



Project 16207EZ: Adirondack Chair

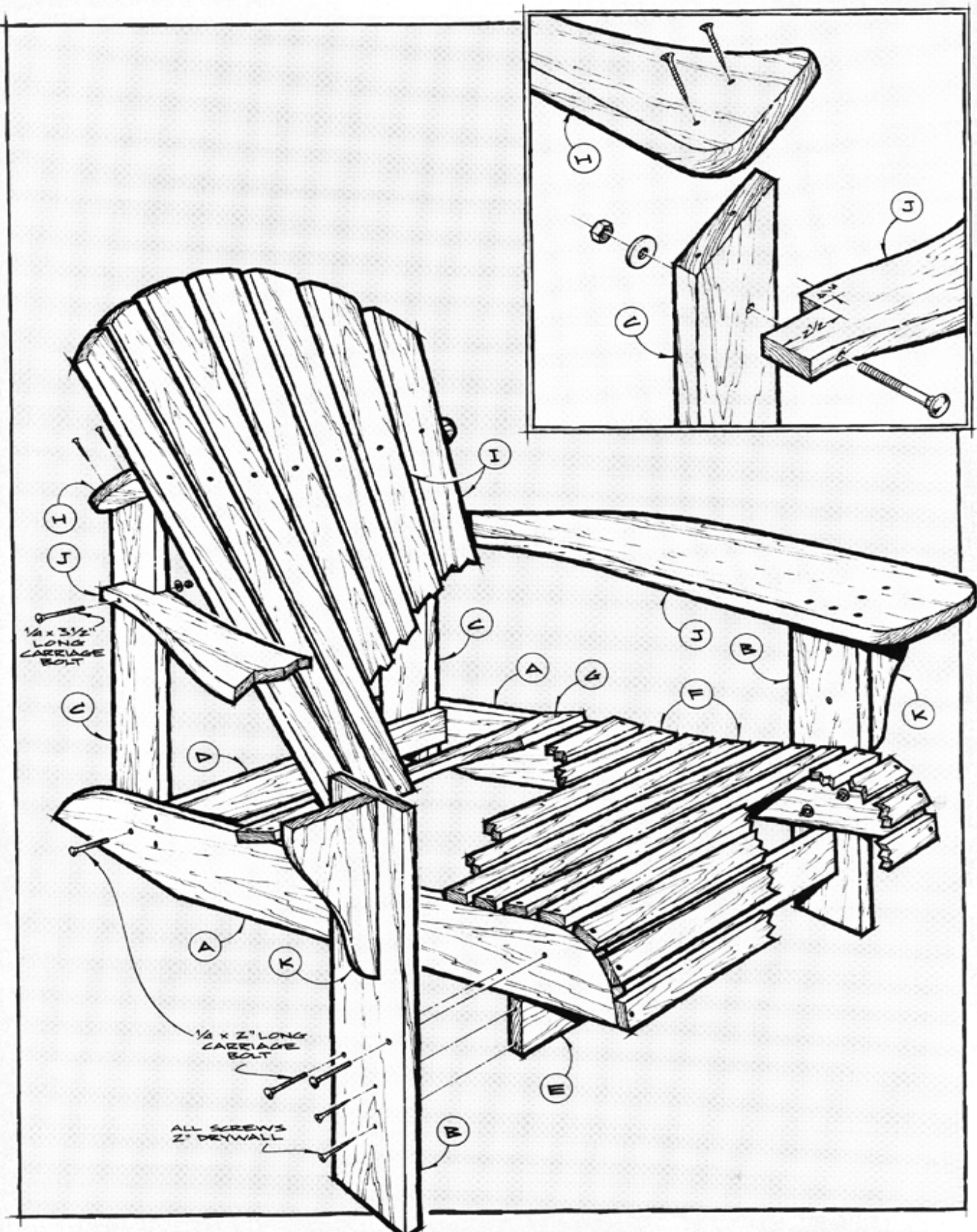
When we first saw this rustic Adirondack pine chair we were intrigued with the idea, but we also had some doubts. With the steeply angled back and long curved seat both slatted, how comfortable could the chair be? Well, much to our surprise, it is very comfortable. As a lawn or patio chair, it is something like a chaise lounge, allowing you to stretch out and relax. The wide arms are ideal for that paper plate picnic lunch and a tall glass of lemonade.

