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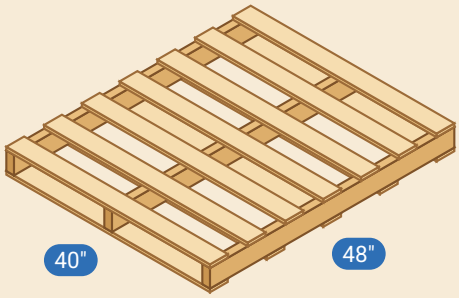
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15 EASY PROJECTS WITH CUT LISTS

PALLET FURNITURE

Fifteen pallet projects drawn to scale, with the cut list, how many pallets you need and the steps. Standard US pallets, inches.

- Pallet safety: read the HT stamp
- Cut list for every project
- Drawings with measurements
- How many pallets + step by step



HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Check the pallet, take it apart safely, cut everything first, then assemble in order.

1

Check the stamp

Only HT pallets, clean and dry. See the next page before you pick one up.

2

Count your pallets

"What you need" says how many pallets each project takes.

3

Take apart, then cut

Pull the nails, sand, then cut with the cut list. Label every piece.

4

Dry fit, then screw

Assemble without screws to check, then pre-drill and screw.

THE 15 PROJECTS

#	PROJECT	SIZE (in)	PALLETS	LEVEL	TIME	PAGE
01	Garden Sofa	48 x 44-3/4 x 41-1/2	4	Medium	3 hours	6
02	Coffee Table	36 x 24-1/2 x 16	2	Medium	3 hours	7
03	Vertical Garden	40 x 4-3/4 x 48	2	Easy	2 hours	8
04	Wall Shelf	25-1/4 x 7-5/8 x 30	2	Easy	2 hours	9
05	Queen Headboard	60 x 3-1/2 x 49-1/2	3	Medium	3 hours	10
06	Garden Bench	46 x 14-3/4 x 32	4	Medium	3-4 hours	11
07	Planter Box	36 x 14 x 10-1/2	2	Easy	2 hours	12
08	Tiered Plant Stand	30 x 21 x 30-5/8	2	Medium	2-3 hours	13
09	Mug Rack	24 x 4-3/4 x 17-1/2	1	Easy	1.5 hours	14
10	Shoe Bench	36 x 11-7/8 x 19	2	Easy	2 hours	15
11	Crate Side Table	18 x 18 x 22	2	Medium	3 hours	16
12	Dog Bed	37-1/4 x 28-5/8 x 10-1/2	2	Medium	3 hours	17
13	Firewood Rack	40 x 14 x 40	3	Medium	2-3 hours	18
14	Fold-Down Wall Bar	40 x 5-3/8 x 29-3/4	2	Advanced	4 hours	19
15	Garden Table	40 x 33-1/2 x 29	3	Medium	3 hours	20

SAFETY FIRST
HT pallets only

REAL SIZES
Board 5/8" x 3-1/2"

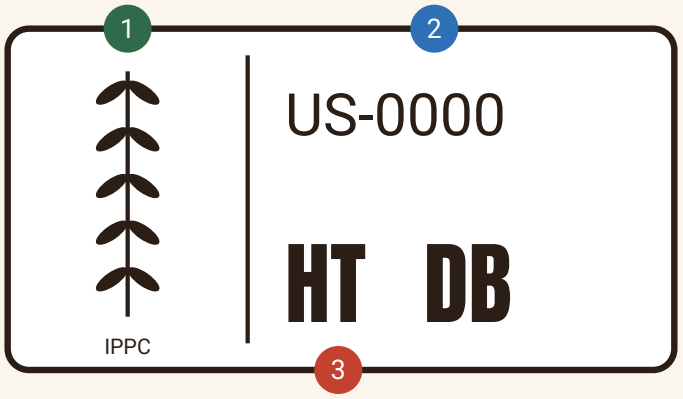
BEGINNER OK
Simple tools

vifalio.com
Free guide

Free study guide. Inches, for standard US pallets (48" x 40"). Pallet wood varies: measure yours. Wear safety gear. Costs are estimates.

READ THE STAMP FIRST

Pallets that cross borders carry an IPPC stamp that tells how the wood was treated. It decides if you can use it.



1. **IPPC mark**
   the wheat symbol of the plant protection treaty
2. **Country + producer**
   e.g. US, then the mill's number
3. **Treatment code**
   HT, MB or KD. This is the one to read.

HT = HEAT TREATED

OK TO USE

Heated to kill insects. No chemicals. KD (kiln dried) is fine too. DB only means the bark was removed.

MB = METHYL BROMIDE

DO NOT USE

Fumigated with a toxic pesticide. Do not build with it, cut it or burn it. Leave it where you found it.

SKIP THE PALLET IF...

- **It has dark stains**
  oil, paint, grease or any spill you cannot explain.
- **It smells of spoiled food**
  or mold, rot or animals: it carried food or got wet.
- **It has no stamp**
  unknown history: never for indoors, kids, pets or food gardens.
- **It smells of chemicals**
  solvent, gasoline, pesticide or anything sharp.
- **It is painted blue or red**
  with a company name: it belongs to a pallet rental pool, not to the store.
- **Boards are rotten or wet**
  cracked, soft or moldy wood will not hold a screw.

Always ask before you take a pallet. Many stores give them away; some sell them for a few dollars.

Free study guide. Inches, for standard US pallets (48" x 40"). Pallet wood varies: measure yours. Wear safety gear. Costs are estimates.

TAKE IT APART SAFELY

1 Gear on first

Gloves, safety glasses and closed shoes. Dust mask (N95) when you sand or cut: pallet dust is dirty.

2 Pry bar or pallet buster

Work the bar next to the nails. Lift each end a little, then the middle. Go slow and the board will not split.

3 Reciprocating saw

Metal-cutting blade between the board and the stringer cuts the nails. Fastest way, fewest split boards. Two hands on the saw.

4 Every nail out

Punch or pull every nail stub. Sweep a magnet over each board before cutting: a hidden nail ruins the blade and can fly.

BASIC TOOLS

- Pry bar or pallet buster
- Reciprocating saw + metal blade
- Drill/driver + bits
- Sander + 60/80/120 paper
- Hammer + nail punch
- Circular saw or miter saw
- Tape measure + speed square
- Gloves, glasses, N95 mask

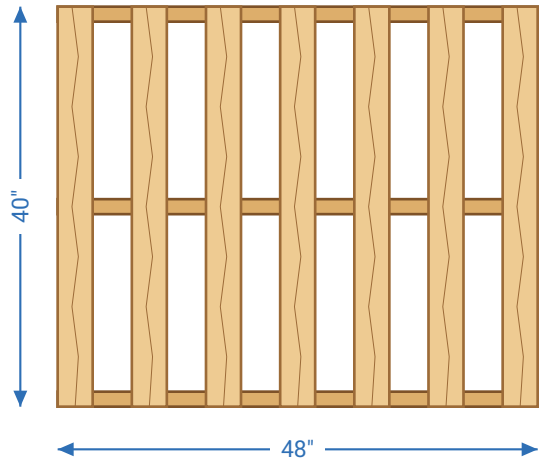
CLEAN AND DRY BEFORE YOU BUILD

- Scrub both faces with dish soap and a stiff brush, then rinse.
- Dry 2 days in the sun or a garage, stacked with spacers.
- Sand outdoors and sweep up the dust. Never burn pallet scraps indoors.

