Tip, below.

SHOP TIP

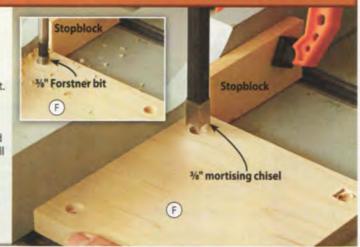
1" straight bit

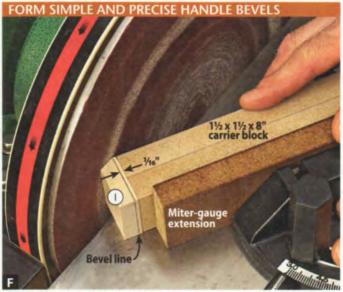
Make a perfect square from a round hole

When covering a screwhead with a round plug, carefully matching the grain and color of the plug to the surrounding wood can make the plug nearly invisible. But just as often, what looks perfect in the raw emerges as an unsightly dot during finishing. Using a slightly protruding square peg in a contrasting wood species turns a cover-up into a design element.

In the usual method of drilling a round hole and squaring it with a chisel, the challenge is forming a clean-edged, perfectly square mortise. Using the lid panel (F) as an example, here's how to get flawless results.

Chuck a %" Forstner bit into your drill press, and position the fence and a stopblock to center the bit on the peg (G) locations on the panel (F). Drill a %"-deep hole at each corner, as shown *inset*. Remove the Forstner bit, and chuck a %" hollow mortising chisel (the type made for a mortising machine) into the drill press, aligning the chisel edges with the panel edges. (Visit grizzly.com for an inexpensive %" mortising chisel.) Lower the drill-press quill, as shown at *right*, driving the chisel into the wood %" deep. Clean out the mortises with a %" hand chisel.





Fasten the top face of the handle (I) to the end of a $1\frac{1}{2}\times1\frac{1}{2}\times8$ " carrier block, and disc-sand the bevels to the marked lines.



First, tip the outside edge of each rail pair up. Then, slide the rabbets into the mating dadoes. Finally, tip the pairs down, flattening the frame.

5 To form the overhanging edge of the panel (F) and the tongue that fits into the upper inside grooves on the risers (E) [Drawings 5 and 6], first cut a ¼"-deep saw kerf into the bottom face of the panel near each edge [Drawing 7, Step 1]. Then with the panel top face against the fence, cut a saw kerf into each edge [Step 2]. Make sure the tongue on the bottom face fits into the saw kerfs in the risers (E).

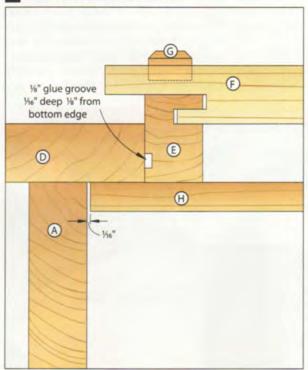
6 For the pegs (G), cut a 3/x3/x12" blank, testing it for a snug fit into the panel (F) mortises. Sand chamfers on both

ends [Drawing 8, Step 1], and cut one peg from each end [Step 2]. Repeat to make a total of four pegs.

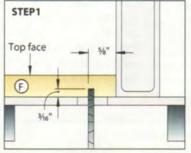
7 Cut a $\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{2} \times 20^{\text{"}}$ blank for the stops (H), and then cut the parts to length. Dry-assemble the stops in the bottom of the base to check for a total gap of $\frac{1}{16}$ in each direction between the stop assembly and the sides (A).

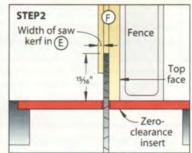
Retrieve the handle (I) blank and cut it to size. Mark lines on the sides ½6" from the top edge [Drawing 5a], and disc-sand the bevels [Photo F]. Finish-sand the handle.

6 LID SECTION VIEW DETAIL

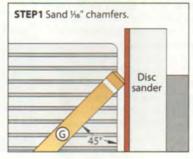


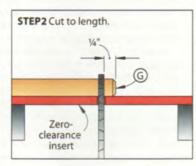
7 CREATING THE PANEL EDGE PROFILE

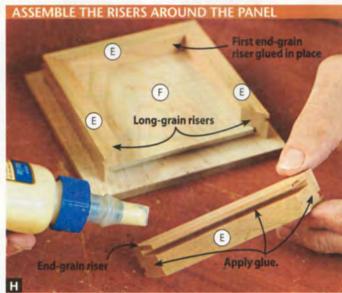




8 MAKING THE PEGS







Apply glue sparingly onto the mitered ends of the two remaining risers (E) and into the center of each groove.

