Wiggle into bed

Drive the littlies off to dreamland in a red-car bed

With their antics, songs, TV show and videos, The Wiggles have enchanted two-to-seven-year-olds for years. One favourite item regularly featured on the show is The Wiggles' red car. While it is not practical to have a moving version of this in a home, your youngsters will be delighted to sleep in a bed that looks just like The Wiggles' car. And it's not

Here's how

Step 1 Cut the four legs (A, B), then, from the bottom of each, measure up 490 and 630mm for the rail positions. Cut the rails (C, D) and bevel all sharp arrises with a plane. Screw the wide rails to the outside of legs with the top edge on the 490mm marks, then add the three smaller rails flush with the 630mm mark and top of the legs. Complete the leg assemblies by measuring 300mm from the bottom on the inside of the legs and screw on the inner rails (E). Counterbore all screw heads below surface of timber so the holes can be filled and sanded smooth.

Step 2 Screw the slat supports (F) to the bottom inside of each side rail (G). Rest long rail assemblies on the inner rails of the leg assemblies, clamp to hold, then drill through for two 8mm bolts at each joint and bolt together. Counterbore to take the washer and nut on the inside. Add the rail frames (H) to fit between the legs and flush with top and bottom of rail. Measure 530mm from each end and screw on the frame infills (I), then add the blocks (J) at the foot.

Step 3 Screw the centre slat (K) in place, then lay out the other slats spaced evenly along the slat support.

Step 4 All three car panels can be cut from one 3000 x 1200mm sheet of 18mm MDF. For car sides and front (L, M), expand the pattern in the diagram.

Above left. Three of The Wiggles gang: from left, Murray, Jeff and Greg.
Above and right. It will only cost about $200 to make this groovy bed.

What you will need

Item	Part	Size	Material
A	Bed head legs (2)	90 x 41 x 770mm	Pine
B	Bed end legs (2)	90 x 41 x 630mm	Pine
C	Wide rails (2)	190 x 19 x 1052mm	Pine
D	Narrow rails (3)	90 x 19 x 1052mm	Pine
E	Inner rails (2)	41 x 19 x 1052mm	Pine
F	Slat supports (2)	41 x 19 x 1910mm	Pine
G	Side rails (2)	190 x 19 x 1910mm	Pine
H	Rail frames (4)	41 x 30 x 1730mm	Pine
I	Frame infills (4)	41 x 30 x 130mm	Pine
J	Infill block (2)	41 x 90 x 130mm	Pine
K	Slats (9)	140 x 19 x 930mm	Pine
L	Car side panels (2)	1900 x 600 x 18mm	MDF
M	Front panel	950 x 550 x 18mm	MDF
N	Bed head	970 x 300 x 18mm	MDF

You'll also need 1900 x 600 x 3mm plywood for template; eight 60 x 8mm cuphead bolts; washers and nuts; assorted screws; polyurethane; undercoat; bright red (allow one litre for two-to-three coats), yellow, blue, purple, black and white acrylic gloss paint (250ml each) for the car front and side panels.
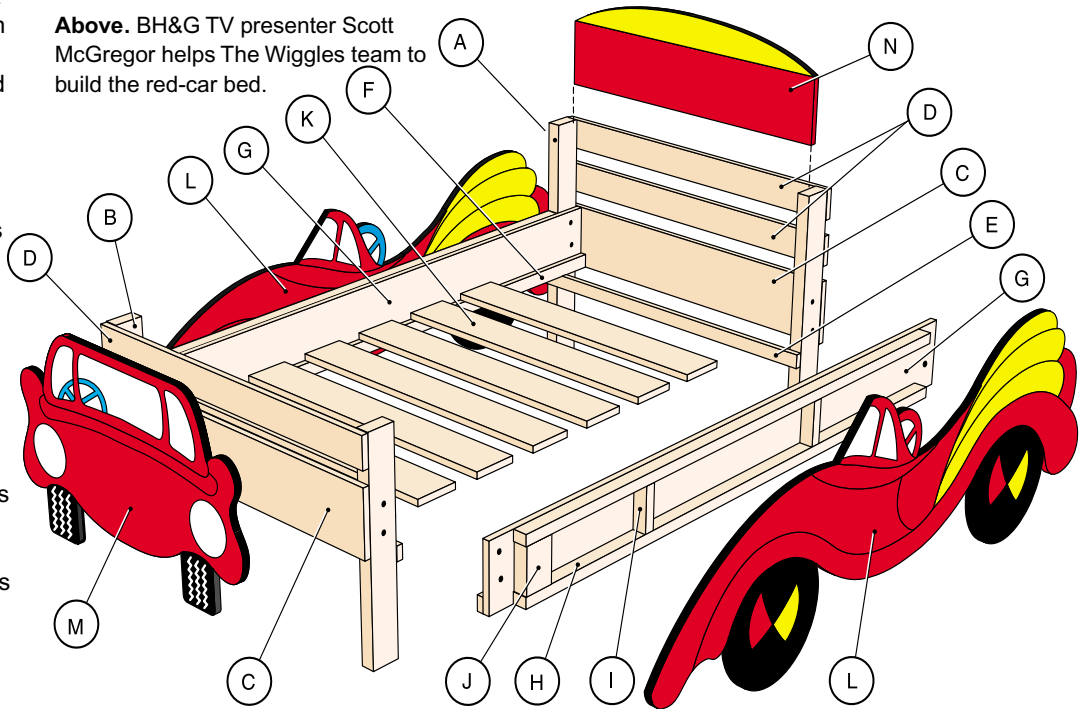
Wiggle into bed (cont)

