

SIMPLE PALLET PROJECTS

Pallet Wood Ideas and Detail Instructions



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Instructions

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DEDICATION

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DIY Herb Garden



What you need:

(7) 8 foot cedar boards

1 box Composite Deck Screws II – brown (comes with a drill bit)

Miter Saw

Drill

1/2 inch Drill Bit

sandpaper & hand sander

potting soil

liquid fertilizer

herbs

Instruction

1. First you'll cut your 8 foot cedar boards into the following lengths:

(10) 27 inch long boards ~ back & bottom of troughs

(5) 30 inch long boards ~ front of troughs

(10) 4 3/4 inch long boards ~ sides of troughs

(2) 5 foot 6 inch long boards ~ sides of herb garden

*Remember safety first! Always wear ear & eye protection when working with power tools & saws! Annnd be careful!

2. After your wood is cut, you'll assemble each box like this with the wood screws & a drill:



3. The longer board will hang over on each side. That's what you want. :) After all of your troughs are finished you can drill some drain holes in the bottom of each trough with 1/2 inch drill bit.
4. Our finished troughs! We actually have 5 troughs total. One for each kiddo! :) Then I sanded our troughs with some sandpaper.



5. To see how it was going to work we leaned the two 5 foot 6 inch boards against the side of the house. We sat one trough on the ground to get an idea of where & what angle we would need to attach them.
6. FYI: Before we sat our boards up we had cut a slight $17\frac{1}{2}$ degree angle with our miter saw on the very bottom of the long boards so that the boards would sit smooth against the ground.



7. Next we spaced our troughs evenly along one of the long boards making sure they were all angled correctly. You can use a pencil to kind of mark where each trough is in case it moves a little before you can get them screwed down.
8. Then we screwed each trough to the long board with the wood screws & a drill. Once they were all secured we flipped it over & screwed the other side down.



9. Boom! It was done! Wahoo! This project took about 2 or 3 hours to complete.

Bookshelf



What you need:

Tools:

Tape Measure

Speed Square

Pencil

Drill with Countersink Drill Bit

Circular Saw

Pocket Hole Jig

Hammer or Brad Nailer

Safety Glasses

Hearing Protection

Materials:

(6) 2 x 4 x 8 Ft. Boards

(6) 2 x 10 x 8 Ft. Boards

(4) Bundles of Reclaimed Pallet Parts

(2) Large Crates

(2) Extra Large Crates

2 1/2-inch Pocket Hole Screws

2 1/2-inch Wood Screws

1 1/4-inch Brad Nails

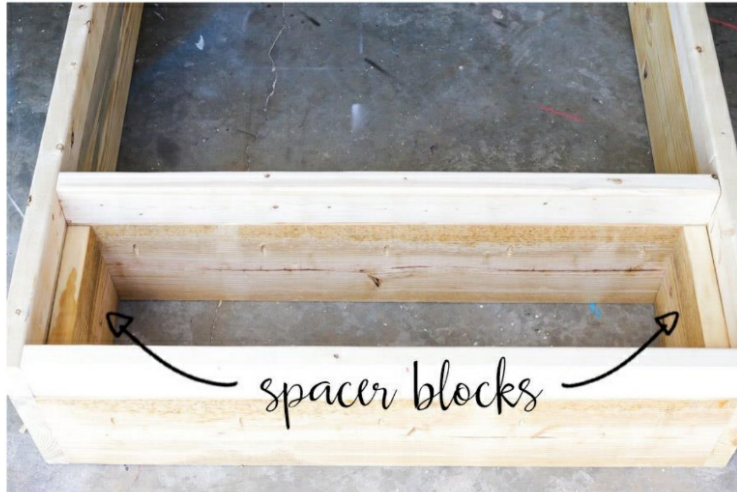
Wood Glue

Instruction

1. After cutting all of my boards, I joined the 2x10s and 2x4s with pocket hole joinery. Here are the sides and shelves:



2. Next, you just build the box. Watson loves to be in the middle of everything.
3. To make building easier and more efficient, I cut scrap pieces of wood to serve as spacers so that the shelves were evenly spaced and level.



4. Then I periodically dry-fitted the crates to make sure they fit nicely.
5. I used a square and a level to make sure the shelf dividers were... well, square and level. Duh.



