



Wood Pallet Craft Ideas

Amazing Wood Pallet Projects



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Pallet Wine Rack



OBTAIN A PALLET

Pallets are pretty easy to source. I got this one at our tennis club. When I've needed pallets for other projects, I usually announce on Facebook that I need one and I always get tons of offers for ones that are available.

This pallet is a heavy-duty one and has two center pieces of wood. A pallet designed to hold a lighter amount of weight will only have one center piece.



DIRECTIONS TO MAKE THE WINE RACK

Use a hand saw to cut off the bottom two sections of the pallet. (If you are wondering, Har-Tru is the surface applied to clay tennis courts.)



Remove the top board.



Cut through the middle two boards and remove.



Use saw to remove middle vertical boards



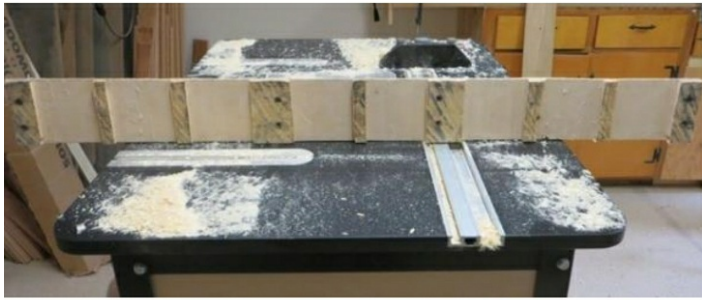
Sand smooth with a belt sander.

Screw the top board removed at the beginning of the process to the bottom of the rack.



Remove another board from the pallet to make a holder for the glasses.

We routed slots 3 1/4" wide for each glass. (Not shown....Route a U shape in each slot to hold the glasses.)



Screw the routed piece to the bottom of the wine rack.



Pallet Christmas Countdown

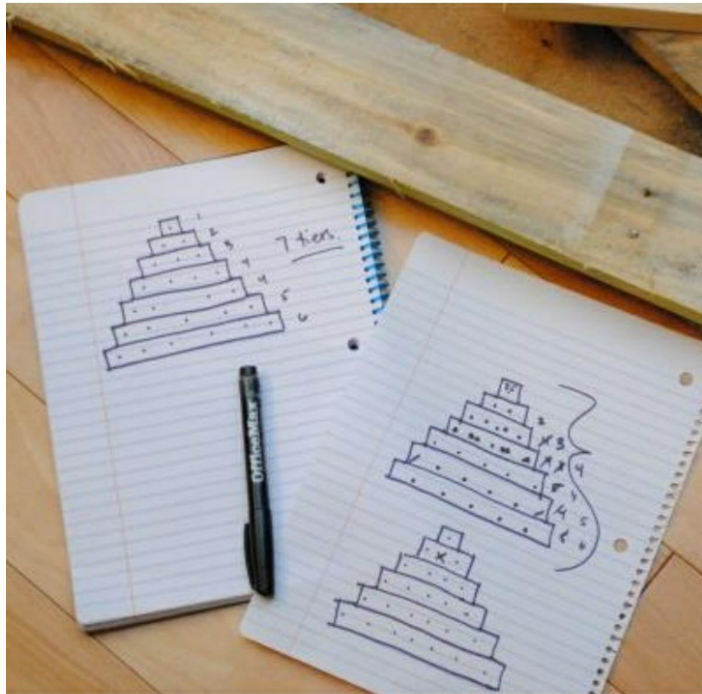


The project started out by taking 10 steps outside to the garage. Yup, this creation was put together using only materials I already had on hand. This is what I gathered...

- Pallet and wood scraps – the more dented and imperfect, the better
- Nails (3/4" – 1" deep)
- Number stencil
- Black Sharpie
- Hammer
- Circular Saw
- (25) Colorful ornaments

1. I first started out by looking through my wood scrap pile and leftover pallet scraps. I collected a bunch of pieces all in different colors and sizes. The more imperfect the better.

Then I took some time and put a drawing together to figure out how many rows of wood would be needed and how the 25 ornaments would sit on the “tree”. In the end, 7 tiers worked best and 2 of the rows have 4 nails, creating the 25 spots.



2. Now that the hardest part was over (a little mathematical equations), I laid out the pieces of wood to determine what looked nice next to each other and then the widths of each tier. On the backs, I then labeled each row.



3. Then using a circular saw, I cut each piece to form the “tree” shape. Once that was complete, I added a scrap piece of wood to the backs of the pieces to attach them together.

