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Buffet Table

This project is a versatile piece of furniture that many of my friends have admired. It works well in an entry hall, as a sofa table, or as a buffet in the dining room.



Materials and Supplies

- 30 linear feet of 1 x 3 pine
- 54 linear feet of 1 x 4 pine
- 4 linear feet of 1 x 6 pine
- 5 linear feet of 1 x 10 pine
- 1 piece of laminated pine, 26" x 54"
- 1 piece of 1/4"-thick plywood, 9" x 15"
- Iron-on bonding material

Hardware

- Approximately 300 #6 x 1-1/4" flathead wood screws
- Approximately 35 3d finishing nails

Cutting List

Code	Description	Qty.	Material	Dimensions
A	Shelf	1	Laminated pine	11-1/2" x 50-1/2" long
B	Long Shelf Support	2	1 x 4 pine	50-1/2" long
C	Short Shelf Support	2	1 x 4 pine	10" long
D	Long Top Support	4	1 x 3 pine	50-1/2" long
E	Short Top Support	4	1 x 3 pine	10" long
F	Long Guide	6	1 x 4 pine	11-1/2" long
G	Short Guide	6	1 x 4 pine	10" long
H	Leg	8	1 x 4 pine	30" long
I	Back Trim	1	1 x 10 pine	45" long
J	Side Trim	2	1 x 10 pine	4-1/2" long
K	Top/Bottom Trim	2	1 x 3 pine	45" long
L	Vertical Trim	2	1 x 3 pine	4-1/4" long
M	Drawer Front/Back	4	1 x 4 pine	15-1/4" long
N	Drawer Side	4	1 x 4 pine	8" long
O	Drawer Bottom	2	1/4" plywood	8-1/4" x 14"
P	Small Drawer Front/Back	2	1 x 4 pine	8-3/4" long
Q	Small Drawer Side	2	1 x 4 pine	8" long

R	Small Drawer Bottom	1	1/4" plywood	7-1/2" x 8-1/4"
S	Long Drawer Front	2	1 x 6 pine	16-1/2" long
T	Short Drawer Front	1	1 x 6 pine	10" long
U	Table top	1	Laminated pine	13-1/2" x 54"

Notes on Materials

The buffet table top and shelf are constructed of laminated 1 x 4 pine boards. Most building-supply stores sell sections of pine that have already been laminated. You can laminate the boards yourself, of course, but I don't recommend doing so unless you're a very experienced woodworker and own the necessary tools.

Before you decide whether to add fabric cutouts to your finished project, read over the instructions in the "Finishing" section; they'll explain how to ad these cutouts and how to estimate the amount of bonding material (available at most fabric stores) you'll need to buy for the fabric you choose.

Making the Shelf

1. Cut one 11-1/2" X 50-1/2" shelf (a) from laminated pine.
2. Cut two long shelf supports (B) from 1 x 4 pine, each measuring 50-1/2" long. Cut two short shelf supports (C) form 1 x 4 pine, each measuring 10" long.
3. Place the two shelf supports (B) on a level surface, parallel to each other, on edge, and 10" apart. Place the two short shelf supports (C) between the two long shelf supports (B) as shown in *Figure 1*. Glue the supports together and drive two 1-1/4" screws through the long shelf supports (B) and into the short shelf supports (C) at each joint.
4. Glue the shelf (A) onto the shelf support assembly, as shown in *Figure 1*. Drive several 1-1/4" screws through the top of the shelf (A) into the edges of the shelf-support assembly, spacing the screws about 6" apart.

