

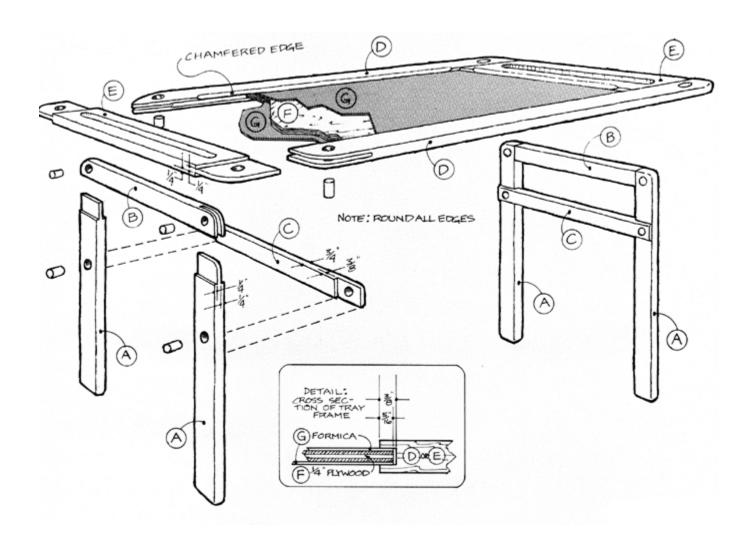
Project 19848EZ: **Breakfast Tray**

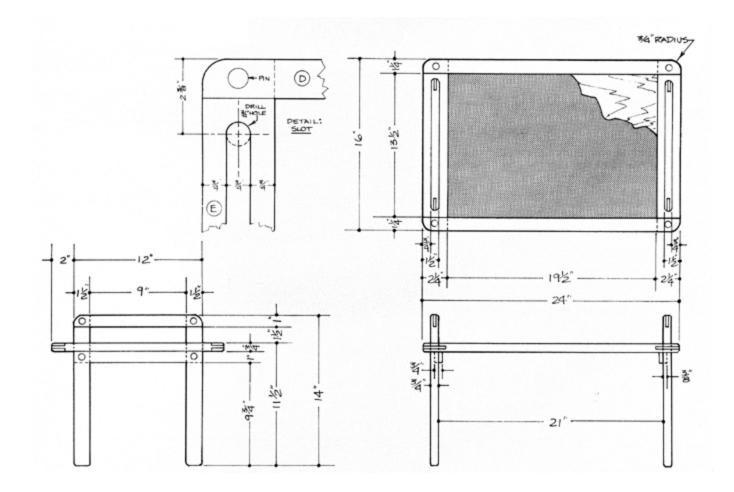
What a luxurious way to start the day - breakfast in bed. This attractive contemporary styled serving tray features a Formica top and legs that pull out of the tray to permit easy storage. Once disassembled, the three parts can be conveniently hung on a kitchen wall or stored flat in a cabinet. Ours is made from ash, since this wood takes well to washing and scrubbing, although we think oak would also look good with this piece. The open mortise and tenon joints are both strong and attractive. A 5/8" diameter teak pin in each joint adds further to the strength and appearance.

Breakfast Tray Materials List

Part	Description	Size	No. Req'd	
А	Leg	3/4" x 1-1/2" x 14"	4	
В	Handle	3/4" x 1" x 12"	2	
С	Table Support	3/4" x 1" x 12"	2	
D	Front and Back Frame	3/4" x 1-1/4" x 24"	2	
Е	Side Frame	3/4" x 2-1/4" x 16"	2	
F	Tray	3/4" x 14-1/8" x 20-1/8"	1	
G	Formica	As required.		

Breakfast Tray Complete Schematic





Breakfast Tray Step-by-Step Instructions

- 1. Cut each of the four legs (parts A) to 1-1/2" wide x 14" long.
- 2. Use a tenon jig in conjunction with the table saw to cut each leg tenon to a width of 11/z inches and a length of 14 inches.
- 3. The through tenon can best be cut using a.
- 4. Adjust the saw blade for a 1" depth of cut.
- 5. Set the tenon jig to cut the 1/4" wide by 1" inch long tenon.
- 6. Cut the handle (part B) to length and width.
- 7. Use the tenon jig to carefully cut the open mortise, removing a little at a time, and always checking the fit with the leg tenon.
- 8. Cut the tray support (part C), which serves to add strength to the unit while also acting as a stop for the removable tray, to length and width.
- 9. Add the notch on each end.
- 10. Make the through mortises and tenons for the tray frame members, parts D and E, in the same manner as parts A and B.
- 11. Make sure these joints are also well fitted.
- 12. Drill a 3/4" diameter hole at a point centered 2-3/8" inches from each end of part E to cut the slot.

- 13. Use a ruler to draw guide lines connecting the two holes.
- 14. Use a saber saw, and working carefully to make sure the cut is straight, cut out the waste material. **NOTE: If parts A and B are slightly thicker 3/4", the width of the slot should be adjusted accordingly**.
- 15. Use a round file to expand the hole if needed.
- 16. Select 1/4" birch plywood to make the tray (part F).
- 17. Cut the tray to length and width.
- 18. Apply Formica to both the top and bottom of the tray..
- 19. Use a router to cut the grooves in parts E and D, each 3/8" deep with a width that allows for a slip fit of the Formica top and **STOPPED ON EACH END**.
- 20. Sand all parts (except the Formica top) before assembly.
- 21. Assemble by joining with glue and clamps.
- 22. Use a plug cutter to cut 1/2" diameter pins from a wood with a contrasting color.
- 23. Final sand all parts.
- 24. Assemble by slipping the leg unit (parts A, B, and C) easily into the slot in part E.
- 25. Try out the tray by sitting with it in bed. You may want to make height adjustments.
- 26. Apply a coat of Watco Danish Oil to complete the project.

These plans were originally published in Volume 6, Issue 5 of *The Woodworker's Journal* (Sept./Oct.

1982, page 28).