PALLET WOOD SIZES

A standard US pallet (GMA) is 48" x 40". Every plan in this guide uses these REAL sizes. Pallets vary: measure yours first.

TOP VIEW



PART	REAL SIZE	PER PALLET
Deck board	5/8" x 3-1/2" x 40"	7 top + 5 bottom
Stringer	1-1/2" x 3-1/2" x 48"	3
Whole pallet	48" x 40" x 4-3/4"	1
We count	9 good deck boards	+ 3 stringers

deck boards stringers (under)

Some pallets have 1/2" to 3/4" boards or wider boards (up to 5-1/2"). Most stringers have 2 forklift notches.

QUICK GLOSSARY

Deck board
the thin boards on top and bottom of the pallet

Stringer
the 3 thick beams that hold the deck boards

Notch
cutout in a stringer where the forklift goes in

HT / MB
heat treated (use) / methyl bromide (never)

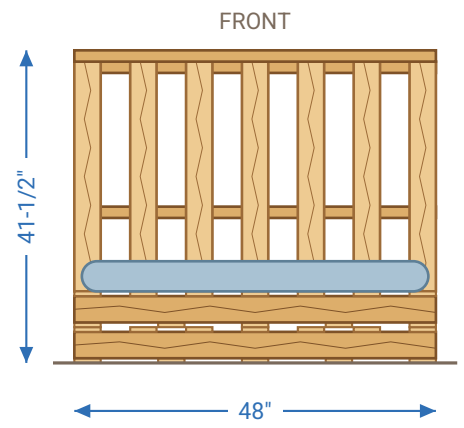
Pallet buster
long pry bar with two feet made for pallets

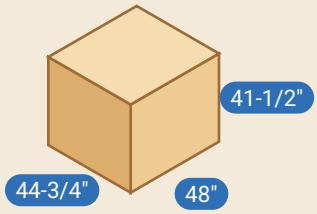
Pre-drill
small pilot hole so the dry wood does not split

PROJECT 01 OF 15

GARDEN SOFA

FINISHED SIZE	TIME	LEVEL	PALLETS · COST
48" W x 44-3/4" D x 41-1/2" H	3 hours	★★☆ Medium	4 pallets · $22–$72





WHAT YOU NEED

- 4 pallets 48" x 40", HT stamp
  - 3 used whole
  - 1 stringer (48")

Hardware: 6 structural screws 6", 4 corner braces 4" + 1-1/4" screws, 2-1/2" exterior screws, outdoor cushions (not in the cost)

$22–$72 · pallets $0–$10 each + hardware, approx.

CUT LIST

PART	QTY	WOOD	LENGTH	NOTE
Seat pallets	2	Whole pallet	48" x 40"	stacked, no cuts
Back pallet	1	Whole pallet	48" x 40"	stood on its long edge
Back cap	1	Stringer	48"	from a 4th pallet

STEP BY STEP

1. Pick 4 HT pallets of the same size. Take one apart for the cap and keep its boards for another project.
2. Sand the top of the 2 seat pallets and the front of the back pallet (80, then 120). Round every edge.
3. Stack the seat pallets, edges flush. Drive 6 structural screws down through the top one into the stringers below (2 per stringer).
4. Stand the back pallet on its long edge behind the seat, boards vertical. Join it to the seat with 4 corner braces (2 per end).
5. Screw the 48" stringer flat on top of the back as a cap: 2-1/2" screws every 8".
6. Seal with exterior finish, let it dry 24 hours, then add the cushions.

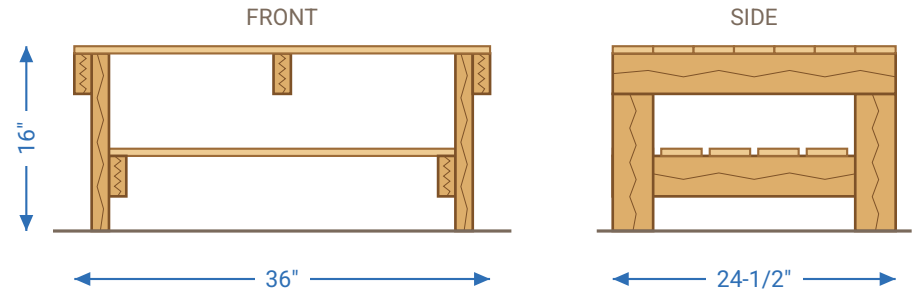
PRO TIP

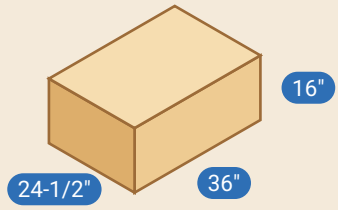
Put felt pads or rubber feet under the seat: the bottom boards stay dry and the deck does not get scratched.

PROJECT 02 OF 15

COFFEE TABLE

FINISHED SIZE	TIME	LEVEL	PALLETS · COST
36" W x 24-1/2" D x 16" H	3 hours	★★☆ Medium	2 pallets · $14–$40





WHAT YOU NEED

- 2 pallets 48" x 40", HT stamp
- 13 deck boards (40")
- 5 stringers (48")

Hardware: 1-1/4" and 2-1/2" screws, wood glue, water-based polyurethane

$14–$40 · pallets $0–$10 each + hardware, approx.

CUT LIST

PART	QTY	WOOD	LENGTH	NOTE
Top boards	7	Deck board	36"	tight together
Top rails	3	Stringer	24-1/2"	on edge: ends + middle
Legs	4	Stringer	15-3/8"	inside the end rails
Shelf cleats	2	Stringer	24-1/2"	3" above the floor
Shelf boards	6	Deck board	30"	about 3/4" gaps

STEP BY STEP

1. Cut all parts and sand every board (80, then 120) before assembly.
2. Lay the 3 top rails on edge: one at each end and one in the middle.
3. Screw the 7 top boards across the rails, tight together: two 1-1/4" screws per board at each rail.
4. Flip the top over. Glue and screw a leg inside each corner, against the end rails (2-1/2" screws).
5. Screw a shelf cleat inside each pair of legs, bottom edge 3" above the floor. Lay the 6 shelf boards on them with even gaps and screw down.
6. Turn it upright, round the edges and give it 2 coats of water-based polyurethane.

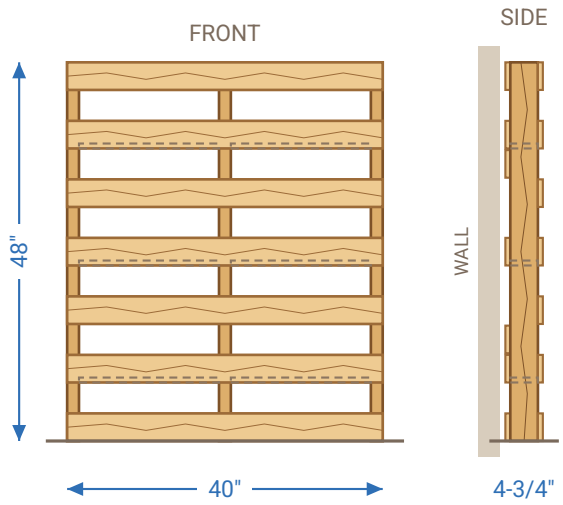
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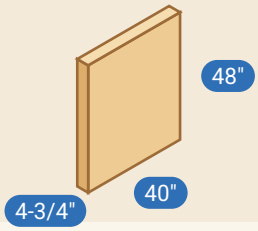
Pallet boards vary in thickness: sort them first and use the 7 most even ones for the top.