I added a few more pieces of scraps (old paint sticks, to be specific) to the back. This looks kinda messy, but hey, who’s lookin’ at the back???



4. By eye (no more math needed), I marked the locations for the 25 ornaments. Then I added a nail at each location leaving about 1/2" exposed for the ornament to hang.



5. Once the nails were in, it was time for the numbers. Using stencils I had from a previous Martha Stewart project, I outlined the numbers with a black sharpie.

Again, the more imperfect the better.

Once the numbers were done, the project was complete.

Plain + Decorated.



Pallet Mounted Hanging Mason Jar Vase



We used one of the widest boards on the pallet – about 5.5" wide – and cut it to be 12" long. We also cut another 3" long piece to be the hanging chalkboard.



Then I cut a chevron contact paper stencil with my Silhouette. Because really, is there any trendier print than chevron?



I put a little bit of water into some white acrylic paint (I wanted a bit of a white-washed look as opposed to stark white stripes) and painted it onto the wood. The contact paper was a bit difficult to get to stick to the wood, but as long as I painted away from the edge of the stencil, it gave me clean lines.



I found a hose clamp at Home Depot for \$1.50 to use to hold the mason jar – you can find them in the plumbing department, and they look like this:



They come in several different sizes, but you can use a screwdriver to turn that little bolt thingy (yes, that's the technical term, I'm a hose clamp expert) and adjust the size, so err on the larger side.

The tricky part was how to attach the hose clamp to the wood, since the mouth of the jar was an inch and a half away from the pallet board. My handy hubby, Matt, to the rescue again! He cut a shim out of a small piece of MDF to fit behind the mouth of the jar – that way, the body of the jar would still sit flush against the wood. He nailed the shim to the wood, then nailed the hose clamp to the shim. Then we tightened the hose clamp around the mouth of the jar and snipped off the excess (careful, it makes a very sharp edge!).



And here's how the hose clamp looks on the finished product:



DIY Pallet Coat Rack



First off, find a pallet! There actually are certain types that are better than others. ALL can be used to make a coat rack, but for the EASIEST way, chose one that is made like this one:



After you find your pallet, you are ready to get started! This whole process takes about 10 minutes

First, take a Sawzall and cut off your end board. You will be using this board as your “shelf” later. It cuts right through the nails like nobody’s

business. It may help to have someone holding the pallet because it really shakes.



After you get the board cut off, you will take it and place it on top of the pallet. You can see in the picture very clearly where to place it.



After you get the board placed across the top of the pallet, you are ready to nail it on. This board will be your shelf!



When you are finished nailing, you simply cut the board off right below the curve in the pallet.

Here is the finished product! All it needs at this point is some sanding on the super rough areas, painting or staining, and adding hooks! I am serious when I say that this entire project, even the painting, and hooks, takes about 20 minutes total.



Now...let me show you one that I have hanging in my own house! It is slightly different than this one, although barely...it is the SAME

exact process...so no difference there! The only difference is that the top board is a little larger.



Barn Door Headboard



Supplies:

- Wood (1x6 8ft) \$5.32 each at Home Depot 22 pieces
- Miter Saw
- Drill
- Hammer
- Pipe Clamps
- Wood Glue
- Screws
- Stain
- Degreaser
- Measuring Tape
- Pen

I wanted my headboard 7ft tall (perfect for my ceiling height and still able to fit through standard doors and awkward hallways easily) so start out by deciding how big you want it. Keep in mind the sizing I used is based on a king bed. Cut your vertical pieces of wood to the height you want.

Each barn door will be created separately. First, put together 8 of your vertical boards UPSIDE DOWN and tighten with pipe clamps. Measure the boards across and cut a horizontal piece to fit.

Put wood glue on the back of the board to help secure it better.



Place the board underneath and use a hammer to secure it and make sure it's even. Then screw in the board, using 2 screws per vertical board. (Sorry, no screws shown here yet. Keep reading for a visual of the back.)



Repeat these steps 3 more times. One at the bottom and two in between, measuring first to make sure they're even.

Stand the barn door up and holding your top diagonal piece, measure it and use a pen to mark the cut. Repeat for the bottom diagonal piece.

Cover back with wood glue



Fit in place. If it doesn't quite fit perfectly you can shave off a little at a time with your saw.



While the door is still upright put a screw on each end (through the back) to secure the board in place. Then lay the entire door flat so you can drill the screws into the diagonal piece. Use a board as your guide so you don't drill your screw through the front.