6. Now that the 'skeleton' is built, we can dress it up with some

reclaimed pallet wood.

7. I used wood glue and my cordless brad nailer to attach the pallet wood to the bookshelf. I cut and ripped the pallet wood at random lengths and staggered the boards.



8. Here's the completed bookshelf:



Potting Bench



What you need:

We started with 2 HT pallets like mentioned in there.



Instruction

1. The one for the table top has 3 stringers, see drawing below.
2. The one for the table legs has 4 stringers, see below. (The 3-stringer ones are more common, so yours might need 2 pallets here.)
3. The table legs from pallet #2 will decide the width of our table, 21" in our case. Use that measurement to cut across the pallet #1 for the table top.





4. Cut the “legs” to the correct height.
5. A comfortable height for a potting bench is about 37". So the legs are 32" to 33" tall.
6. The legs and table top are joined together with pocket hole screws! The Kreg Jig Pocket Hole System is such a great tool that makes very strong joints very quickly, especially when you don't have routers to make joinery.
7. Here's the only tricky part, so attention please! In order to attach the table top to the legs, we doubled up the end stringers on the table top, see drawing above. We also moved the boards from the underside of the table top pallet to make sure that the double stringers sit directly on the table leg stringers, see images below.



8. We added the extra boards from pallet #1 as brace and shelf below. We left most of the wood as is, and sanded the areas that are likely to cause splinters.



9. Final step: just add your favorite exterior paint!

Outside Chair



What you need:

2 pallets nearly equal size

4 leg boards

2 arm boards

Instruction

1. Start with two pallets of nearly equal size if you can. One will be your seat and the other will be your back. Sand them both as well as you can, especially the seat / leg area and anywhere your arms and hands will rest when sitting.

I used coarse, then fine sand paper with a good palm sander.

Caution: pallet or reclaimed wood can be contaminated so please do wear breathing, hand and eye protection!

2. The height of the legs will be determined upon the kind of padding you choose for your chair.
3. The arm length should slightly extend beyond your pallet seat depth.

Mine are:

padding – new 5" foam

legs – 25" high

arms – 5.5" wide x 32" long

pallet seat – 42" wide (left to right) x 30" deep (front to back).

pallet backer – 42" wide (left to right) x 36" high.

Disclosure / the awesome tools above contain affiliate links.



4. Dry fit the works to ensure all is well.

I chose to not attach the backer pallet because I had a railing for support. I also wanted the option to use the pallet as a 2 sided bench, so leaving the backer off proved to be best choice for us. Allowing it to lean also offers you a nice comfortable angle to lean against.

How to attach the back properly... I'd probably extend the arm tops towards the back and run a board attaching both arms from the back so the backer had something to lean on. I can't confirm this will work as I haven't yet done it. Maybe one day I'll try!

Create seat supports:



5. Reinforce the seat pallet with blocks for the legs with some leftover 2×4 chunks.



6. Then attach the chunks from top and bottom of pallet. You are now ready to attach the legs. The chunks give you something stable to drill the 4×4 legs into.
7. Determine how high you wish the chair to sit by propping stuff

up under it and try it out. Consider how deep your padding will be as well. You want to be able to sit on your chair with your feet nearly flat on the floor if possible.

Mine – floor to top of pallet seat = 12"

To attach legs:

8. predrill 4 holes, then screw legs in as shown from outside. I don't have a fancy kreg jig which is on my shopping list, so this does well. Just make sure your screws are long enough to clear the legs and give firm hold into the other side.



Tadaaa! It's cool already and totally sturdy! If your pallet was longer, you could always cut some support legs to set midway if desired. The legs on this one were sturdy enough to carry the entire load.

Arms



9. Screw on your choice of board armrests and you are done!

I'm still debating on adding some extra detail under the armrests to fill in the big holes. I have some ideas. Will update if I do!

Be creative with legs and arms... there's nothing to say you can't use funky stuff. I chose a sign I had stored in my garage for one arm. While I would have loved it a bit thicker, I desired the width to hold a cup of coffee.

Upholstery



10. Pallet wood is not comfy so you'll need to figure out some kind of padding. I purchased brand new foam for the seat.

Thickness desired will determine how dense the foam is. I chose 5" because I did a trial on a sofa cushion we had and I loved how it felt! 5" foam is not cheap though, this seat alone ran me \$100ish. It is what it is.