PROJECT 03 OF 15

VERTICAL GARDEN

FINISHED SIZE	TIME	LEVEL	PALLETS · COST
40" W x 4-3/4" D x 48" H	2 hours	★☆☆ Easy	2 pallets · $18–$48





WHAT YOU NEED

- 2 pallets 48" x 40", HT stamp
- 1 used whole
- 5 deck boards (40")

Hardware: Landscape fabric 3 x 4 ft, 1/2" staples, 1-1/4" exterior screws, 2 L-brackets + anchors, potting soil

$18–$48 · pallets $0–$10 each + hardware, approx.

CUT LIST

PART	QTY	WOOD	LENGTH	NOTE
Pallet	1	Whole pallet	48" x 40"	stood up, boards level
Trough bottoms	6	Deck board	17-3/4"	2 per trough
Trough backs	2	Deck board	40"	only where the back is open

STEP BY STEP

1. Pick an HT pallet with 7 sound top boards. Stand it up, boards level. The 2nd, 4th and 6th boards from the bottom are the troughs.
2. Look at the back behind each trough board. Where there is no board, screw a 40" trough back (usually behind the 2nd and the 6th).
3. Slide 2 trough bottoms under each trough board, between the stringers. Screw through the front and back boards (1-1/4" screws).
4. Staple landscape fabric inside each trough so the soil stays in and water drains.
5. Sand the face and oil it if you like. Lean it on a wall and fix the top with 2 L-brackets.
6. Fill with potting soil and plant herbs, flowers or succulents. Water slowly from the top trough.

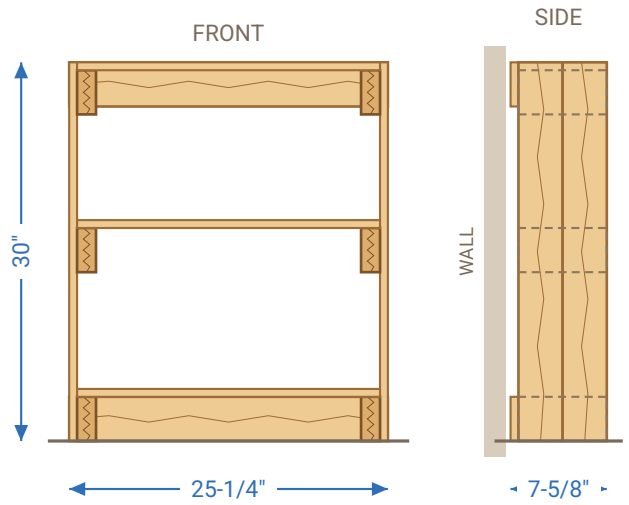
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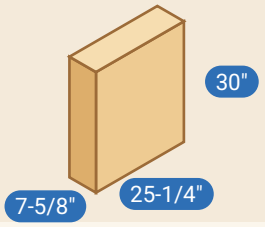
Fill and plant it lying flat, wait 1 to 2 weeks for the roots to hold the soil, then stand it up.

PROJECT 04 OF 15

WALL SHELF

FINISHED SIZE	TIME	LEVEL	PALLETS · COST
25-1/4" W x 7-5/8" D x 30" H	2 hours	★☆☆ Easy	2 pallets · $10–$34





WHAT YOU NEED

- 2 pallets 48" x 40", HT stamp
- 12 deck boards (40")
- 1 stringer (48")

Hardware: 1-1/4" screws, 3" screws for the studs, wood glue, stud finder

$10–$34 · pallets $0–$10 each + hardware, approx.

CUT LIST

PART	QTY	WOOD	LENGTH	NOTE
Side boards	4	Deck board	30"	2 per side, edge to edge
Shelf boards	6	Deck board	24"	2 per shelf
Back rails	2	Deck board	25-1/4"	top + bottom
Shelf cleats	6	Stringer	7"	3 per side

STEP BY STEP

1. Cut all parts. Pair the side boards: 2 boards edge to edge make one 7" deep side.
2. Screw 3 cleats to the inside of each side pair (1-1/4" screws): one at the bottom, one 13-3/8" up, one 5/8" below the top.
3. Stand the sides up 24" apart (inside) and lay 2 shelf boards on each set of cleats. Screw them down into the cleats.
4. Screw the 2 back rails across the back, top and bottom: they square the shelf and hold it to the wall.
5. Sand and finish. Find 2 studs and drive two 3" screws through the top back rail into each one.

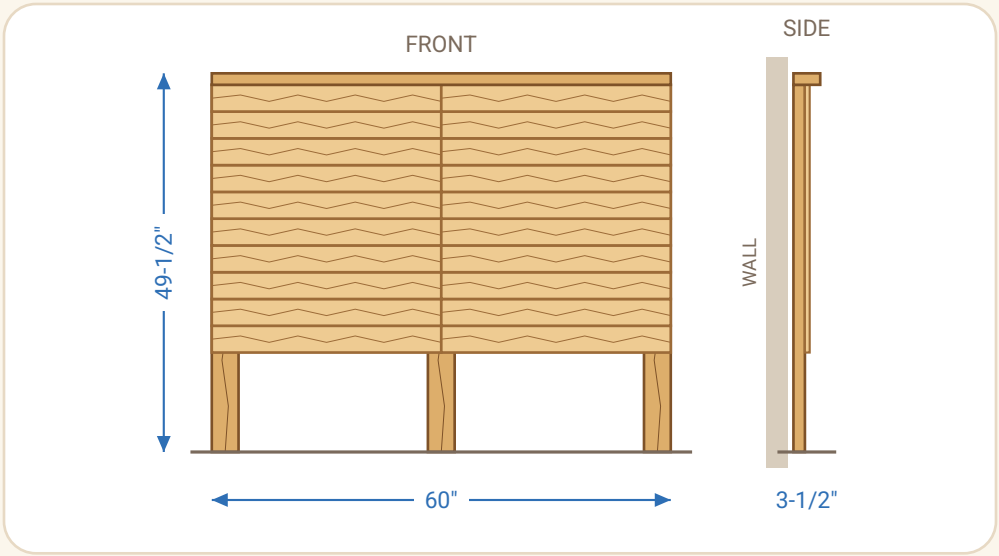
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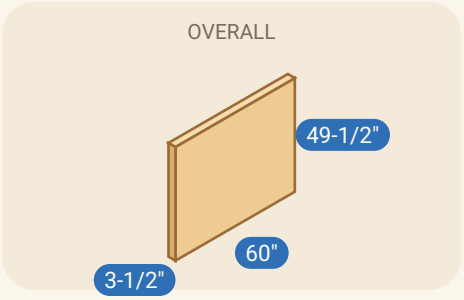
Pallet boards are thin: keep books and heavy things on the bottom shelf and decor on top.

PROJECT 05 OF 15

QUEEN HEADBOARD

FINISHED SIZE	TIME	LEVEL	PALLETS · COST
60" W x 3-1/2" D x 49-1/2" H	3 hours	★★☆ Medium	3 pallets · $18–$56





WHAT YOU NEED

- 3 pallets 48" x 40", HT stamp
- 20 deck boards (40")
- 5 stringers (48")

Hardware: 1-1/4" screws (about 100), 3" screws, 2 L-brackets, water-based polyurethane

$18–$56 · pallets $0–$10 each + hardware, approx.

