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dinosaur**



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WOODWORKING Plans & Projects



Hello and welcome to issue 66 of *Woodworking Plans & Projects*. Something's changed – the editor. Matt Long has

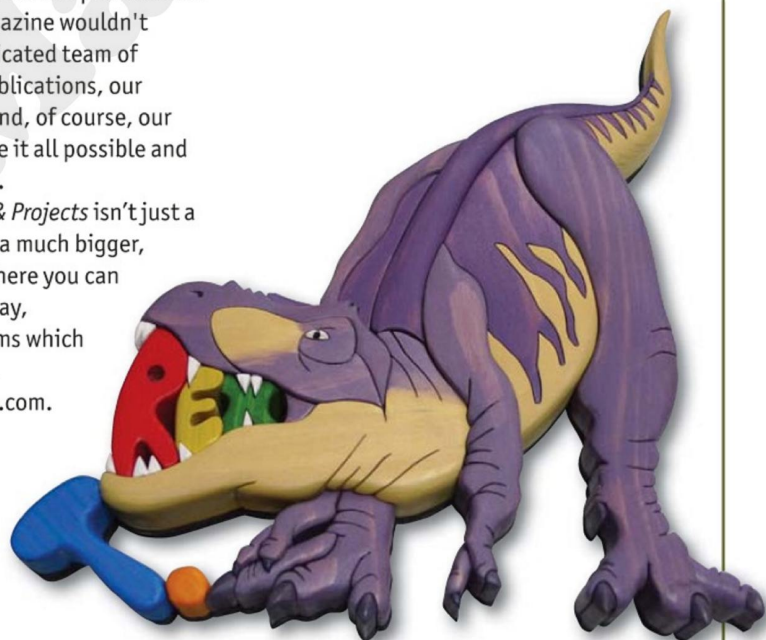
moved on to pastures new after more than two years in the post. We wish him all the very best with his new career move and much health and happiness with his new family life.

Matt brought you a number of new and interesting articles in the magazine, the very latest of which being the instantly popular Pocket Workshop Project series, intended for every man and woman working away in a much-cherished shed, making things for the home and garden.

This is a good opportunity for us to look again at the magazine and see how we can improve what is already, I believe, an excellent magazine for everyone who is a keen woodworker at any skill level, from a raw beginner through to the professional craftsman. The magazine wouldn't happen without a dedicated team of people here at GMC Publications, our regular contributors and, of course, our keen readers who make it all possible and very much worthwhile.

Woodworking Plans & Projects isn't just a magazine, it is part of a much bigger, friendly enterprise, where you can join in and have your say, especially on the forums which can be found at: www.woodworkersinstitute.com.

Turn to page 53 to see how Fred and Julie make this intarsia dinosaur



incorporating **ROUTER & POWER
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There are also lots of useful projects and technical information to be gleaned from our website – and it's all for free!

If you want to be part of our craft enterprise, why not let us know what project you are planning. If we like it we might even be able to publish it in the magazine so you can see 'your name in lights' as it were. Do let us know what you would like to see.

In the meantime I would like to give best wishes to all our readers, from deputy Miriam, designer Jan, myself and all the 'woodies' and rest of the crew at WPP HQ. Happy reading.

Anthony Bailey, Editor
Email: anthonyb@thegmcgroup.com

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Don't miss out on these vital hints for better woodworking

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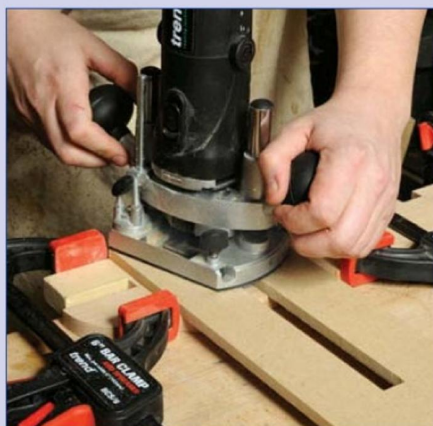
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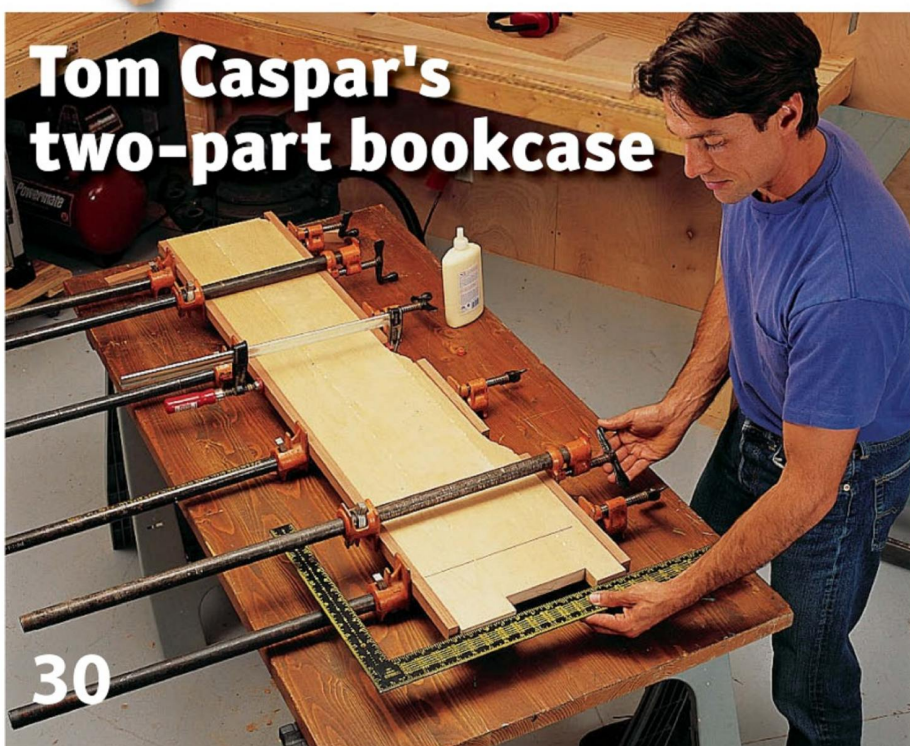
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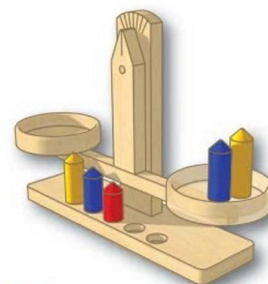


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Bullar builds: Joint cutting with machines & power tools



Part five of **John Bullar's** in-depth look at making a hallway settle

This series looks in detail at how to make an oak storage seat or settle. Previously we have seen how to get suitable timber and prepare it for furniture making. In the last article I used hand tools to make examples of the main joint

types for the construction of the settle. Now we will look at options for making the joints using powered tools.

One of the top side rails is shown here. It has a tenon to join into the back top rail, a slot to receive the end panel and the edges have been profiled to a friendly round shape



The piece of furniture you will see developing in this series is a settle – a combined seat and storage cabinet, made to stand in a

hallway. This series is intended to guide you through the processes of making furniture, and so the settle is just an example. You may want to modify the design or adapt the stages to your own project.

HAND OR POWER

The whole project can be completed by hand or by power, the choice is yours. Most makers use some combination of techniques, generally preferring power for large or repetitive tasks and hand tools for fine detailed work. The exact choice depends on the type of joint, the number of similar joints, the equipment they have access to and of course, their preferences and skills.

Last time we looked at cutting slots for the front panels with a plough plane. Although there are still old planes like this in many workshops, they are not commonly used tools, being largely replaced by the router. A much wider choice of routers are readily available in various different sizes and qualities.

Routing Slots

The biggest advantage of the router is its versatility. For cutting a slot like this it is quick and can be plunged down and up to start and stop at any point. There are also some snags to look out for when using a router. To start with, it is noisy and throws out dust in many directions if not properly shielded. It is also easy to burn the wood if the cutter is not sharp and well fitted.

Machined Joints

The corners between the back and sides of the top rail are connected with large mortise and tenon joints. There are dedicated machines and router jigs for cutting tenons but this time I am going to saw the tenon on a bandsaw.

Start by marking out the tenon. On large joints like this the width of the tenon is approximately one third the width of the wood. On finer joints the tenon is made proportionately thicker, but not more than half the thickness.

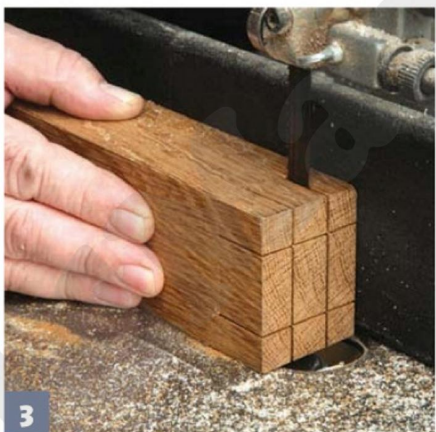
Bandsawn Tenons

The tenon cheeks are cut on the bandsaw up against the rip fence. The fence must be aligned parallel to the blade and positioned so that the blade cuts just on the waste side of the marked line. Be careful not to overshoot, stopping the cut smartly as the tips of the teeth reach the shoulder line.



1 You should ensure that the router base is well supported so it cannot wobble. Here I have clamped extra pieces of wood alongside for support.

Other precautions are to make a series of shallow passes and to always cut in the right direction. In this picture I am pushing the router away from me. This ensures that the force on the front edge of the cutter pushes the router fence against the wood. Getting this wrong could result in the router snatching and running away, perilously wrecking the wood or worse!



3 There are three more shoulder cuts to be made. So long as you get the fence position right you will not have to change it for subsequent cuts. Just check each time that the blade aligns so its teeth cut against the waste side of the mark



2 The nought and crosses pattern on the end-grain is marked with a cutting gauge as shown. It continues down onto the faces and edges following the grain direction to show the positions of the tenon shoulders. The line that cuts across the grain around about 25mm from the end marks the shoulder position. This is marked with a try-square and knife



4 The wood is turned through 90° on the bandsaw table in order to saw the shoulder lines. The rip fence must be moved back, either right out of the way or else positioned to keep the shoulder mark aligned with the blade. Again you need to keep the blade just against the waste side of the shoulder line

I use a sliding crosscut fence to steer the face of the wood into the blade. On my bandsaw this runs along a slot in the table. Some bandsaws don't have a big enough crosscut fence for this kind of job. Alternatively you can make your own crosscut guide using a large square-sided block running against the fixed rip fence.

The tenon is quickly sawn producing eight small offcuts. I recommend making a test piece on scrap first to avoid the risk of wasting carefully prepared components. Inspect the tenon to make sure everything is correctly aligned, especially the shoulder cuts which should have no ridges or grooves in them

MACHINED MORTISES

The sides of the mortise are marked out using the same setting on the cutting gauge that was used for the tenon. The ends of the mortise are marked with a knife and try-square and the ends are positioned to correspond with the length of the tenon.

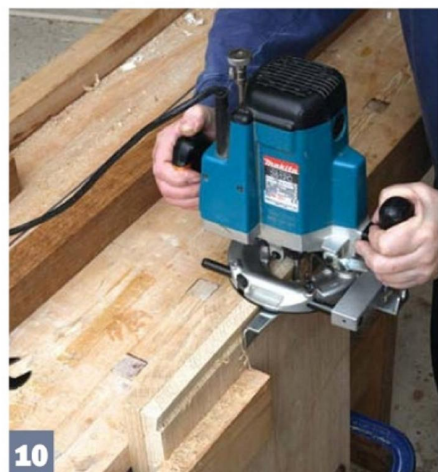


There are several ways you can machine cut the mortise; the most obvious being to use a dedicated hollow chisel mortiser. Alternatives to this would be to use a Forstner bit (left) in a drill press or a straight sided router bit designed for bottom cutting (right). Set the depth of cut about a millimetre more than the length of the tenon so there is no risk of the joint not seating

Using a drill or a router for cutting mortises has its advantages; you don't need dedicated machines and the cut is quick and clean. However, you will need to square up the round cornered socket with a chisel to match the tenon. Using a square sided chisel provides extra guidance for a well shaped mortise



KEYED HOUSING



The top of each of the settle's end panels is shaped with the dovetail cutter to form a profile matching the slot in the rail's underside. This joint will provide a strong vertical connection while still allowing some sideways motion. This prevents the wood from splitting with movement due to changes in moisture levels



Each of the panel ends is shaped on both sides to provide a dovetailed keyway to fit the slot in the rail. The pair of panels is clamped together to provide a wider ledge to perch the router base on for added stability. Even so, working along an edge like this required considerable care to hold the router steady



The final thickness of the profile needs to match the slot in the corresponding top rail. Initially this can be judged by measurements, shaving the edge down in a number of stages, trial fitting the rail each time until it slides in place with firm hand pressure

PROFILED SLOTS



The straight sided cutter removes material in several passes, working to the depth of the slot corresponding to the tenon's edge. The cutter is swapped for a dovetail cutter adjusted to the depth of the slot. The cutter must cut the side of the slot in one pass. The router fence is adjusted to move the cutter sideways. Remember the router must be moved in the opposite direction when shaping the other side of the slot.

The top rails are attached by slots that slide onto matching profiles on the end panels. The slots are cut in two stages, the first with a straight sided cutter (left), the second with a dovetail cutter (right) to undercut the sloping sides

MULTIPLE JOINTS



The vertical rails at the back of the settle can either be mortise and tenon jointed by hand as shown last time, or machine cut as we will see here. Either way, each rail needs to be marked up with the centre lines of the joints. The space between the ends must be divided up equally, in this case between eleven gaps for ten rails. So, for example if the gap between the end panels works out to be exactly 1199mm, the distance between each centre line will be 109mm

MULTIPLE DOMINOES



In this case I am using a Domino jointer to make slots in the top rail on each vertical rail's centre line. This is a proprietary system of loose tenon jointing with a number of sizes available



Corresponding Domino slots need to be made in each end of each of the ten rails and also in the edge of the mid-height horizontal back rail. This makes a total of twenty joints, forty slots in all. A quick easy system like the Domino is attractive for a large number of small joints like this but the other hand tooled or machined methods of tenoning could be used to similar effect



The Domino loose tenons are made from compressed beech so they will swell up when coated in water-based glue. This means they can be trial fitted dry with firm hand pressure and they should come apart easily without risk of jamming

LARGE CUTTERS



We have previously looked at chamfering edges for the front panels using a hand plane. This is pleasant work and the chamfer can be fine-tuned for a good fit. However one disadvantage is that a straight chamfer cut with a flat plane will jam if the wood swells. A shaped moulding cutter not only works quicker but produces a curved chamfered edge which makes more allowance for wood movement. Large cutters like this can only be used on a router table or spindle moulder, not in a hand-held router



Bearing-guided quadrant cutters can be used for shaping the profile on the top rail. Depending on the radius of the cutter it may be safe to use it in a hand-held router but it is generally better to use a router table as shown here ■

Next time we will see how to glue the joints, assemble the settle and clamp it together so everything sets straight and true.

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MODEL	MOTOR	NO. TURNING CAP (HP)	SPEEDS OVER BED /OUTBOUND	EX VAT	INC VAT
DML36SH	1/3	4	9"/12"	£249.98	£299.98
CL3-CAM	3/4	5	12"/30"	£429.00	£514.80

Clarke WORKBENCH

CWB1250
FROM ONLY **£89.98** EX VAT
£107.98 INC VAT

- Robust steel workbench
- Extra thick, reversible plywood faced worktop
- Large lockable cabinet with storage shelves
- Tough steel drawer

Clarke BOLTLESS SHELVING BENCHES

Simple fast assembly in minutes using only a hammer

FROM ONLY £29.98 EX VAT £35.98 INC VAT

CHOICE OF 5 COLOURS
RED, BLUE, BLACK, SILVER & GALVANISED STEEL

150 (evenly distributed) Strong 9mm fibreboard shelves **PER SHELF**

350 (evenly distributed) Strong 12mm fibreboard shelves **PER SHELF**

MODEL	SHELF DIMS WxDxH(mm)	EX VAT	INC VAT
150Kg	800x300x1500	£29.98	£35.98
350Kg	900x400x1800	£49.98	£59.98

Clarke 1" BELT & 5" DISC SANDER

CBS1-5
FROM ONLY **£59.98** EX VAT
£71.98 INC VAT

- 5" dia. circular sanding disc runs at 2,800rpm
- 1" x 30" sanding belt operates at 13.5 metres/sec.

Clarke DISC SANDER

CDS-300
FROM ONLY **£119.98** EX VAT
£143.98 INC VAT

- Fine finishing, accurate sanding & shaping
- 750w input power
- Disc Dia. 305mm
- 45° tilting table
- Dust extraction facility

Clarke RANDOM ORBITAL SANDERS

CROS1
FROM ONLY **£24.98** EX VAT
£29.98 INC VAT

- For sanding & polishing
- 125mm diameter sanding discs
- 4000-11000 opm

BLACK & DECKER POWERFILE

KA900E
FROM ONLY **£49.98** EX VAT
£59.98 INC VAT

- Great for hard to reach areas
- 13mm wide belt, 120mm long arm
- 350w motor

Clarke 13" MINI WOOD LATHE

CWL325V
FROM ONLY **£119.98** EX VAT
£143.98 INC VAT

- Ideal for enthusiasts/hobbyists with small workshops
- 325mm distance between centres
- 200mm max. turning capacity (dia)
- 0.2Hp motor

Clarke HARDWOOD WORKBENCH

CHB1500
FROM ONLY **£109.98** EX VAT
£131.98 INC VAT

- Includes guide holes and bench dogs
- 2 heavy duty vices
- Large drawer for tool storage
- Dims: LxWxH 1520x620x855mm

Clarke PLANERS & THICKENERS

CPT600
FROM ONLY **£124.98** EX VAT
£149.98 INC VAT

- Ideal for DIY & Hobby use
- Dual purpose, for both finishing & sizing of timber
- Max planing width 152mm

MODEL	MOTOR	MAX THICK CAPACITY	EX VAT	INC VAT
CP-6	1100w		£124.98	£149.98
CPT600	1250w	120mm	£169.98	£203.98
CPT800	1250w	120mm	£189.98	£227.98

Clarke RANDOM ORBITAL SANDERS

CONTRACTOR CROS2
FROM ONLY **£49.98** EX VAT
£59.98 INC VAT

- For fast removal of paint or for fine swirl free finishing
- 6 x 150mm diameter sanding discs
- 4000-7000 rpm

Clarke STATIC PHASE CONVERTERS

PC60
FROM ONLY **£229.98** EX VAT
£274.80 INC VAT

- For use with drills, lathes, milling machines, circular saws
- Variable output power to match HP of motor to be run

ROTARY PHASE CONVERTERS ALSO AVAILABLE

CONVERT 230V 1PH TO 400V 3PH
FROM ONLY **£274.80** EX VAT
£329.80 INC VAT

MODEL	MAX. MOTOR HP	FUSE	EX VAT	INC VAT
PC20	2Hp	10amps	£229.00	£274.80
PC40	3.5Hp	20amps	£269.00	£322.80
PC60	5.5Hp	32amps	£319.00	£382.80

Clarke BISCUIT JOINTERS

BJ600
FROM ONLY **£49.98** EX VAT
£59.98 INC VAT

- 10,000rpm no load speed
- 600w motor
- 16mm max cutting depth
- 100mm cutting dia.

