

THE MINITIME MACHINE PRESENTS

HOW TO

A SERIES OF
PROJECTS FOR
the beginning
miniature maker

MARCH 2014: PETITE POTTING BENCH



Materials and Supplies:

15 craft sticks (4 1/2" x 3/8" x 1/12") or popsicle sticks

2 jumbo craft sticks (6" x 3/4" x 1/16")

Miter saw

ruler and pencil

fine grit sandpaper

Tacky glue

paint brush (for applying glue)

Shelf diagram template

6 binder clips

Optional: Paint or stain your bench using a water-based craft paint or stain.

Instructions:

Cut your crafts sticks to the following lengths.

2 sticks = $4 \frac{1}{4}$ " (These will be the back side legs of the bench.)

2 sticks = 3" (These will be the front side legs of the bench.)

8 sticks = $3 \frac{5}{8}$ " (These will be the slats of the shelves.)

Cut 6 pieces $1 \frac{3}{4}$ " in length from the remaining 3 sticks. (These will be the shelf supports.)

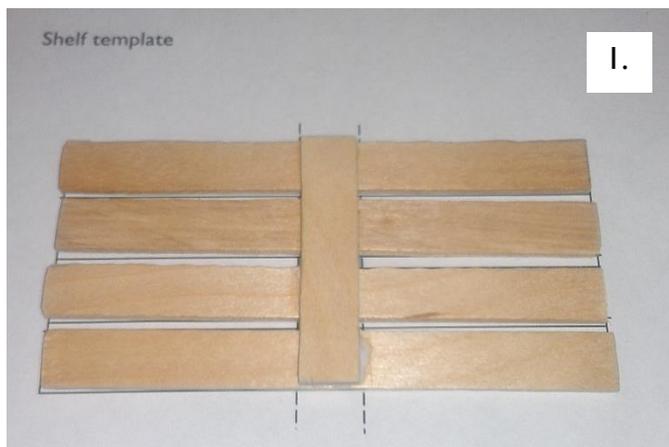
Cut your jumbo craft sticks to the following lengths:

1 stick = $3 \frac{11}{16}$ " (This will be the top shelf base.)

1 stick = $3 \frac{7}{8}$ " (This will be the top shelf back.)

Use the scrap ends of the sticks to cut two pieces of stick $1 \frac{3}{16}$ " (These will be the sides of the top shelf.)

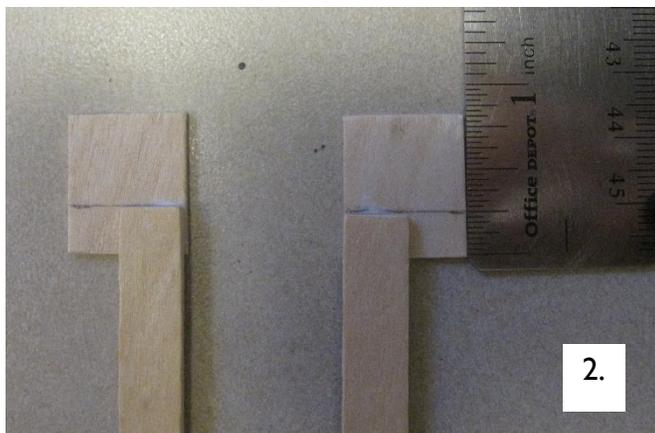
Sand all the ends smooth.



Now you will create the two shelves. Print out the shelf diagram and use it as a guide to create your shelves.