THE GROOVES SNEAK GLUE TO WHERE IT'S NEEDED **Bottom surfaces** D

With the lid assembly upsidedown and the riser (E) frame protruding, squeeze glue into the exposed riser frame grooves.

Assemble the lid

Glue and clamp the rails (D) in pairs. Make sure the rabbets face up, the dadoes down, and that the end offsets overhang the same sides as the base offsets [Drawings 2 and 5]. With the glued pairs dry, apply glue to the center of the exposed rabbets, and assemble the rail frame [Photo G]. Clamp the joints until the glue dries. Sand the joints smooth.

Slip two risers (E), without glue, onto the panel (F) longgrain tongues. Apply glue to the two remaining risers [Photo H], and slip them onto the panel end-grain tongues.

Immediately slide the riser (E) frame into the rail (D) frame from the top until the panel (F) seats onto the rails. Turn the assembly over and squeeze glue into the riser frame grooves [Photo I]. Then push the riser frame back into the rail frame until the riser frame and rail frame bottom surfaces are flush. Wipe away any excess glue with a damp cloth. Let the glue dry, and finish-sand the bottom surfaces.

Glue and clamp the stops (H) to the bottom of the rail (D) frame, centering the stop frame. Then glue the pegs (G) into the panel (F) mortises. Glue and clamp the handle (I) in place, centered on the panel.

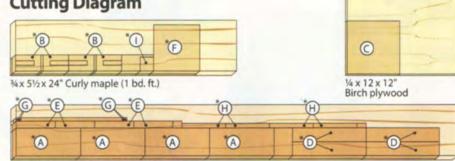
Apply the finish

Inspect all the assemblies and finish-sand to 220 grit where needed.

Apply a clear finish. (To bring out the grain of the curly maple and the color of the cherry, we applied a coat of Minwax Antique Oil Finish, and let it dry for 24 hours. Then we topcoated the box with two coats of aerosol lacquer, sanding between coats with 320-grit sandpaper.)

Produced by Jan Svec with Chuck Hedlund Project design: Jeff Mertz Illustrations: Roxanne LeMoine

Cutting Diagram



34 x 51/2 x 48" Cherry (2 bd. ft.)

*Plane or resaw to the thicknesses listed in the Materials List.

Materials List

		FI	Jan an			
Ba	se	Т	W	L	Matl.	Qty.
A*	sides	1/2"	3"	7"	C	4
B*	feet	1/2"	1¾"	2¾"	CM	4
C	bottom	34"	51/16"	51/16"	BP	1
Lic						
D	rails	1/2"	11/2"	8"	. c	4
E*	risers	3/2"	34"	41/4"	C	4
F	panel	1/2"	5"	5"	CM	1
G*	pegs	¾"	36"	1/4"	C	4
H*	stops	14"	1/2"	41/16"	C	4
1*	handle	1/2"	11/2"	11/2"	CM	1

*Parts initially cut oversize. See the instructions.

Materials key: C-cherry, CM-curly maple, BP-birch

Blade and bits: 3/16", 1/2", and 1" straight router bits; stack dado set; 36" Forstner bit.

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Help stop the burn!

I get burn marks when rounding over the ends of glued-up cutting boards. I thought I was moving the trim router fast enough, and the bit is sharp and clean, so why does the wood scorch?

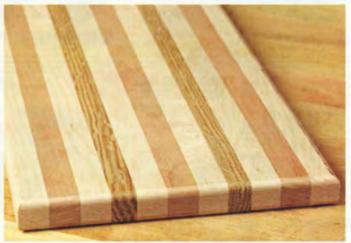
-Curtis Severson, North Platte, Neb.

Curtis, some wood species, such as cherry and maple, tend to burn easier than others, so your situation is not uncommon. And your idea to use a quicker feed rate usually helps.