It's a good idea to transfer the pattern for the sides to a sheet of thin plywood to make a template. Predrill at the start of each cut so you can start the jigsaw. When cutting out, leave sections uncut as marked on the diagram so template holds together. Use template to mark pattern for one side, then flip it over for the other side. Smooth the cut edges, then prime the MDF with white undercoat and draw in the rest of the lines, again using the template.

Step 5 Paint in colours of your choice; standard colours are bright red, yellow, blue, purple, black and white, as pictured previously. Once the panels are painted, outline the details with a fine brush and black paint.

Step 6 For the bed head panel (N), use the dimensions in the diagram and draw a smooth curve at the top. To finish, screw the car panels to the bed. The blocks at the foot end will fill the small, inaccessible gap that is left between the car and the bed frame.
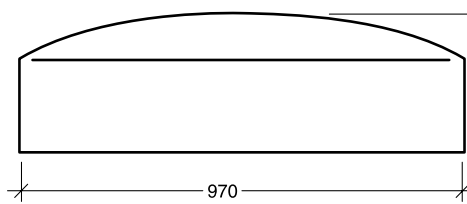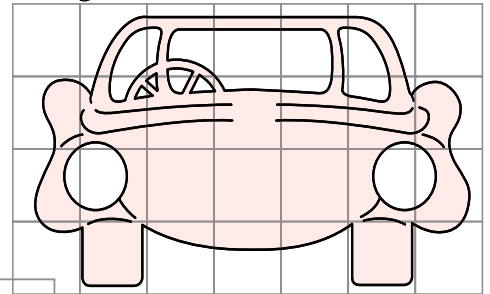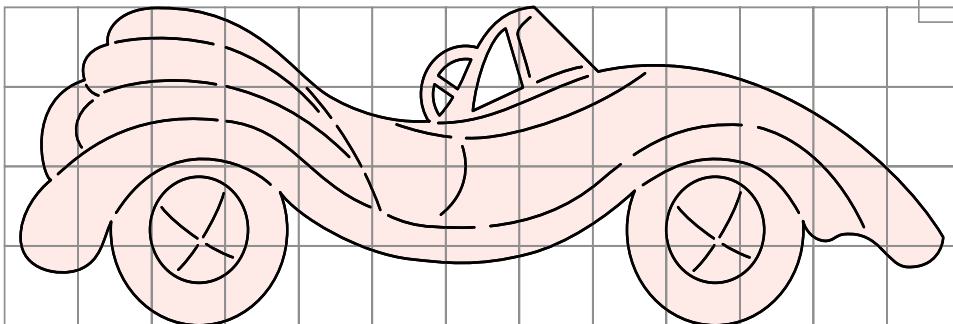
Shopping information
The Wiggles bed built by Nikos Grammenos (02) 4751 6190. All materials Mitre 10 Blackheath (02) 4787 8368. Endeavour single-bed mattress Capt'n Snooze stores nationally. Wiggles cushion $20, throw $20.70, Dinosaur lamp $30 from Target stores nationally.

Above. BH&G TV presenter Scott McGregor helps The Wiggles team to build the red-car bed.

100

200

970

Item N

Item M

150 x 150mm square grids

Item L