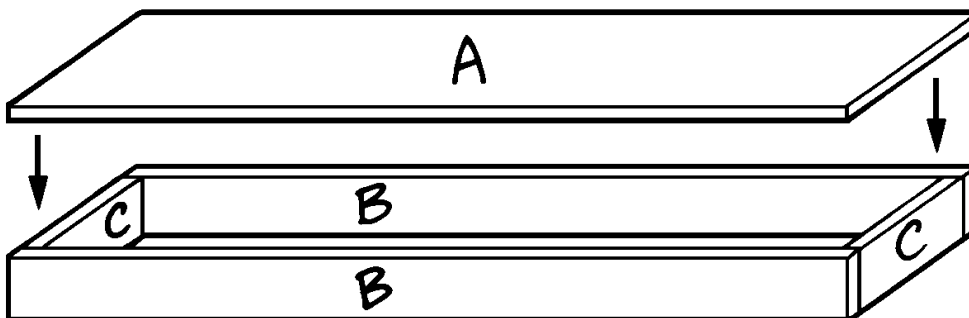


Figure 1

Making the Support Assemblies

1. Cut four long top supports (D) from 1 x 3 pine, each measuring 50-1/2" long
2. Cut four short top supports (E) from 1 x 3 pine, each measuring 10" long.
3. Place two of the long top supports (D) on a level surface, parallel to each other, on edge, and 10" apart. Place two short top supports (E) between the two long top supports (D), as shown in *Figure 2*. Glue the supports together and insert two 1-1/4" screws through the long top supports (D) into the short top supports (E) at each joint.

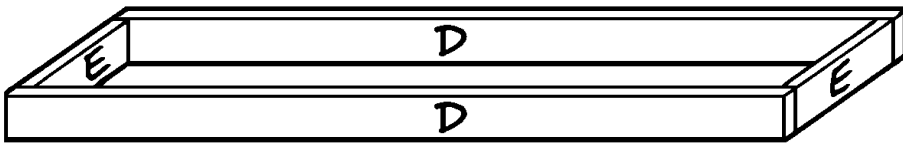


Figure 2

4. Repeat Step 3, using the remaining two long top supports (D) and two short top supports (E) to form a second support assembly. Set the second assembly aside.
5. The support assembly that you built in Step 3 will support the drawers. The next step is to construct the drawer-guide assemblies and add them to the support assembly. Start by cutting six long guides (F) from 1 x 4 pine, each measuring 11-1/2" long. Also cut six short guides (G) from 1 x 4 pine, each measuring 10" long.
6. Glue one short guide (G) to the edge of one long guide (F), as shown in *Figure 3*, leaving a 3/4" space at each end of the long guide (F). Note that the back face of the long guide (F) should be flush with the back edge of the short guide (G). Fasten the pieces with three 1-1/4" screws, spacing them evenly along the joint.

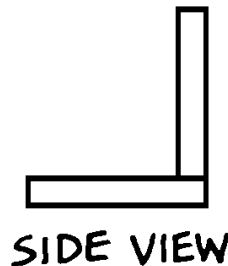
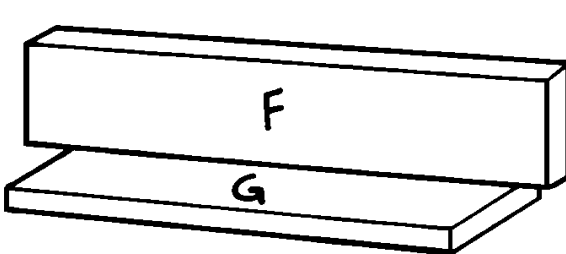


Figure 3

7. Repeat Step 6 five more times, using the remaining five short guides (G) and five long guides (F).

- Now you'll attach the guide assemblies to the first support assembly, as shown in *Figure 4*. Begin on the left side, placing the first guide assembly with its short guide (G) portion inside the first support assembly and with the outer face of its long guide portion (F) 1-1/4" from the inside edge of the support assembly.