If you've ruled out feed rate as the problem, and you have a sharp bit, consider the router as the culprit. If it has a single speed—usually around

25,000 rpm or faster—that high speed could be causing the burns. In that case, rout the profile in two passes, removing most of the wood the first time through, and then following up with a quicker, shaving-thin pass. If your router has variable speed, dial it back to about 18,000 rpm or so. That should alleviate the friction burns.





How do you sharpen around corners?

I use a spring-loaded corner chisel (below)—and a few mallet taps—to square up corners of hinge mortises and similar recesses. But how do I sharpen it after the cutting edge dulls?

-Jessica Petrey, Danielson, Conn.

Remove the plate that holds the chisel in its housing, Jessica, taking care to not lose the spring concealed inside the

housing. Then use a diamond file (woodcraft, no. 852974, \$35, 800-535-4482, woodcraft.com) to hone the inside bevels of the 90° tip. Keep the file flat against the beveled edges and make about 10–20 strokes per side; repeat until sharp. When finished, make a couple of passes on the flat back side to remove any burr, and reinstall the plate.





Soak up moisture so your biscuits won't

How can I store biscuits to prevent swelling caused by humidity?

-John Albertson, Gainesville, Fla.

You have an easy fix within reach, John. First, keep your biscuits in a lidded container that seals well; many brands of biscuits come in such containers. Add a silica-gel dessicant pack, as shown at right, to soak up whatever humidity gets trapped in the container. You can often find free ones packed in shipping boxes, or buy them in multi-packs for about 40 cents apiece at office-supply and

crafts stores.

CATALOGS FOR CRAFTSMEN



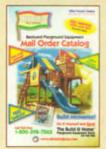
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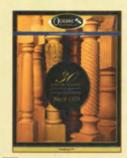


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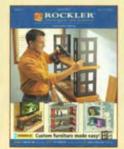
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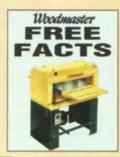
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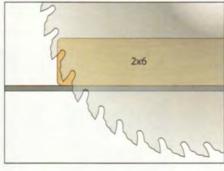
Add a little height to get more width

My 10" compound mitersaw can't quite cut completely through a 2×6, leaving a tiny corner uncut. It's awkward to flip the board and finish the cut without it breaking and splintering, and I don't always get it lined up with the first cut. Is there a way to squeeze just a little more capacity out of my mitersaw?

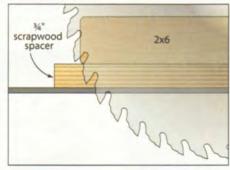
-Mark Silva, Sacramento, Calif.

There sure is, Mark: If you can't cut wider, go deeper. Simply raise the 2×6 by placing a 3/4"-thick scrapwood spacer between the board and your saw's table. By doing this, you use more of the blade's width and cut cleanly through the board in one pass. Be sure to hold the spacer and 2×6 firmly to prevent shifting during the cut. If you need to make more than a couple of cuts, secure the spacer to the mitersaw table with double-faced tape.



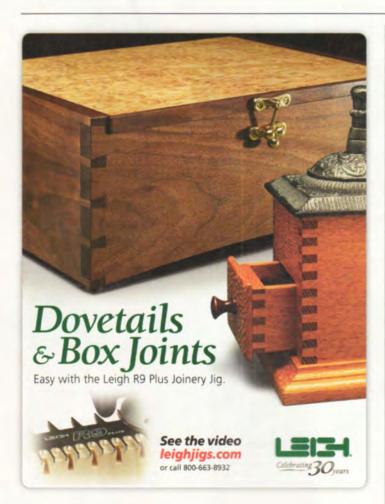


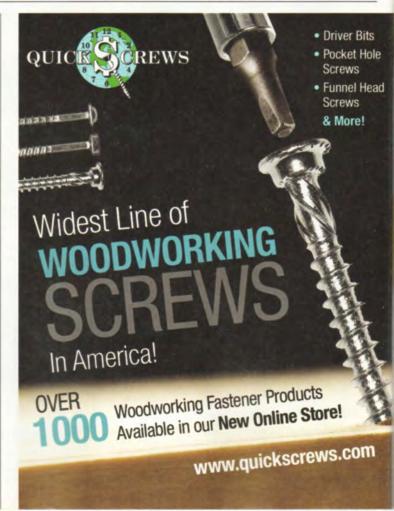




WOOD magazine March 2013







Is MDO a cousin to MDF?