11. Foam options: you can also purchase outdoor foam, but it's nearly double the price. Outdoor foam accepts damp conditions without mould issues. Mine have to be brought in each night. Oh well!!!

Weathered, Distressed Wood Pallet

Accent Wall



What you need:

Pallet wood

Nail Gun

Brad Nails

Mitre Saw

Tape Measure

Level

Total wood cost

Pallet wood is the perfect substitution for reclaimed barn wood. This DIY Rustic Pallet Wall only costs a few bucks for the nails. Great farmhouse wall art!

Instruction

1. Accumulate enough pallet wood to cover your wall. Depending on the size of your wall, this may seem like a daunting task but they are easy to get.

Tip: I was able to get long pallets from a local hot tub company. Having longer pallets will help break up the wall.

Pallet wood is the perfect substitution for reclaimed barn wood. This DIY Rustic Pallet Wall only costs a few bucks for the nails. Great farmhouse wall art!

This is what my pile of pallets looked like before we started disassembling them.



2. Using a sawzall, saw through the nail between the board and the frame. If you try and pry them off, you will end up spitting the boards. You will be so happy you did it this way because it leaves the nail heads in the wood which looks awesome!
3. Once the pallets are broken apart spray them with a 1 to 1 mixture of bleach and water with a pump sprayer. Allow to dry in the sun. This will kill any germs, bacteria or critters.
4. Tip: To achieve a wall with varied color, leave the pallets in the sun. Wet them down again with water and allow them to dry. Then pull some in while continuing to age others. This will give you the variation in color!



5. Cut pallet boards into various lengths with a Mitre Saw.

Pallet wood is the perfect substitution for reclaimed barn wood. This DIY Rustic Pallet Wall only costs a few bucks for the nails. Great farmhouse wall art!

6. Start at the bottom and work your way up the wall. I wanted to make sure my first board was straight so I butted the board right up against my baseboard and then used a level to adjusted it to straight. This is extremely important because if you start out crooked, you will just get more and more crooked as you go up the wall. Sorry, I didn't get a shot of that but I did take a shot of my dear hubby helping out with my "crazy" wall idea.



7. Nail boards to the wall making sure to stagger the seams. This gives the wall a more realistic reclaimed look.
8. Check the boards with a level every 3-4 rows to make sure it's still straight. If not, adjust accordingly.



9. Step back and admire your beautiful work. This is always my favorite step and I'm pretty sure it will be your favorite too.

10. And here is my pallet wall finished.



"Wild Things" Beast Sign



What you need:

Pallet Boards ([Learn how to dismantle a pallet here](#))

Paint (2 colors)

Paint Brushes (large and detail brushes for lettering)

Monster Stencil (Made from my Silhouette Cameo).

Instruction

1. Cut four pieces of the pallet to equal lengths. I made this sign roughly 14 x 18.



2. Cut two more pieces of the pallet to secure the back of the sign the backing should overlap all four pieces. Using a nail gun choose nails that are about $\frac{3}{4}$ the thickness of the sign and the backing. Nail each at varying angles this will help keep the board secure. If you nail all in straight it would be easy to pull to backing from the sign.



3. Normally I keep the signs rough but since this is for a nursery we decided to lightly hand sand the front of the sign.



4. We chose to only use two colors for this sign white for the background and lettering and grey for the monster. For more of a matte look we painted the sign using Americana Decor Chalk paint. One coat should be enough to cover the board

and will dry rather quickly since the wood is so porous.

5. Using my Silhouette Cameo we traced the monster image in Adobe Illustrator and used Silhouette Connect to send the monster to the Silhouette. I choose to cut the stencil on vinyl that I had bought on clearance at Joann fabric. I choose a color I didn't necessarily like because I am using it as a stencil. To cut the vinyl we used the preset for vinyl on the Silhouette.



6. To transfer the stencil to the pallet there are two methods you can use. First being to use transfer tape and second because it is so large you can place it by hand. Luckily since this was about 14×18 it was helpful to have another person there. Placing it by hand was simple and also saved some money because transfer tape can add up.



7. Using the scrapper or a credit card rub the air out from under the vinyl creating a tight seal so the paint won't bleed.
8. Once the stencil is secure start to paint your monster. Be careful around the edges. I tend to paint from the edge of the stencil inward and try not to oversaturate with paint close to the edge. This will make bleeding less likely.