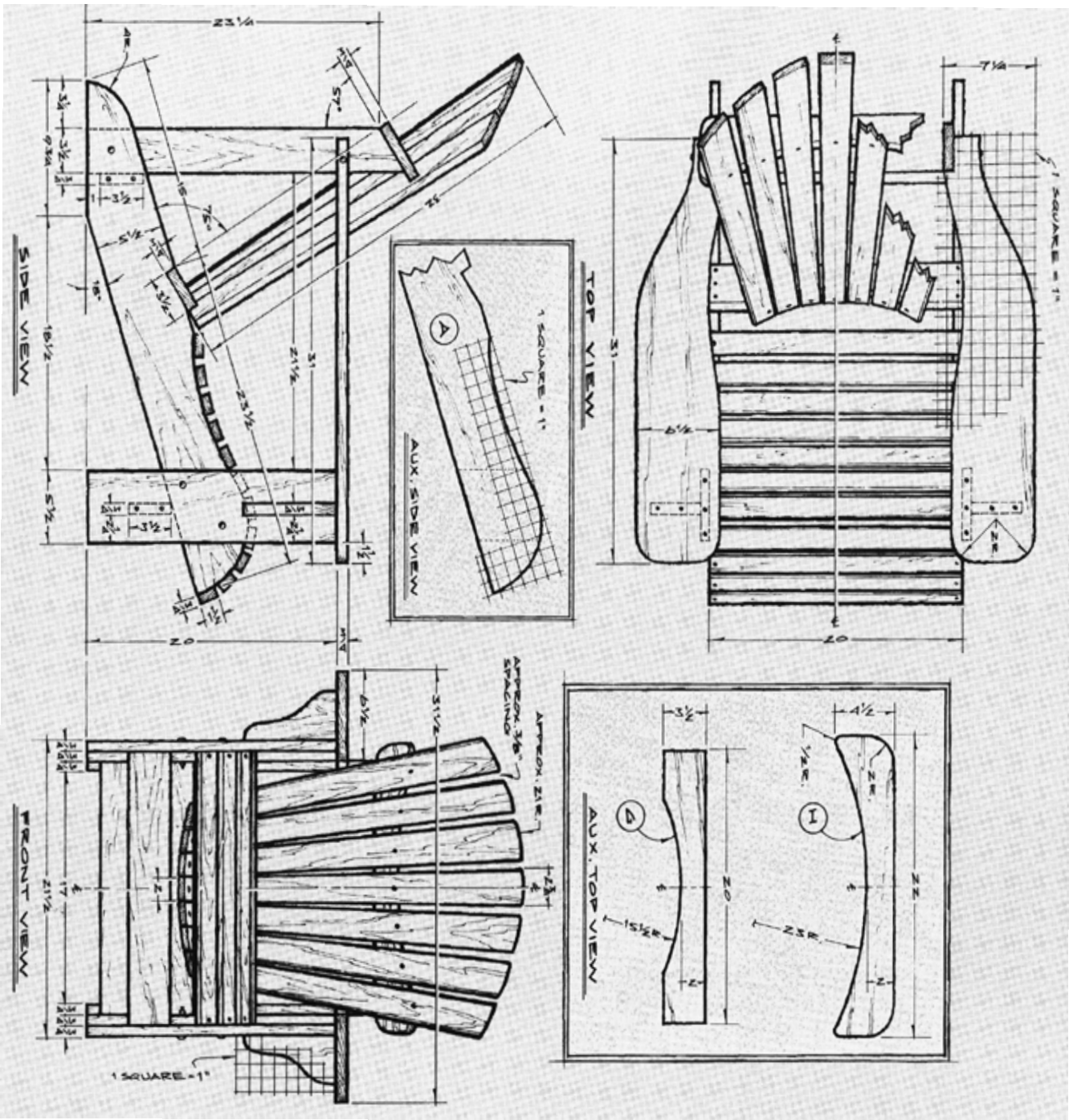
Best of all, the chair is easy to make. Except for the back slats (I), which are cut from wider stock on the table saw using a tapering jig, all the remaining parts are made from 3/4" thick common pine boards, and should therefore require no ripping.

Adirondack Chair Materials List

Part	Description	Size	No. Req'd
A	Seat Frame	3/4" x 5-1/2" x 38-1/2"	2
B	Front Leg	3/4" x 5-1/2" x 20"	2
C	Back Leg	3/4" x 3-1/2" x 25-1/2"	2
D	Back Stretcher	3/4" x 3-1/2" x 18-1/2"	1
E	Front Stretcher	3/4" x 3-1/2" x 20"	1
F	Seat Slat	3/4" x 1-1/2" x 20"	11
G	Back Frame (lower)	3/4" x 3-1/2" x 20"	1
H	Back Frame (upper)	3/4" x 4-1/2" x 22"	1
I	Back Slat	As shown.	7
J	Arm	3/4" x 7-1/4" x 31"	2
K	Brace	3/4" x 3-1/2" x 7-1/2"	2

Adirondack Chair Complete Schematic





Adirondack Chair Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Cut the two seat frame members (A) to length and width.
2. Apply the 18-degree taper to the back bottom.
3. Transfer the grid pattern illustrated in the auxiliary side view.
4. Use a band or saber saw the seat curve.
5. Notch for the lower back frame (G) and radius the back corner as shown.
6. Cut the front legs (B) to length.
7. Cut the back legs (C) to length.
8. Use the table saw to establish the 57-degree miter on the top end of the back legs.
9. Cut the two stretchers (D and E) to length.
10. Make the eleven seat slats (F).
11. Make the back frames (G and H) as shown in the auxiliary top view, using a pencil tied to a string anchored by a nail to mark the respective radii. For part G, the string length should be 15-1/2". For part H it should be 23".
12. Use the table saw and a simple tapering jig to cut the seven back slats (I) to the same initial dimensions: 2-3/4" wide tapering to 2" and 32" long.
13. Butt the back slats together.
14. Scribe a 21" radius across the top.
15. Secure the slats with clamps and a cleat (to prevent chattering).
16. Use a saber saw to cut the 21" radius.
17. Lay out the shape of the arms (J) from the top view grid pattern.
18. Use a band or saber saw to cut the arms to shape.
19. Notch the arms to accept the back legs.
20. Lay out and shape the two arm braces (K) as illustrated in the front view grid pattern.
21. Use plastic resin glue, 2" drywall screws, and plated carriage bolts as shown in the exploded view to assemble the chair. **NOTE: The back slats are space about 3/8" at the top, tapering to less than 1/8" at the bottom.**
22. Chamfer any sharp edges.
23. Sand corners and ends as needed to prevent splintering.
24. Finish the chair with a wood preservative to prevent rot and decay.
25. Apply the preservative once a year to ensure the chair's survival.

These plans were originally published in Volume 10, Issue 4 of *The Woodworker's Journal* (July/Aug. 1986 pages 38-40).