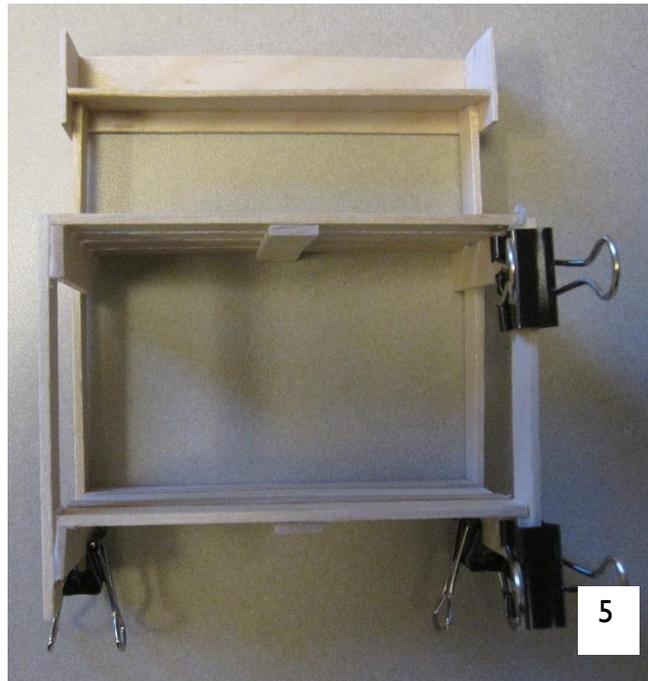
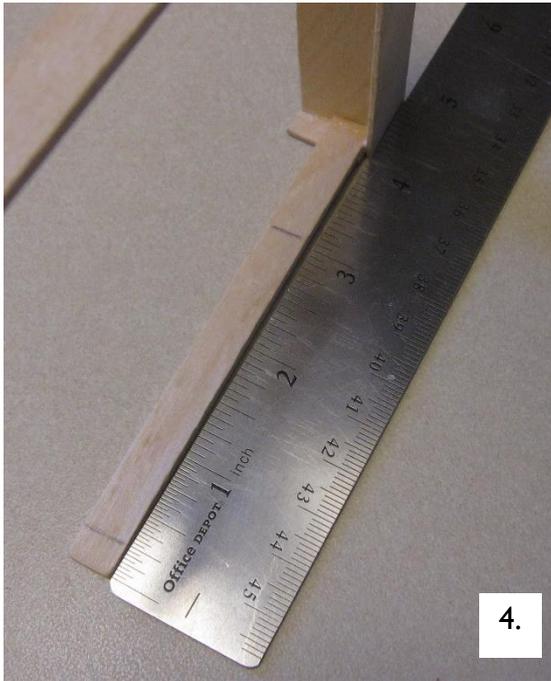
Lay out four $3 \frac{5}{8}$ " sticks on the diagram in each position marked "A". Use a paint brush to apply glue along the center of the sticks between the dotted line and glue one of the $1 \frac{3}{4}$ " sticks in place. See illustration 1.

Next apply glue to the narrow edge of two $1 \frac{3}{4}$ " sticks and glue one in each position marked "B". Set the shelf aside and allow the glue to dry. Make your second shelf in the same way.



Next you will make the top shelf. Measure and mark $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the bottom edge of each of the two $1 \frac{3}{16}$ " top shelf side pieces. Then glue one $4 \frac{1}{4}$ " stick to each piece as pictured in illustration 2. Apply glue to the pencil

lines on the side pieces and the tops of the 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ " sticks and glue the $3\frac{11}{16}$ " top shelf base piece in place to form the shelf. See illustration 3. Once the glue begins to set remove any excess glue with a toothpick. Apply glue to the back edges of the shelf base and shelf sides and glue the shelf back in place.



Now you will put the potting bench together. Measure and draw a line across each back side leg at 3" and $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the bottom. See illustration 4. Apply glue below the 3" mark and above the $\frac{1}{4}$ " mark and slip one shelf into each place. Use binder clips to hold the bottom shelf in place until the glue has set.

Measure and mark $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the bottom of the two front side legs of the table. Apply glue to the top flat side of the legs and just above the line and glue the legs to the front side of each shelf. See illustration 5. Use remaining binder clips to secure the legs in place until the glue sets.

Once the glue has dried you can paint or stain your potting bench if desired.

Shelf diagram