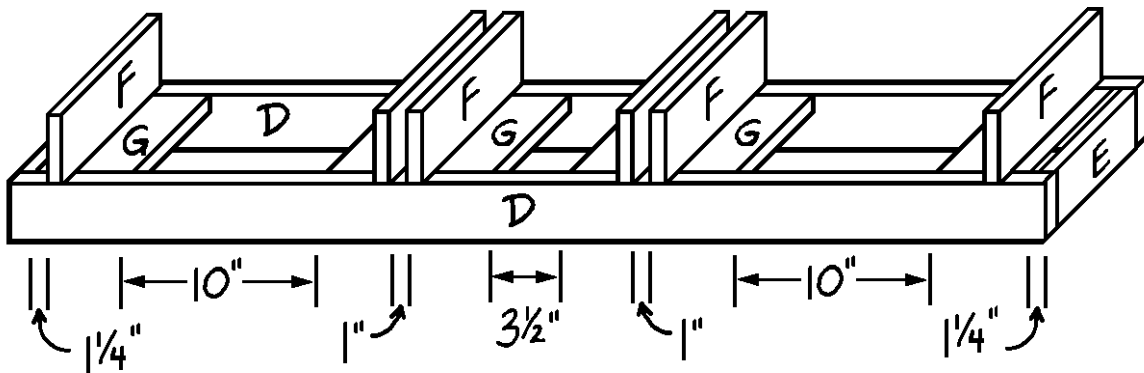


Figure 4

- Position the second guide assembly so that the two short guide (G) portions of the first and second assemblies are 10" apart.
- Position the third assembly so that the long guide (F) portions of the second and third assemblies are 1" apart.
- Repeat Steps 8 through 10, working from the right side of the support assembly to attach the remaining guide assemblies, as shown in *Figure 4*.

Adding the Legs

- Cut eight 30"-long legs (H) from 1 x 4 pine. Before assembling the legs, study *Figures 5* and *6* to see how they're attached to both the inner support assemblies and the shelf assembly. The tops of the legs (H) will be flush with the upper edges of the inner support assembly (the one without the drawer guides attached). The inner support assembly with the drawer guides attached will be positioned 4-1/4" below the bottom edge of the first inner support assembly, and the bottom edge of the shelf assembly will be positioned 4" from the bottom of the legs. The front and back legs (H) will overlap the edges of the side legs (H).
- Start by gluing two legs (H) together at a 90-degree angle, as shown in *Figure 7*. Secure with 1-1/4" screws spaced about 6" apart along the joint.
- Repeat the leg-gluing procedure in Step 1 three more times to form the remaining three leg assemblies.