This is what the back should look like with all the screws in place...



Repeat steps to complete the other side, making sure your diagonal pieces are opposite. When your doors are finished give them a quick sanding, then lift the doors up.



Brush stain on with a paintbrush and quickly wipe off. My stain (of course) took a lot darker on the actual barn door, so I used a wet rag to apply, then rubbed with a degreaser to remove some of the stain and give it that worn look. I ended up scrubbing quite a bit to get the look I wanted.

When you're happy with the color, wait for it to dry then place your lights (optional). Drill a hole for the cord to come through the back and screw the lights into the board where you want them.

To hang my headboard we screwed three small pieces of wood into the studs of my wall, then drilled three screws diagonally into the top of the headboard and straight through those pieces.



DIY Pallet Headboard



Instructions

1. Find some used pallets in good condition. Many businesses have pallets that they will give you, or you can check on Craigslist or similar websites for folks selling or giving them away. Some things I looked for when selecting the pallets included; wood that was not rotted or cracked, fairly straight edges, and visual character attributes like knots and swirls in the grain. For the king bed sized backboard created here, I used a total of five pallets.

2. Take the pallets apart being careful not to crack or damage the wood slats. I used a pry bar and hammer, but a better method would be to use a reciprocating saw like the Ryobi Cordless Reciprocating Saw. Determine what size you want your headboard to be when finished. I made mine for a standard king size bed. The total width I decided on

was 80 inches. The finished height will be determined by your own preference and the size of your bed frame.

4. Create the headboard frame for the pallet slats. I used two 2 x 4's for the legs and 1/2" plywood sheet for the actual frame backing. The plywood was cut to 78" wide and 36" high. The width of 78" was to allow for a one inch overhang of the pallet slats on each side of the frame. The 36" height was a personal preference. I used 1 and 5/8" wood screws to attach the legs to the frame and spray painted the plywood a dark brown to hide the bright color of the plywood if any were to show through the slats.

NOTE: The total height of the headboard, with the 2" x 4" legs added was 54". Again, this was personal preference as the headboard was being built for a bed that rested on the floor and not on a typical bed frame. I placed the legs 6" in from the ends, however, if you are mounting to studs you might want to reposition these to line up.



5. Cut your pallet slats to fit the width of your headboard. I drew mine out on paper first to make it easier to determine slat lengths. The idea is to stagger the joints so they do not overlap, which helps create a nice looking pattern. Make sure the slats are the same width for the entire row or you may run into problems such as large gaps and a finished product with uneven top or bottom edges. I also tried to keep as many of the original nail holes as possible in the design to give the headboard a more rustic look when finished.



6. Lay the cut pallet slats out and double check your measurements to be sure your overall height and weight is still good. This will also help determine if there are any pallet slats that you might want to replace for aesthetic reasons. Make any changes or adjustments at this time.

7. Sand the cut pallet slats down to your desired finished texture. I wanted my slats to be fairly smooth and not so rough looking. To achieve this look, I used a belt sander with 80 grit for the first pass. This got rid of a quite a bit of the splintery old exterior wood and left a fairly smooth surface. The grain also really started to pop and became much more visible. I finished up with one last pass with 120 grit and hand sanded the edges and ends with the same.

8. To obtain a more rustic finish you can add some distress marks to the slats. Some ideas to achieve this include; laying a large screw sideways across the slats in random places and striking it hard enough to

leave an impression, adding some hammer mark dings, using the belt sander to make uneven areas along the slats. These will really stand out if you decide to add a wood stain to your headboard in the instructions below.

9. The next step is to stain the sanded pallet slats. I was making this headboard for my daughter and she wanted the finished product to have several different colors interspersed. Her color selection after viewing numerous samples included the following Minwax stain products; Special Walnut, Dark Walnut, Early American, and Classic Gray. I applied the stains in a basically random method, although I used my layout of the slats on the floor to try to ensure I didn't place too many slats with the same color right next to each other. Once the stained slats dry you can further distress them by using sandpaper. I chose not to do this but if you are trying to achieve the worn and weathered look it might be a good idea.



10. Attach the pallet slats to the headboard frame you created earlier. Remember to account for the overlap on the ends if you planned it that way like I did. It is also a good idea to lay each row out before you attach it to the frame to avoid any possible mistakes.