CUT LIST

PART	QTY	WOOD	LENGTH	NOTE
Face boards	20	Deck board	30"	2 per row, joint on the center leg
Legs	3	Stringer	48"	full stringers, laid flat
Top cap	2	Stringer	30"	flat on top

STEP BY STEP

1. Sand all the boards before cutting (80, then 120): this is a piece you will touch every day.
2. Cut the 20 face boards to 30" so both ends are clean and square.
3. Lay the 3 legs flat on the floor, outer edges 60" apart, the middle one centered. Check square.
4. Screw the first row 13" up from the leg bottoms, then work up, boards tight. Two 1-1/4" screws at each board end and at the middle leg.
5. Screw the 2 cap pieces flat on top, joint over the middle leg (3" screws, pre-drilled).
6. Finish with water-based polyurethane. Stand it behind the bed and fix it to the wall or bed frame with 2 L-brackets.

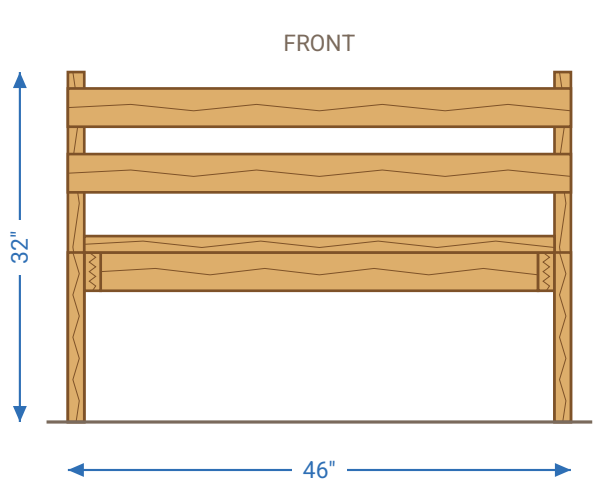
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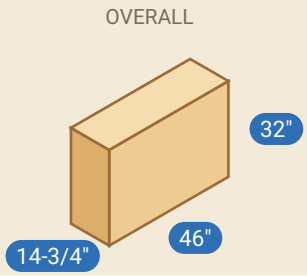
Lay all 20 boards on the floor and shuffle the colors before you screw: the mix is what makes it look good.

PROJECT 06 OF 15

GARDEN BENCH

FINISHED SIZE	TIME	LEVEL	PALLETS · COST
46" W x 14-3/4" D x 32" H	3-4 hours	★★☆ Medium	4 pallets · $14–$60





WHAT YOU NEED

- 4 pallets 48" x 40", HT stamp
- 10 stringers (48")

Hardware: 3" and 2-1/2" exterior screws, exterior wood glue, exterior oil or stain

$14–$60 · pallets $0–$10 each + hardware, approx.

CUT LIST

PART	QTY	WOOD	LENGTH	NOTE
Seat slats	4	Stringer	43"	laid flat, 1/4" gaps
Backrest boards	2	Stringer	46"	laid flat
Front legs	2	Stringer	15-1/2"	
Back legs	2	Stringer	32"	hold the backrest
Seat supports	2	Stringer	14-3/4"	on edge
Center rail	1	Stringer	40"	between the supports

STEP BY STEP

1. Cut all parts; keep the straightest stringers for the slats and the backrest. Sand.
2. Make 2 side frames: a front leg and a back leg joined by a seat support on the inside, top at 15-1/2". Glue + 2-1/2" screws.
3. Stand the frames 46" apart (outside) and screw the center rail between the supports (3" screws).
4. Screw the 4 seat slats onto the supports, between the back legs, 1/4" gaps (3" screws).
5. Screw the backrest boards to the back legs, bottom edges at 21" and 27" (3" screws).
6. Round the edges, oil or stain it and set the legs on pavers.

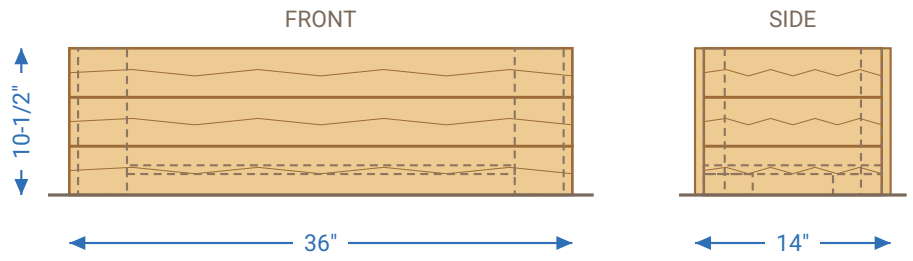
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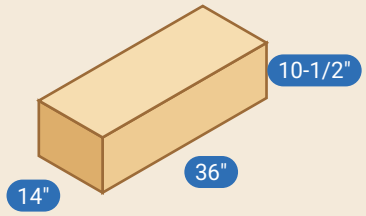
Many stringers have forklift notches: use the notched ones for short parts and keep the clean ones for the seat and backrest.

PROJECT 07 OF 15

PLANTER BOX

FINISHED SIZE	TIME	LEVEL	PALLETS · COST
36" W x 14" D x 10-1/2" H	2 hours	★☆☆ Easy	2 pallets · $12–$38





WHAT YOU NEED

- 2 pallets 48" x 40", HT stamp
- 11 deck boards (40")
- 3 stringers (48")

Hardware: 1-1/4" and 2-1/2" exterior screws, landscape fabric, 1/2" staples

$12–$38 · pallets $0–$10 each + hardware, approx.

CUT LIST

PART	QTY	WOOD	LENGTH	NOTE
Long sides	6	Deck board	36"	3 rows per side
End boards	6	Deck board	12-3/4"	between the long sides
Bottom slats	7	Deck board	12-3/4"	about 1/2" gaps
Corner posts	4	Stringer	10-1/2"	inside the corners
Bottom cleats	2	Stringer	27-3/4"	flat, between the posts

STEP BY STEP

1. Use only HT pallets with no stains: this box holds soil. Cut all parts.
2. Screw 3 long-side boards to 2 corner posts, posts 5/8" in from each end and flush on top. Make the second side the same way.
3. Stand both sides up and close the ends: 3 end boards at each end, screwed into the posts.
4. Screw the 2 bottom cleats flat on the floor line, against the long sides and between the posts (2-1/2" screws).
5. Lay the 7 bottom slats across the cleats with about 1/2" gaps for drainage. Screw them down.
6. Staple landscape fabric inside, oil only the outside and set the box on 2 bricks so the bottom dries.