Clarke POWER PLANERS

CON1020
FROM ONLY **£22.98** EX VAT
£27.98 INC VAT

- 82mm cutting width

MODEL	INPUT POWER	DEPTH OF CUT	EX VAT	INC VAT
Clarke CEP1	650w	2mm	£22.98	£27.98
Clarke	1020w	3mm	£36.99	£44.39
CON1020				
Bosch PHO20-82	680w	2mm	£62.99	£75.59
Bosch GH026-82	710w	2.6mm	£109.98	£131.98

TACWISE NAILERS & STAPLERS

500EL
FROM ONLY **£37.49** EX VAT
£44.99 INC VAT

A range of professional Nailers from Tac-Wise

MODEL	TYPE	NAIL SIZE	EX VAT	INC VAT
181EL*	Nail	10-35mm	£37.49	£44.99
191EL*	Nail/Staple	10-35mm	£44.99	£53.99
400EL	Nail	20-40mm	£69.98	£83.98
500EL	Nail	20-50mm	£79.98	£95.98

PRICE CUTS! *was £47.98 inc VAT
*was £57.59 inc VAT

Clarke PLANERS & THICKENERS

CPT600
FROM ONLY **£124.98** EX VAT
£149.98 INC VAT

- Ideal for DIY & Hobby use
- Dual purpose, for both finishing & sizing of timber
- Max planing width 152mm

MODEL	MOTOR	MAX THICK CAPACITY	EX VAT	INC VAT
CP-6	1100w		£124.98	£149.98
CPT600	1250w	120mm	£169.98	£203.98
CPT800	1250w	120mm	£189.98	£227.98

EVOLUTION 255mm MULTIPURPOSE TABLE SAW

RAGE5
FROM ONLY **£269.98** EX VAT
£323.98 INC VAT

- Powerful 1800w/ 230v motor
- Max depth of cut (45°/90°) 55/79mm
- Includes TCT blade, mitre fence, wheel kit, folding stand, push stick, steel extensions
- Available in 110v & 230v

Clarke QUICK RELEASE ALUMINIUM SASH CRAMPS

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MODEL	SIZE	EX. VAT	INC. VAT
CHT374	600mm	£6.99	£8.39
CHT375	900mm	£7.99	£9.59
CHT376	1200mm	£9.69	£11.63

Clarke CR2 ROUTER

CONTRACTOR
FROM ONLY **£109.98** EX VAT
£131.98 INC VAT

- Includes 15 PIECE ROUTER BIT SET WORTH OVER £20 INC VAT
- Powerful heavy duty machine ideal for trade use
- Variable speed control from 7,400-21,600 rpm
- 2100w motor
- 0-60mm plunge depth

Clarke ROUTERS

RYOBI freud
FROM ONLY **£39.98** EX VAT
£47.98 INC VAT

*DIY # PRO

MODEL	MOTOR PLUNGE (W)	EX VAT	INC VAT
CRIC*	1200 0-50	£39.98	£47.98
Ryobi	1400 0-55	£87.99	£105.59
ERT1400RV#			
Trend TS#	1000 0-50	£169.98	£203.98
DeWalt DW622K-GB#	1400 0-55	£229.98	£275.98

Clarke CORDLESS DRILL/DRIVERS

BOSCH PSR18
FROM ONLY **£34.98** EX VAT
£41.98 INC VAT

MODEL	VOLTS	BATTS	EX VAT	INC VAT
CCD180	18v	1	£34.99	£41.99
CCD240	24v	1	£44.99	£53.99
Bosch PSR18	18v	1	£66.99	£80.39

Clarke WOODWORKING LATHES

CWL1000
FROM ONLY **£119.98** EX VAT
£149.98 INC VAT

- Centre to turning 1016mm
- Turning cap. 350mm
- Speeds 4
- EX VAT £99.98 INC VAT £119.98

MODEL	CENTRE TO TURNING (mm)	TURNING CAP. (mm)	SPEEDS	EX VAT	INC VAT
CWL1000	1016	350mm	4	£99.98	£119.98
CWL12D	940	305mm	5	£189.98	£227.98

Clarke CIRCULAR SAWS

GREAT RANGE IN-STORE

FROM ONLY £49.98 EX VAT £59.98 INC VAT

MODEL	MOTOR	MAX CUT	BLADE	EX VAT	INC VAT
FURY	1200w	54/35mm	185/20	£49.98	£59.98
Clarke	1300w	60/45mm	185/20	£64.99	£77.99
CCS-2	1200w	66/46mm	190/30	£94.99	£113.99
Makita 5704RK					
Rage	1050w	54/35mm	185/20	£89.98	£107.98

Clarke MULTIPURPOSE CIRCULAR SAW

FOR CUTTING WOOD, METAL & PLASTIC

- 500w motor
- 4500rpm no load speed
- 35mm max. cut

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FROM ONLY **£49.98** EX VAT
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- Router not included
- Converts your router into a stationary router table
- Suitable for most routers (up to 155mm dia. Base plate)

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ROUTER TABLE

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- Mitre gauge
- Adjustable blade guard

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Clarke BOSCH JIGSAWS

CJS380
FROM ONLY **£14.98** EX VAT
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*DIY # Professional

MODEL	POWER (W)	DEPTH OF CUT (WOOD/STEEL)	EX VAT	INC VAT
Clarke CJS380	420w	55/6mm	£14.99	£17.99
B & D KS600	450w	60/5mm	£32.99	£39.59
Bosch PS7700	500w	70/4mm	£44.99	£53.99
Makita 4329	450w	65/6mm	£59.98	£71.98
Bosch GST1358C#	720w	135/10mm	£159.98	£191.98

Clarke 3 PCE CHISEL SET INCLUDED WITH CWL1000

SEE CATALOGUE FOR ACCESSORIES

MODEL	CENTRE TO TURNING (mm)	TURNING CAP. (mm)	SPEEDS	EX VAT	INC VAT
CWL1000	1016	350mm	4	£99.98	£119.98
CWL12D	940	305mm	5	£189.98	£227.98

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MODEL	DEPTH OF CUT	EX VAT	INC VAT
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Clarke DRILL PRESSES

• Tables tilt 0-45° left & right
• Depth gauge
• Chuck guards
• Bench mounted
• Floor standing

MODEL	WATTS/ SPEEDS	EX VAT	INC VAT
CDP500	250/5	£64.99	£77.99
CDP101B	245/5	£74.99	£89.99
CDP151B	300/5	£99.98	£119.98
CDP10B	370/12	£139.98	£167.98
CDP301B	510/12	£184.98	£221.98
CDP451F	510/16	£224.98	£269.98
CDP501F	980/12	£399.98	£479.98

Clarke SCROLL SAWS

• 120v, 230v motor
• 50mm max cut thickness
• 400-1,700rpm variable speed
• Air-borne removes dust from cutting area

MODEL	MOTOR	SPEED RPM	EX VAT	INC VAT
CSS400B	85w	1450	£59.98	£71.98
CSS16V	120w	400-1700	£79.98	£95.98

Clarke DUST EXTRACTOR/CHIP COLLECTORS

• Powerful 750w motor
• 57 litre bag capacity
• Flow rate of 850M3/h

MODEL	MOTOR	FLOW RATE	BAG CAP.	EX VAT	INC VAT
CDE35B	750w	850 M3/h	56Ltrs	£129.98	£155.98
CDE7B	750w	850 M3/h	114Ltrs	£139.98	£167.98

Clarke DUST EXTRACTOR

• 50 litre tank capacity
• 183 m³ flow rate
• 1100W input wattage

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17 STYLES TO CHOOSE FROM

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Clarke 12" CONTRACTORS SAW

INDUCTION MOTOR

• 1600w motor
• 315/30mm blade / bore diameter
• 90mm max cut depth at 90°

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Clarke 16" VARIABLE SPEED SCROLL SAW

WITH FLEXI DRIVE AND WORKLAMP

• Parallel action arm design produces quick, accurate cuts in wood and plastic
• 50mm cutting depth
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INCLUDES 64 PIECE KIT

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Clarke ELECTRIC DRILL SHARPENER

• Gives blunt drill bits a razor sharp cutting edge
• Quick and easy to use
• Built in drill bit guide ensures sharpening at the correct angle

DRILL POWERED VERSION ALSO AVAILABLE, ONLY £6.99 EX VAT £8.39 INC VAT

FROM ONLY £21.99 EX VAT £26.39 INC VAT

Clarke TURBO AIR COMPRESSORS

• Superb range ideal for DIY, hobby & semi-professional use

BIG 2HP 7.8CFM

CLARKE 8MM AIR HOSE FROM ONLY £5.99 EX VAT £7.19 INC VAT

FROM ONLY £79.98 EX VAT £95.98 INC VAT

Clarke HEAT OUTPUT

MODEL	HEAT OUTPUT	EX VAT	INC VAT
Pot Belly	6.9kW	£79.98	£95.98
Pot Belly L	9kW	£119.98	£143.98
Pot Belly XL	9.2kW	£189.98	£227.98
Thames	4kW	£179.98	£215.98
Barrel	11.8kW	£199.98	£238.98
Boxwood	7.16kW	£199.98	£239.98
Boxwood Deluxe	14.3kW	£299.98	£359.98
Buckingham	6kW	£249.98	£298.98
Parlour	11.25kW	£299.98	£359.98
Regal II	6.8kW	£339.98	£407.98
Cottage II	6kW	£349.98	£419.98
Junior Victoria II	7kW	£369.98	£443.98
Pembroke	12kW	£429.98	£515.98
Victoria	12.9kW	£449.98	£538.98
Mayfair	8.5kW	£399.98	£478.98
Majestic	13.2kW	£499.98	£599.98
Richmond	9.2kW	£579.98	£694.80

£ was £239.98 inc VAT # was £335.98 inc VAT
£ was £574.80 inc VAT

Clarke MITRE SAW STAND - CUTS 1

• Suitable for most sizes / makes of saw
• Inc. outriggers & rollers

FROM ONLY £69.98 EX VAT £83.98 INC VAT

Clarke EVOLUTION MITRE SAWS

• Quality range, ideal for cross, bevel & mitre cutting
• 45° tilting blade & table
• Dust extraction system

MODEL	BLADE DIA. BORE	MAX CUT DEPTH/CROSS	EX VAT	INC VAT
Fury 3	210/25.4mm	60/200mm	£114.98	£137.98
Evolution 255/25.4mm	75/300mm	£169.98	£203.98	
Range 3	260/30mm	90.5/95	£189.98	£227.98
Makita LS1040	254/30mm	90/305mm	£214.98	£257.98
Ryobi EMS206SCL				

Clarke INDUSTRIAL ELECTRIC FAN HEATER

• Rugged fan heaters for small to medium sized premises
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Clarke WOODWORKING VICES

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MODEL	MOUNTING	JAW (WIDTH/OPENING) /DEPTH/INCH	EX VAT	INC VAT
Clarke BTAC200	Bolted	150/152/61	£12.49	£14.99
Tiger 8/44	2 Ho	7.8	£241.98	£293.98
Tiger 8/64	2 Ho	7.8	£501.98	£603.98
Tiger 9/24	2.5 Ho	8.7	£241.98	£293.98
Tiger 9/60	2.5 Ho	8.7	£501.98	£603.98

Clarke WHETSTONE SHARPENER

• Produces accurate razor sharp cutting edges on chisels, scissiors, tools etc
• 120w motor
• Grinding disc dims: 200mm dia x 40mm x 12mm bore
• Wet bath

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Clarke 10" SLIDING MITRE SAW ON BASE

• For easy, precise and smooth cutting of wood parts
• Carbide tipped saw blade
• Rotating table for precise angle cuts ranging between -52° and +60°

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Clarke 10" SLIDING MITRE SAW

• For fast, accurate cross, bevel & mitre cutting in most hard & soft woods
• 1800rpm
• 6000rpm

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• A range of compact, high performance wet & dry vacuum cleaners for use around the home, workshop, garage etc.

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Clarke BANDSAWS

INCLUDES STAND

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Clarke 6" BENCH GRINDER WITH SANDING BELT

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BAILEY'S ROUTER CLASS

Hexagonal planter



Anthony Bailey

creates a charming wooden planter to hide your plastic pots inside



THE PROJECT

This hexagonal wooden planter is a rather charming way to present your indoor plants. It not only looks good and can be made in a variety of sizes and suitable timbers, but it has made use of a rather nifty jig and method for using your router table as an edge planer.

Now that spring is upon us you can show off all your plants to good effect and hide any of those unsightly plastic pots in the process!



The router is still the most versatile power tool there is. Along with a vast range of cutters, jigs and gadgets – many of which you can make for yourself – it can help produce high-quality woodworking. This series is intended to show you what the router can do, while assuming the reader has a general level of woodworking knowledge.

We hope to show you the aspects of each project that specifically involve the router and how this great bit of kit can expand your woodworking skills to produce great projects.

Each month we highlight the jigs, cutters and gadgets you need to get more from this incredible machine. Feel free to send us pictures of your routing endeavours, or post them on the WPP forum at:

www.woodworkersinstitute.com

THE JIG



In order to make a hexagonal structure you need to machine timber at an angle of 30° . A jig is required if you do this with a router on the table but first the fence requires packing out at the outfeed side to turn it into an edge planer. I used two thicknesses of veneer and double-sided tape to achieve this. Next with a long straight cutter and with the packed out, outfeed side level with the edge of the cutter, I successfully planed a board of maple. You can also straighten a crooked edge by machining the offending section and then re-running the entire edge



Having achieved the basic requirement you now need to making up a slanted jig using some 30° wedge shaped pieces with a thin board on the top surface



Pin the board on carefully so the wedges are firmly fixed in line with one another so there are no dips or bumps



Now fix a thicker strip of ply or MDF along the back of the jig. This will help hold it all together and make it possible to clamp it in place



The finished jig should look like this. We can now fit it to the router table



The jig needs to be clamped in place using clamps that do not stand up too high so they cannot interfere with the workpiece as it is pushed through



If you find the workpiece catches on the outfeed side use a knife or chisel to bevel the leading edge of the tape back

THE CUTTERS

Just three cutters are needed: a longish straight cutter, either 16 or 19mm dia, a 6mm groover mounted on an arbor and a large rebate cutter with a removable bearing in case you need to adjust the groove depth. All these cutters are on ½in shanks



MAKING IT



I decided on the size of pot I wanted and cut the timber for the hexagon to width. Then the lengths were machined on the jig with the straight cutter fully raised so it can cut the entire width of each edge. The first cuts take away very little but it doesn't take long to reach a fully bevelled edge



A finished section which when measured was remarkably parallel. It now needs to be cut into finished lengths



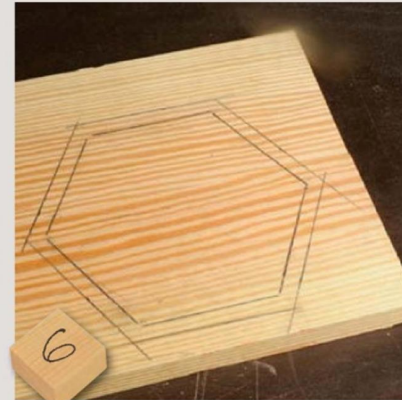
Each section needs a slot to take a loose tongue. This is done with a 6mm groover on an arbor raised up sufficiently so the slot is close to the inside edge preventing the outer edge breaking off. The jig has been pulled away slightly so the edge of the bevel sits low down to assist the slot positioning. Note the outfeed packers have been removed



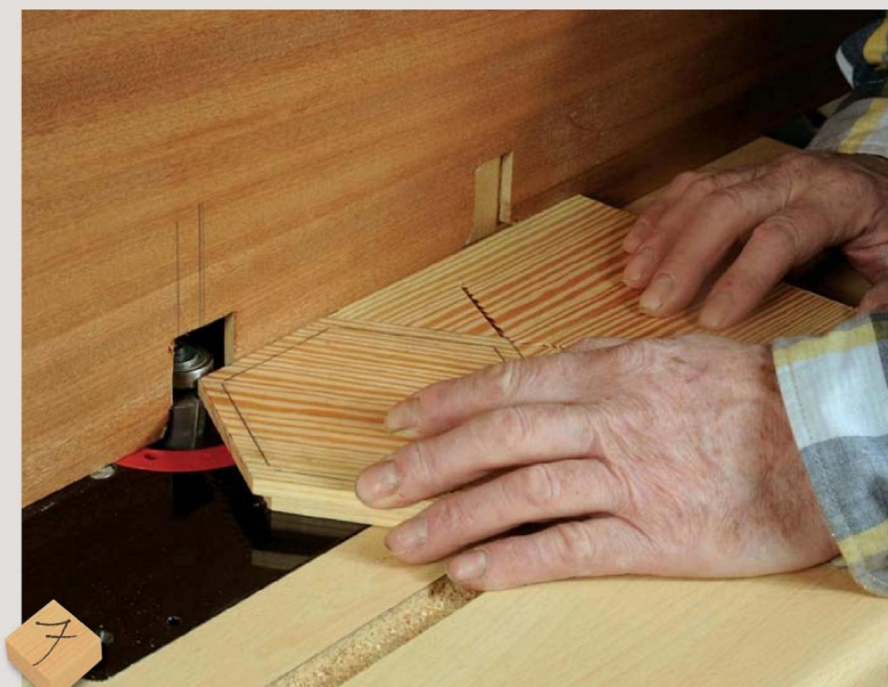
The bottom will also fit in a groove. Each component is run across the groover with the pushblock behind for safety



A dry fit using ply strips as loose tongues shows just how successful this machining procedure really is



The planter bottom blank is marked out by sitting the dry assembled planter on the board and drawing inside then marking an inner line that represents the amount of tongue required to fit in the grooves made in the side pieces



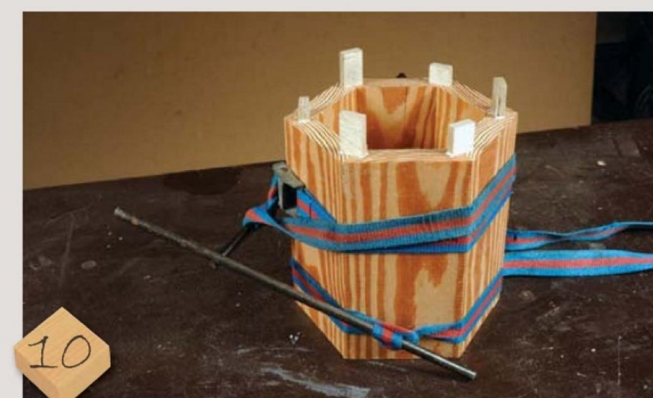
The bottom has its tongue formed using a rebate cutter and a breakthrough fence for safe, even working. Note the waste from cutting out the bottom is used as a perfect push piece



The finished bottom with a tongue formed all round. Check it fits the side grooves before assembly



The loose tongue position which stops short of fouling the planter bottom when inserted



An old technique but using modern luggage straps and spare fence rods – the Spanish windlass. This is necessary in order to persuade the glue to be exuded from the grooves. Wipe up surplus glue and leave to set



The loose tongues are trimmed off flush and the planter sanded to a finish all round ready for a varnish coat

Router torque

Q I use a lot of straight cutters in my work especially using manmade boards but it doesn't seem worth getting them resharpended because there aren't many saw doctors around these days and the cost is high. Is there a better alternative?

A For some years now it has been possible to buy replacement tip blades such as these ones from Wealden. The initial outlay is obviously higher but you get reversible blades with no less than four cutting edges on the square type and you can simply buy and fit new blades when the old ones dull. ■

Email your router questions to:
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Instead of resharpening cutters, it's possible to buy replacement tip blades

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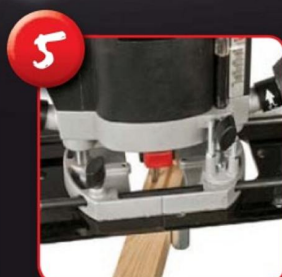
Router Compass



**Clamp Guide
Adjustable Grooving**



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YOU WILL NEED

- Plywood or MDF for jig • PVA glue
- Dovetail cutter guidebush
- Biscuit jointer • Flushcut saw
- No. 10 biscuits • Rebate cutter
- Contrast timber for keys
- Miller dowels • Twinfast screws

Spline dovetailed box



Andy Standing
makes a box for
your planes

Boxes can be very rewarding to make. They can be as simple or complex as you like and there is always scope for a little decoration. Making small boxes is also a good way to use up timber offcuts which might otherwise be wasted. This design incorporates a sliding lid and the corners are enhanced with spline dovetails. To achieve this you will need to make a simple jig for your router so you will need some plywood or MDF.



Begin, as always, by marking out your plank. Crosscut the two box sides and the front panel. Leave them all overlong at this stage to allow space for the mitre joints



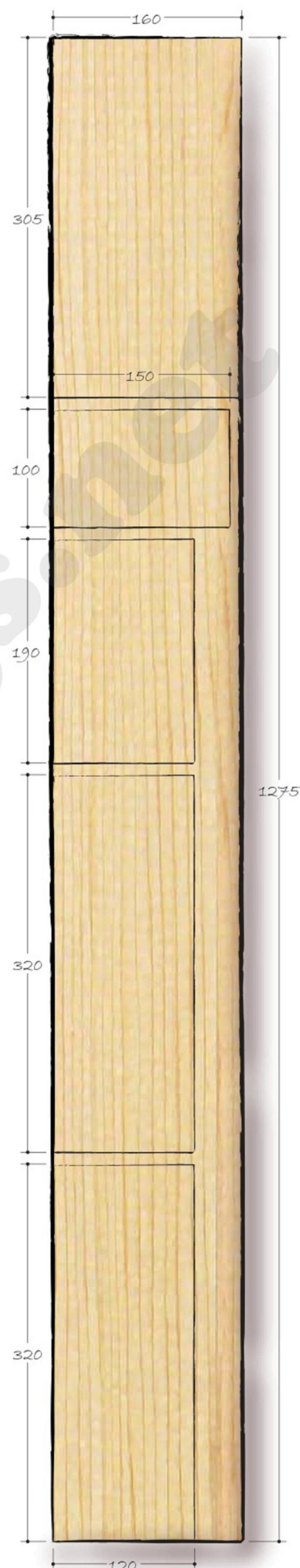
Rip to width

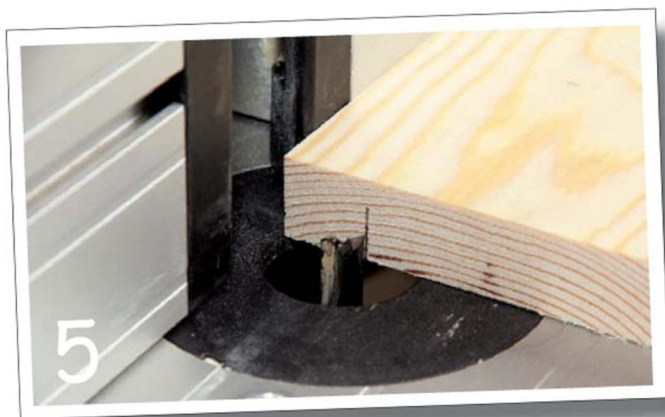


Before cutting the mitre joints, ensure that your saw is accurately set up to cut your 45° angle. Cut a mitre on one end of each side and on both ends of the front panel. Roughly assemble the three sides and measure the length of the rear panel, which will be butt-jointed between the two sides. Cut it to length, but don't worry about its width yet



The sliding lid runs in a groove cut into the two sides and the front panel. To mark the position of the groove, take an offcut of the plank and stand it on edge on the box side, flush with the top edge. Mark off the thickness





To make the groove, fit a straight cutter to your router table. Choose a cutter half the thickness of the timber, aligning it so the groove is above the line on the side panel. Set the cutter height so the groove depth is a third of the side's thickness. Machine the groove on the inside face of both sides and the front end panel



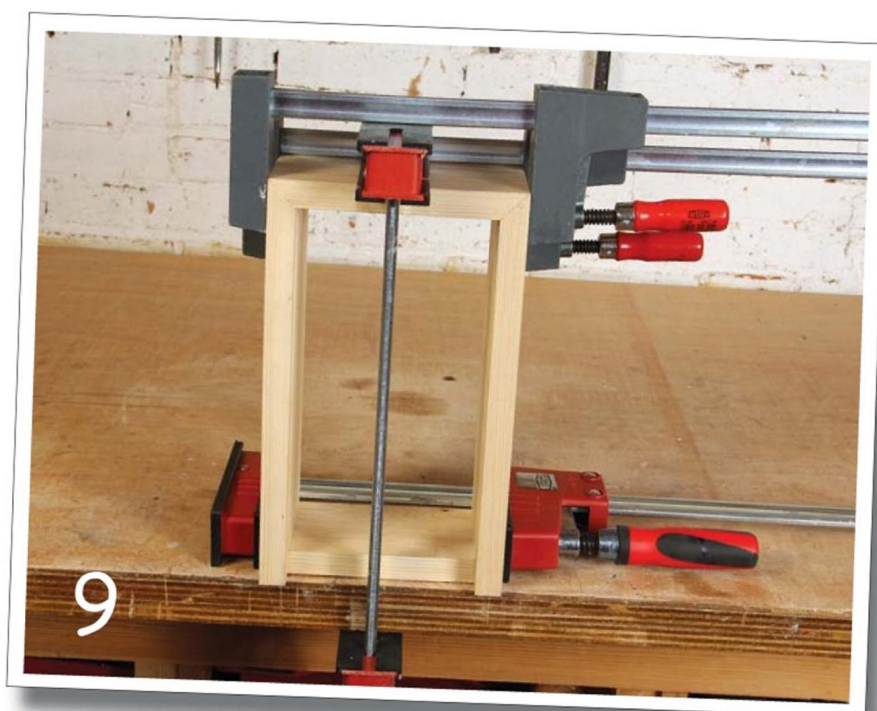
Take the rear end panel and lay it on top of one of the side pieces. The top of the end panel must reach the groove, so mark this up and rip the panel to size