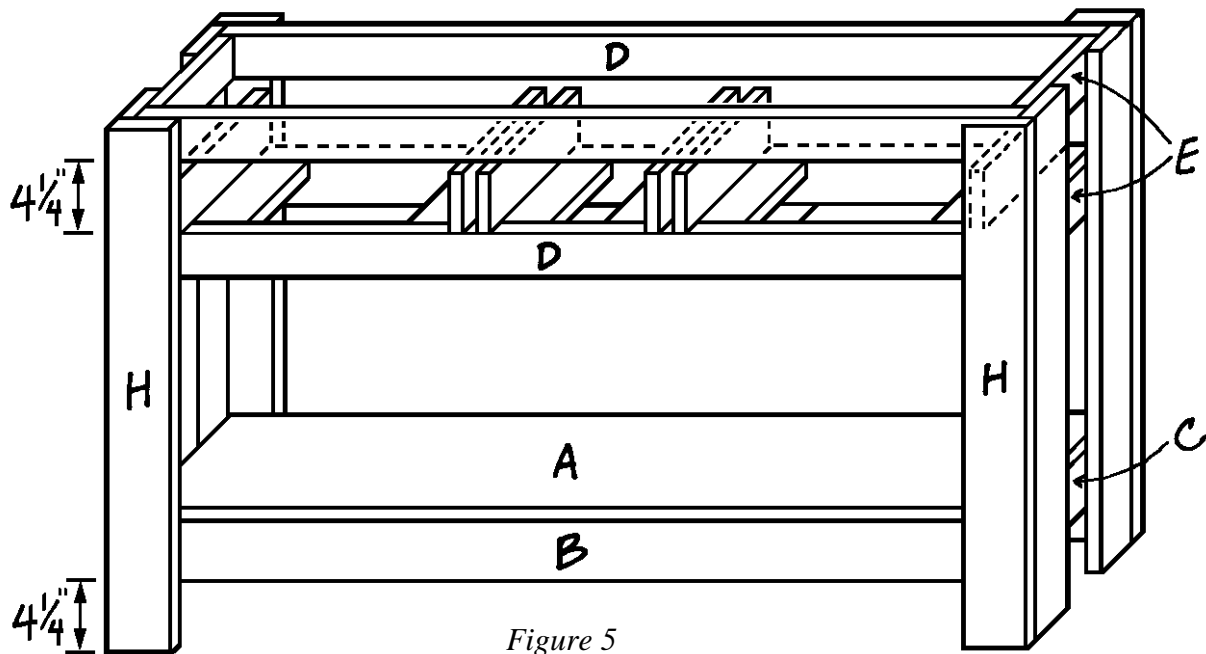


Figure 5

4. Position the assembled legs as shown in *Figures 5 and 6*; then glue them to each of the three center assemblies. Secure with two 1-1/4" screws at each joint.

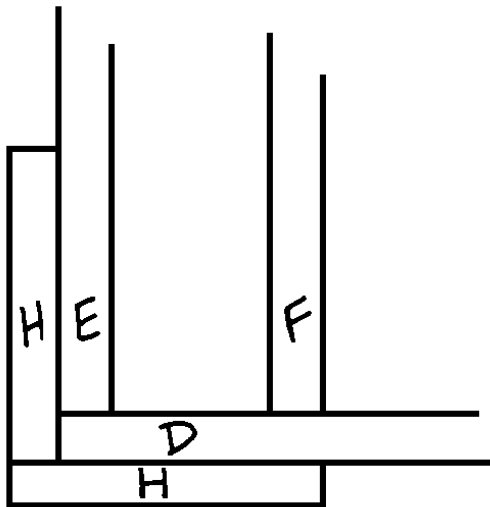


Figure 6

Adding the Back and Side Trim

1. Cut one 45"-long back trim (I) from 1 x 10 pine.
2. Glue the back trim (I) between the two back legs (H). Insert several 1-1/4" screws through the back trim (I) into the inner support assemblies, spacing the screws about 6" apart.
3. Cut two 4-1/2"-long side trim pieces (J) from 1 x 10 pine.
4. Glue a side trim piece (J) between each set of legs (H) on the sides of the buffet. Insert four 1-1/4" screws through each side trim piece (J) into the inner support assemblies, locating the two screws at the top and two at the bottom.

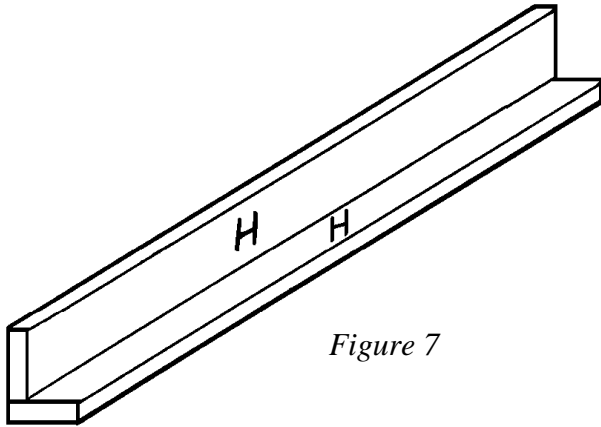


Figure 7

Adding the Front Trim

1. Cut two top/bottom trim pieces (K) from 1 x 3 pine, each measuring 45" long.
2. Glue one top/bottom trim (K) to the top front of the assembly, over the long top support (D), as shown in *Figure 8*. Secure the trim with 1-1/4" screws spaced about 6" apart.
3. Repeat Step 2 to attach the remaining top/bottom trim (K) to the assembly, over the lower long top support (D).
4. Cut two 4-1/4"-long vertical trim pieces (L) from 1 x 3 pine.
5. Using *Figure 8* as a guide, glue one vertical trim (L) between the two top/bottom pieces (K), 15-1/2" from the left leg (H). Insert two 1-1/4" screws through the vertical trim (L) into the ends of the long drawer guides (F).
6. Repeat Step 5 to attach the remaining vertical trim (L) on the right side, as shown in *Figure 8*. This will leave a 9"-wide opening between the two vertical trim pieces (L).