I've seen you use MDF in projects and jigs many times in WOOD® magazine. Then I heard on a TV remodeling show about something called MDO. What's that?

Greg Montano, North Wilkesboro, N.C.

Medium-density fiberboard (MDF) is manufactured from fine wood fibers and resin bonded together. Greg, and compressed into sheets to give it a smooth, flat surface. Medium-density overlay board (MDO) has a similar, smooth surface about 1/16" thick on each face, bonded to a plywood core. Because MDO's faces contain more resin than MDF. MDO works well for exterior use, such as painted signs. Stronger than MDF, MDO weighs less and doesn't create a cloud of choking dust when you saw it. It also costs about a third more.

You'll find MDO at some home centers, but will have better luck at a lumberyard or hardwood retailer that sells sheet goods.





continued on page 72



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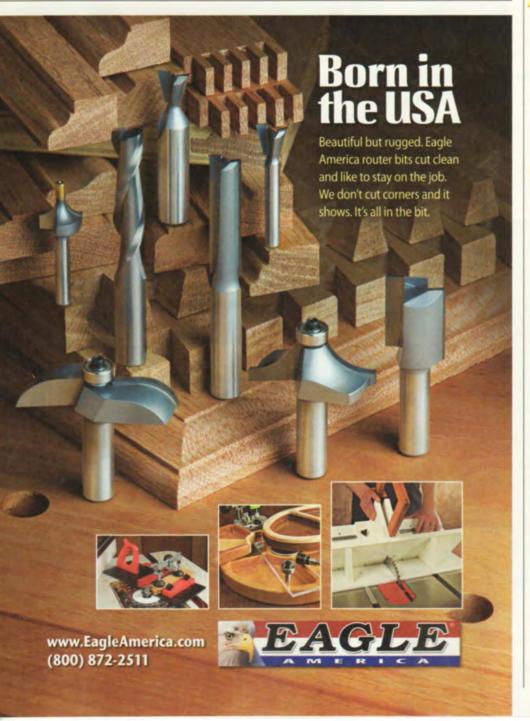
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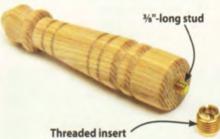
Ask WOOD

Bolt-on legs come up short

Recently, I bought four short, turned furniture legs from a home center, but hit a brick wall when it came time to install them. How do I attach the short (3/8" long) threaded studs to my bookcase? There were no instructions included with the legs.

-Henry Watkins, Columbus, Ohio

You'll find the solution at most hardware and woodworking stores, Henry: threaded inserts. Begin by measuring the diameter of the threads, as well as the diameter of the barrel (as if there were no threads). Then drill a hole with a diameter about midway between those measurements, deep enough to seat the insert. (Do this on a drill press, if possible.) Next, install each insert as shown below. Finally, thread the legs into the inserts.





Threaded inserts have slots across the open ends, but an ordinary flat screwdriver won't help much. Instead, thread a couple of nuts onto a bolt, then thread the bolt into the insert. Snug the bottom nut against the insert, and then the top ("jam") nut against the first one. Finally, drive the insert flush using a drill and socket on the bolt head.

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The Magligs held the fence securely even when I resawed planks from a big white-oak slab. To adjust slightly for blade drift, I just released one magnet, nudged the fence, and then reengaged the magnet. As a bonus, the Magligs dismount from the fence so I could also use them with other shopmade jigs.

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The 3×15" Magfence II has T-slots on its face and top for attaching jigs and accessories, such as a 5" UHMW wear plate (MF2-SWF5, \$29.95, shown) available from Carter. There's also a 3" version: MF2-SWF3, \$24.95. You don't need these slick wear plates to rip with the Magfence II—you could instead make your own from wood scraps-but I like them for keeping the aluminum fence safely away from the blade, especially when ripping thin strips or slabs.