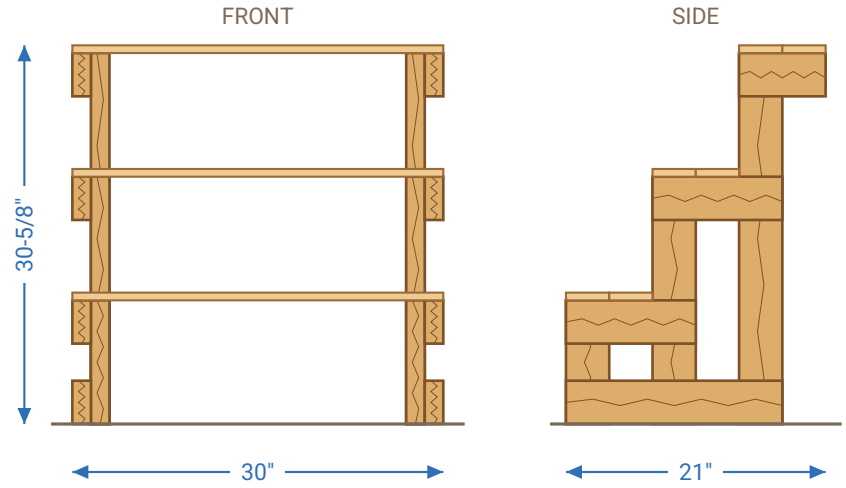
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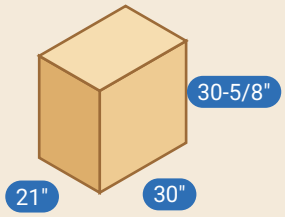
For vegetables, line all sides with landscape fabric so the soil never touches the pallet wood.

PROJECT 08 OF 15

TIERED PLANT STAND

FINISHED SIZE	TIME	LEVEL	PALLETS · COST
30" W x 21" D x 30-5/8" H	2-3 hours	★★☆ Medium	2 pallets · $10–$35





WHAT YOU NEED

- 2 pallets 48" x 40", HT stamp
- 6 deck boards (40")
- 5 stringers (48")

Hardware: 2-1/2" and 1-1/4" screws, wood glue, exterior oil

$10–$35 · pallets $0–$10 each + hardware, approx.

CUT LIST

PART	QTY	WOOD	LENGTH	NOTE
Shelf boards	6	Deck board	30"	2 per step
Posts A	2	Stringer	10"	front
Posts B	2	Stringer	20"	middle
Posts C	2	Stringer	30"	back
Bottom rails	2	Stringer	17-1/2"	join A, B and C
Step rails	4	Stringer	10-1/2"	steps 1 and 2
Top rails	2	Stringer	7"	on post C

STEP BY STEP

1. Cut all parts and label the posts A (10"), B (20") and C (30").
2. Build 2 side frames on the floor: posts A, B and C with their front edges at 0", 7" and 14". Screw the 17-1/2" bottom rail across all 3 at floor level.
3. Add the step rails with tops flush with the post tops: a 10-1/2" rail on A + B, a 10-1/2" rail on B + C and the 7" rail on top of C, 3-1/2" past it at the back.
4. Stand the frames 30" apart (outside). Screw 2 shelf boards on each step, into the posts and rails (1-1/4" screws).
5. Check that it does not rock, sand and finish. Outdoors, use exterior oil.

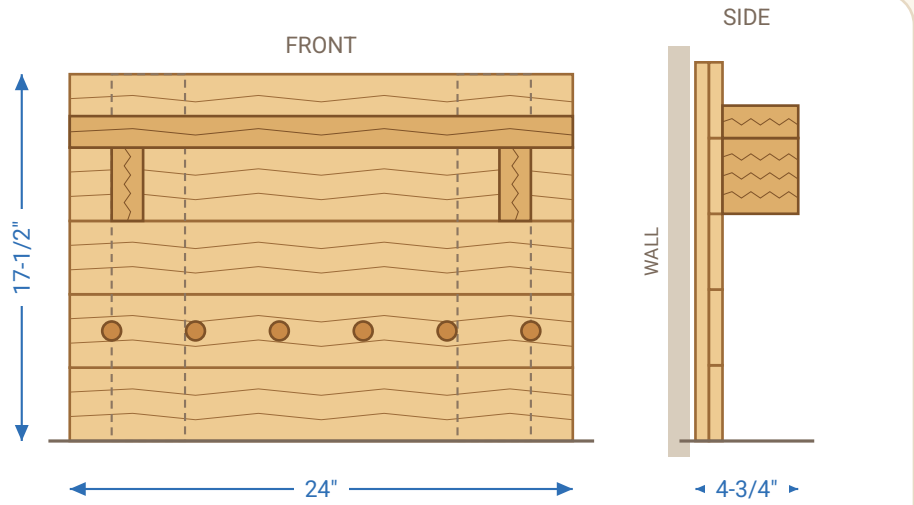
PRO TIP

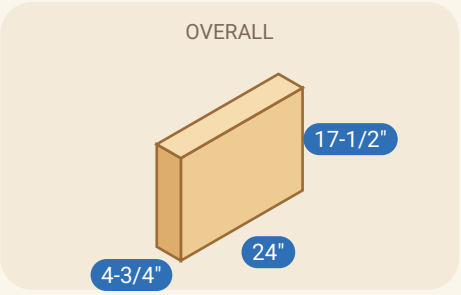
Heavy pots on the low step, light ones on top. Put felt pads under the rails on a wood deck.

PROJECT 09 OF 15

MUG RACK

FINISHED SIZE	TIME	LEVEL	PALLETS · COST
24" W x 4-3/4" D x 17-1/2" H	1.5 hours	★☆☆ Easy	1 pallet · $8–$22





WHAT YOU NEED

- 1 pallet 48" x 40", HT stamp
- 6 deck boards (40")
- 1 stringer (48")

Hardware: 1", 2" and 2-1/2" screws, 6 cup hooks 1-1/2", 2 wall anchors

$8–$22 · pallets $0–$10 each + hardware, approx.

CUT LIST

PART	QTY	WOOD	LENGTH	NOTE
Face boards	5	Deck board	24"	tight together
Back cleats	2	Deck board	17-1/2"	2" from each end
Shelf	1	Stringer	24"	laid flat
Brackets	2	Stringer	3-1/2"	on edge

STEP BY STEP

1. Cut all parts and sand the 5 face boards well: hands touch them every morning.
2. Lay the face boards face down, tight together. Screw the 2 back cleats across them, 2" from each end (1" screws: they will not poke through).
3. Flip it. Hold the 2 brackets on edge, 10-1/2" up and 2" from each end, and screw them from the back (2" screws).
4. Screw the shelf flat on top of the brackets (2-1/2" screws).
5. Screw 6 cup hooks in a row about 5" up from the bottom, 4" apart.
6. Finish, then hang it with 2 screws through the cleats into a stud or into wall anchors.

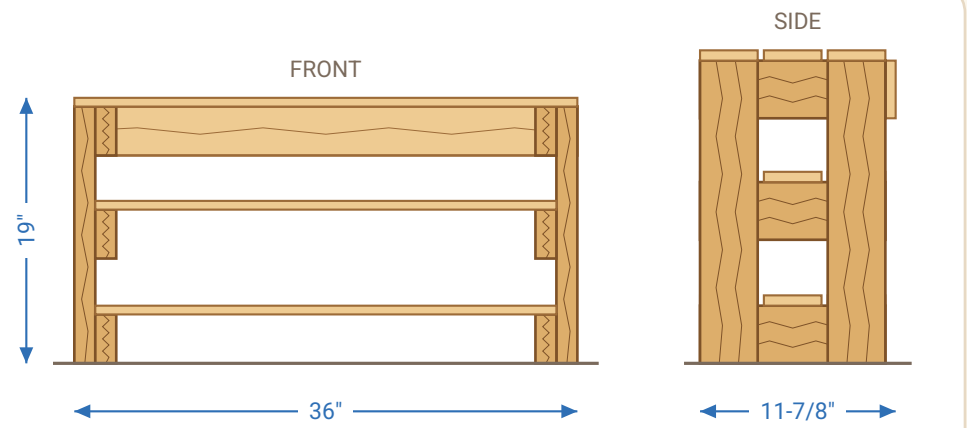
PRO TIP

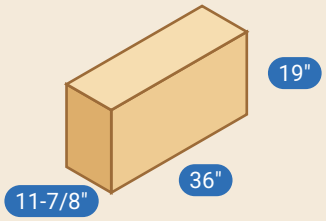
Drill a 1/16" pilot hole for each cup hook and turn it in with pliers wrapped in tape.

