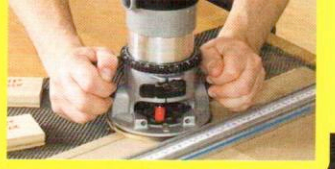
MASTER ROUTING BASICS, PART 1 p. 42



# WOODCRAFT® magazine

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## Hand-Tool Cabinet

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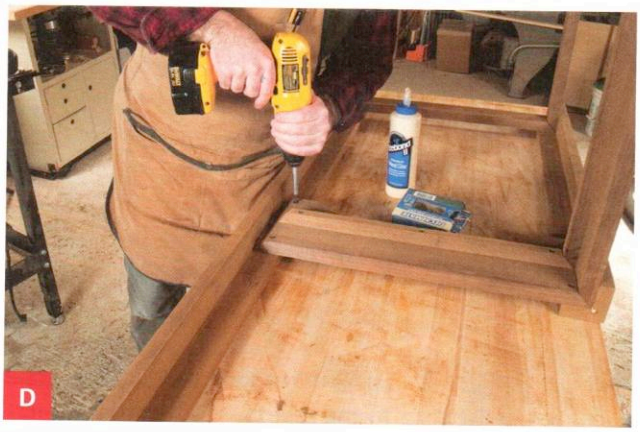
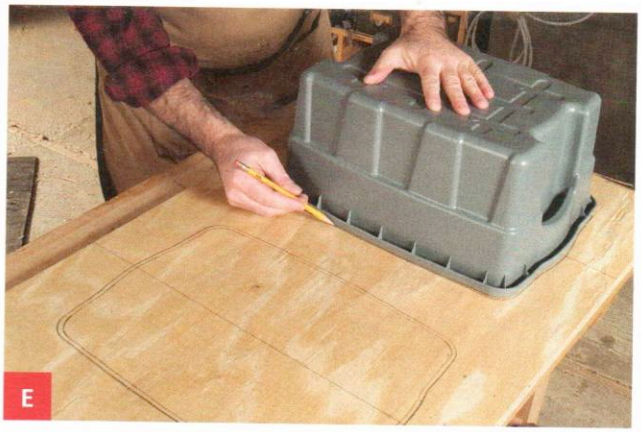


D

After drilling and countersinking screw holes through the stretchers and aprons, screw each part to its leg assembly.



E

Space the bins evenly across the bin holder and trace around them. Cut the openings so that the bins drop in place.

with a jigsaw or a bandsaw. Save one of the cutoffs to use for the crest rail (K). Make up a curved sanding block, and sand the curves fair, using coarse sandpaper, as shown in **Photo C**. After removing any lumps, finish-sand through 220 grit.

**6** Cut ¾" wide by ⅛" deep grooves on the inside faces in each of the four aprons (G, H) for the cleats (L, M) that support the bin holder (N), where shown in **Figure 1**. Miter-cut the cleats to the sizes specified in the **Cut List**. Fasten them in their grooves with exterior glue and 1⅝" screws. Be sure to predrill for the screws to avoid splitting.

## Assemble the bench

**1** Using a mitersaw, miter the ends of the front/back and side stretchers (E, F), front/back aprons (G, H), and the top and middle shelf supports (I, J) to 45°. Place each stretcher or apron in position against its leg, and drill a pilot hole, clearance hole, and countersink for 1⅝" screws. Then screw the parts together using exterior glue, as shown in **Photo D**. Next, glue and screw the shelf supports in place where shown in **Figure 1**.

**2** Cut the bin holder (N) to the size listed in the **Cut List**. Next, trace the openings for the three bins as shown in **Photo E**. (Note: Almost any wide-lipped container will work. I purchased these four-gallon storage bins at my home center.) Make a second layout line ¼" inside each of the traced lines. Cut along these inner lines with a jigsaw. Screw the holder to the cleats (L, M) with 1¼" screws.

**3** Cut the top and middle shelves (O, P), the back piece (Q), and the ledger (R) to the sizes listed in the **Cut List**. Notch the back corners of the middle shelf and the back piece, as shown in **Figure 1**, so they fit inside the legs.

**4** Cut the shelf brackets (S, T) to the sizes in the **Cut List**. Crosscut one end of each at 45°. On the opposite end, trace

## Hot Stuff: Thermo-Wood

While cedar, cypress, and redwood make great choices for outdoor projects, I made this bench from thermally-treated (or "thermo-") wood. Thermo-wood is heated to temperatures much higher than normal kiln-drying (400° F). In addition to changing the wood's color, the process makes the wood harder, more stable, and resistant to bugs and decay—without any chemicals. In my area, thermo-poplar costs about 30% more than regular poplar. I found it pleasant to work with, although it was dustier and more brittle than normal kiln-dried stock. The color, similar to aged cherry, runs completely through the wood. It will fade if left untreated, but the wood will withstand decades of outdoor use. (For more information, see *thermotreatedwood.com*.)

Treated poplar

Untreated poplar