11. I started at the top left side of the frame and worked my way down row by row. I used Liquid Nails Project Adhesive to glue each piece to the plywood frame, along with 1" brad nails (minimum of four per slat and more for longer slats) installed with my PORTER-CABLE Brad Nailer. After each row you should check your measurements to make sure the lines are fairly straight. You can make adjustments as you go. Small gaps are highly likely because, after all, you are working

with old pallets. These give the finished product some character and, in my opinion, are visually appealing.

12. To finish the pallet headboard, I stained the 2" x 4" frame legs with the Minwax Early American. I then applied three coats of Minwax Polycrylic Satin Finish to the entire headboard to smooth out and protect the final product. Without the Polycrylic the headboard was very rough feeling and any splintering revealed unstained wood beneath the damaged slat. The Polycrylic also gave the headboard a nice dull sheen and makes cleaning and upkeep much easier.

13. And that's how to make a headboard out of repurposed pallet wood!

How To Make A Bookshelf



This might be the easiest piece of furniture you ever build! Here's what you'll need:

- 5 large crates (For the record, you can use crates of any size, I used large crates.)
- Stain or paint of your choice (I used Rustoluem Ultimate Wood Stain in weathered grey)
- Purdy paintbrush (Purdy brushes are the best!)

- Drop cloth (To stain or paint the crates on.)

So, how to build a bookshelf? Give each crate 2 coats of stain with a paintbrush. The end! Well, then decide how you want to stack them. Now, if you have small children, I would recommend screwing the crates together and attaching them to the wall. But, if you don't have kids (or pets), they are sturdy enough on their own. I also like the idea of not screwing them together so that you can easily rearrange the shape whenever you'd like! I did not screw them together for the Celebration of Service event since kids do not live in the Hutchinson's home.



I wanted to show you a few more ways you could possibly arrange the 5 crates. Here's a stair step idea that stores all things Maxwell.





I'm excited to share more details and exactly what we did to improve the function and beauty of your home!

Pallet Shoe Storage Bench



Start with two pallets. Try to get the exact same pallets and some pallets that are in fairly good condition. Also, try to find pallets that use 2"x4" construction for the middle board. The bench finishes at 48"x18".

You will need:

- – 1"x6"x 12' long cut into 48" lengths (The top, 3 cuts)
- – 2"x4"x 6' long ripped down the middle cut into 18" lengths (Center supports- 8 cuts)
- – 2"x4"x 12' cut into 18" lengths (Side supports- 8 cuts)
- – 2"x4"x 12' milled down to 3" wide (optional) cut into 18" lengths (Bottom Side supports- 8 cuts)
- Circular Saw (This is a great one here)

- Drill (Seriously the Dewalt Hammer Drill is my fav!)
- Lots of screws
- Hammer
- Chisel
- 4 casters

Turn the pallets over and remove the bottom.



I did this with a chisel and hammer. I just chiseled around the nails and then used the hammer to pull them out. You want to remove the bottom to extend the spaces between shelves for bigger shoes.

Your pallets should look something like this:



Next, cut them both in half the width way. Make sure you measure so they are all even pieces. Measure twice!

Now, most likely, your circular saw won't cut all the way through the thickness of the wood, so I used a hand saw to cut the remainder.

You should have four equal sized pieces of the pallet. Stacked on top of each other, you get the idea of how the bench will look. At this point, decide which side you want to face front and the order you would like to stack the pallets. I had some ends that were cracked on my pallet so I faced them towards the back. Also, I put the best quality shelves toward the top of the bench because I figured you would see them more.



Now we need to reinforce the bench shelves to be strong enough to hold a person's weight. Measure the width of the pallet. Taking a 2"x4" board (the reason why the pallet needs to be 2"x4" construction) cut 8 pieces of the board into the width of the pallet (18 inches).

Starting with bottom half piece, attach the 2"x4" along the outside edges of the pallet, like below. I used screws to do this.



Turn the pallet over (this is your bottom rung) and measure the width of you two boards. The height of a normal pallet space is not tall

enough for most men's shoes. I needed to expand this, so I did so by adding boards to the top of the supports.

You will need to measure the edges (the 2"x4" you just screwed on) and the width of your middle supports. (If using a 2"x4" pallet, it will be about 3", hence the milled board above.) You don't have to do this if you don't want to. I just didn't want any overhang, but you could easily center the height extension boards. Cut the boards down to 18" long, there will be eight cuts. Each shelf also needs some center support boards, so I cut two center supports for each shelf and two end supports for each shelves.

You should end up with

6- 2"x4"x18" boards (2 were already used)

8- 2"x2"x18" boards

8- 2"x3"x18" boards (unless you didn't mill down the boards).