The box is held together using biscuit joints. So assemble the components and mark the position of the biscuits



Cut the joints



Apply the glue, assemble and clamp the box



To cut spline dovetails you need this simple plywood, MDF or timber jig. The top must be large enough to support the router. A slot in the top is machined to fit a 24mm router guidebush, but any size will do



The 'V' shape of the jig is set to 90° and each side 45° to the guidebush plate. This jig is used to cut your spline dovetails in your box corners



A 'setting bar' makes it much easier to line up the jig. This is simply a length of timber or MDF that is precisely planed to fit into the guidebush slot. It has its centre clearly marked



The router fitted with dovetail cutter and guidebush



The dovetails will only be inserted on the mitred corners, so mark their positions with a pencil



Clamp the box in a bench vice and, using the setting bar, align the jig with one of the marks



Clamp the jig in position. Set your router cutter so that it will cut a slot about 10mm deep in the box corner



Place your router on the jig and make sure that the cutter is securely locked down. It must not be raised as it might damage the cutter and/or the guidebush. Start the router and gently push it forward to cut the joint. Switch off and do not lift the router out until the cutter has stopped revolving



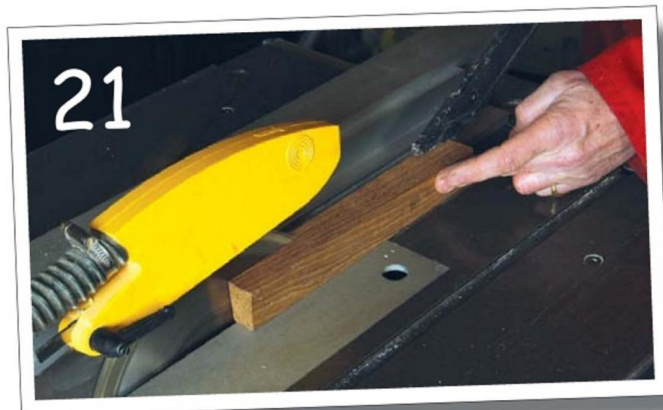
To prevent breakout as the cutter exits, make a cut at the rear of the slot by standing the router at the end of the jig, start the motor and gently pull it back to the box corner. Push it back and forward, switch off and remove the router and cut



The result should look like this



Remove the dovetail cutter from your router and use it to set the angle of your sliding bevel. Use this to set the tilt on the blade of the table saw



Set your rip fence a little wider than the base of the dovetail slot. Take a short length of timber and rip it down both sides. Move the fence away from the blade and lie the timber on its side with the blade still tilted



You can now take a series of shaving cuts along the bottom edge of the timber until it is a snug fit in the dovetail slots



Once the fit is good, cut the timber into six short lengths and apply a little glue to the dovetail slots. Tap the timber in with a hammer



Use a flush-cutting pull saw to trim off the waste. If you do not have one, you can use a normal saw to trim most of the waste and then plane off the last bits



Sand the corners to a smooth finish



The next job is to fit the base. This is a piece of thin ply or MDF which sits in a rebate. Fit your router table with a bearing-guided rebate cutter



To set the depth of the rebate accurately, take a piece of the baseboard and place it on the router table. Set the cutter height level with the top of the board



Stand the box on the router table with the cutter inside it. Start the router and gently machine the rebate in the base. Remember to avoid climb cutting, so start your cut in the middle of one side, then rotate the box clockwise



29 The completed rebate. Measure the size and cut a piece of the baseboard to fit. You will need to round the corners to fit the rebate



30 Apply a little glue to the rebate and fix the baseboard in place with panel pins, or just clamp in place and wait for the glue to go off, if you prefer



31 Measure the width of the top into the groove. Measure the length as well. Cut a board to width, but leave it overlong at this stage



32 Use a rebate cutter to cut the rebate on the top edge of the box top, so that it leaves a tongue to run in the groove on the box. Machine the rebate on both sides and one end of the lid. Fit the lid and then trim it to length



33 In order to balance up the look of the box, I decided to decorate the other two corners with contrasting dowels. Miller dowels were used here, but any dowel will do. Mark out the positions



34 Drill the holes for the dowels which hold the end side in place



35 Tap the dowels into place and trim them flush



36 An additional dowel was used as a handle for the sliding lid. And there we are... job done! ■

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Turning by numbers... Birch plywood bowl



Mark Sanger shows you how to create a simple birch plywood bowl



PHOTOGRAPH BY GMC/ANTHONY BAILEY

Here, I wanted to make a simple bowl that had a contemporary twist. I decided to use birch plywood as it is a modern, contemporary material in comparison to the standard woods I use.

Plywood is a very versatile material. As well as being very stable in use it can be cut, carved, turned, moulded, laminated with other materials, stained and painted – to name just a few processes. While not new to turning, plywood can add a different perspective to the way that we normally work, and it opens up many possibilities for new design ideas.

There are various grades of plywood made for different applications. Here, I am using birch throughout ply, which is made from sheets of birch sandwiched together with alternating grain directions and resin to produce a product, which in this case, is used for kitchen cabinet carcasses.

Birch ply is available in 8 x 4ft sheets at around £45 per sheet. However, the number of pieces that can be made from one sheet makes it a cost-effective material.

One negative of using any plywood for turning is that the resins used to glue it together are very abrasive to cutting tools. This means that regular sharpening is required in order to obtain an efficient cutting action and finish. However, this, for me, is outweighed by the interesting effects that can be achieved.

Turning tools needed



25mm negative-rake scraper

6mm point tool

10mm bowl gouge

13mm bowl gouge

13mm skew chisel

Gluing & construction

Before we can turn the ply, it is necessary to glue up a suitable block for the project. This obviously varies from project to project (see the cutting list/diagram for the specific requirements). Here are some basic rules that should be applied for a successful outcome. The first is to always use good quality wood glue. Poor quality/cheap glues may not hold the laminated parts together when turned, resulting in possible damage to the project or injury to the maker. For this project, I chose to use UniBond's No More Nails as it is very strong when cured. Once the ply has been processed to the required sizes, you then need to remove all the rough edges using 120 grit abrasive. Check the faces of each part for blemishes and sand flat, if required. If good quality ply is used then this process should be minimal, if needed at all.

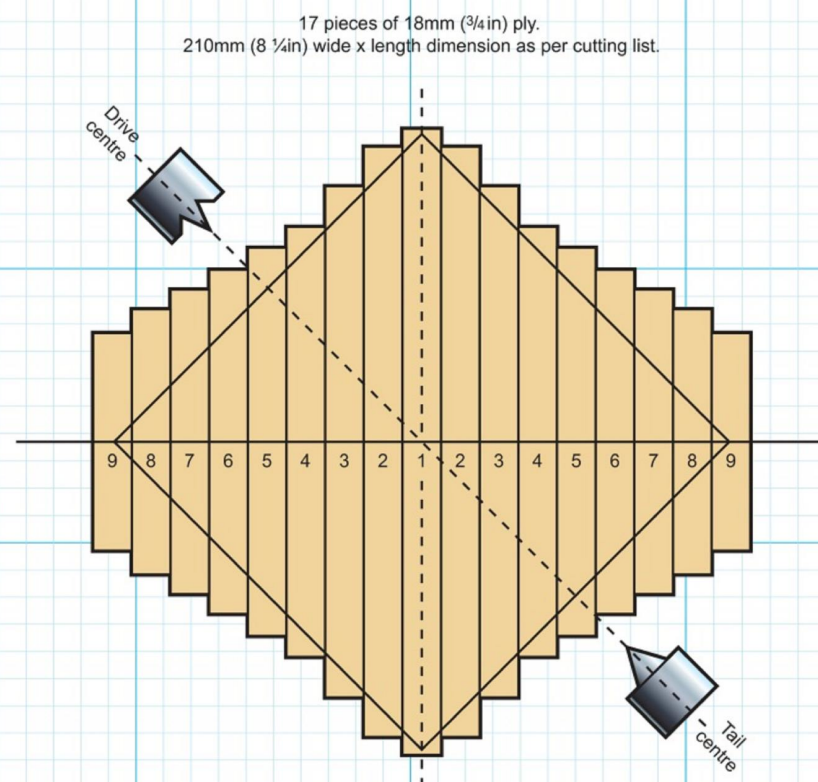
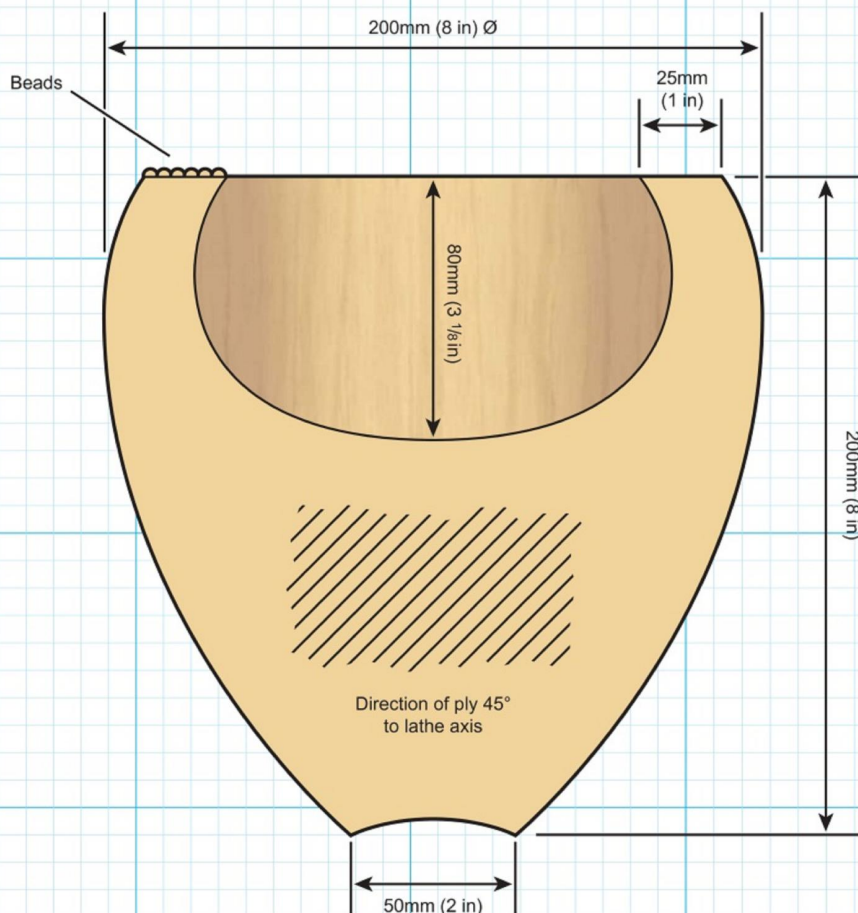
Cut the ply – as per the diagram – to produce a block measuring 210 x 200mm. The extra 10mm needs to be left for the chuck spigot. If you have a smaller saw then the components can be proportionally reduced to fit. Glue all the parts together then clamp and leave overnight for the glue to thoroughly set.

Draw a 200mm square on the edges of the ply block so that the direction of the ply runs through the block, as per the diagram. Cut this out on the bandsaw to remove the waste. Rotate the block so the face of the ply is facing upward and draw a 200mm circle centrally onto this face and cut the corners from this for an octagon, or cut the blank to a circle, if you prefer. Then place the blank between centres with the ply running diagonally to the axis of the lathe. This gives a more interesting effect than a horizontal or vertically orientated ply direction.

Cutting list & diagram

There is a total of 17 pieces.

- 1 x 210 x 320mm
- 2 x 210 x 300mm
- 2 x 210 x 260mm
- 2 x 210 x 220mm
- 2 x 210 x 200mm
- 2 x 210 x 180mm
- 2 x 210 x 140mm
- 2 x 210 x 120mm
- 2 x 210 x 100mm



1 Place the blank between centres and use a 12mm bowl gouge to rough down the outside to the round. You can, if you prefer, cut the corners of the blank away safely to make an octagon shape, but this is not essential.

2 Clean up the front face using a 12mm bowl gouge, working from the outside in towards the tailcentre.

3 Mark the diameter for the spigot on the base and remove the main material up to this line, using a 12mm bowl gouge.

4 Profile the spigot as necessary with a 12mm skew placed horizontally on the toolrest in a trailing mode.

5 Produce the main profile using a 12mm bowl gouge, working down towards the tailcentre.

6 Use a 25mm scraper in trailing mode to gently clean up any tool marks. Here I am using a negative-rake scraper, but a standard scraper will do. Due to cutting mostly end grain fibres within the ply, you will need to take very gentle cuts or tear-out will occur. If this is the case, return to a sharp gouge and take fine cuts. Leave the scraping process and go straight to finishing with abrasive.



1. Due to the abrasive nature of turning ply, it is essential that you keep your tools sharp throughout.

2. Preparation is the key, so leave enough time for the blank to be left during clamping to ensure adequate curing of the glue. Always read the manufacturer's instructions in relation to this.

3. Alternate layers of contrasting wood or acrylic can be glued between the sheets of ply to add interest. This is also a good way of developing your turning skills.

4. If you want to stain the ply then you need to do this before the sanding sealer is applied.

5. For much larger bowls, why not save material by cutting out donut shaped pieces of ply for the upper area of the form?

7 If any voids are revealed within the ply, as in the first photo, then take some of the fine shavings and rub them into the void. Drip high viscosity Cyanoacrylate adhesive into this and immediately rub over the area with 120 grit abrasive. This will produce fine dust which will fill the void.

8 Reverse the blank into the chuck and bring up the revolving tailcentre into the hole left by the drive centre. Clean up the front face to a safe distance from the centre using a 12mm bowl gouge.

9 To reduce the amount of wear on the gouge, and to aid material removal, drill out the centre of the bowl to a depth of 65mm using a 50mm Forstner bit.

10 Using a 10mm bowl gouge, profile the inside of the bowl so you are under-cutting the rim, whilst making sure that the hole left by the spur of the drill has been removed.

11 Using a 6mm point tool, produce beads on the top of the rim.

12 Finish the outside and inside of the bowl using abrasive from 120-400 grit. Finish the beads to the same grit by hand, folding the abrasive in half – this will allow you to get into the base of the beads.

13 Protect the lathe using kitchen towel and apply acrylic sealer.

Top tip

Birch-faced ply offers a great way of being able to build up small or large blanks, inexpensively. You can control the direction of the grain and whether to insert solid timber, acrylics etc. The primary construction method, i.e. gluing up, is fundamental to success.

If the glues fail, I will leave you to imagine the outcome.

So, good quality glue applied to clean surfaces, which is then clamped and left to dry properly before turning, is an absolute must.



14 Allow to dry then cut back with wire wool with the lathe running at around 300rpm. Apply several coats of acrylic satin lacquer, again, cutting back between coats when dry. Apply one final topcoat to finish. The sealer and lacquer need only to be applied halfway down the outside of the form, as the lower part of the profile will be finished during the next stage.

15 Reverse the bowl onto a friction drive and bring up the tailcentre. Refine the lower profile of the bowl using a 10mm bowl gouge.

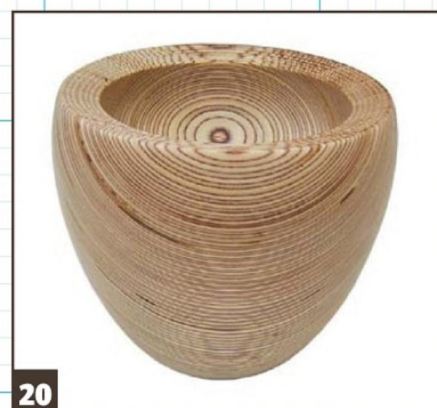
16 Reduce the waste section of the spigot and slightly concave the base profile of the bowl leaving around a 10mm diameter of material. Reducing the waste material more than this could result in the tailcentre pressure splitting the laminate apart.

17 Finish the base as before, using abrasive from 120-400 grit. Once complete, protect the lathe with kitchen towel and apply the acrylic sanding sealer. Repeat the cutting back process with wire wool and finally apply the acrylic satin lacquer, as before.

18 Remove the waste material using a fine blade saw. Be careful not to cut all the way through or the bowl will fall off the lathe.

19 Clean up the base using a power carver or sharp chisel. Finish with 120-400 grit abrasive. Apply acrylic sanding sealer and lacquer as before.

20 The contemporary birch plywood bowl is now complete. ■



Enjoyed this article?

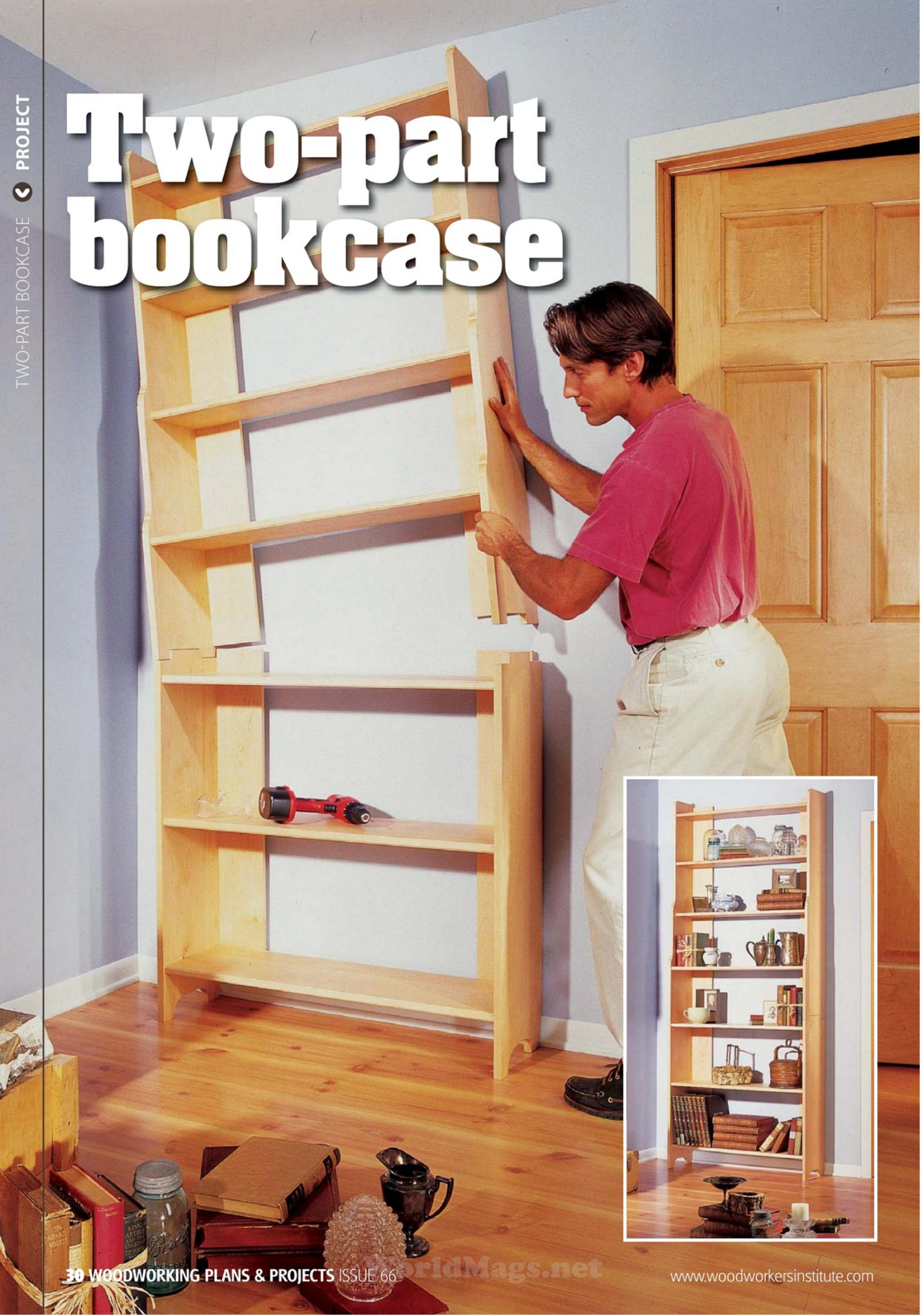
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<http://bit.ly/wKC7Rh>
2. Sue Harker's open segment involuted table lamp
<http://bit.ly/xfvabU>
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Two-part bookcase



Here's a big bookcase that you can build in a small shop by **Tom Caspar**

Building a tall bookcase can stretch the limits of a small shop. We all know that big boards can be hard to handle and glue-up, so I've taken an old Scandinavian design and sliced it up into bite-size pieces. My solution is to break the bookcase into two interlocking sections that require only short and narrow pieces. Not to mention, that's the only way I could get it out of my shop and up the basement stairs!

Biscuits join the shelves and sides. It's a snap to put together wide boards at right angles with a plate joiner. But biscuits alone aren't enough to make a stiff case, so I've added backboards that lock the whole bookcase into a rigid unit.

Materials and tools

Rather than splurge on the best quality lumber simply to make shelves, you can save money on this project by using a lower grade of hardwood: No. 1 Common. You'll find many good boards are too short or narrow to make the best grade but are perfect for this bookcase. I used No. 1 Common birch because it's inexpensive (about £1 per board foot), a light colour (the case looks smaller) and stiff enough to support heavy books.

Cutting list

Overall dimensions: H 88 x W 36 x D 11 in

Part	Name	Qty.	Dimensions
Upper Unit			
A	Rear board	2	$\frac{7}{8} \times 3\frac{1}{2} \times 52\frac{1}{4}$ in
B	Middle board	2	$\frac{7}{8} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times 51$ in
C	Front board	2	$\frac{7}{8} \times 2 \times 28\frac{1}{2}$ in
D	Back	2	$\frac{3}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times 50$ in

Glue together, thickness to $\frac{3}{4}$ in and trim bottom end so overall length is 52 in

Lower Unit

E	Rear board	2	$\frac{7}{8} \times 3\frac{1}{2} \times 36$ in
F	Middle board	2	$\frac{7}{8} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times 37\frac{1}{4}$ in
G	Front board	2	$\frac{7}{8} \times 2 \times 36$ in
H	Back	2	$\frac{3}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{2} \times 32\frac{1}{2}$ in

Glue together, thickness to $\frac{3}{4}$ in and trim middle board to fit notch in upper unit

Shelves

J	Wide shelves	4	$\frac{3}{4} \times 1 \times 34\frac{1}{2}$ in
K	Narrow shelves	3	$\frac{3}{4} \times 8 \times 34\frac{1}{2}$ in

Glue-up from $\frac{1}{8}$ in boards, thickness to $\frac{3}{4}$ in and trim to length

You'll need about 75 board feet for a total cost of £75.

