

Gift Wrapping Station



I love shopping for presents and finding just the right gift for my family and friends, I must proudly confess, Shari's daughter Brittany calls me the best gift giver she has ever met! A badge I wear proudly. However, I really stink as a present wrapper. I just don't like the whole process, especially finding all the stuff you need to wrap with. The tape, the scissors the name tags and of course the wrapping paper. I usually have a paper bag with all those things thrown in it and I pull it out of the closet when needed.

So this year, I thought I would at least get organized. So I went into my shop and built this wrapping paper station. And now I have a place to store all the items I need to make wrapping at least more organized. Believe me, this may look complicated, but it really was a snap!

Materials List:

2-1 inch x 4 inch x 8 feet pine or poplar lumber

1-1 inch x 2 inch x 4 feet pine or poplar lumber

5- ½ inch x 48 inch wooden dowel

Miter Saw

Tape measure

Nail gun / hammer and nails

Drill with ½ inch forstner bit

Sand Paper

Spackle/wood filler

Paint

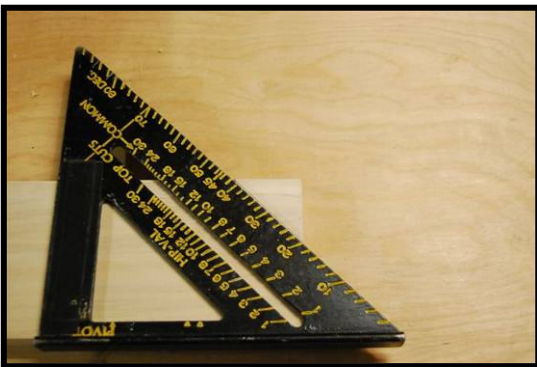
Instructions:

1 The sides of the station measure 34 inches in length, using the miter saw cut two side pieces to length.



Tip:

Use a speed square as a marking tool to ensure that my cuts and straight.



2 So that the side pieces would have a little detail, I cut a 45 degree angle at each end of both side boards, measure 1 ½ inches from the top of the board and the down the length, and mark using the square.



Cut using the miter saw.

Tip:

I always sand as I go, just use a piece of 220 grit sandpaper and sand all cuts smooth.



3 The bottom support piece is 32 ½ inches wide (use the 1 x 2 lumber for this piece). I held a roll of wrapping paper in place to make sure that there would be ample space for the middle section of the station where the paper rolls will be placed.

4 If you look at the photo here, you will see the layout of the station, at the top, there are two cross supports and a middle section where storage and supplies will be placed. Those two boards are the same measurement as the bottom support. Cut those two boards to length, using the miter saw.

Notice how I used the items to be stored to determine the placement and size of the openings.





5 The layout of the 5 wrapping paper rolls need to be laid out and drilled before assembly. The two side pieces will be used for this, lay out the 5 holes, by starting from the bottom and measure up 3 ½ inches, then lay out the holes every 3 ½ inches until you have 5 layout marks.



6 Find centers of the boards where the holes will be drilled. This process need to be precise, both side boards must match up in order for the poles will be level once place in position.

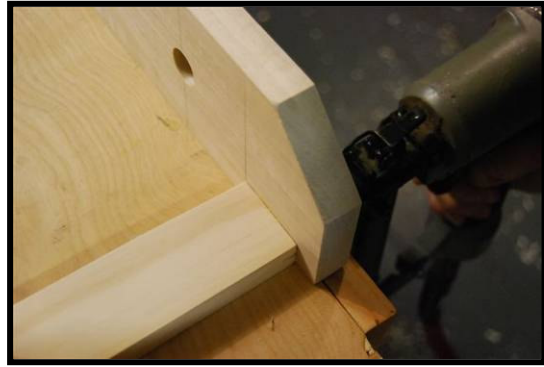


7 Drill the holes using a drill and a ½ inch forstner bit; this is a great bit for drilling smooth holes. Just make sure the bit is lined up with the marks you made in the previous step. (I used my drill press for this step, but a hand drill will work just a well.)

Tip:

Drill half way through until the bit just breaks through the lumber, flip the board over and continue drilling, this will stop the bit from tearing out the lumber as it passes through.

8 Once all the holes have been drilled, attach the bottom cross support into place at the bottom of the two side pieces. Use wood glue and nails to secure.



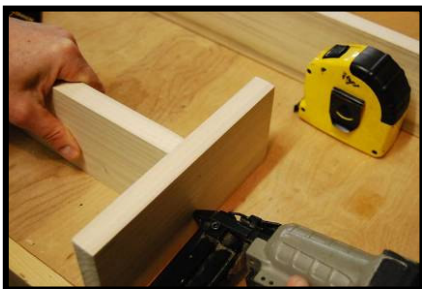
9 Attach the two top supports, the top board will be placed 2 inches from the top and the middle board is placed 10 inches from the top.



10 For the center shelves, cut a divider by measuring the distance between the two supports, (which should be 8 inches) and the center divider cut to 20 inches in length.



11 Find center of the divider and attach the center shelf using glue and nails.





12 Place the center shelf in place.

13 Secure the center shelf to the station.



14 Place the wooden dowels through the holes on each side and measure for cutting. I allowed for $\frac{1}{2}$ inch on both ends.



This will allow the poles to stay in position while rolling out wrapping paper.

15 This photo shows the final lay out of the station.



16 The last step is to fill all the holes and to paint to the color of your choice.

Tip:

I found that spray paint was a great way to paint the station, especially the wooden dowels.



This was a great project for the upcoming holiday season, now I have a great place to store all those tape dispensers and ribbon rolls and of course the wrapping paper that before was just stuffed in a paper bag. Now if I could just get Shari to help me wrap all the presents I have to wrap.....I'm still a terrible present wrapper!

Happy Holidays and Happy Wrapping!

Matt

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