Next, screw your center supports into place:



Starting with the bottom shelf, screw the two 2"x3"x18" boards to the tops of each of the edges. (Note: If you plan on finishing the bench, this is the part I wish I would have sanded the bench. It was very hard to sand the bench once all the shelves were put together.)

Now, stack your next pallet shelf on the bottom. Use the pallet overhang to screw it in place to the shelf below.

You should have something like this:

Place your 2"x4"x18" side piece on the pallet overhang and then put the top 2"x3"x18" piece on the top of the ends. You are using your 2"x3"x18" to hold the side piece in place. You need to screw down the top piece (2"x3"x18") to hold the side piece in and to attach to the shelf. (Note: I drilled a hole and then screwed in the screw. I just found it easier and I didn't want to split the wood. I wasn't sure how the pallet would hold up to just drilling a screw in.)

Repeat the process. I used very long screws because I wanted to make sure that the screw went all the way through the shelf, into the side piece of the shelf below.

You should end up with something like the picture below. (You might want to use clamps if your boards are bowed a little.)

Now it's time for the top. I purchased a 1"x6" pine board for my top. I didn't want anyone snagging their clothes on the rough pallet wood, so I thought the top should be smooth. Measure the width of your bench, in my case it was 48" (including the overhangs on the side), and cut your board into 3 pieces.

Place your boards across top of the bench (there will be gaps in between them) and mark your drill marks. I decided to nail on the top, to add sort of a rustic feel. I had some large roofing nails that I liked the look of, so I used them. I did drill holes part of the way before putting the nails in so I was easier for me and I didn't dent the wood. You should now have a bench that looks something like this! Now you have to flip it over to add the wheels.



After sanding (for weeks), staining, and applying the polyurethane, the bench is finally finished!

The total cost: Pallets (free) + wheels (\$18.88) + boards (\$13.25)
+Stain (free, already had it) + Screws & Nails (free, already had them)
= \$32.13

Not too bad if I don't say so myself!

In addition to the bench, I found plans for an above storage and coat hook organizer from ana-white.com. (Here are the plans: [Ana White Entryway Storage Shelf with Hooks](http://ana-white.com/entryway-storage-shelf-with-hooks)) I don't know if you have seen her site, but I am in LOVE with it!

It was very easy to build and cost about \$25.



Pallet Board Coffee Table



Tools & Materials Used to Construct My Pallet Board Coffee Table

- 3 pallets for the table top
- 1 8' PT 4×4 for the legs
- 1 8' PT 2×4 and 1 10' 2×4 for the surround & table top support
- Crowbar, hammer, and circular saw for the pallet demo
- Wire brush to clean up the pallet boards
- Broom...demo'ing pallets can be nasty work
- Miter saw to cut your boards & lumber
- 3" deck screws
- Nail gun & 1" staples
- Paint for the base and satin polyurethane to treat the top

- And of course, a frosty beverage of choice and some smooth tunes to get you ready for relaxing in your new and improved space

Basic Construction of My Pallet Board Coffee Table

By looking at my coffee table it's easy to see that the construction is very basic – there's just a base and a top. I guess that's all any table is really...but clearly my construction is quite rudimentary. Regardless, below you will find the basic steps I took to construct my pallet board coffee table.

- Determine the dimensions for your coffee table that will fit your space and your objectives.
- Demo the pallets & clean the boards.
- Cut the pallet boards to size.
- Treat the pallet boards with satin polyurethane...this will allow your coffee table to last longer without making it look too slick.
- Construct the Base:
(1) Cut the 4×4 into equal sized pieces to make the legs...whatever height you want your table to be.

- (2) Cut the 2×4's to size to make the surround of the base...4 pieces (mine were 2 4' long segments and 2 segments that were about 32" long...making my base about 3'x4').
 - (3) With 3" deck screws connect the 4 2×4 surround segments to the 4 4×4 legs.
 - (4) Cut another 2×4 to size as support for the table top. Attach it to the surround so that the 2×4 runs perpendicular to the table top pallet boards.
- Paint the base and let it dry. Wanting to add a pop of color to our otherwise gray pergola area, we chose to paint the base red. (Originally I had planned on painting the entire table red...but after seeing how great the wood looked, I thought it would be a shame to cover it up. Besides...painting the entire table red would have been more like an explosion than a pop.)
 - Add the table top by evenly spacing the pallet boards on top of the base...and nailing them into place.