As an alternative you can use $\frac{3}{4}$ in thick boards from a home centre. Pick straight ones, glue them together and plane them to $\frac{5}{8}$ in. I built a prototype bookcase this way and it worked just fine. To tell the truth, I preferred its slim look to one made of thicker wood. However, I found

that $\frac{5}{8}$ in thick shelves bend under a lot of weight, so they wouldn't be suitable for a set of encyclopedias.

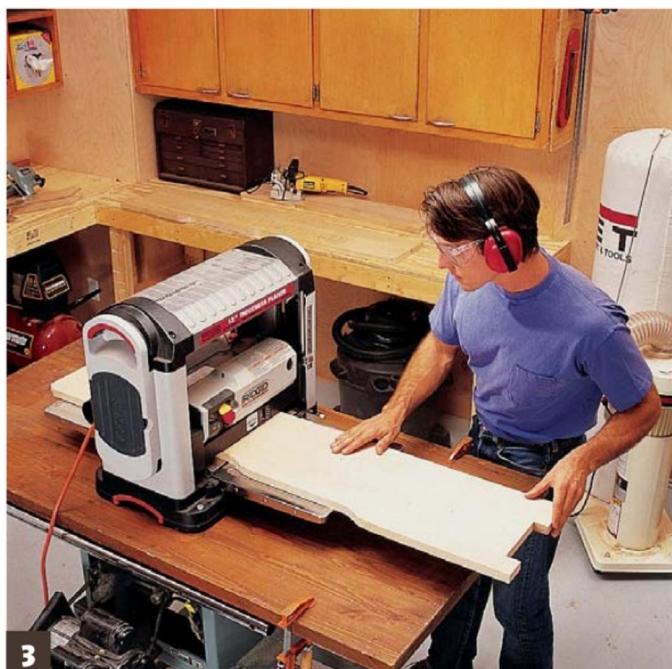
You'll need the three basic machines for processing solid wood to make this bookcase from rough lumber: a tablesaw, jointer, and planer. (If you build with pre-planed, $\frac{3}{4}$ in boards that have one straight edge, you can get by without a



1 Rip the stepped board on the bandsaw. A simple fence helps you make a straight cut. Stop the cut at the top of the ogee curve, withdraw the board, remove the fence and cut out the ogee



2 Glue the upper case sides from 1 in thick rough boards that are planed to $\frac{7}{8}$ in thick. This leaves some untouched low spots, but that's OK. Align the outside boards so their bottoms are even



3 Plane the glued-up case sides until there are no low spots left. All the parts of this bookcase should be the same thickness, which can be anywhere from $\frac{3}{4}$ in to a minimum of $\frac{1}{2}$ in



4 Cut biscuit slots in the ends of the shelves. You can't go wrong if you clamp each shelf in position, right above the double lines. Set the shelf in from the back edge by the thickness of one backboard

jointer.) A crosscut sled for your tablesaw isn't required but it sure makes life easier. In addition, you'll need a router, plate joiner, bandsaw, or jigsaw, an accurate framing square and eight pipe clamps to hold the case together during glue-up.

Any white or yellow glue works fine for the biscuit joints, because both glues contain the water needed to swell the biscuits. Use a special yellow glue with a long open-time if you're going to glue-up the cases by yourself and don't like working like a speed demon!

Preparing rough lumber

For the sides and backboards, select boards that don't have a pronounced twist. Twisted wood isn't worth the hassle. Rough cut your boards 1in over final length and $\frac{1}{4}$ in over final width.



Do you have a portable planer? Great, because we've kept every part less than 12in wide. That means you can flatten the sides and shelves with your planer.

Set your jointer to remove $\frac{1}{32}$ in. Run one face over the jointer only a couple of times. It's OK if this doesn't clean up the whole board.

Run the other face of the boards through a portable planer until most of the rough spots are gone and the boards are all about $\frac{7}{8}$ in thick. Don't sweat it if they end up a bit thinner. Then joint one edge, rip the boards $\frac{1}{32}$ in over final width and joint the second edge. Pay attention to boards 'B' and 'F' – they've got to be exactly the same width. Square one end and trim the boards to

exact length using a crosscut sled and a stopper arm.

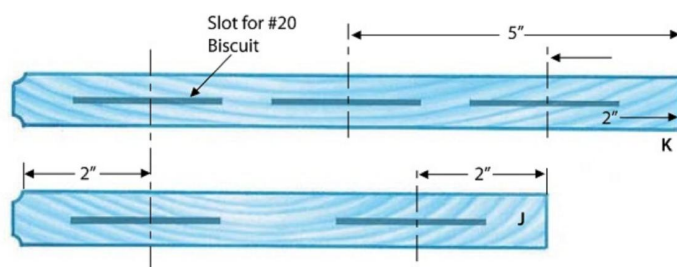
Gluing the sides

The upper and lower sides are composed of three boards that form a tongue and notch (Fig. F). There's no trick to getting the sides to nest together perfectly. It's simply a matter of being careful at glue-up.

Start with the upper sides. Lay out the ogee curves on boards 'C' and the cutouts on the top end of boards 'B' (Figs. C and D). Cut out the curves on the bandsaw (photo 1).

Figure A: Biscuit placement

No. 20 biscuits are strong enough to hold a shelf's weight. They won't shear off under a load because the grain of a biscuit runs diagonally



Do you buy lumber at a home centre? Go ahead and buy pre-thickened $\frac{3}{4}$ in boards. Our plans work fine with this time-saving wood or with No. 1 Common rough lumber.



5

Cut more biscuit slots in the case side. Stand the plate joiner up on end and butt it against the end of the shelf. Align the centre mark on the bottom of the machine with the pencil mark on the bottom of the shelf

Dry clamp boards 'A', 'B', and 'C' together. Boards 'A' and 'B' are flush at the top. Boards 'A' and 'C' are flush at the bottom. Check both ends with a straightedge, then draw an alignment mark across all three boards (photo 2).

Glue the upper sides together. Getting a perfect alignment end-to-end drove me nuts until I adopted the method of rubbing the boards together first, before clamping. Glue the lower sides the same way. Here all three boards are flush at the bottom.

Milling the sides and shelves

Plane both faces of the sides and backboards so they're $\frac{3}{4}$ in thick (photo 3). Congratulations if you've removed all the low spots, but don't hang your head if you haven't. You can plane all the boards thinner to $\frac{5}{8}$ in if that's what it takes. Remove all the mill marks by sanding with 100 and 120 grit paper.

To use the crosscut sled to trim the top and lower sides until they mate you must first saw off $\frac{1}{4}$ in from the bottom of both upper sides. This guarantees the bottoms are square and straight, leaving a 1in-deep notch. Then, trim the tongues of the lower sides until they fit

the notches. Because the middle boards ('B' and 'F') are exactly the same width, everything should fit tight as a glove.

Finish the lower sides by sawing the cutout at the bottom (Fig. E). It's easier to use a jigsaw than be a hero and try to balance the board on the small table of a bandsaw. Make a pattern of your baseboard moulding and cut out the back corner of the side so it will fit tight up against the wall.

Figure C:
Detail of top cutout

It's easier to cut this with a jigsaw than a bandsaw because it's hard to balance the board on a bandsaw's table

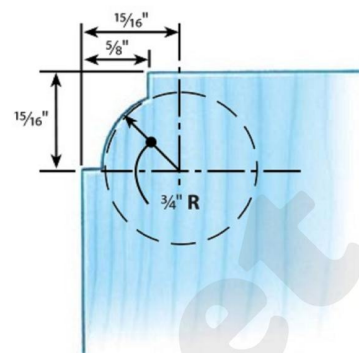


Figure D:
Details of ogee curve and shelf moulding

This is a 50 percent reduction. Make a copy, double its size on a photocopy machine, paste it onto an index card, and cut it out

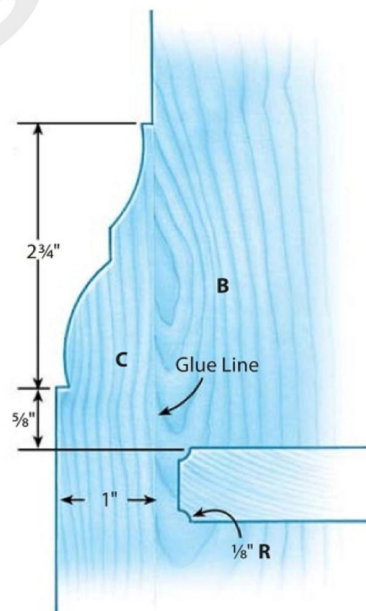
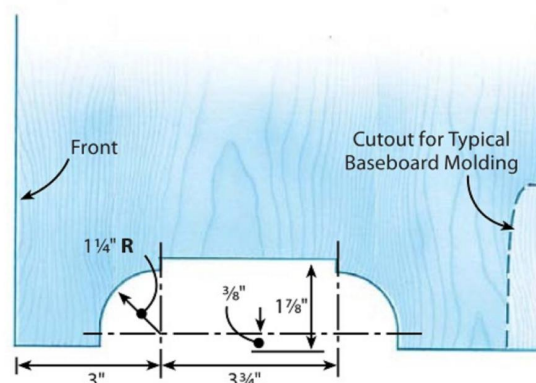


Figure E:
Detail of bottom cutout
Scribe the back of your bookcase to fit around your baseboard moulding. It should fit tight against the wall so the bookcase can be firmly anchored



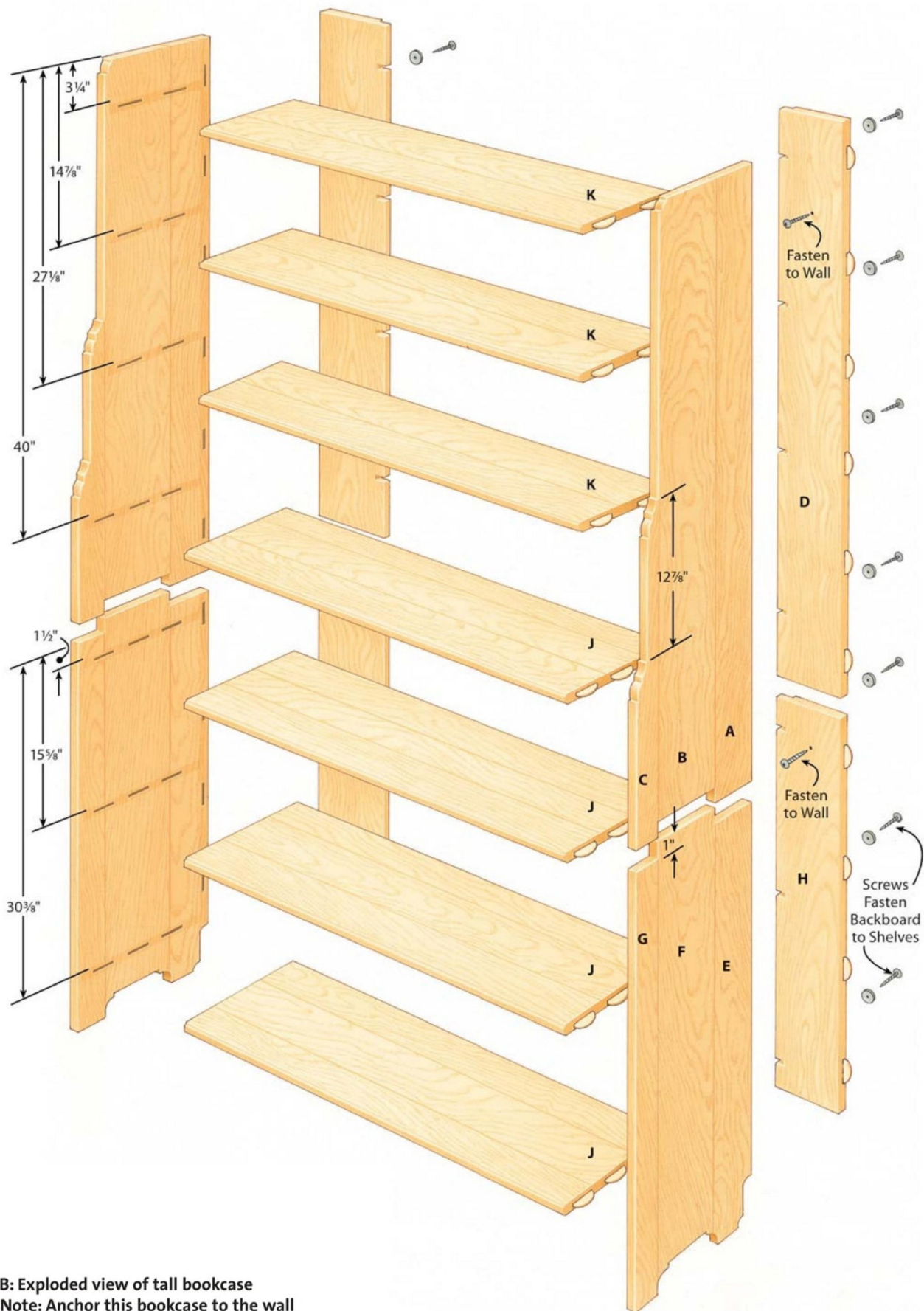


Figure B: Exploded view of tall bookcase
Safety Note: Anchor this bookcase to the wall with screws through the backboards so it can't accidentally tip over

Figure F: Connection between top and bottom
The top half of the bookcase fits snugly onto the bottom half. The lower backboards (H) prevent the top half from shifting side-to-side, and the notched sides lock in the top, front-to-back

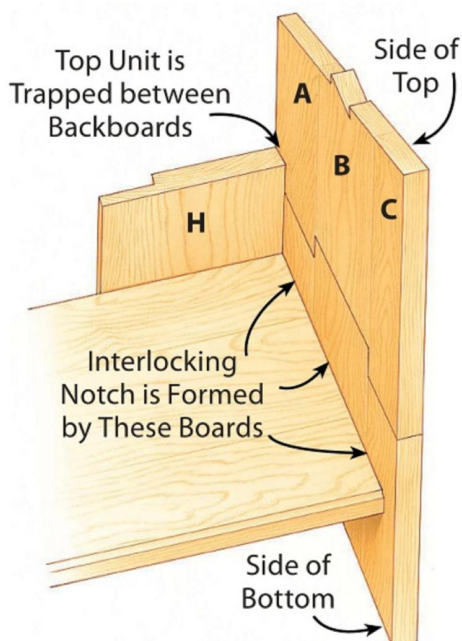
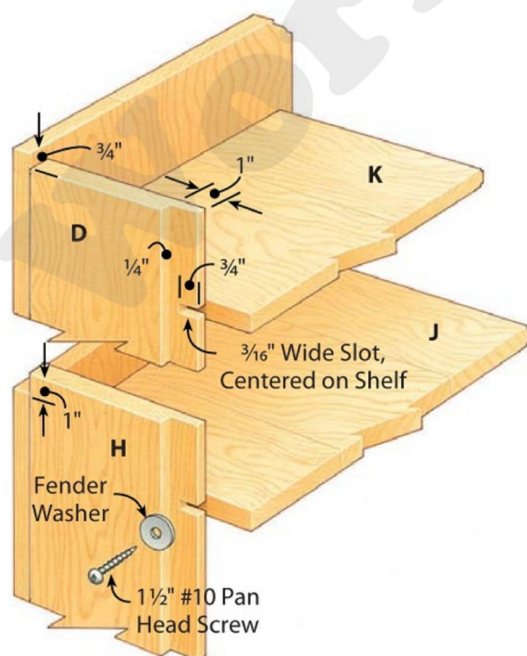
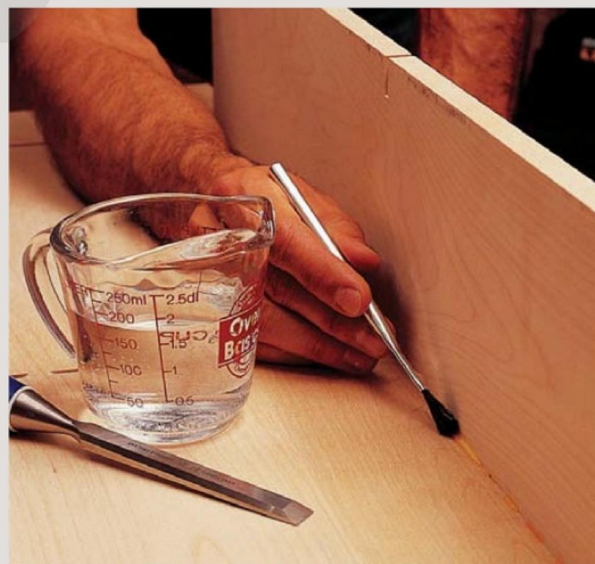


Figure G: Detail of shelf slots
Screwing the backboards to the shelves stiffens the bookcase, but an allowance must be made for the backboards to shrink and swell in width with the seasons. That's why the screw passes through a slot rather than a hole. The backboard is dadoed so the head of the screw doesn't stick out

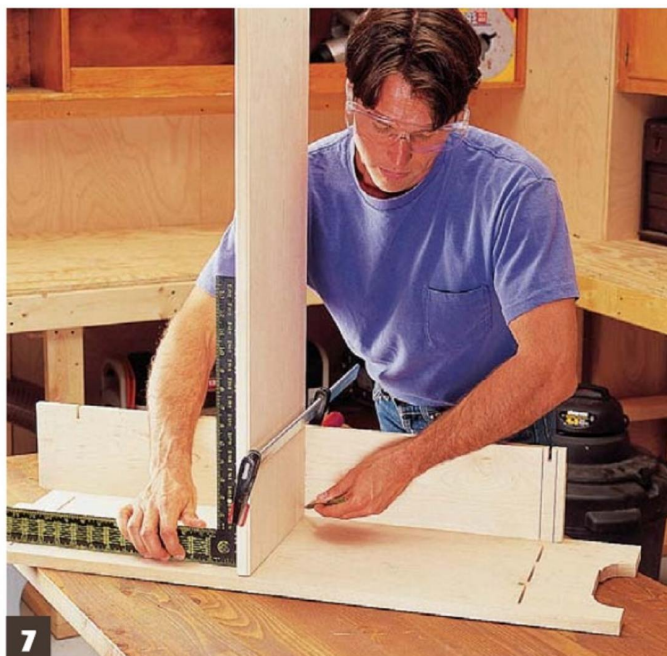


6
Glue the backboard onto the case side. Make sure it's square along the entire length. Check opposite each clamp as you tighten it down. Shift the head of the clamp in or out to change the angle of the backboard

Oops!



Nuts! We forgot to remove some squeezed-out glue before it dried! Finish won't stick to it, so the glue has to be removed before we can move on. Fortunately, yellow glue can be softened with hot water and scraped off with a sharp chisel days after it has dried. Hot water turns the clear glue back to its original yellow colour, so it's easy to see what must be removed. After scraping, wash the area with a rag dampened with hot water, let the wood dry and sand off the raised grain.



7 Mark the position of the shelves on the backboards with light pencil lines. These reference lines help you glue-up the entire case square. Clamp each shelf in place, without glue, and adjust it until it's square to the case side

Lay out the positions of the shelves on both the upper and lower sides (Fig. B). The shelves will be set in from the back of the sides by the thickness of the backboards. Draw this backboard layout line on the sides, too (photo 5).

Glue-up the shelves, thickness and sand them, then rout the moulding on their front edges (Fig. D). Trim them to length with the crosscut sled. Finally, lay out centre marks for the biscuits on the bottom faces.

Now for the easy joinery. Cut biscuit slots in the sides and shelves at the same time (photos 4 and 5). Use a framing square to make sure the shelves are clamped in the right place.

Fitting the backboards

If it weren't for the backboards, this bookcase wouldn't last a week. These hard-working boards help lock the upper and lower sections together, but more importantly they stiffen the case (Figs. F and G). Cut the backboards to length, place them in position on the case sides and lay out the slots for the screws (Fig. G). Cut the slots on the tablesaw. Stand the backboards on edge against a miter gauge and make two overlapping cuts with a standard saw blade. Then cut the dados for the screwheads.

Cut biscuit slots to join the backboards and case sides. These biscuits align the backboard flush with the side, but do not add strength. Glue the backboards to the sides (photo 6).

Final assembly

The backboards also help you square up the whole bookcase when you glue the sides and shelves together. Thank goodness! You can get into lots of trouble by gluing things out of square, but this system is slick. Dry clamp each shelf in place with the biscuits loose in the slots and mark the shelf's position on the backboard (photo 7). Make the pencil lines very light because you won't be able to get into the corners with an eraser after the glue-up. That's the one downside of this easy method.

Take your time and walk through a dry run of the glue-up before you attempt the real thing (photo 8). Here's the best way to do the glue-up, alone, without going crazy: support one side with a narrow (7in), wooden box that leaves room for the clamp heads. Insert one shelf at a time, align it with the reference lines on the backboard and clamp it in place. Once all the shelves are upright, place the other case side on the ends of the shelves, clamp the shelves



8 Glue the lower unit together with cauls and pipe clamps. The thick cauls distribute clamping pressure over the entire width of the side. Use short clamps to pull the shelves tight against the backboards. Align the shelves with the reference lines. Then tighten the pipe clamps

tight to the backboard and finally add the pipe clamps.

Finishing and installation

After gluing both cases, sand them with 150 grit paper. Avoid dyeing or staining birch, because it has a tendency to unevenly soak up colour and become blotchy. Even an oil finish can look bad, so stick with shellac, brushed-on varnish, or lacquer.