> -Tested by Bob Hunter, Tools Editor



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> > -Tested by Kevin Boyle, Senior Design Editor



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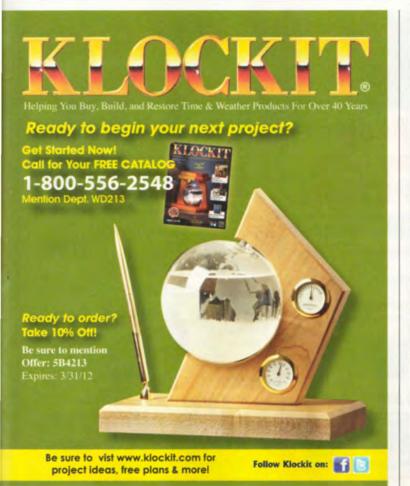
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> -Tested by Dave Campbell, **Editorial Content Chief**



I-Semble shelf blocks (47512)

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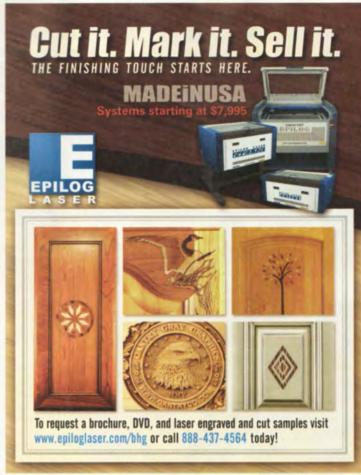
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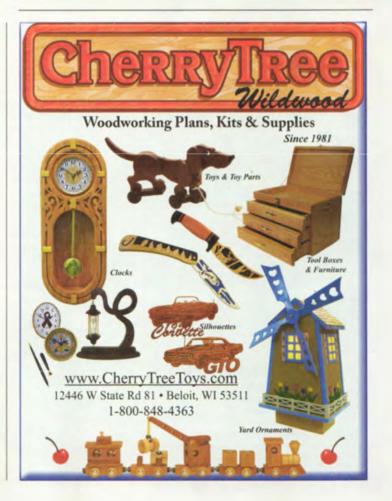
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Tools

There will be no shortage of tools to choose from. Find anything and everything you need in one place. Please visit our website for coupons and show specials for every show.

Clubs & Guilds

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Chicago Doctor Invents Affordable Hearing Aid Outperforms Many Higher Priced Hearing Aids

Reported by J. Page

CHICAGO: A local board-certified Ear, Nose, Throat (ENT) physician, Dr. S. Cherukuri, has just shaken up the hearing aid industry with the invention of a medical-grade, affordable hearing aid. This revolutionary hearing aid is designed to help millions of people with hearing loss who cannot afford—or do not wish to pay—the much higher cost of traditional hearing aids.

"Perhaps the best quality-toprice ratio in the hearing aid industry" – Dr. Babu, M.D. Board Certified ENT Physician

Dr. Cherukuri knew that untreated hearing loss could lead to depression, social isolation, anxiety, and symptoms consistent with Alzheimer's dementia. He could not understand why the cost for hearing aids was so high when the prices on so many consumer electronics like TVs, DVD players, cell phones and digital cameras had fallen.

Since Medicare and most private insurance do not cover the costs of hearing aids, which traditionally run between \$2000-\$6000 for a pair, many of the doctor's patients could not afford the expense. Dr. Cherukuri's goal was to find a reasonable solution that would help with the most common types of hearing loss at an affordable price, not unlike the "one-size-fits-most" reading glasses available at drug stores.

He evaluated numerous hearing devices and sound amplifiers, including those seen on television. Without fail, almost all of these were found to amplify bass/low frequencies (below 1000 Hz) and not useful in amplifying the frequencies related to the human voice.

Inspiration from a surprising source

The doctor's inspiration to defeat the powers-that-be that kept inexpensive hearing aids out of the hands of the public actually came from a new cell

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phone he had just purchased. "I felt that if someone could devise an affordable device like an iPhone® for about \$200 that could do all sorts of things, I could create a hearing aid at a similar price."

Affordable Hearing Aid With Superb Performance

The high cost of hearing aids is a result of layers of middlemen and expensive unneccesary features. Dr. Cherukuri concluded that it would be possible to develop a medical grade hearing aid without sacrificing the quality of components. The result is the MDHearingAid PRO®, starting well under \$200. It has been declared to be the best low-cost hearing aid that amplifies the range of sounds associated with the human voice without overly amplifying background noise.

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"I have a \$2,000 Resound Live hearing aid in my left ear and the MDHearingAid PRO® in the right ear. I am not able to notice a significant difference in sound quality between the two hearing aids." — Dr. May, ENT Physician

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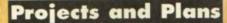


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