9. We painted one coat and left the monster a little rough and uneven on purpose to give that textured shabby chic look.
10. The monster will not take long to dry so after about 5 mins pull back the stencil.
11. TaDa! We have a monster. Also this is my friend Ellie that is having triplets! You may remember her from when she guest posted on Weekend Craft about How to Make Pickles and also cute free printable labels.
12. Now you might remember this Ellie is a fabulous illustrator so she actually decided to hand paint the lettering. She drew a guide with pencil first then carefully painted with a small detail brush.



This is one of her favorite quotes from *Where the Wild Things Are*.

Triangle Reading Nook



What you need:

2 wooden pallets (check the back of home depot or lowe's... we asked first...)

scrap pieces of a 2 x , cut into six squares

3 rolling casters

sander and sandpaper

nails

Instruction

1. Choose your palette. Three tips for this process-

a- Choose the most sturdy palette you can find

b- Find a palette that is a square

c- Try to find one with slats that are as close together as possible.

Sand down the palette to the raw wood. Then draw a diagonal line from one corner to the other corner with a pencil.

*Note- The palette we used had a broken slat. We just used the side without the broken slat for the chair.



2. Cut along this line. We actually used a circular saw to cut along the diagonal line on one side of the palette, flipped the palette over and cut along the same line on the other side of the palette.



3. Reinforce your 'front' edge. Use leftover wood from the side of the pallet you discarded (there's already a piece of wood wedged in between the top and bottom layer of the pallet, so use that piece since it is already the right size) to place an extra reinforcing piece on each side of the middle board, sandwiched between the top and bottom layers. Nail your reinforcement pieces in place.



4. On the bottom side of your platform, build up all three corners with squares of scrap wood. These will make your chair sit higher off the ground. Attach the casters to each corner 'tower.' Flip over and admire!

Chevron Coffee Table



What you need:

Pallet or Reclaimed Wood

Plywood (sized for your tabletop – top & bottom)

3×4 posts (or any size desired) – we used old framing lumber

Dremel Multi-Max MM20

Circular Saw

Circular Saw Guide or Table Saw

Yard Stick

Stain

Drill

Screws

Glue (any type is fine, wood glue is best, Elmers will work too)

Mitre Box

Nail Gun

Nails

Sand Paper

Polyurethane

Instruction:



1. Break down the pallets into individual boards. Separate boards from pallet using the Dremel Multi-Max tool to cut the nails (or use a hammer and pry bar).
2. Remove all nails from the pallet wood.



3. Using a circular saw, cut the plywood to the size you want your tabletop to be.
4. We wanted the pallet boards to be narrower to work better with the chevron pattern, so we sized ours down to 2.5 inches. To do this use a table saw or circular saw fitted with a guide, and trim boards to desired size.
5. Draw a line down the center of your plywood. This will be the guide to line up the boards.
6. Using the Dremel Multi-Max with the sanding attachment, lightly sand pallet boards. You can do more detailed sanding if you don't want your table to look as rustic.



7. I wanted the boards to have more of a contrast in color, so we stained a few of the boards to get them darker.

8. Using the mitre box, cut the ends of the pallet boards at a 45° angle.
9. To make the shelf under the table, use the three boards from the middle (or inside) of the pallet, and cut to the size of your tabletop using circular saw.



10. Attach the three boards to the plywood tabletop using a drill and screws. Place a board at each end and one centered in the middle.
11. Arrange the pallet boards in the pattern you like, using the line you drew as a guide. (The boards will hang over the edge of your plywood)



12. Apply glue to back of pallet boards and lay them on top of the plywood. (The glue helps to hold the boards in place

while nailing and you won't need to use as many nails with glue).

13. Using nails and nail gun, nail the pallet boards to the plywood. (We used brad nails).



14. Once all the pallet boards are nailed down, draw a line where your tabletop edge is and using a circular saw, cut the pallet boards down to size.



15. Using additional pallet wood, make a frame for the table edge. Cut the wood to the thickness of your tabletop, plus an additional 1/8".
16. Mitre the ends of the boards at a 45° angle.
17. Nail boards to sides of table to create frame.