This tall bookcase stands quite well on its own, but for safety, fasten it to the wall through the backboards. Then there'll be no chance for it to tip if a pet or rambunctious kid tries to climb the shelves! ■

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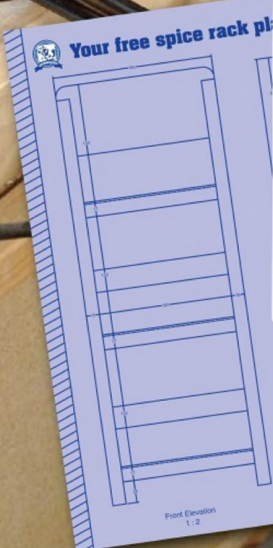
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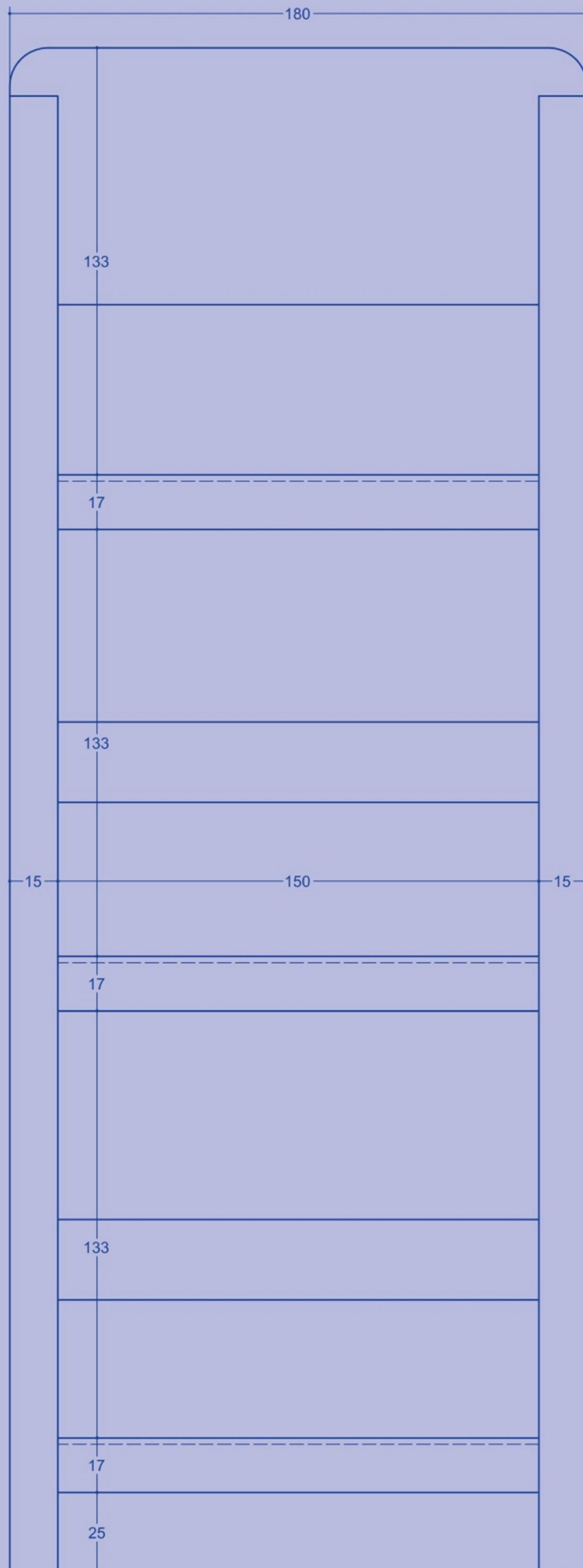
Make a spice
rack with
Matt Long

P46

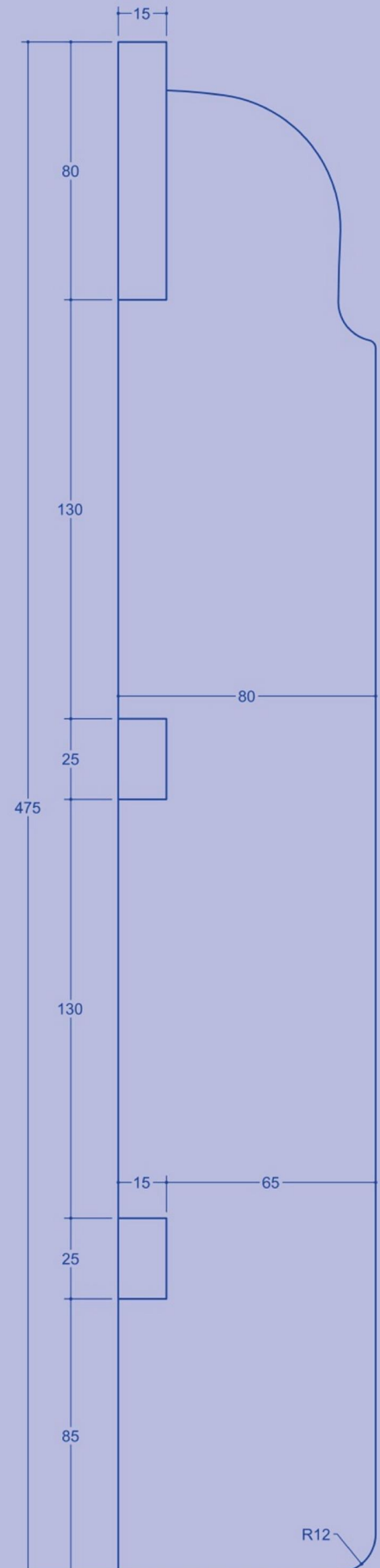




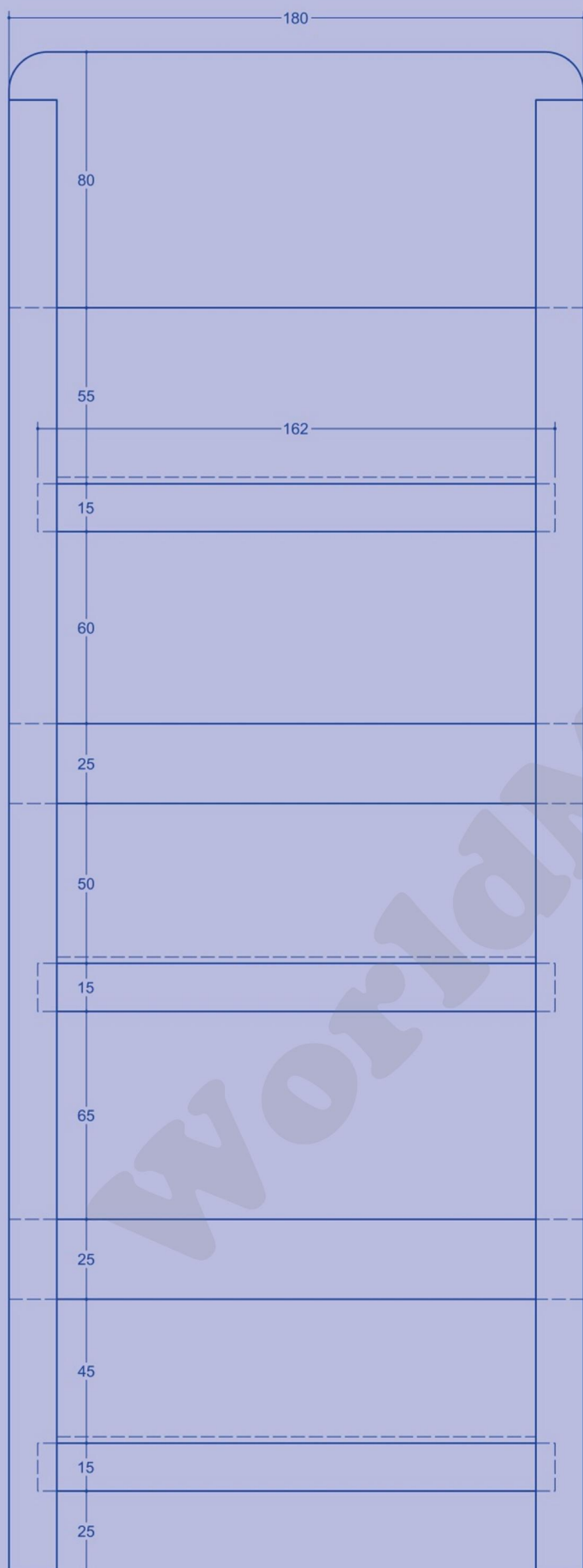
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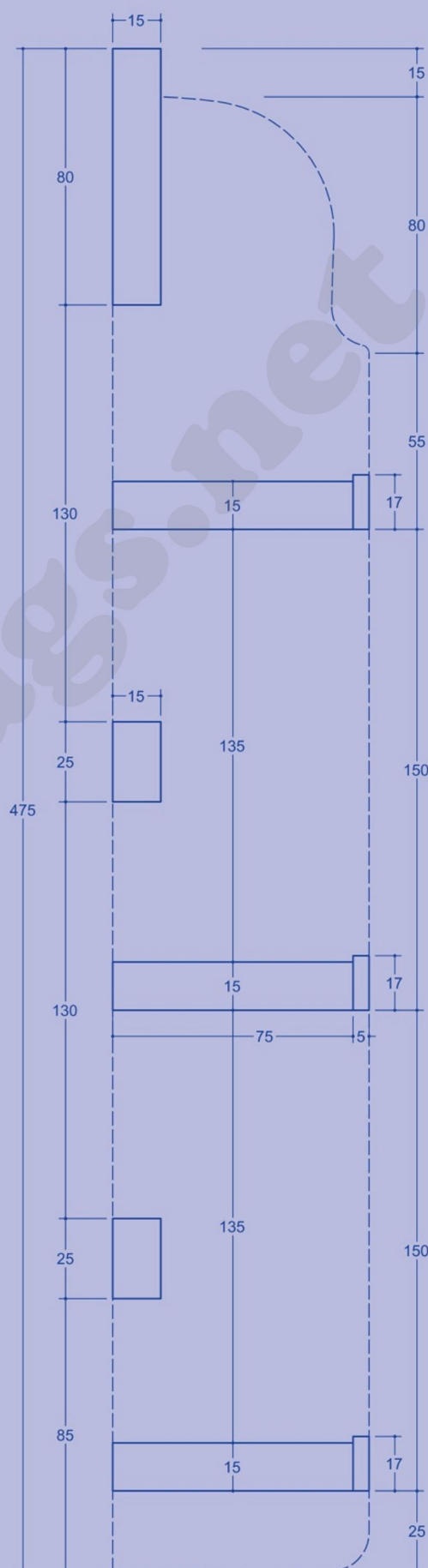
Front Elevation
1 : 2



Side Elevation
1 : 2



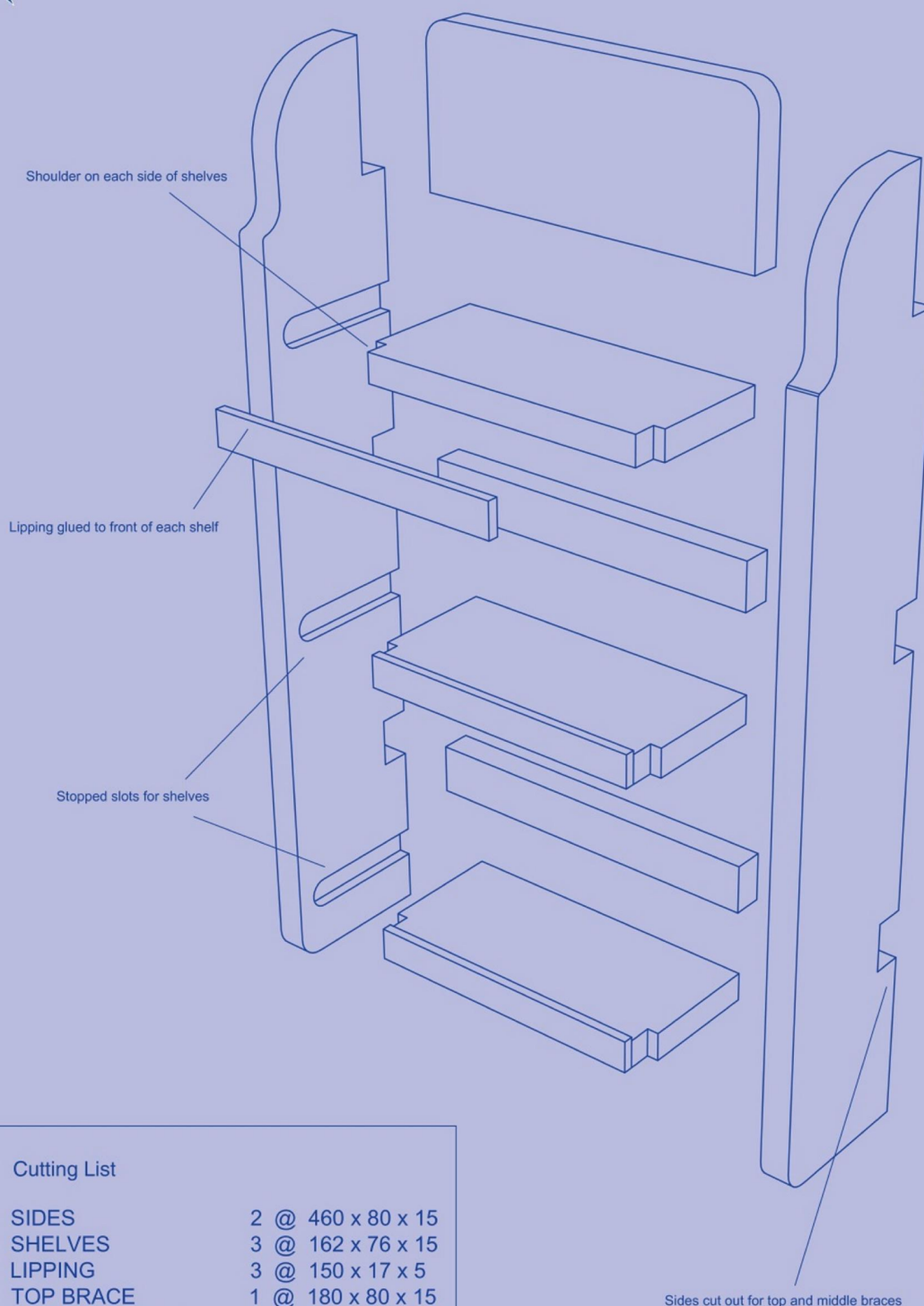
Section
1 : 2



Section
1 : 2



Your free spice rack plan



Cutting List

SIDES	2 @	460 x 80 x 15
SHELVES	3 @	162 x 76 x 15
LIPPING	3 @	150 x 17 x 5
TOP BRACE	1 @	180 x 80 x 15
MIDDLE BRACES	2 @	180 x 25 x 15

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Beech spice rack

Matt Long makes simple kitchen shelves

After last month's kitchen bench in pine, I thought it time to tackle a project in hardwood. Staying in the kitchen seemed like a good idea, so I thought I'd have a go at a small set of shelves for spices and anything else you might need keeping close to hand.

The internet is a brilliant resource for looking at other designs and after a bit of searching, I found a nice design that really just involved housing and rebate joints; perfect for a weekend job. It's a tall, three-shelfed unit with enough width for three of the classic shaped spice pots you can buy in most supermarkets.

1 A trip down to the timber merchants revealed three small boards of beech in the racks... and having a friendly relationship with the lads at the yard, I got them for a snip, paying cash – it helped that they had incorrectly marked up one of the boards as oak, and a little gentle ribbing ensued! The boards were nicely grained, with very few defects, though they were slightly bowed along their length. I left them in the workshop to dry a little further for a few days and, as expected, they bowed a little further.



1 I got three small boards of beech. They are nicely grained with few defects, though slightly bowed



2 I drew up the elevations and created a cutting list

2 The lack of defects in the timber meant I could concentrate on the design. I modified the idea I'd seen slightly, drew up a couple of elevations and created a cutting list.

3 Not having a tablesaw, the boards were ripped to width on the bandsaw with a fence. My baby bandsaw coped really well with the beech, but I did have to take it nice and slowly.

4-5 I marked up the board lengths and squared them off. You know I love using the handsaw... harking back to my site joinery days!

6 Now I've already mentioned the boards were bowed along their length and I haven't got a planer/thicknesser. Any slight bows can be taken



3 I ripped the boards to width on the bandsaw with a fence

out with careful use of the thicknesser, but here the bow was too pronounced. Not to worry though, with the boards cut just over-length to remove as much bowing as possible, it was time to get the jointer out.

7 To flatten boards like this, you need the timber securely clamped on a solid bench, a scary-sharp blade and a very fine setting. Not to mention plenty of elbow grease. It's a bit old school, but flat off one side, then use this as the reference surface on the bed of the thicknesser. The results are fine for a project of this size. Square off an edge from your reference face, then use this face on the bed of the thicknesser, to get parallel edges too. Check them when done; you can always tweak your squaring with the plane.



4 I marked up the board lengths...



5 ... and squared them off using the handsaw



6 The bow was too pronounced to use the thicknesser so it was time get the jointer out



7 Flat off one side and use this as the reference surface on the thicknesser



8 Mark up and cut your final length dimensions

8 With your boards sized, thickened and planed, it's time to mark up and cut your final length dimensions.

9 Now mark up your joints. Wherever possible I like to mark up with the dimensioned components. This is because it helps me to visualise the job as I'm going along.

10 Now cut your housing joints. The bandsaw is perfect for this sort of job. Cut a little inside your line for tweaking later with a chisel.

11 For cuts that won't fit on the bandsaw, my old favourite the Japanese saw comes in very handy.

12 Removing the housing waste for the back cross pieces required a sharp chisel and a mallet to get close to the cutting line and some careful paring.



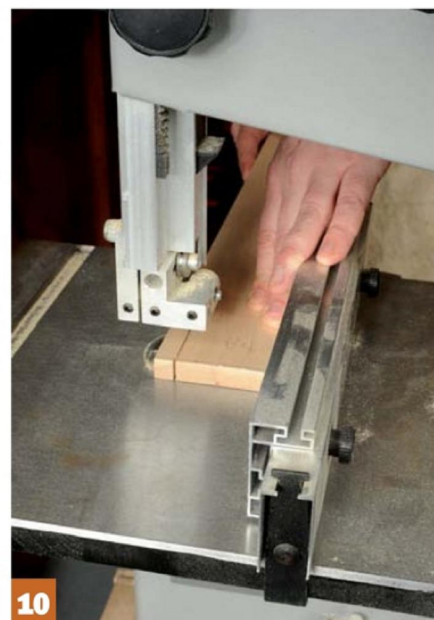
9 Mark up your joints with the dimensioned components



11 For cuts that don't fit on the bandsaw, the Japanese saw is very useful

13 I also pared the sides vertically, to clean up the sawn sides.

14 To create the curves on the rack side tops, I drew them on freehand. I know it's perhaps a little bad form, but I do like the results I get when drawing without the aid of French curves and the like.



10 Make your housing joints on the bandsaw, cutting inside the line



12 Remove the housing waste with a sharp chisel and mallet



13 Pare the sides vertically to clean up the sawn sides



14 I prefer the results achieved drawing freehand to using French curves



15 I cut the curve out on the bandsaw, using it as a template for the opposite face

15 After drawing, I cut the curve out on the bandsaw, and then used this as the template to draw the curve on the opposing face.

16 After this was cut, I ganged the two sides together in a vice and finished the curves with abrasive. If your bandsawing is a little wayward, you might find a good spokeshave or even the curved end of a beltsander clamped upside down on your bench will help.

17 I marked the rounded corners on the front bottom corner of the sides with a compass.

18 At this stage, I laid all of the components out for a last check before I cut the housings for the shelves.

19 To cut my stopped housing joints, I used a router and guidebush in a slot cutting jig. We already had one made by our Anthony for his Routerclass, so I borrowed this for the task. Look back in past issues of Routerclass, or Ron Fox's router articles



16 I ganged the two sides together in a vice and finished the curves with abrasive



18 I laid the components out for a last check before cutting the housings

in previous issues for how to make one. I didn't bother to square up the ends of the stopped housing – instead cutting the notch in the front of the shelves deep enough to miss the curved end of the housing.

20-21 After a dry fit of all the joints to make sure everything went together, I sanded all the components through the grits down to 120. Careful when sanding the shelves, you don't want to slacken your joints!



17 I marked the rounded corners on the front bottom corner with a compass



19 I used a router and guidebush in a slot cutting jig to cut the housing joints



20 I dry fitted the joints to make sure everything went together



21 I sanded through the grits to 120 without slackening the joints



22 Apply the right amount of glue to prevent it from squeezing out

Workshop Wisdom

Remember, always try to incorporate any grain patterns or colouring in your final design. Here the side boards make use of grain colour changes to enhance the bench.

22 Now for the glue-up. Apply just the right amount of glue to all your joints to avoid it squeezing out.

23 I clamped everything together at once before checking for square. You could do a modular glue-up with the shelves then other components, but I found the thing went together just fine all at once. Wipe off excess glue at this stage, or wait for it to go off a little before scraping it with a sharp chisel. Note, I didn't glue the thin upstands on the front of the shelves in place yet. Nor



23 I clamped everything together before checking for square

indeed had I cut them to thickness. I always prefer to leave any components like this until after initial glue-up, that way I can cut them to size individually by taking dimensions of the carcass, for a more accurate fit.

24 Once the glue had gone off, I cleaned up the edges and gave the rack a once over with the smoothing plane.

25 I cut the little upstands to the distance between the shelf and side front, which I had measured before.

26 Once thickened and sanded to exactly the right dimensions, I marked the length of the upstands directly from the carcass.



24 Once the glue has dried I cleaned up the edges and smoothed with a plane



25 I cut the upstands to the distance between the shelf and side front

27 I cut them to length on my back saw. What – no Japanese saw you say? Well, my reason for not using this trusted companion is that with a bench hook it just made perfect sense!



26 Once thickened, I marked the length from the carcass



27 I cut the upstands to length on my back saw



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28 I applied glue on the shelves' front edges...



... wiping off any glue with a clean rag



30 Then I positioned the front edges and clamped them in place

28 I applied glue on the shelves' front edges...

29-30 Before placing and clamping the upstands, I wiped off any squeeze-out with a nice clean rag.

31 I then gave the thing a good sanding to 120 grit for an even finish all over and to remove any last glue marks.

32-33 Now, there are no moulded edges on my rack, but you still have to break all the arrises. I just used 120 grit abrasive and a wooden block and cut the smallest hint of a bevel.

34 To finish, I applied a coat of sanding sealer before de-nibbing with 120 grit abrasive and rubbing in a few coats of wax. Job's a good un! ■



31

I then gave the thing a good sanding all over to 120 grit for an even finish



32

There are no moulded edges but I still need to break the arrises



33

I used 120 grit and a wooden block to cut the smallest hint of a bevel



34

I applied a coat of sanding sealer before de-nibbing with 120 grit



35

After rubbing in a few coats of finishing wax, the spice rack is ready

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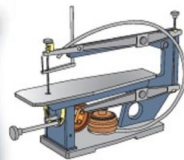
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Intarsia dinosaur



What you need

- Scrollsaw blades No. 7 and No. 3 reverse tooth
- Pattern
- 19mm wood of choice
- 6mm birch plywood (backing)
- Pillar drill - drill bit (dependent on pattern size)
- Disc sander - optional
- Drum sander
- Small diameter drum sander
- Glue stick/spray adhesive - optional
- Tracing & carbon paper - optional
- Thick black marker pen
- Finish of choice
- Wood glue
- Sand paper - 180, 240 and 320 grit
- D-hook hanger

Fred & Julie Byrne create a painted intarsia dinosaur to hang on your wall

They say dinosaurs were around some 65 million years ago, yet kids and adults alike are just as interested in them now as they always have been.