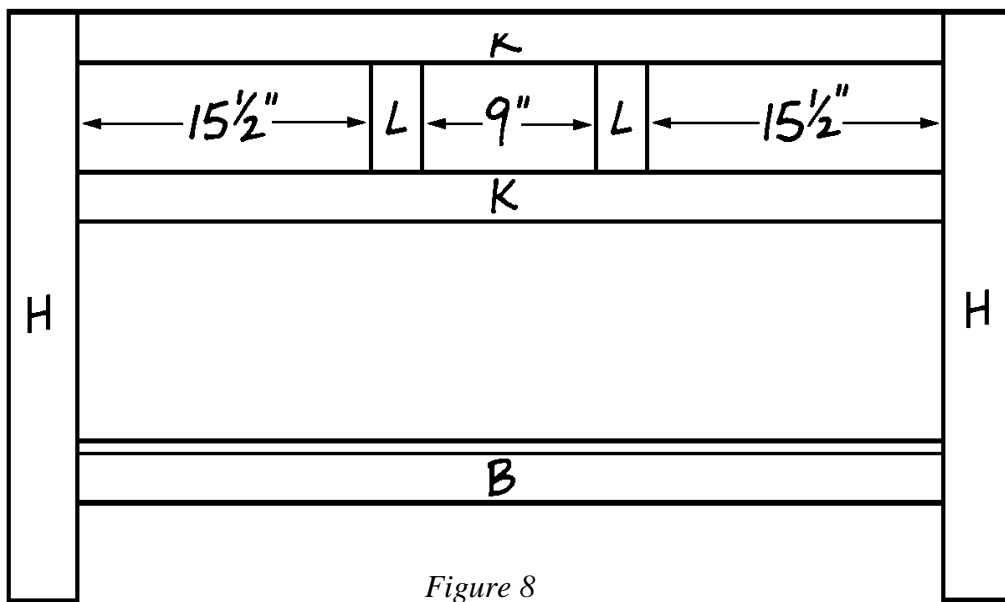


Figure 8

Making the Drawers

1. The two outermost drawers in the buffet are identical in size; the center drawer is smaller. All three are constructed as shown in the assembly diagram in *Figure 9*. Start by cutting the following parts for the two larger drawers from 1 x 4 pine: four drawer front/back pieces (M), each 15-1/4" long, and four drawer sides (N), each 8" long.
2. To accommodate the plywood drawer bottoms, cut a 1/4" x 1/4" dado on the inside of each drawer piece (M and N), 3/8" from the lower edge.
3. Cut two 8-1/4" x 14" drawer bottoms (O) from 1/4"-thick plywood. Assemble one drawer as shown in *Figure 9*. Note that the drawer front/back pieces (M) overlap the ends of the drawer sides (N). Use glue and 3d finishing nails at each end of the overlapping boards. The long drawer front (S) will be added later.

