

Do It Yourself

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Maple and Walnut CD Cabinet -- Top and Door

From "[Wood Works](#)"

episode WWK-202 -- [More Projects »](#)

With the base and cabinet made, the next step in the crafting of the CD case is to begin making the top. This piece is made from maple plywood and is framed with walnut trim (figure) to visually match the base. The process begins with cutting some angles in walnut stock at the table saw. Later, the door will be cut to shape and added to finish off the cabinet.

Materials:

Maple and black-walnut stock

Table saw

Band saw

Tapering jig

Biscuit joiner; wood biscuits

Hand router

Yellow wood-glue

Clamps

Chalk or carpenter's pencil

Safety glasses or goggles



The cabinet top is a piece of maple framed in contrasting black-walnut.



Figure A



Figure B

Note: Cut sizes may vary. For exact measurements, please contact David Marks through his Web site -- information below under Resources.

Safety Alert: *Always* wear safety goggles or safety glasses when working with power-tools, saws, drills, routers, etc.

Cabinet Top

Steps:

1. To match the angles of the base, the blade on the table saw is again set to 15 degrees, and cuts are made on the sides of the stock (**figure B**). A square-toothed ripping blade works best for this process.

2. Next, a rabbet is cut along the inside edge (**figure C**) to create a lip on which the maple panel will sit.
3. With the miter gauge set to 45 degrees, the ends of the stock are cut to length (**figure D**).
4. Once cut, the top pieces are joined with biscuit joinery. For the top elements, a single #10 biscuit is sufficient (**figure E**).
5. With the joinery slots cut, gluing up of the top can begin. During glue-up, angled shims are fastened with double-stick tape to the top pieces -- just as with the base pieces -- to provide good clamping pressure on the corner joints.
6. The glued pieces are assembled and clamped together (**figure F**). With the flat surfaces provided by the angled shims, the clamps can get a good grip, ensuring tight corners.
7. While the assembly dries, the maple panel is cut to size on the table saw (**figure G**).
8. When the walnut frame is ready, glue is applied to the rabbet (**figure H**). and the maple panel is dropped into place (**figure I**).



Figure C



Figure D



Figure E



Figure F



Figure G

Cabinet Door

While the glue on the top is drying, work can begin on the final part of the case -- the hinged door.

Steps:

- A piece of maple plywood is cut to size for the cabinet door (**figure J**).
- Because the piece of walnut trim adjacent to the door edge is tapered, the door must be cut with a matching taper. Using a scribed pencil-mark as a guide, the door is cut to width on the table saw using a tapering jig (**figure K**). The jig holds the stock in the proper position as the door is cut with the proper taper to match the taper on the corner trim.

- The door is next cut to length, making sure to take an extra 1/8 inch off the top and bottom so the piece can be capped with maple trim.
- Solid brass hinges are used to mount the door to the cabinet. To make sure that the hinges sit flush, mortises are cut using a plunge-router (**figure L**). A two-flute carbide router bit is used to cut the mortises in the cabinet.
- After the mortises has been cut, a hand chisel is used to clean up the corners (**figure M**) and make sure they hinges will fit snugly.
- The same process is used to cut mortises in the door.
- The hinges attach to the door and cabinet with screws (**figure N**).
- To dial in the exact fit for the door, a scraper is used to make a few passes over the leading edge of the door (**figure O**).
- With the door-fit secure, the assembled top can be mounted on the case (**figure P**).

The final segment features final assembly and application of a tung-oil finish.

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RESOURCES:

Fine Woodworking

A magazine devoted to high-quality craftsmanship in woodworking.

The Taunton Press Inc

Newtown, CT 06470

Phone: 203-426-8171

Fax: 203-426-3434

Email: service@taunton.com

The Small Wood Shop (The Best of Fine Woodworking)

Model: 1561580619



Figure H



Figure I



Figure J



Figure K



Figure L

Author: Helen Albert (Editor)

Woodworking Techniques: Best Methods for Building Furniture from Fine Woodworking

Model: 1561583456

Author: Fine Woodworking Magazine

The Taunton Press Inc

Newtown, CT 06470

Phone: 203-426-8171

Fax: 203-426-3434

Email: service@taunton.com

Mastering Woodworking Machines (Fine Woodworking Book)

Model: 0942391985

Author: Mark Duginske

David Marks Website

David Marks, DIY's *Wood Works* host, is a master woodworker. For more information on cut sizes and project details, please contact him via his Website at www.djmarks.com

The Complete Woodworker's Companion

Model: 0823008665

Author: Roger Holmes
(1996)

Watson-Guptill Publications

Lakewood, NJ 08701-9914

Phone: 908-363-5679

Fax: Private

The Complete Book of Wood Joinery

Model: 0806999500

Author: Richard J. Descistofofo
(1997)

Sterling Publishing Co. Inc.

New York, NY 10016

Phone: 212-532-7160



Figure M



Figure N



Figure O



Figure P

Fax: 800-542-7567

Advanced Woodworking

Model: 0783539126

Author: Editors of Time Life Books

1998

Time-Life Books Inc.

Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: 703-838-7000

Fax: 703-518-4124

Popular Woodworking Magazine (F & W Publications, Inc.)

F & W Publications, Inc.

Cincinnati, OH 45207

Phone: 515-280-1721

Website: www.popularwoodworking.com

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