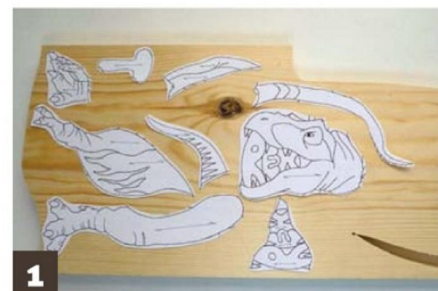
Making an intarsia dinosaur to hang on the wall from 19mm wood with individually cut pieces sanded and shaped, is relatively simple, and, with a little basic knowledge you can produce a dinosaur that gives the impression of being three-dimensional.

The T. Rex can be made to any size (your only restriction being the size of your scrollsaw) and any colour, that's why we decided to make ours purple! When selecting your 19mm wood, please note the underside must be completely flat.

Getting started

1 Print off copies of the pattern, cut them into wood grain sections and stick them onto the wood aligning the directional arrows on the pattern with the wood grain.

2 Begin by cutting out the inner section of the mouth and place this cut section in position onto the dinosaur's head. Check that the adjoining cutting line is still the same.



1 First, prepare and cut the wood for the frame



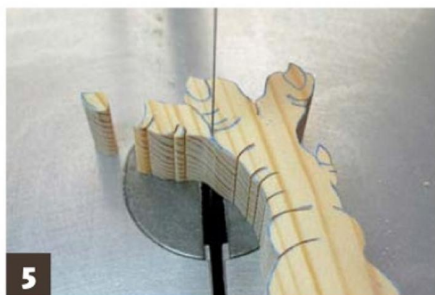
2 Cut out the inner section of the mouth and place onto the dinosaur's head



3 Cut along the new cutting line and place the piece in position



4 Carry on in this way, checking adjoining cutting lines for the next piece



5 Number each piece and change to a smaller blade for the smaller pieces



6 Drill the hole in the letter 'R' and cut out the other letters...



3 Cut along the new cutting line and then place the piece in position.

4 Carry on in this way checking the adjoining cutting lines before cutting the next piece. As you progress, temporarily secure each piece in position with masking tape until all the sections of the dinosaur are cut out.

5 Before cutting out the pieces within each section change to a smaller No. 2 or 3 blade; this will help to keep the gap between each piece to a minimum. Number each piece as you go for easy identification.

6 Next drill the hole within the letter 'R'. The size will depend on your overall pattern size. Continue to cut out the individual letters...

7 ... and the head and eye section. Cut everything except the tail, which can be cut through after sanding.

Sanding and shaping

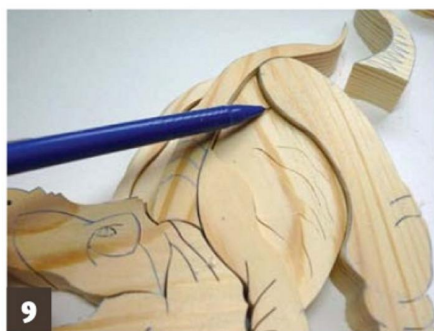
8 Use the disc sander to roughly sand down the pieces which appear the furthest away i.e. the belly and leg on the left hand side of the body. Lower the belly by approximately 6mm and the leg down to 5mm.



7 ... and the head and eye section, except the tail



8 Roughly sand the pieces with the disc sander, lowering the leg and belly



9 Sand the right side of the belly to the same height



10 Sand down the left foot to 5mm below the jaw



11 Lower the right forearm and leg slightly, keeping them above the belly



12 Taper the lower jaw to below the forearm leaving the other end higher



13 Mark the height of the lower jaw onto the upper jaw and sand slightly



14 Place the letters in the mouth and mark the height of the jaws



15 Sand the letters to sit at the right levels within the jaws

9 Sand the right side of the belly to the same height, but this time try to keep the middle slightly more rounded. Mark the height of the belly onto the adjoining forearm and leg.

10 Sand down the left foot and forearm to approximately 5mm lower than the jaw.

11 Lower the right forearm and leg slightly, making sure that they stay above the belly. The leg should be higher at the top and lower down towards the ankle.

12 Next, taper the lower jaw down to just below the forearm,

leaving the other (open mouthed) end fractionally higher.

13 Mark the height of the lower jaw onto the upper jaw and sand down slightly, only where the jaws meet, leaving the top of the head high.

14 Place the letters into the mouth and mark the height of the jaws' top and bottom onto each of the letters.

15 Sand the letter 'X' down to just lower than the jaws and mark its height onto the adjoining letter 'E'. Sand the spine of the 'E' more than the front, making it appear to be above the 'X' but below the 'R'.



16 Mark the height of each toe on to the claw and sand to the correct height



17 Use a drum sander to refine the shapes and remove scratches left from the sander

16 Next mark the height of each toe onto the adjoining claw then sand down the height of the claw to the corresponding toe. Carry on making the height adjustments until you are satisfied with all the overall appearance.

17 Once you are happy with the rough sanding of the varying heights, use a drum sander to refine the shapes and to remove the scratches left from the disc sander. A small diameter drum sander is very useful for smoothing over the edges of the smaller curves.



18 Hand sand all the pieces smooth going through the grades of paper



19 After sanding and shaping, transfer or draw details and carefully cut out



20 Assemble the dinosaur and trace around the perimeter and inner pieces



21 Using the No. 3 blade, cut around the backing and drill an entry hole



22 Apply sealer to the backing. Draw around the top edges and pencil lines



23 Arrange in groups of colour and paint. Allow to dry then varnish or wax

18 Next, hand sand all the pieces smooth going through the grades of paper, not forgetting to clean out the inner cut lines.

19 Now that the sanding and shaping of the tail is complete, transfer or draw on the details of the pattern and then carefully cut out the pieces.

Dinosaur backing

20 Assemble the dinosaur onto the 6mm ply and using a sharp pencil, carefully trace around the perimeter, including the waste area below the jaw, then trace around each of the inner pieces by removing one piece at a time and replacing them afterwards

21 Using the No.3 blade, cut around the perimeter of the backing following your traced line, drill a blade entry hole to cut out and remove the waste area from within the pattern.

22 Apply a sealer to the reverse side of the backing and paint around the side edges. Use a thick black marker pen to draw all around the top edge and trace over your pencil lines. Fill in the small areas where the backing will be seen between some of the pieces. Using black in this way will make any



24 Glue each piece onto the backing. Once dry, attach a hanger and enjoy!

gaps less noticeable and generally give the piece a more finished look.

Colouring

23 To begin, set the pieces out into groups of colour. Have to hand a dry brush for removing paint from the cut lines, and a small piece of cloth to wipe away the excess paint to reveal the grain of the wood beneath.

Allow the pieces to dry completely. Lightly denib each piece and, while taking care not to remove any of the paint, apply a coat of varnish or polish.

Gluing up

24 Lay the pieces out on a flat surface for gluing. Have to hand a brush and a slightly damp cloth for removing any excess glue.

Apply glue to each piece and position firmly onto the backing, wiping away any excess glue.

When dry, attach a hanger (D-hook) to the back, to establish the correct position. Hold the pieces between your thumb and forefinger until it hangs the way you want. Mark the position with a pencil and attach the hanger. ■

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Mini Projects

Four fun items for the adults to make and the kids to play with!

Please note these projects contain small pieces making them unsuitable for very young children.

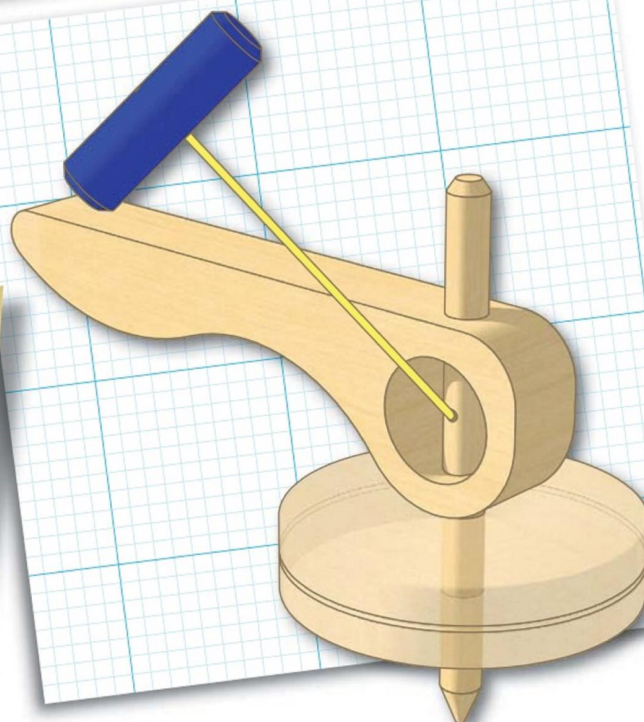
SPINNING TOP

This is an interesting one to make and to get working properly. The spinning top needs to be a neat, perfect circle. It can be turned on the lathe or very carefully bandsawn out and sanded to shape. The point is a standard piece of dowel, the top and bottom are chamfered with the bottom end pointed but the very tip taken off with abrasive paper.

It must fit tightly in the disc so glue securely. Choose the correct drill to match the dowel and centre the hole exactly so the top will spin properly. Drill a small hole to take the string that spins the top. Now take a block of wood for the handle and while it is still square in section drill two holes that are perpendicular to each other. Doing the large, side hole which requires a Forstner bit for clean cutting, first may be neater. Now drill the dowel hole; this needs to be a loose

You will need

- Dowel offcuts
- Beech or similar offcuts
- Medium and fine abrasives
- PVA glue
- Childsafe finish
- Forstner bit
- Drill bits



fit so the top can be spun. Shape the handle on the bandsaw and round all edges. You will need a bigger piece of dowel for the pull handle, again with a string hole. Feed string through it after knotting at one end to secure it. The other end is fed through the side access hole as shown in the drawing and the top rotated by hand to wind up the string around the dowel. Now pull the string hard while holding the handle and the top should spin, lift the handle off and leave it to keep spinning!

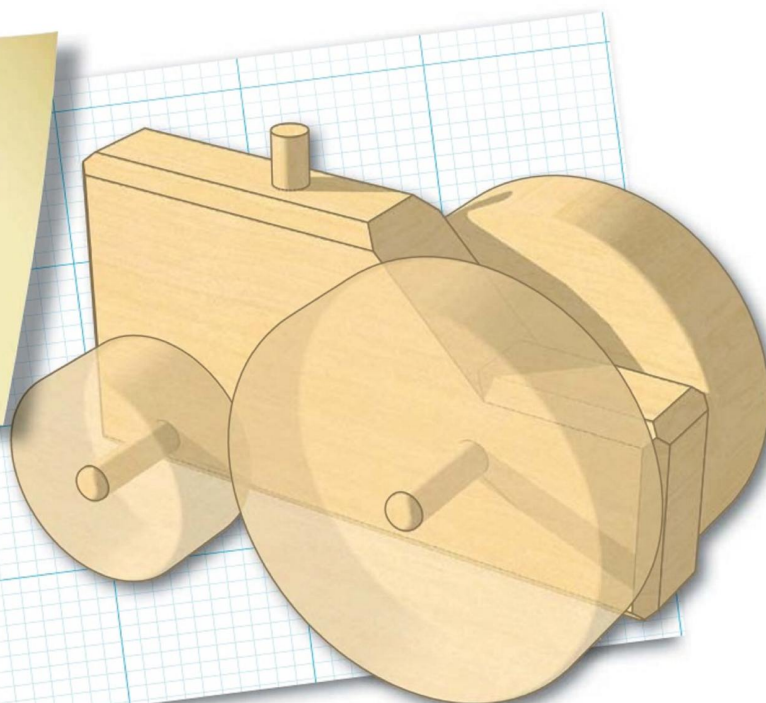
TRACTOR

A nice simple project but you need a lathe to turn the wheels to ensure they run smoothly.

Make up the wheels on the lathe, bevelling the edges slightly. Now drill holes in the centres exactly matching the dowel for axles. Cut out the tractor body and shape the bevels using a handplane. Drill and fit the exhaust on the bonnet and drill the axle holes which should be just large enough for the axles to rotate. Sand all the components smooth and apply your chosen finish before assembly, but not on the axles. Glue and fit the wheels to the axles after pushing them through the body of the tractor. Ready to push and go!

You will need

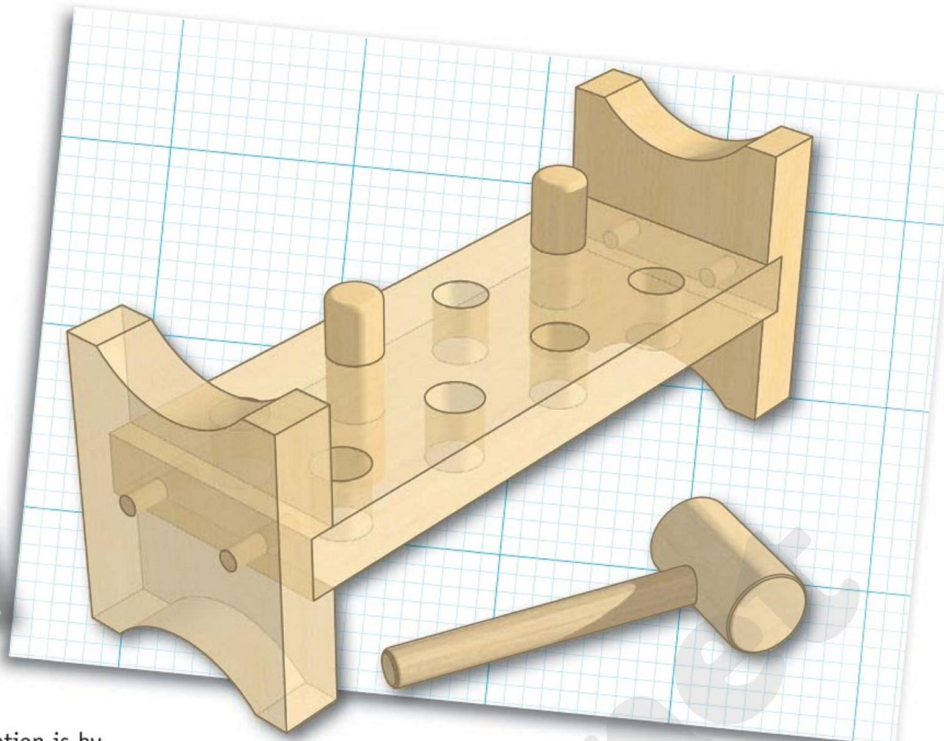
- Some blocks of pine or beech
- Dowel offcuts
- Medium and fine abrasives
- PVA glue
- Drill bits



PEG POUNDER

You will need

- A short board of beech or similar wood
- Dowel offcuts
- 50mm screws
- Small Forstner bit
- Drill bits
- PVA glue
- Medium and small abrasives
- Childsafe finish



A perfect way for a child to vent their frustration is by hammering pegs into this rack. Cut a board into three pieces for the ends and the peg board. Drill a series of holes in the peg board after neatly marking the spacings. Use a sacrificial board so the holes don't 'rag' underneath. The ends need to have slots for the pegboard to fit in. There are several ways to do this; with a saw, hammer and chisel, a router or trenching on a crosscut saw. However it is safer and easier to have these components overlength and cut-to-size afterwards. Shape the ends on the bandsaw and use a rasp and sandpaper to smooth

them. Glue and screw the ends on, ensuring the screwheads are 'lost' beneath the surface.

The pegs need to be a tight push fit in the holes to work properly. Use dowel that matches the drilled holes and if necessary sand them until they will just push through. Round the edges of course. The mallet is self explanatory; hold the mallet head firmly in a vice to drill the hole for the dowel handle which needs to be glued on. Sand all surfaces and apply a suitable finish.

SCALES

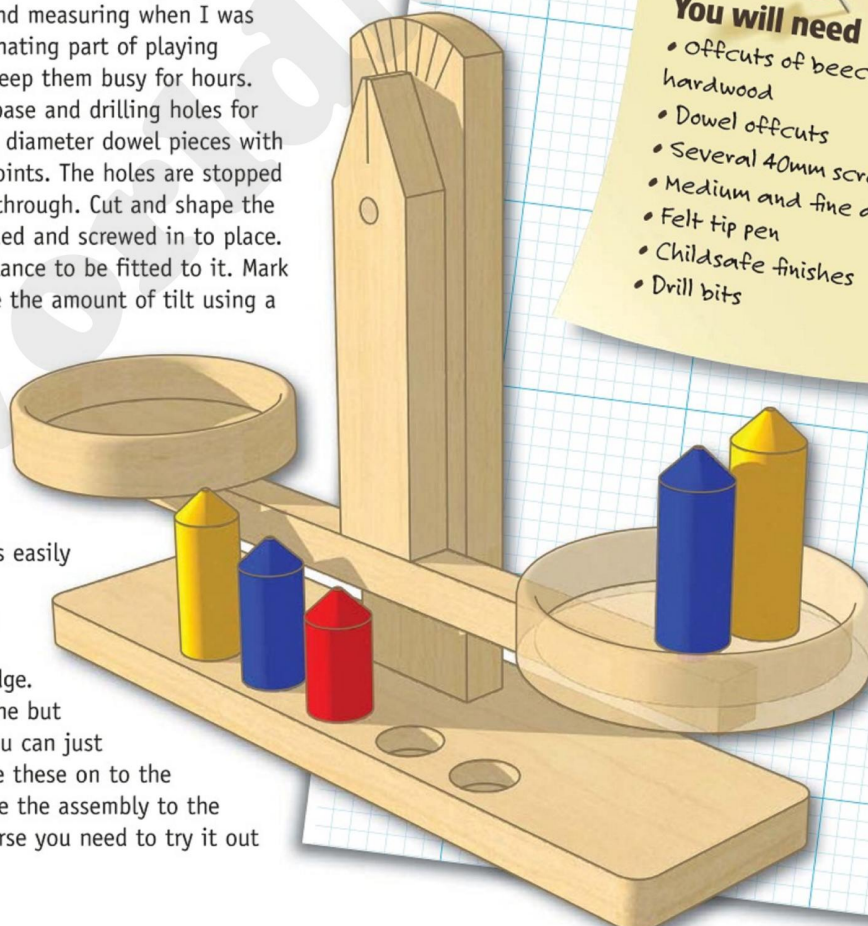
I can remember weighing and measuring when I was a kid; it was the most fascinating part of playing shopkeepers. This toy will keep them busy for hours.

Start by cutting out the base and drilling holes for the weights which are large diameter dowel pieces with the ends shaped to blunt points. The holes are stopped so the weights cannot slip through. Cut and shape the upright, which is simply glued and screwed in to place. Drill a pilot hole for the balance to be fitted to it. Mark the divisions which indicate the amount of tilt using a felt tip marker pen.

Use a fillet of wood to make the balance arm and glue and screw the balance upright to it. This needs a single line on it which will show the tilt. Drill a hole so it swings easily on a screw. The balance trays present an interesting problem: they are circular discs with an upstanding edge. This can be turned on a lathe but if you don't have a lathe you can just have flat discs instead. Glue these on to the balance arm and then secure the assembly to the upright on the base. Of course you need to try it out before the children do! ■

You will need

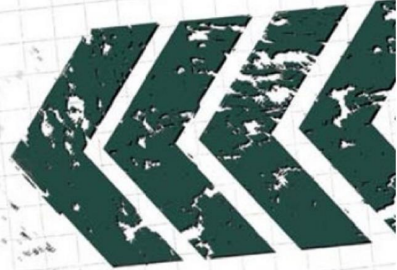
- Offcuts of beech or similar hardwood
- Dowel offcuts
- Several 40mm screws
- Medium and fine abrasives
- Felt tip pen
- Childsafe finishes
- Drill bits





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5 tools on test



ON TEST THIS MONTH

P62 Record chisel set

Record no longer just does power, it now does hand tools as well!



P63 DeWalt mitre saw

Can DeWalt saws get any bigger or better? Our Anthony finds out



P64 Faithfull rebate plane

Departing editor Matt Long shows his hand with this traditional rebate plane



P65 Metabo detail sander

Our Anthony gets into a tight spot with this little sander



P66 Bosch router

Bosch covers all its bases with this new all-singing, all-dancing router



5 STAR RATING



Our highest accolade for kit tests – one star is just not good enough



Bench chisels from Record Power

Mark Baker explores Record's expanding range of hand tools starting with these bench chisels

Record Power has a well-deserved reputation for producing a wide range of machinery and tools to suit many workshop sizes, situations and price points. It should, therefore, come as no surprise to see that Record is extending its ever-growing hand tool range by introducing some bench chisels such as bevel-edge, mortise and specialist skew and corner chisels. The first two we will look at here.

The bevel-edge chisels were sent to us in a pack of four with the following sizes: 6, 12, 20 & 26mm and have an RRP of £44.99 inc VAT.

The chisel handles are a round/oval section and sport a flat on the front and back face, which prevents the handle from rolling about on the bench. The handles fit nicely in the hand and are available in nice light-coloured hornbeam finishes with a matt, non-slip finish. The ferrules are a pressed-steel slide-over section – the only bit of the tool, which I think lets down its appearance – up to which the bolster of the blade fits securely.

The blades of the bevel-edge chisels are finely crafted and are thinner in section than many others. This means the thin-tapered side edges fit well in

tight corners and are nicely balanced with enough meat to withstand the general rough and tumble of daily use.

The blades have a very light layer of lacquer over them and a slight machine-ribbed finish. I always flatten the backs of chisels and on doing this on the bevel-edge chisels, I noticed that the ridging came out quickly and that the back wasn't quite flat. About 3-5 minutes on a stone sorted this out wonderfully to create a perfectly smooth surface, which in turn created a delightful cutting edge.

All the chisels are finely balanced and handle well. The trapezoidal profile, making the chisel wider at the bottom than the top, reduces binding when cutting deep joints.