PROJECT 10 OF 15

SHOE BENCH

FINISHED SIZE	TIME	LEVEL	PALLETS · COST
36" W x 11-7/8" D x 19" H	2 hours	★☆☆ Easy	2 pallets · $8–$32





WHAT YOU NEED

- 2 pallets 48" x 40", HT stamp
- 10 deck boards (40")
- 4 stringers (48")

Hardware: 2-1/2" and 1-1/4" screws, wood glue

$8–$32 · pallets $0–$10 each + hardware, approx.

CUT LIST

PART	QTY	WOOD	LENGTH	NOTE
Top boards	3	Deck board	36"	3/8" gaps
Shelf boards	6	Deck board	33"	3 per shelf
Back rail	1	Deck board	36"	keeps it square
Legs	4	Stringer	18-3/8"	
Side rails	6	Stringer	11-1/4"	3 per side

STEP BY STEP

1. Cut all parts. Build 2 side frames: 2 legs with 3 side rails on their inner face, at the floor, 7-1/2" up and flush with the top. Glue + 2-1/2" screws.
2. Stand the frames 36" apart (outside). Lay 3 shelf boards on the bottom rails and 3 on the middle rails, 3/8" gaps, and screw them down.
3. Screw the back rail across the back legs at the top: it keeps the bench square.
4. Screw the 3 top boards onto the legs and top rails, 3/8" gaps, flush at the ends.
5. Sand the top well (people sit here), round the edges and finish.

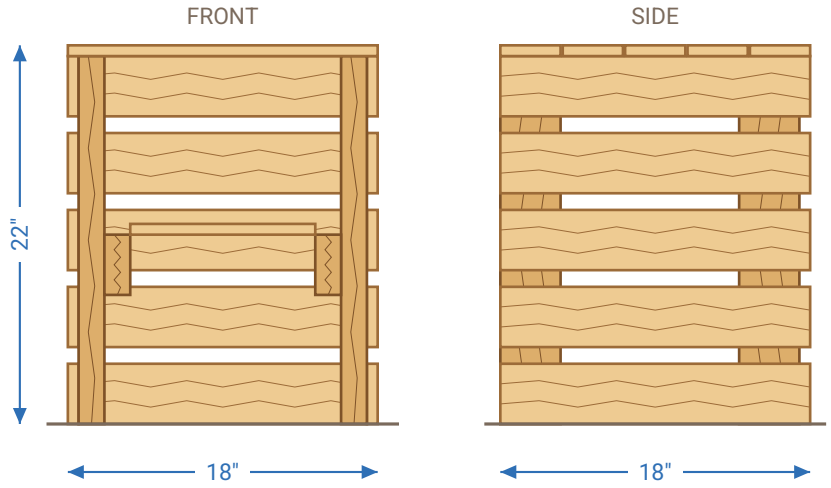
PRO TIP

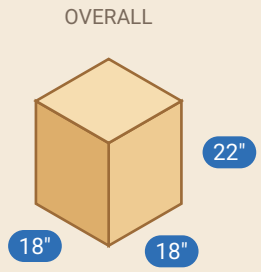
Measure between your frames after step 1 and trim the shelf boards to fit: pallet stringers are not all the same.

PROJECT 11 OF 15

CRATE SIDE TABLE

FINISHED SIZE	TIME	LEVEL	PALLETS · COST
18" W x 18" D x 22" H	3 hours	★★☆ Medium	2 pallets · $12–$38





WHAT YOU NEED

- 2 pallets 48" x 40", HT stamp
- 12 deck boards (40")
- 3 stringers (48")

Hardware: 1-1/4" and 2-1/2" screws, wood glue, water-based polyurethane

$12–$38 · pallets $0–$10 each + hardware, approx.

CUT LIST

PART	QTY	WOOD	LENGTH	NOTE
Side boards	10	Deck board	18"	5 per side
Back boards	5	Deck board	16-3/4"	between the sides
Top boards	5	Deck board	18"	1/8" gaps
Shelf boards	4	Deck board	10-3/4"	
Posts	4	Stringer	21-3/8"	inside the corners
Shelf cleats	2	Stringer	17-3/8"	on edge

STEP BY STEP

1. Cut all parts and sand the top boards to 120 grit.
2. Build 2 sides: lay 2 posts flat (front post flush with the front, back post 5/8" short of the back) and screw 5 side boards across them, about 1" gaps.
3. Stand the sides up and screw the 5 back boards between them, into the back posts. The front stays open.
4. Screw a shelf cleat on edge to the inside of each pair of posts, 7-1/2" up. Lay the 4 shelf boards on them and screw down.
5. Screw the 5 top boards on, 1/8" gaps, flush on all sides.
6. Sand the edges round and give the top 2 coats of water-based polyurethane.

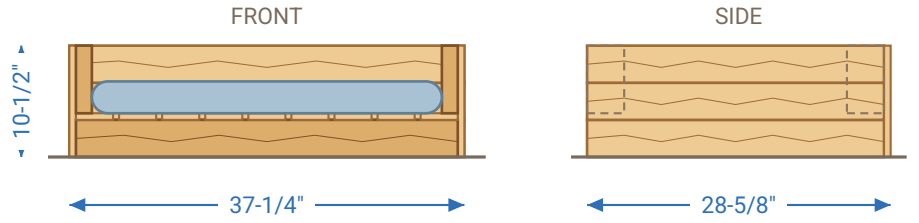
PRO TIP

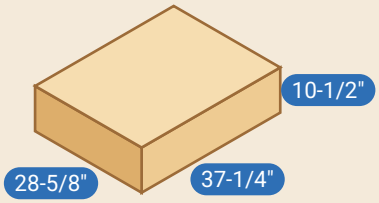
Save the best-looking boards for the top and the sides: the back and the shelf hide the ugly ones.

PROJECT 12 OF 15

DOG BED

FINISHED SIZE	TIME	LEVEL	PALLETS · COST
37-1/4" W x 28-5/8" D x 10-1/2" H	3 hours	★★☆ Medium	2 pallets · $8–$32





WHAT YOU NEED

- 2 pallets 48" x 40", HT stamp
- 18 deck boards (40")
- 4 stringers (48")

Hardware: 3" and 1-1/4" screws, wood glue, pet cushion 34" x 26" (extra)

$8–$32 · pallets $0–$10 each + hardware, approx.

CUT LIST

PART	QTY	WOOD	LENGTH	NOTE
Front + back rails	2	Stringer	36"	on edge
Side rails	2	Stringer	25"	between them
Corner posts	4	Stringer	6-3/8"	stand on the platform
Platform boards	9	Deck board	28"	about 9/16" gaps
Side wall boards	6	Deck board	28"	3 per side
Back wall boards	3	Deck board	37-1/4"	cover the side ends

STEP BY STEP

1. HT pallets only, with no stains or smells. Cut all parts and sand every edge round.
2. Base: the 2 side rails between the front and back rails, on edge (glue + 3" screws), 36" x 28" outside.
3. Screw the 9 platform boards across the base, front to back, with even gaps (1-1/4" screws).
4. Stand a post in each corner on top of the platform.
5. Screw 3 wall boards on each side and on the back: bottom row into the base, upper rows into the posts.
6. Sand again. Leave it bare or use a pet-safe finish, air it out 3 days, add the cushion.