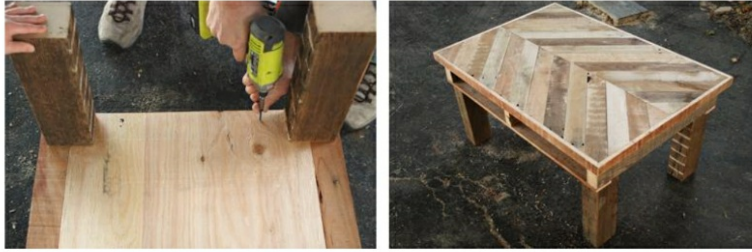
18. Using a circular saw, cut another piece of plywood to fit to the boards on the bottom of your table. I wanted the outside edges to be pallet wood, so we cut two pallet boards to size to fit at the edges, and sized the plywood to fit between those. You can just use one piece of plywood here if desired.



19. Drill holes in the pallet boards (or plywood if you're just using that) where the legs will attach.
20. Screw the board to the legs.



21. Once all four legs are attached to your pallet boards, set the plywood in-between and screw it in place.
22. Set the bottom part of the table on top of the upside down tabletop. Drill pilot holes into the bottom of the table.



23. Screw together the two pieces.
24. Flip table over and sand any rough spots.
25. If desired, coat table with polyurethane, following directions on can for use and dry times.



Here's to pallets!

Fireplace Surround



What you need:

4 L brackets for the mantle

6 Pallets

10- 2x4x8s

3 sheets of 1/2" 4x8 plywood

1 5lb Box of 3 in wood screws

1 5lb Box of 2.5 in wood screws

10 Heavy duty Drywall Anchors

Fireplace Insert

Tools you'll need:

Ryobi Air Strike You guys....this thing is quite honestly a game changer. It saved us so much time and effort. I recommend using a nailer for your pallet wood instead of screws. It keeps the pallet wood from splitting and driving you insane. it also makes it possible to put multiple nails in without worrying about aesthetics. I cannot praise this tool enough.

Miter Saw This saw isn't Absolutely necessary it's just much easier to cut the 2x4's with. You can use your circular saw in place of this.

Circular saw We use This one

Kregg Jig Rip cut guide. This thing is amazing! It completely eliminates the need for a table saw. We use it all the time

Impact Driver and Drill We use THESE

Tape measure

Drill Bits This is the set we have-

You'll need a 1/2 " Drill bit for your drywall anchors.

Misc Bits for screws This is the set we have.

Hammer

Pliers

Screwdriver

Instruction

1. We had all of these tools on hand already which made this project much easier. So after 3 trips to the hardware store to get all of the other supplies it was time to start. They started with building the Base. Which is also the hearth. It's 60"Wx27"Dx15"Hhearth box
2. We measured the wall from both ends of the room to make sure it was centered then attached the Hearth using The Heavy duty Drywall anchors.drilling for anchorinserting drywall anchors



3. After the Hearth box was secured to the wall with 4 anchors
They measured from the hearth to the ceiling in order to
determine the heights of the 2×4's that would make up the
main section of the fireplace. Measuring for top half of fireplace



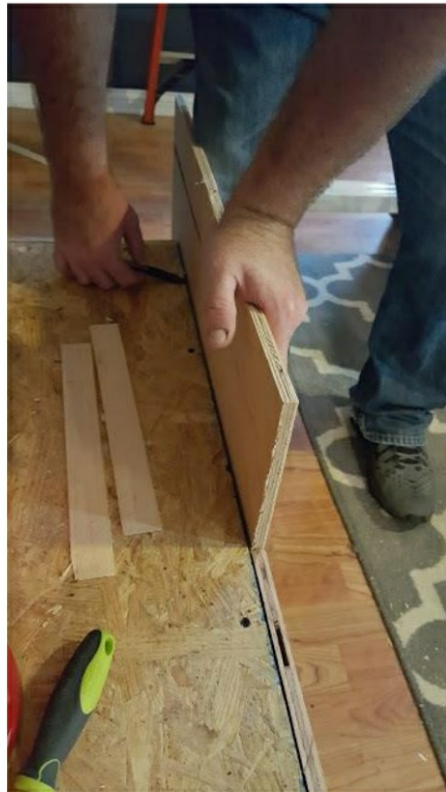
4. After they got the measurements and everything was cut to size
they assembled it. Sorry about the Craptastic Lighting on these
we're in Indiana and it gets dark at 3PM LOL20151114_201950
5. The frame included a box for the heater/fireplace and a box for
our components. Once they assembled it in the driveway they

then attached it to the hearth with the 3 in wood screws and to the wall with the drywall anchors.IMG955570