Verdict

The edge that can be created on these chisels is superb and the edge-holding ability of the steel used for these chisels is truly excellent. These are well worth looking at and won't break the bank. A good quality set of mortise chisels is an often overlooked requirement in the workshop, despite their inherent usefulness. ■

AT A GLANCE

- Good quality tools
- 'Non-roll' hornbeam handles
- Thin taper blades
- Taper-neck blade design

THE NUMBERS

- 4 Piece bevel edge chisel Set - 6, 12, 20 & 26mm RRP £49.99 inc VAT
- Individual chisel prices start at £12.99 depending on type

PROS & CONS

- ✓ Good quality steel
- ✓ Tough hardwood handles
- ✗ Rough milled chisel backs

WHERE TO BUY

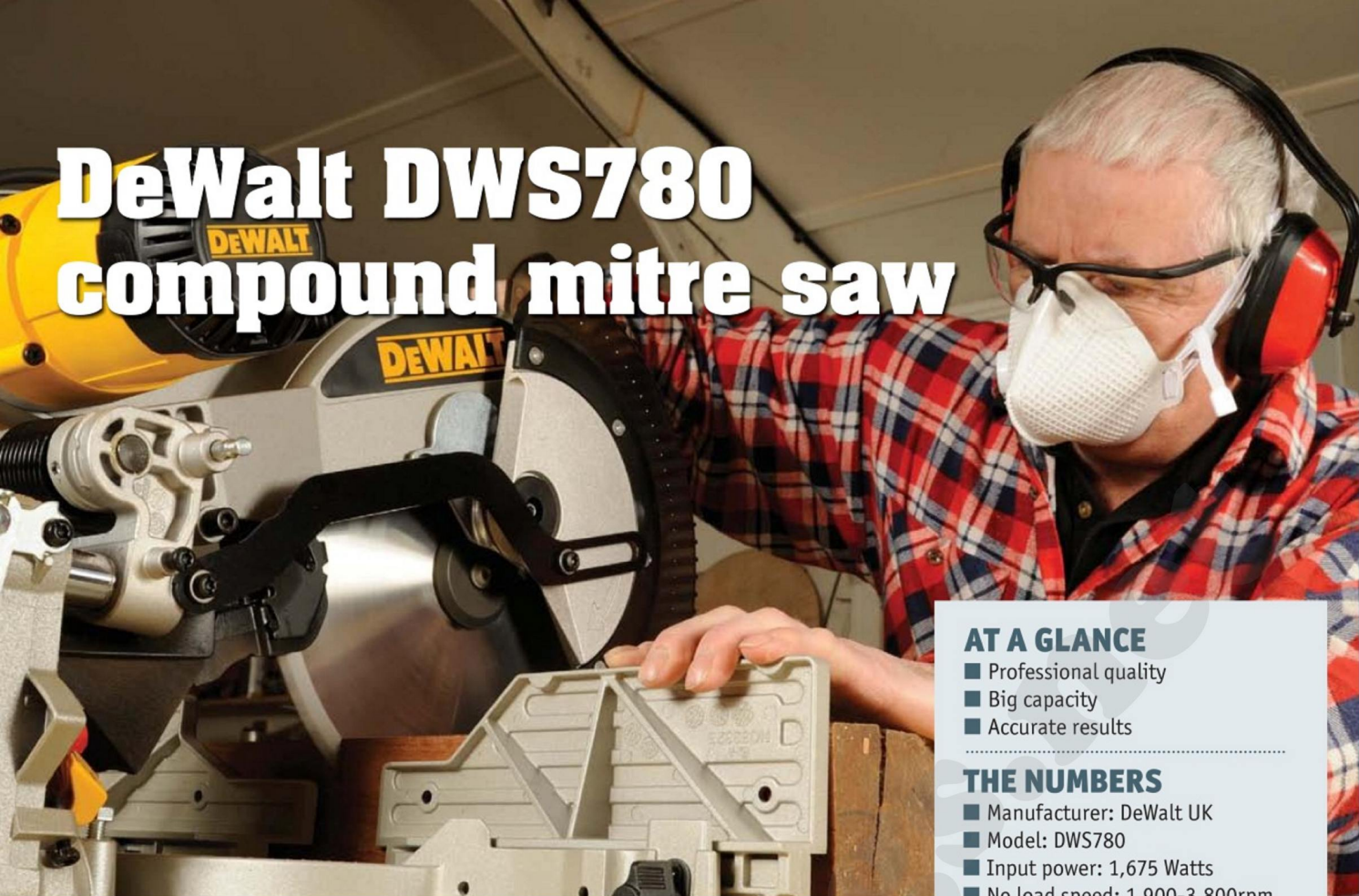
- www.recordpower.co.uk
- Tel: 01246 561 520

5 STAR RATING

Value for money: ★★★★★
Performance: ★★★★★
Build quality: ★★★★★



DeWalt DWS780 compound mitre saw



Anthony Bailey finds himself at the cutting edge when he gets a chance to try out this new model

Every carpenter or cabinetmaker needs to be able to accurately and quickly crosscut and mitre timber. A well set up compound mitre saw is the ideal way to achieve both. So is the new DeWalt DWS780 the perfect answer? We set Anthony the task of checking to see if this saw is really up to the mark.

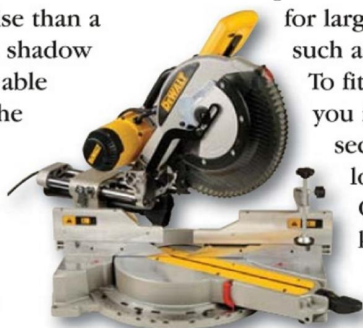
The DWS780 is yet another iteration of a DeWalt compound mitre saw, this time having quite a large capacity and several clever touches to aid repetition cuts and exact settings. It is big and heavy whatever DeWalt may say about portability. It can be mounted on to the DeWalt work stand which allows for the cutting of long lengths.

This saw has the now familiar XPS shadow line cut indicator which is claimed to be more precise than a laser guide. So using this shadow cutting device and being able to adjust all settings on the saw is critical for this to be an accurate representation. It sports a hefty 305mm dia., 60-tooth blade powered by a 1,675 Watt

motor via a drive belt. This gives an overall 90 degree cut capacity of 110 x 303mm at 90 degrees. It is possible to set mitres beyond 45 degrees which is essential with awkward walls etc. Bevel cuts are made by loosening off a large tri-pointed knob at the rear and setting against a scale at the front. Normally it only does this to the left. To bevel to the right you operate a knob that allows the saw head to swing over to the right. The saw assembly can be locked at any point on the slide rails although there is a special flip-back catch to hold the saw at the optimum point for deep cuts.

Verdict

The cut quality is good and the capacity huge. The sliding fence portions are high, necessary for large scale workpieces such as cornice mouldings. To fit the work clamp you need to slide a fence section aside first so it locks in the socket. Overall this piece of kit is capable of quality results but heavy to hump around. ■



AT A GLANCE

- Professional quality
- Big capacity
- Accurate results

THE NUMBERS

- Manufacturer: DeWalt UK
- Model: DWS780
- Input power: 1,675 Watts
- No load speed: 1,900-3,800rpm
- Blade dia: 305 x 30mm bore
- Cutting Capacity: 90°/90° (W x H) 303 x 110mm
- Cutting capacity: 45°/90° (W x H) 268 x 63mm
- Cutting capacity: 90°/45° (W x H) 211 x 112mm
- Cutting capacity: 45°/45° (W x H) 212 x 76mm
- Weight: 24.8kg
- Typical price: £659.95 inc VAT

WHERE TO BUY

- www.dewalt.co.uk

5 STAR RATING

- Value for money: ★★★★★
- Performance: ★★★★★
- Build quality: ★★★★★



The tri-knob changes the bevel angle and the flip-out stops then limits the bevel



Faithfull No.778 rebate plane

Matt Long gets into the groove

I've not used a rebate plane since my days as an apprentice joiner and let's face it, there are a lot of easier ways to cut a rebate these days.

But, a lot of woodworkers prefer to do things the old-fashioned way, so I thought it would be a good idea to try out a rebate plane.

Faithfull's No. 778 is a reasonably inexpensive version of the old joiner's tool, and being able to work in both bull nose and normal configuration, it seems like very good value.

Of course, set up is everything. The casting seemed pretty good, but held up against a straight edge, there was a definite hollow towards the centre along the length. Though held to an engineer's square, the sole and side were exactly square.

When I came to flat and hone the blade, I found it to be both flat and square, though with rounded edges

on the corners, particularly on the blade corner that will form your rebate's right angle.

This seemed odd, as you need the corner of your rebates to be sharp right



angles. You could, of course, grind the blade so the corners are square, but that is wasting quite a lot of blade!

The plane has a depth stop and double post fence, which attached easily via knobs that can be turned by hand and then tightened with a screw driver.

The cutting spur for cross-grained work was a bit dodgy, and needed quite a bit of fettling. It also wasn't very accurately machined in terms of its threaded hole for the tightening screw, which was off centre.

When assembled, I found the tightening knob had a bit too much play on it, and it needed a lot of working-in for smooth operation.

For testing, I cut a smallish rebate of 12 x 7mm in pine and oak.

In its normal blade configuration, with the grain, it worked quite well, but across the grain, the spur took a lot of getting just right – the poor machining not helping – also the screw that holds it in place seemed quite soft. I think you will need a replacement quite quickly.

AT A GLANCE

- Quality cast iron body with accurately ground base
- Two position cutter for rebate and bull nose work
- Double sided adjustable fence
- Accurate depth stop

THE NUMBERS

- Supplied in wooden storage box
- Cuts rebates up to 38mm wide
- 5 year guarantee
- Price: £61.68 inc VAT

PROS & CONS

- ✓ Hard to use for across-grain work
- ✓ Kept a keen edge
- ✓ Hollow towards the centre

WHERE TO BUY

- www.faithfulltools.com
- Tel: 01322 321 415

5 STAR RATING

Value for money: ★★★★★

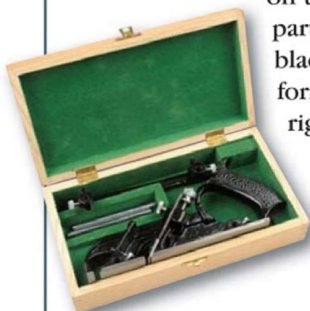
Performance: ★★★★★

Build quality: ★★★★★

In the bull nose configuration, I found it a harder beast to tame, but then most of these planes are with a blade up front.

The verdict

All the above teething troubles stated, I managed to set the plane up to cut rebates quite well. The blade took a keen edge, and seemed to keep it. Overall, it works with quite a lot of tinkering and for £60 (you can buy cheaper online) it's not bad. ■





Metabo multisander

Anthony Bailey sees if one of Metabo's smaller offerings lives up to its name

Metabo has an enviably vast catalogue of powertools and machines and here is one of the smaller items, the FMS 200 Intec multisander. The FMS 200 Intec is referred to online as a palm tri-sander, I suppose because of its extended delta form platen. It has plenty of rubber overmould, designed, it is claimed, to reduce vibration in use. The front rubber-booted switch flicks on and off easily, however there is no speed adjustment on this tool. Plenty of ventilation is provided for the motor and gearbox.

The Velcro covered rubber platen has extraction holes to link with the Intec dustbox which clips tightly on to the back of the machine. The filter is a special Metabo pleated unit that can be slid out to empty and tap clean or replace as necessary. One sheet of 80 grit abrasive was supplied with this machine which isn't a fair test of how fine a result it can turn in. The sheet has a tear-off line so the front half can be used with a small delta sander but this would turn the rear piece into a wasted, unused abrasive sheet.

AT A GLANCE

- Compact sander
- Intec dustbox
- Velcro abrasives

THE NUMBERS

- Manufacturer: Metabo UK
- Model: FMS 200 Intec
- Input power: 200 Watts
- Orbit idle speed: 26,000opm
- In use orbit speed: 22,000opm
- Orbit dia.: 1.4mm
- Weight: 1.25kg
- Typical price: £61.24 inc VAT

WHERE TO BUY

- www.metabo.co.uk

- ✓ Palm type sander
- ✓ Detail work
- ✓ Safe dust removal
- ✗ Jumpy sanding action

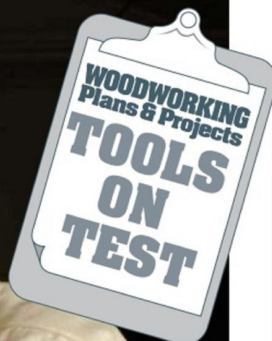
5 STAR RATING

- Value for money: ★★★★★
- Performance: ★★★★★
- Build quality: ★★★★★



Verdict

We've been using the multisander a lot in Pocket Workshop Project and it's been particularly useful for getting into those tight spaces; a time when its diminutive size really does come in handy. All in all, it's a nice little machine in build and appearance but can be quite jumpy and it is by no means the smoothest of small sanders I have ever used. The finish is okay for 80 grit, but this machine needs finer grits to show what it is really capable of, as many users would want to sand to a finish in internal corners. ■



AT A GLANCE

- Heavy duty
- Reliable brand
- Versatile
- Good design

THE NUMBERS

- Manufacturer: Robert Bosch Ltd UK
- Model: GOF 1600 CE
- Motor input: 1,600 Watts
- No load speeds: 10,000-24,000rpm
- Collets: ½in, ⅜in (other sizes available)
- Plunge depth: 76mm
- Weight: 5.8kg
- Standard accessories: side fence, spanner dustbowls, guidebush holder and two guidebushes
- Suggested price: £406.80 inc VAT

PROS & CONS

- ✓ Powerful
- ✓ Base Options
- ✓ Edge work extraction
- ✓ Easy fine adjustment
- ✓ LED worklights

WHERE TO BUY

- www.bosch-professional.com

5 STAR RATING

Value for money: ★★★★★

Performance: ★★★★★

Build quality: ★★★★★

but easy-press spindle lock button. It is heavy to lift in and out of both bases and has guide slots to locate it and three detents that allow it to be locked at different positions. Now the clever bit. Each base features an identical squeeze- and button-lock on-off switch on the ergonomically rubberised, right hand grip handle. The power is delivered to the switch and back to the motor can via discrete contacts in insulated tracks on the motor can, which engage with contacts in each base. Clever and apparently completely safe in operation and reliable too. Lastly there are LED worklights to see what you are doing.

Plunge Base

In Europe we are used to plunge routing and this base is better than previous Bosches in a number of respects. The plunge action is virtually waggle-free and has a very springy

Bosch GOF 1600 CE router

New editor **Anthony Bailey** isn't about to give up his sterling work as tester of all things routing, so we gave him the latest piece of tech-gizmo to play with

Anyone who knows me, knows I'm a bit of a router fanatic especially where anything new or different is concerned. So it was with great interest that I received the new Bosch GOF 1600 CE for testing. It still looks like it is out of the Bosch stable and it shares fence and guidebushes with other machines in the lineup, but it is marked out by some very artful design engineering. For a start it is one of several combination body models that have made their way across 'the pond' from

the USA to the UK, part of a reviving interest in swap-body models which give you the option of plunge- or fixed-base routing.

Motor Can

This machine has a rating of 1,600W but stands easily as big as a 2,000W model. The 'motor can' has a rubber flat top so you can invert it for cutter-changing and a neatly but easily accessed speed dial at the front with an ample mains lead. It comes with standard Bosch collets and a small



Undoing the lock to remove the motor can

well-shaped plunge lock lever. Having locked it, a fine adjuster allows very precise depth setting with a clear scale around it. This being an early model, I did not have the plug-in extension handle, which makes this far easier than the one on the machine. Thankfully though, I just happened to have one lying around in the workshop. The depth rod at the front is still quite slim but unlike older designs it doesn't wobble or fall out as it sits in a plastic sleeve and sets easily against a clear metric scale. The seven stage depth turret is still present.

The base is a large circular shape with one flat side for running against a straight edge and it takes a large standard fence with very usable fine adjustment on the fence. The fence knobs are apparently not supplied with anti-vibration springs. The base is smooth without dust traps which is a plus. It has a clear plastic base facing and a dust bowl can be fitted to it with another one on the fence for bearing-guided and edge work. A guidebush holder can be screwed into the baseplate and standard Bosch



A very neat way of adjusting the height of a table

pattern guidebushes used. A lever lock and separate safety catch allow the motor can to be fitted in to the plunge base.

Fixed Base

Although it adds cost, having a separate fixed-base brings a couple of advantages. One, it means 'divot-free' routing because there is no 'plunge bounce' which often leaves a machining mark on first plunging. This is okay if you can enter the work from one end such as making a slot or rebate. The second advantage which Bosch has picked up on, is that you can install the base under a router table. To do this you need to remove the clear base facing and use longer machine screws to mount it. A special T-handle is supplied for adjusting the cutter height through a very small hole in the table. Fitting the motor can is similar to the plunge base except there is a paddle lever to be depressed before the motor can be slid in or removed. Bearing in mind there is a body lock lever and a safety catch, there is a bit of juggling but it works and you can choose one of three basic height settings for the motor can before using the fine adjustment. There is an identical on-off switch trigger to the plunge base and it also accepts the dust bowl too.

Verdict

Plenty of power is available even at 1,600W and rapid



Plenty of parts come with the kit



The sliding power contacts it relies on



Not many routers have a dust bowl

speed changes are possible when you turn the thumb wheel. It is a good tempered machine and very versatile. Dust extraction is much better than average if you are doing edge work thanks to the fence and base dustbowls. Apart from the heavy motor can and having to slide it in and out on body changeover, there is little, if anything, to criticise. A very well sorted machine and a credit to Bosch's design engineers. ■



Hot Stuff

Prices are correct at time of printing and inclusive of 20% VAT. Photographs and information courtesy of the manufacturers

Take a look at the tools, gadgets and gizmos we think you will enjoy using in your workshop

CHARNWOOD PLANER KNIFE SETTING TOOL

When fitting new planer knives, or re-fitting knives which have been sharpened, it is very important that they are re-set correctly. Each blade must protrude from the cutterblock by the same amount to give a clean cut. Blades that are set incorrectly will cause imbalance and vibration, which could result in damage to the machine.

Contact: Charnwood
Tel: 01530 516 926
Website: www.chnwood.net

£30



FESTOOL SURFIX OIL DISPENSER

£10.00

This oil dispenser makes the application of oil to natural wooden surfaces easier than ever: the oil bottle doubles up as a handgrip, the foam pad reaches right into the corners and a range of high-quality natural oils are available for every application.

Contact: Festool
Tel: 01284 760 791
Website: www.festool.co.uk

DREMEL DSM20

The DSM20 is the latest tool in Dremel's outstanding line of versatile tool systems. This ultimate compact saw has a powerful 710 Watt motor and makes cuts up to 20mm deep in the most common DIY materials from wood to plastic, metal and tile. The Dremel DSM20 will make short work of any DIY, maintenance or repair projects with its excellent line of sight and abrasive cutting wheels helping to achieve precise cuts.

The saw makes a beautifully clean cut compared with toothed wheels, thanks to its abrasive wheel technology. Extremely precise, it requires no lower guard mechanism. A very versatile tool, the saw is capable of performing precise straight cuts, flush cuts close to the surface and plunge cuts with no kickback.

The tool is suitable for home improvements and a wide variety of repair and maintenance work.

£119



Contact: Dremel
Tel: 0844 736 0109
Website: www.dremel.co.uk

BOSCH PEX 400 AE RANDOM ORBITAL SANDER

The brand new random orbital sander from Bosch has been ergonomically designed to provide excellent sanding results for a number of different DIY projects, so updating your home furnishings has never been easier or more enjoyable!

Whether it's giving furniture a new lease of life by prepping to reapply varnish or preparing doors and door frames for a fresh coat of brightly coloured paint, the brand new PEX 400 from Bosch will allow you to complete the job with ease.

Contact: Bosch
Tel: 0844 736 0107
Website: www.bosch-ixo.com

ACCUSHARP KNIFE AND TOOL SHARPENER



£10.80

The Accusharp gives very effective, rapid results. Easy to use and safe, it sharpens kitchen knives, pocketknives, utility knives and axes. With solid tungsten carbide reversible blades you are guaranteed years of useful life.

Contact: Axminster
Tel: 0800 371 822
Website: www.axminster.co.uk

VERITAS DETAIL PALM PLANE

These planes are small enough to get into tight spaces and allow great control for working fine detail. This 32mm diameter bubinga palm knob is height-adjustable for better in-hand registration or removable for work in tight spaces. The bodies are just over 16 x 38 x 9.5mm wide. The investment-cast steel body has a 45° bed angle and a fixed mouth, and uses a brass retention screw to secure the included 30° bevel A2 tool steel blade (1.5 x 9.5mm).

Available in four versions: flat, concave, double convex and convex. The curved versions have a 13mm radius across the body; the double convex is curved with a 100mm radius along its length.

Price: Veritas Detail Palm Plane - Flat £55.96
Veritas Detail Palm Plane - concave £50.00
Veritas Detail Palm Plane - convex £50.00
Veritas Detail Palm Plane - double Convex £50.00

Contact: Lee Valley Ltd
Tel: (011) 1-800-871-8158
Website: www.leevalley.com



From
£50.00



£99.99

FINPOL EXTRA HARD POLISH

This is a professional French polish finish for table tops and harder wearing surfaces featuring extra-tough modified shellac polish. It is even harder wearing than Finpol special polish and is best used where a high quality decorative French polish finish with maximum resistance to spillages is required. It dries in 5-10 minutes.

Price: 500ml £11.59, 1 litre £18.78,
2½ litre £38.14, 5 litre £68.74

Contact: M D Finney
Tel: 01246 261 664
Website: www.mdfinney.co.uk



From
£11.59

ROCKLER GLUE BRUSH



\$3.99
(£2.52)

Glue brushes are often sold in bulk as disposable items because the bristles get gummed up so quickly. This new silicone glue brush from Rockler has changed all that, with flexible silicone bristles that are easy to clean and a tapered paddle on the opposite end for detailed application. Woodworkers can now depend on a single brush for all their gluing needs.

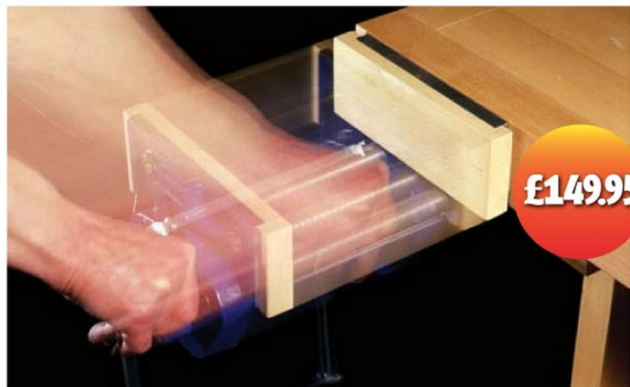
Unlike traditional brushes, this one won't shed bristles into your bead of glue. The bristles are spaced to hold plenty of wet glue, meaning less time dipping and more time spreading. Since the brush is designed to last, it provides additional features: the paddle end opposite the bristles can be used like a pen for finer detail work such as mortise and tenon, dovetail, and box joints, or like a spatula for spreading glue into grooves.