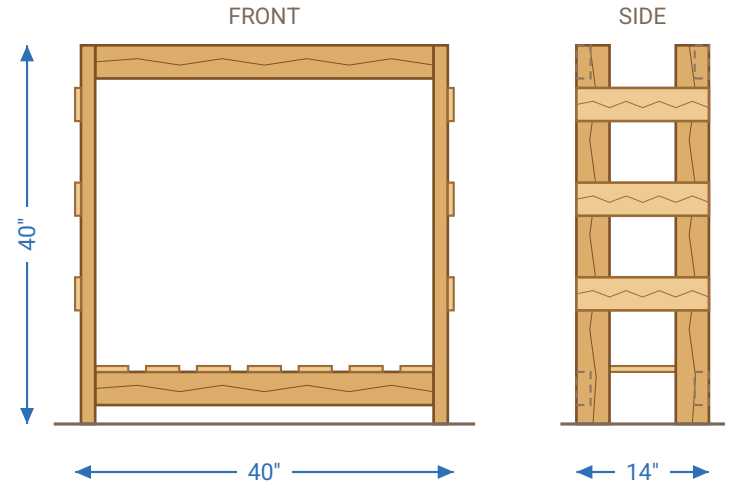
PRO TIP

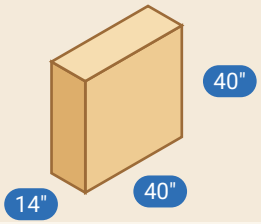
Sink every screw head below the surface and run your hand over the whole bed: no splinters, no sharp points.

PROJECT 13 OF 15

FIREWOOD RACK

FINISHED SIZE	TIME	LEVEL	PALLETS · COST
40" W x 14" D x 40" H	2-3 hours	★★☆ Medium	3 pallets · $12–$48





WHAT YOU NEED

- ✓ 3 pallets 48" x 40", HT stamp
- 7 deck boards (40")
- 8 stringers (48")

Hardware: 3" and 1-1/4" exterior screws, exterior stain or oil

$12–$48 · pallets $0–$10 each + hardware, approx.

CUT LIST

PART	QTY	WOOD	LENGTH	NOTE
Posts	4	Stringer	40"	
Rails	4	Stringer	35-3/4"	2 at the base, 2 at the top
Base slats	7	Deck board	14"	about 1-7/8" gaps
Side slats	6	Deck board	14"	3 per side

STEP BY STEP

1. Cut all parts. Use the straightest stringers for the posts.
2. Build the front frame: 2 posts with a base rail (bottom 2" off the floor) and a top rail flush with the top. 3" screws through the posts into the rail ends, pre-drilled.
3. Build the back frame the same way.
4. Join the frames with the side slats: 3 per side on the outside of the posts, bottom edges at 12", 22" and 32".
5. Screw the 7 base slats across the base rails with even gaps, so air gets under the wood.
6. Finish with exterior stain. Set it on 2 pavers, away from the house walls.

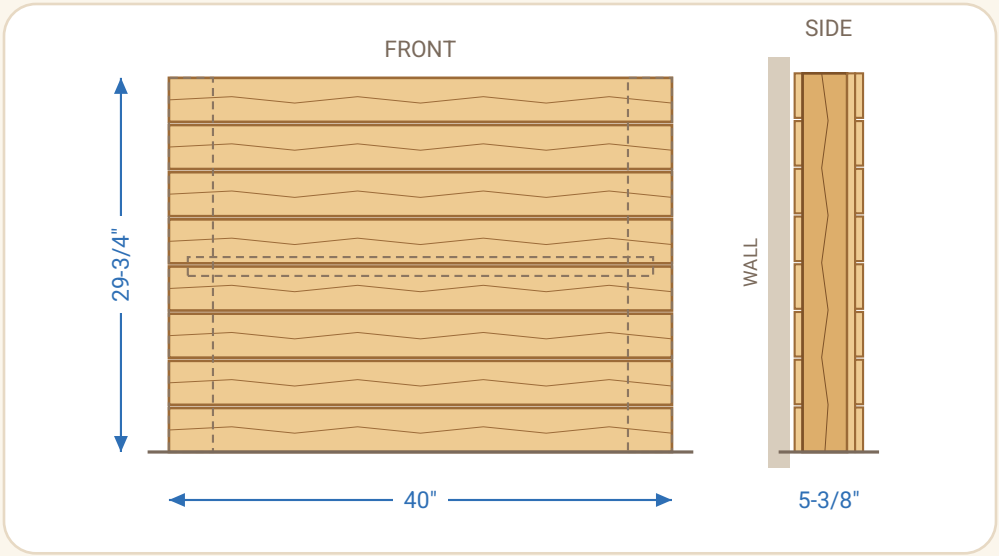
PRO TIP

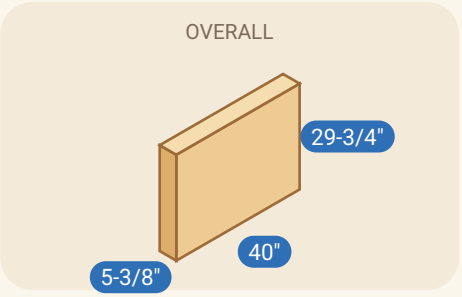
Keep firewood off the ground and away from the house: damp wood near walls invites termites.

PROJECT 14 OF 15

FOLD-DOWN WALL BAR

FINISHED SIZE	TIME	LEVEL	PALLETS · COST
40" W x 5-3/8" D x 29-3/4" H	4 hours	★★★ Advanced	2 pallets · $25–$55





WHAT YOU NEED

- 2 pallets 48" x 40", HT stamp
- 18 deck boards (40")
- 5 stringers (48")

Hardware: 2 hinges 3", 2 chains 40" + 4 screw eyes, barrel bolt, 3", 2-1/2" and 1" screws, washers, glue

$25–$55 · pallets $0–$10 each + hardware, approx.

CUT LIST

PART	QTY	WOOD	LENGTH	NOTE
Back + door boards	16	Deck board	40"	8 + 8, 1/4" gaps
Door cleats	2	Deck board	29-3/4"	become the table rims
Box sides	2	Stringer	29-3/4"	on edge
Top + bottom	2	Stringer	37"	between the sides
Shelf	1	Stringer	37"	14" up

STEP BY STEP

1. Build the box: top and bottom between the sides (glue + 3" screws), the shelf 14" up.
2. Screw the 8 back boards on with 1/4" gaps and check that the box is square.
3. Door: 8 boards face down, 1/4" gaps, a cleat along each end (1" screws). The cleats become the table rims.
4. Hinge the door to the bottom of the box. Chains from the box sides to the door hold it level when open.
5. Add a barrel bolt at the top to keep it closed.
6. Hang it with the bottom 38" above the floor: four 2-1/2" screws with washers into 2 studs.

PRO TIP

It is a light table for drinks and snacks: never sit or lean on it. Adjust the chains until a glass of water sits level.