6. Once the main frame was up they framed in the component box and added studs to the middle so we could hang the TV.studs component box
7. Next it was time to wrap it with plywood. They just held the pieces up scored them with a pencil and ripped them down with a circular saw. They covered the sides, the front, and the

hearth; Attaching the plywood with wood screws where there were studs. At this stage we also drilled the holes for the Fireplace insert and Mounted the TV where we wanted it.



8. Now that the plywood is done and I painted the firebox black



Bar Cart



What you need:

2 equal size/shape pallets in great condition

3 pallets for parts

4 heavy duty casters

disposable nitrile gloves

paint towel/rags

2 cans “antique white” Varathan wood stain

200 screws or less

Tools

pencil

measuring tape

“L” shaped ruler

belt sander with cloth dust bag

sandpaper

circular saw

drill

set of sawhorses

16 bolts

Instruction

1. Place the in-seams of the two equal size/shape pallets across from each other. The complete distance including a space should be 16 inches apart.
2. The three extra pallets are needed for the wood boards. Use

your measuring tape, “L” shaped ruler and pencil to mark and measure 16 inches across. Cut each board on the lines with the circular saw. Depending on the width of the boards on each of the ‘parts pallets’ you will need to cut approximately 32 – 16 inch boards to create a top shelf, middle shelf and bottom shelf.

3. Before you begin filling in each of the shelves with boards you will need to secure the entire structure by screwing boards on the ends of all three levels (a total of 6 boards at this point). This will ensure that the cart is exactly 16 inches apart from top to bottom. Next you will place all your pre-cut boards side by side in the remaining spaces. Do not start screwing them in place until you have them the way you want. Take the time to screw each board to the main structure in a way that looks pretty because you will see all the screw tops in the finished cart. Also, take the time to put some screws in the front face and back face of the initial main pallets. This will make sure you have a sturdy cart that won’t fall apart on you over time and can handle all the items you will place in it and on it.
4. Yes, I actually took the time to sand every edge of all 32 cut boards. This step was time consuming and is totally up to you if you choose to do the same. Pallets are not perfect by design and you may like the rough texture all over the entire cart. My

cart is in my dining room, so I wanted the surfaces that are going to be touched the most to be as smooth as possible.

5. In my Tools list above you will see that it says you will need a set of sawhorses. As you can see from the picture I do not own a sawhorse, so my father in-law and my husband created this make shift platform so we could cut all the boards correctly.
6. Isn't a bar cart without wheels. This pallet bar cart is very heavy and in need of four heavy duty casters. You can order these online or pick them up at any hardware store.
7. Before you secure each of the wheels to the corner bottom posts make sure you pre-drill all the holes, then secure each caster with four bolts. This will make your bar cart extra functional because you'll be able to wheel it around your home or outdoor space with ease.
8. A side view of the assembled Pallet Bar Cart on casters.
9. Here are the items you will need to create a beautiful white wash finish all over your bar cart. Disposable Nitrile gloves to protect your hands from the stain. A package of paint towels to easily apply the stain all over the cart. Last, 2 cans of "antique white" Varathan wood stain. I love the finished look of white wash on my pallet bar cart but your style may be different, so here are few other options. You could give it a traditional look by using a brown stain or you could make the bar cart pop by

using your favorite color stain or skip the stain and use paint.

10. This photo shows the front view of the completed Pallet Bar Cart. The back side of the cart looks identical which makes it perfect to set up for a party in the middle of a room or to push it up against the wall. As you can see from the photo I left both the pallets fully in tact. I like that I can place anything I want onto the shelves and it is somewhat hidden away. If you would like to have it more open then you could remove some of the center boards on the front and leave the back side in tact for better support.

Tips

- Make sure to complete this entire cart in an outdoor space because the saw dust will be everywhere. You'll also need a well ventilated area because the stain has a strong odor (goes away within a few days). Pre-stain or paint each of the 32 boards and the two main pallets. I did not do this, which made it more time consuming and difficult to stain every inch of the cart when it was fully assembled.