Contact: Rockler

Tel: (001) 800 279 4441

Website: www.rockler.com

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Contact: Irwin

Tel: 0844 412 1190

Website: www.irwin.co.uk

YANDLES WOODWORKING SHOW, 13-14 APRIL 2012

Yandles are pleased to announce the line up of demonstrators for their April show, in Martock, Somerset. The show now covers a wide range of woodworking skills and as always there will be craft demonstrations to entertain the non-woodworking visitors!

There will be 50 trade stands covering a wide range of manufacturers including Record Power, Sorby, Chestnut, Brimarc and Scheppach few. Yandles shows are one of the longest running woodworking events in the UK and provide an ideal venue for woodworkers to see all the latest products, pick up a bargain or two and catch up with old friends.

As always, entry and parking is free and visitors will find the best selection of timber to be found at any woodworking show in Britain.



Tel: 01935 824 566

Website: www.yandles.co.uk

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Contact: Milescraft

Tel: (001) 847 683 9200

Website: www.milescraft.com

PFEIL MARKING KNIFE

The marking knife is an excellent tool for layout work in the workshop. It is used to score precise lines directly into the wood. Unlike a pencil, it leaves no graphite on the work. The new Pfeil marking knives have a double-edged blade, so this versatile tool can be drawn along either side of a straightedge, whether held in the right or the left hand. Two sizes are offered, one for large hands and one for small.

Contact: Tilgear
Tel: 0845 099 0220
Website: www.tilgear.net



NEW BRIMARC 2012 MACHINERY CATALOGUE

This catalogue is packed exclusively with quality brands including Jet, Lamello and Veritas. Among the new products, you will find the Excalibur EX-16 Scroll Saw and Precision Ground Accessory Mounting Jaws featuring the unique SafetyJaw with rounded corners. Plus, both starter and professional chuck packages are available from Axminster Chucks. Also new is the Lamello service offer, bringing a fully trained technician to your workshop or factory after you've made an appointment with them. You will find full details of all BriMarc's stockists on the back cover of the catalogue.



Contact: BriMarc Tools & Machinery
Tel: 0300 100 1008
Website: www.brimarc.com



JET DC1100A

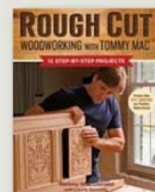
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Contact: Axminster
Tel: 0800 371 822
Website: www.axminstertools.com

BOOK REVIEWS



Rough Cut Woodworking

By Tommy MacDonald & WGBH Boston

For those who have dreamed about furniture making but have been

afraid to pick up a chisel or turn on a tablesaw, *Rough Cut Woodworking with Tommy Mac* is the answer. Famed woodworker Tommy MacDonald and WGBH Boston have joined forces to produce a 12-episode television show by the same name. This book features all 12 episodes, which include smaller projects like a shaker step stool to larger undertakings like a pilgrim blanket chest. All 12 traditional style pieces teach fundamental woodworking techniques in Tommy's encouraging and fun style and each features step-by-step instruction with photos, drawings, a materials list and skill-building techniques that focus on the fundamentals of woodworking.

ISBN: 978-1-60085-416-3

Price £1799



Building Small Cabinets

By Doug Stowe

This book offers eight small cabinet projects that provide inspiration, step-by-step instruction

and skill-building opportunities for novice to intermediate woodworkers. The cabinets in this book can be built for a specific purpose (such as storing jewellery, china, wine) or for more general uses. Designed by award-winning woodworker, teacher and bestselling author Doug Stowe, the cabinets in this book are thoughtfully designed, built with carefully selected materials and have a utilitarian purpose. The skills learned through building these pieces can subsequently be applied to a wide variety of cabinetmaking projects. Stowe offers suggestions for design options, allowing readers to customise the projects as well as learning how to create their own designs.

ISBN: 978-1-60085-347-0

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Readers' forum

The website write stuff

A place for readers to share letters, tips, advice, questions and photos of the latest projects in the *WPP* community

TIMBER FOR DOORS

Q Are there any recommendations for suitable timber to use for cart lodge doors? A suggestion for both softwood and hardwood alternatives would be greatly appreciated. Also, which treatment would be least prone to movement: green, kiln dried etc?

Henry Clift, Suffolk

A I used some new pitch pine to make huge doors for a wagon company years ago. The timber had so much resin in it that I don't think it needed much more protection.

I also used to use a lot of old pitch pine beams from the cotton mills that were being sold on; this was very dry. I pass a big post sign most days that I made over 20 years ago, which only has wood preserver to protect it.

Peter Brook, Dorset

A Douglas fir is another softwood that is considered to be quite durable. I've used it for sliding sash windows when a customer doesn't want to pay hardwood prices.

If you can, get hold of the hardwood iroko, which is full of oil (can be tricky to cut). The doors would last for years. However, I think it might be on the protected list so you may have to track down somebody who has some old stock.

Alan Smith, Kent



Walnut serving platters
by Ronny Eelen,
Belgium

I turned these platters myself, but they were designed by a professional.



The serving platters are 15in wide and 2in high. They can be used on both sides. The top one on the pile on the right shows the bottom view. It took a few prototypes to get to the proper result. The designer will be selling them to present with her own glasswork.



Found wood from John Hodgson, Scotland

I found this old lump of rotting wood by the side of the road amongst the brambles many years ago in the wild lands of Scotland.

In case it came in

useful, I picked it up and took it home. It was used around the house over the years as a doorstop, a bookend and more recently a plinth to rest my model Viking ships on.

Recently it was made redundant and my wife suggested we burn it. My reaction, as expected, was that it might come in useful but my wife said to take it up to my workshop. I then had an idea that I could turn something out of it but wanted to retain its character so this is what I came up with. It turned out to be extremely hard oak. I don't know what to do with it but it is a very versatile lump of wood, capable of filling many more roles in the future.



SAWMILLS IN DARTFORD

Q I live near Dartford in Kent and am having trouble finding a sawmill or supplier where I can buy varied rough boards with a waney-edge among other things. At the moment I am having to travel to Surrey. I am hoping that someone out there may know where I could get these materials. Please could you get in touch if you can.

Andrew, Kent

A Have you tried Stiles and Bates? I seem to remember that they sold board lengths from the barn next to the woodturning shop: www.stilesandbates.co.uk

Or even here: www.eastkenttimber.co.uk

Pierre Grogan, France

A I have had a few planks from Dave Bates and have been happy with all of it. I mainly turn but his plank store is a gem with a good selection. Dave and his team do a lot of milling on site and it's well worth a visit.

Steve Heslop, Camberley



TOP TIP



I have recently started using the HoneRite products from Workshop Heaven, as both a honing fluid and tool protection.

The products seem to work well, however the tins they come in make precise application for sharpening and even coverage of tools quite difficult.

As well as keeping my rag in a resealable plastic bag to stop it drying out, I bought a couple of cheap pump spray bottles (similar to the picture above), which work really well. I have also taken to spraying it directly onto my planes and not the rag before wiping over, which seems to make the product last longer.

Andrew Shaw, Lancashire



Eddie J's workshop

Eddie Jefferies has contributed many projects for discussion since joining the WPP forum. I'm sure we've all wondered how he managed to complete such a variety of projects, both big and small but most often, very big! He has shared with us some images of his workshop, which I'm sure will be of interest to anyone who has seen his finished work.



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www.woodworkersinstitute.com

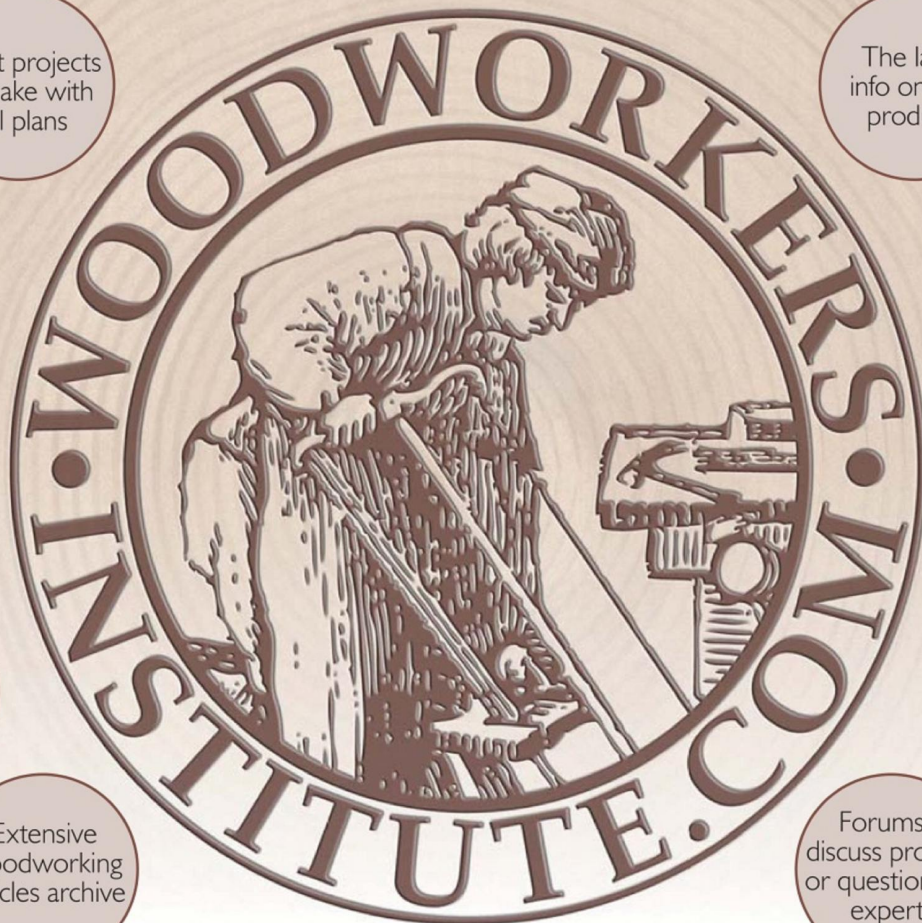


Send in your letters, tips, advice, digital photos and questions relating to woodworking to: WPP Readers' Forums, 86 High St, Lewes, East Sussex. BN7 1XN
Alternatively, email the Deputy Editor, Miriam Bentham: miriamb@thegmgroup.com

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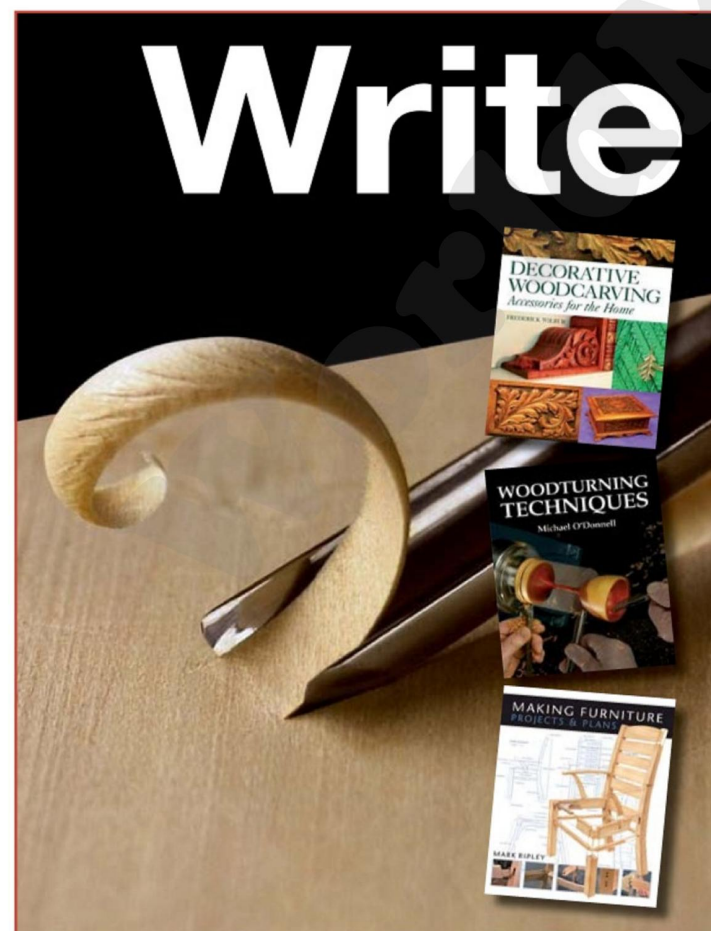
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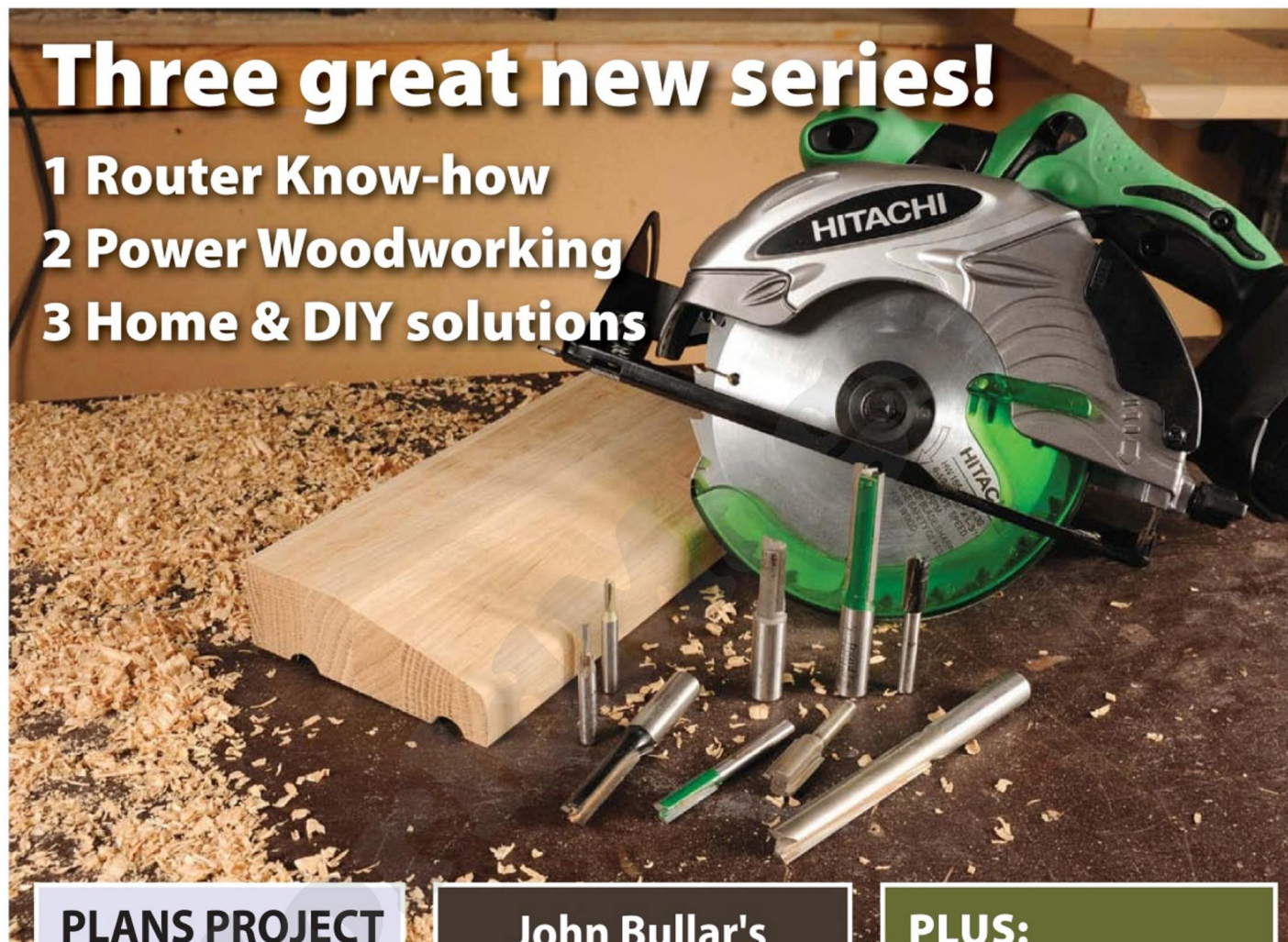
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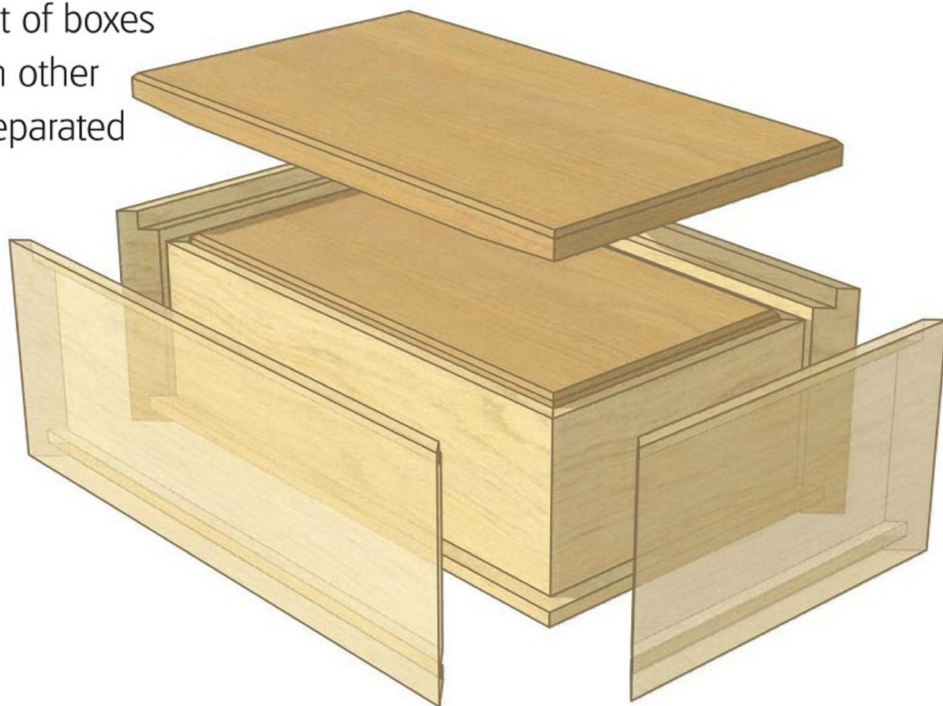
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Nesting boxes

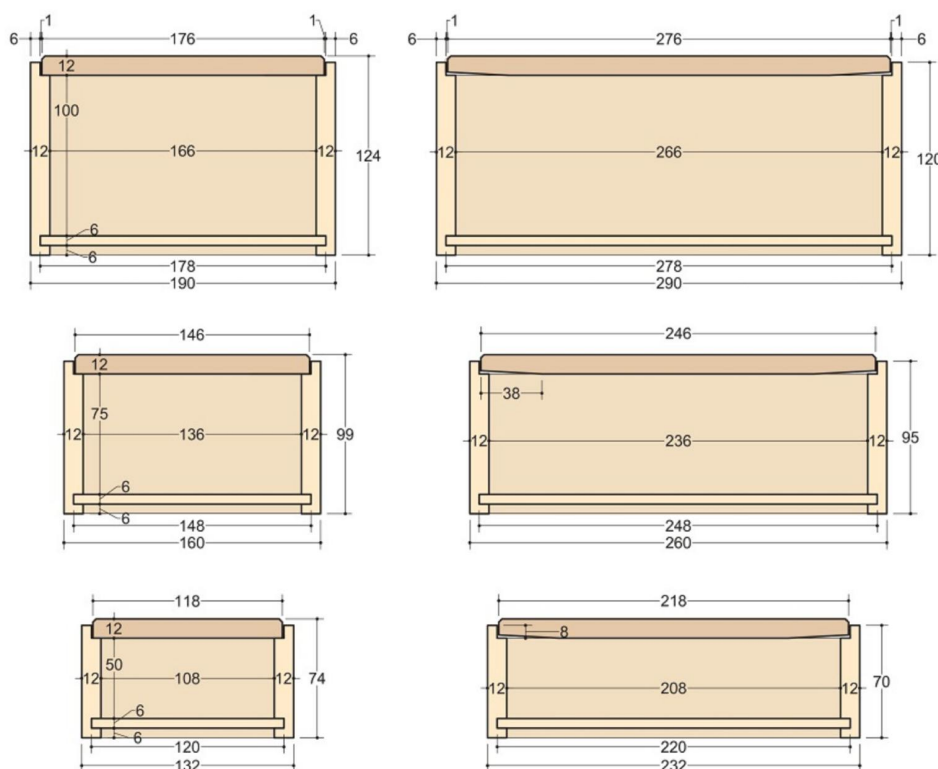
When is a nesting box not a nesting box? When it's not for our feathered friends but for storing useful things instead. Here is a cunning nest of boxes which neatly stack inside each other like Russian dolls, but when separated become useful storage boxes to tidy up your home.



WHAT YOU NEED

- 12mm thick softwood or hardwood
- 6mm MDF or ply
- Abrasive papers
- PVA glue
- Small piece of contrast veneer
- Handplane
- 6mm groover
- Rebate cutter

Make up a cutting list of all components based on the dimensioned drawing. You can either use presanded pine board or hardwood if you have a planer/thicknesser to prepare it. Leave the lids oversize and cut to fit once you have assembled each box. I would suggest that you have one long board for each box. Machine the groove and rebate on the router table and cut into lengths making the mitres afterwards with a mitre saw. Make sure all sides and ends are the correct length so the boxes assemble squarely with neat mitres. Cut the baseboards to fit, leaving a slight gap so the boxes go together without difficulty. The mitres butt together with glue and are then held tight with strap clamps until set. You can then add veneer slips fitted in kerfs cut across each corner, for extra strength. The lids can now be cut to size and the upper edges chamfered. The underside at each end is planed at an angle so when you press down, the lid will swing upwards so you can open it. The boxes should sit neatly on top of each other so they form a tower. No excuses for untidiness now! ■



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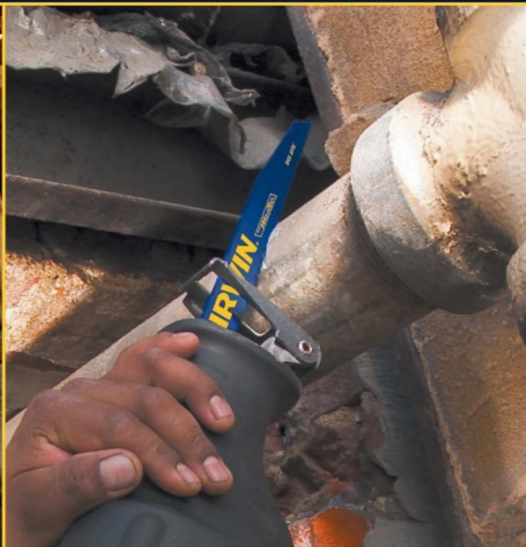
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