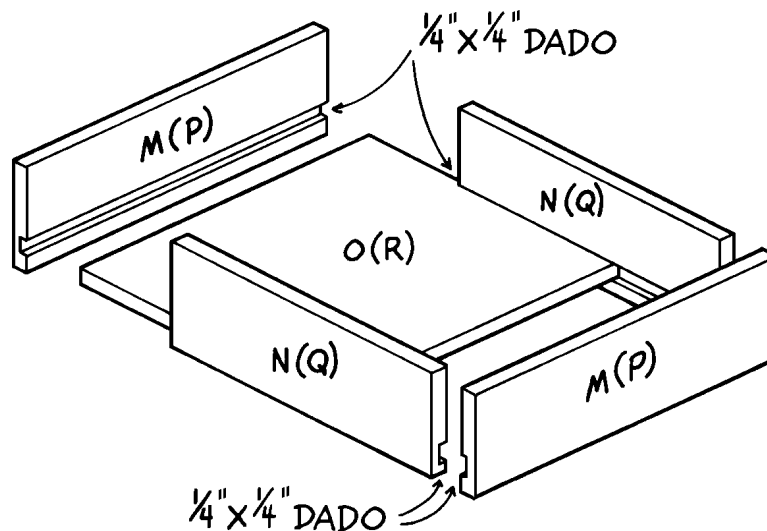


Figure 9

4. Repeat the drawer assembly using the remaining two drawer front/back pieces (M), two drawer sides (N), and drawer bottom (O).
5. Cut the following pieces for the center drawer: two 8-3/4"-long small drawer front/back pieces (P) and two 8"-long small drawer side pieces (Q).
6. Cut one 7-1/2" x 8-1/4" small drawer bottom (R) from 1/4"-thick plywood. Assemble the drawer as shown in *Figure 9*. Note that the small drawer front/back pieces (P) overlap the ends of the small drawer sides (Q). Again, use glue and 3d finishing nails on each end of the overlapping boards.

Making the Drawer Fronts

1. Cut two long drawer fronts (S) from 1 x 6 pine, each measuring 16-1/2" long.

2. Cut one short drawer front (T) from 1 x 6 pine, measuring 10" long.
3. To attach the drawer fronts (S and T) to the assembled drawers, set each of the drawers inside their respective drawer openings, on top of the drawer openings, on top of the drawer guides. Place a piece of wood between the back of each drawer and the back of the buffet so that the drawers are held flush with the front of the buffet. Use heavy-duty, double-sided tape to hold a drawer front temporarily in place on each drawer until you have all three drawer fronts positioned exactly right. The drawer fronts should be level with each other, and the spacing should be equal on both sides of the center drawer. Then attach the fronts to the drawers. Insert three 1-1/4" screws through each drawer and into the drawer front.

Adding the Top

1. Cut one 13-1/2" x 54" top (U) from the remaining laminated pine.
2. Center the top (U) over the completed buffet assembly and glue it in place. The insert 1-1/4" screws, spaced about 8" apart, through the top (U) and into the buffet assembly.

Finishing

1. Fill any screw holes with wood filler.
2. Sand all surfaces thoroughly.
3. Paint or stain the completed buffet the color of your choice. We used a lavender paint for our project.
4. If you don't plan to add the fabric cutouts to your project, skip down to Step 8. To add some visual interest to our project and to repeat the fabric design in our living room, I added fabric cutouts to the front and one side of the buffet. The method is time-consuming, but not at all difficult. First, decide what portion of your fabric design you want to transfer to the buffet. Large designs are easier to work with because each portion must be cut out by hand.
5. Following the manufacturer's instructions, iron the chosen section of fabric to one side of the bonding material. The attached bonding material will make the fabric stiff enough to enable you to cut around the designs without the edges raveling. (You may also use bonding material that is painted on the fabric. You can find bonding materials at craft stores.) Use small sharp scissors to carefully cut out the designs.
6. Lay the cutout over the painted buffet, positioning it as desired. Then remove the backing on the bonding material, and following the manufacturer's instructions, iron the designs onto the buffet.

7. In order to create a smooth finished surface, you will need to apply several coats of varnish over the fabric. The number of coats will vary with the thickness of your particular fabric. I used a product that's advertised as the equivalent of over 50 coats of varnish. It worked well and was a big time-saver!
8. Install the drawer pulls according to the manufacturer's instructions, centering one on the front of each drawer.

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