SAFETY FIRST
HT pallets only

REAL SIZES
Board 5/8" x 3-1/2"

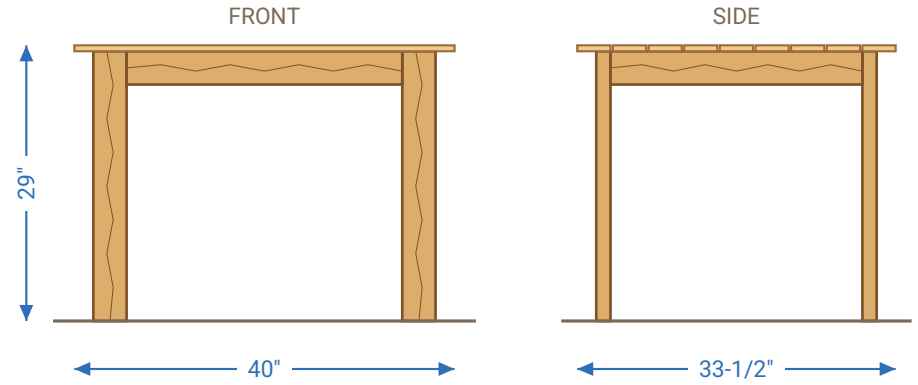
BEGINNER OK
Simple tools

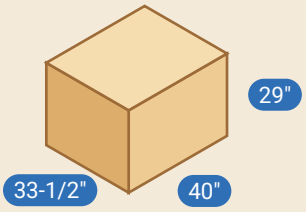
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PROJECT 15 OF 15

GARDEN TABLE

FINISHED SIZE	TIME	LEVEL	PALLETS · COST
40" W x 33-1/2" D x 29" H	3 hours	★★☆ Medium	3 pallets · $14–$50





WHAT YOU NEED

- 3 pallets 48" x 40", HT stamp
- 9 deck boards (40")
- 9 stringers (48")

Hardware: 3" and 1-1/4" exterior screws, exterior wood glue, exterior oil

$14–$50 · pallets $0–$10 each + hardware, approx.

CUT LIST

PART	QTY	WOOD	LENGTH	NOTE
Top boards	9	Deck board	40"	full length, 1/4" gaps
Legs	4	Stringer	28-3/8"	
Long aprons	2	Stringer	29"	front + back
Short aprons	2	Stringer	26-1/2"	ends
Center brace	1	Stringer	26-1/2"	under the middle

STEP BY STEP

1. Pick 9 straight deck boards of the same thickness for the top. Cut legs, aprons and brace from stringers.
2. Build 2 end frames: 2 legs with a short apron between them, top edges flush. Glue + 3" screws.
3. Join the end frames with the 2 long aprons, front and back, flush on top. Check square (equal diagonals).
4. Screw the center brace between the long aprons at the middle.
5. Lay the 9 top boards with 1/4" gaps and 2" overhang all around. Screw into the aprons and the brace (1-1/4" screws).
6. Sand the top to 120 and finish with exterior oil. Renew the oil every spring.

PRO TIP

Use two 1/4" drill bits as spacers between the top boards: rain drains and the boards can move.

SAFETY FIRST
HT pallets only

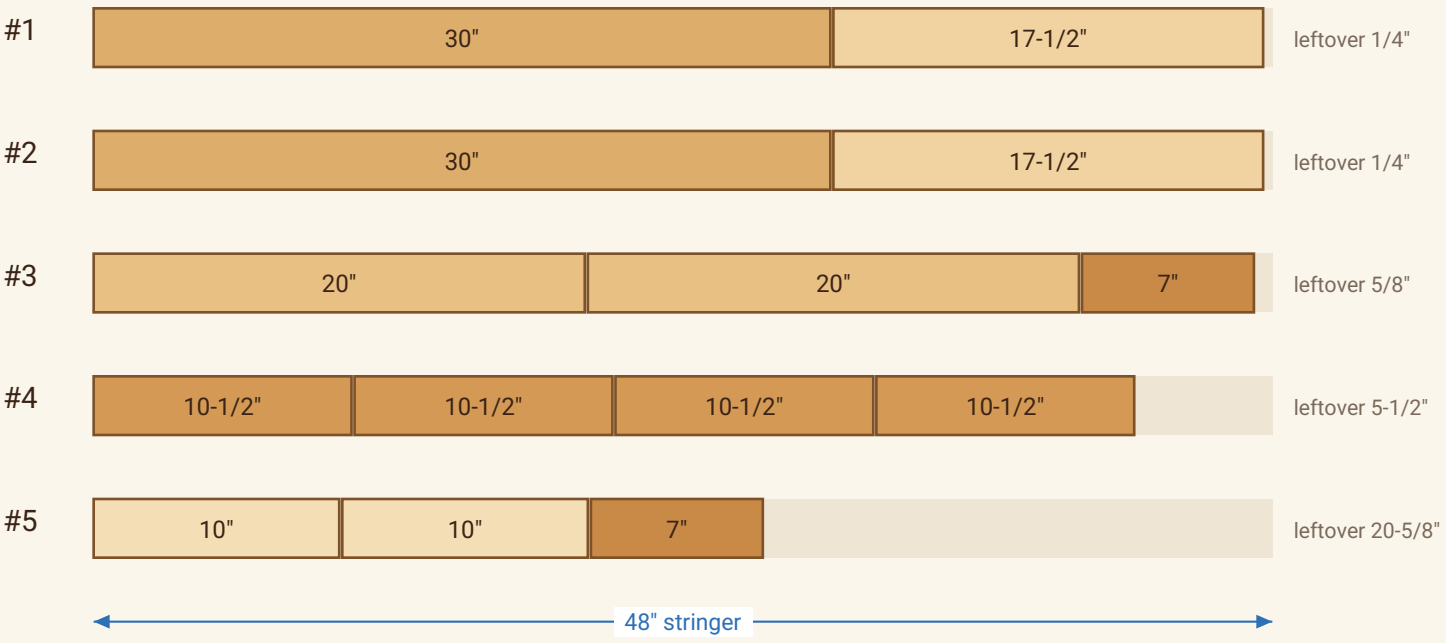
REAL SIZES
Board 5/8" x 3-1/2"

BEGINNER OK
Simple tools

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CUT PLAN EXAMPLE

Tiered plant stand: all 14 stringer parts fit on 5 stringers of 48". Longest pieces first, leave 1/8" for each saw cut.



- Cut the longest parts first; use the leftovers for the short parts.
- Sweep a magnet over the board before every cut: hidden nail bits ruin blades.
- When the part is shorter than the board, cut off the split or nail-hole end first.
- Put stringer notches in the short parts or in the leftover.

WHICH SCREW?

JOINING	SCREW	TIP
Deck board to deck board (face)	1"	will not poke through
Deck board to stringer	1-1/4"	pre-drill near ends
Stringer to stringer (face)	2-1/2"	two per joint + glue
Stringer into end grain	3"	pre-drill + glue
Stacked whole pallets	6" structural	through deck + stringer
Into wall studs	3"	find 2 studs
Outdoor projects	exterior coated	never plain steel

SANDING & FINISH

60–80 grit

rough pallet faces: dirt, stamps and splinters off

120 grit

smooth every face and round all edges

220 grit

last pass for indoor pieces you touch

Seal

wipe dust, 2–3 thin coats: water-based poly inside, exterior oil outside

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