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Dave Campbell

Editorial Content Chief, WOOD magazine



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Build one or all three of these easy-to-make projects to keep your shop organized.

Storage Solution 1: Adjustable board bunks



Make as many of these adjustable racks as you need to store boards flat and out of the way. Wallmount them over studs.

To make each rack, start by cutting two pieces of ½" plywood to the sizes shown on Drawing 1 to create the side plates for the board bunk.

2From an 8'-long 2×4 cut a piece 40" long. Rip about ½" from one edge. Then rip the other edge to achieve the final 2½" width.

3 From the ripped stock, cut the dividers to length, as shown, making sure to miter both ends at 5° . (Note that the bottom divider is $4\frac{1}{8}$ "

long.) The workpiece is longer than you'll need, but this allows you to work around knots to make the dividers as strong as possible.

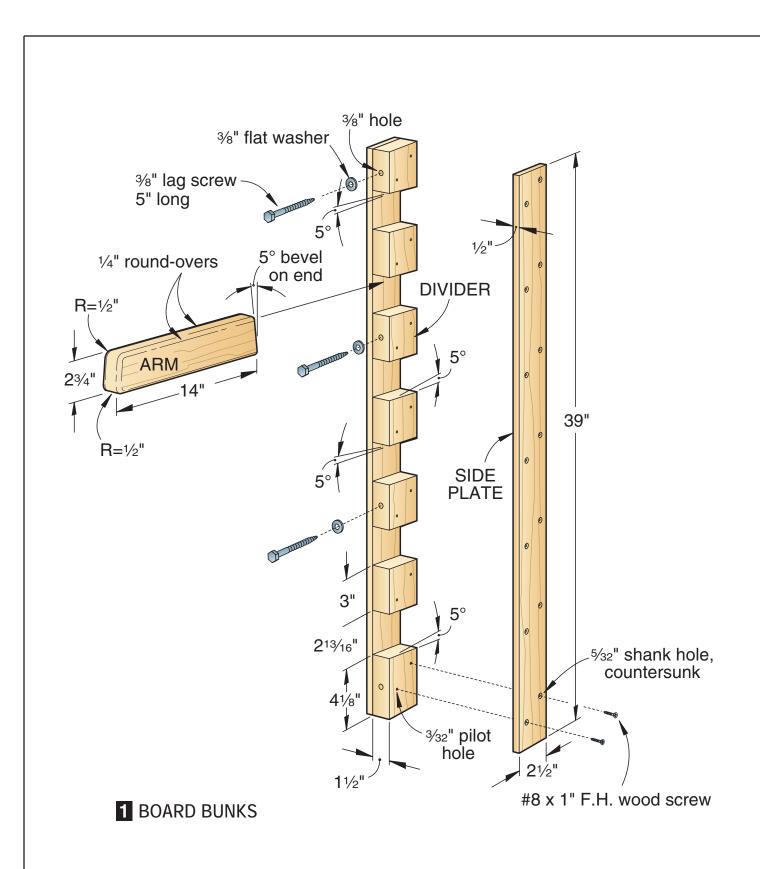
4Cut a spacer 2¹³/₁₆"-wide from a scrap of 2×4 stock, and use this as a spacer to align the dividers. Now glue and screw the dividers to the plates, where shown.

To make the arms, rip a second piece of 2×4 to 2³/₄" wide. Again, avoid sections with knots to ensure maximum strength. (We made four arms for each rack assembly.) Miter one end of each arm at 5°. Then rout 1/₄" round-overs on the edges and ends where shown. Don't rout the

mitered end. Sand all the parts through 150-grit, and apply a clear finish if desired.

To mount the rack assembly, locate your walls studs, and then drill 3/8" holes through four of the dividers, as shown. Use these holes to mark your wall, and then drill 1/4" pilot holes 2" deep into the studs. (If the studs are exposed—no drywall—then make the pilot holes 21/2"-deep.)

7Screw the rack assembly onto the studs using 3/8×5" lag screws, spacing them every 16" or 24". Slip in the arms, and add your prized lumber stock.



Storage Solution 2: Shop-smart scrap sorter



Corral your cutoffs with this handy mobile cart. It lets you organize your stock by length so you'll always know exactly what you have at a glance.

Begin by cutting the plywood sides, shelves, and dividers to the sizes shown on Drawing 2.

2Rip stock (we used poplar) to size to create the edge banding. Then apply the edge banding, where

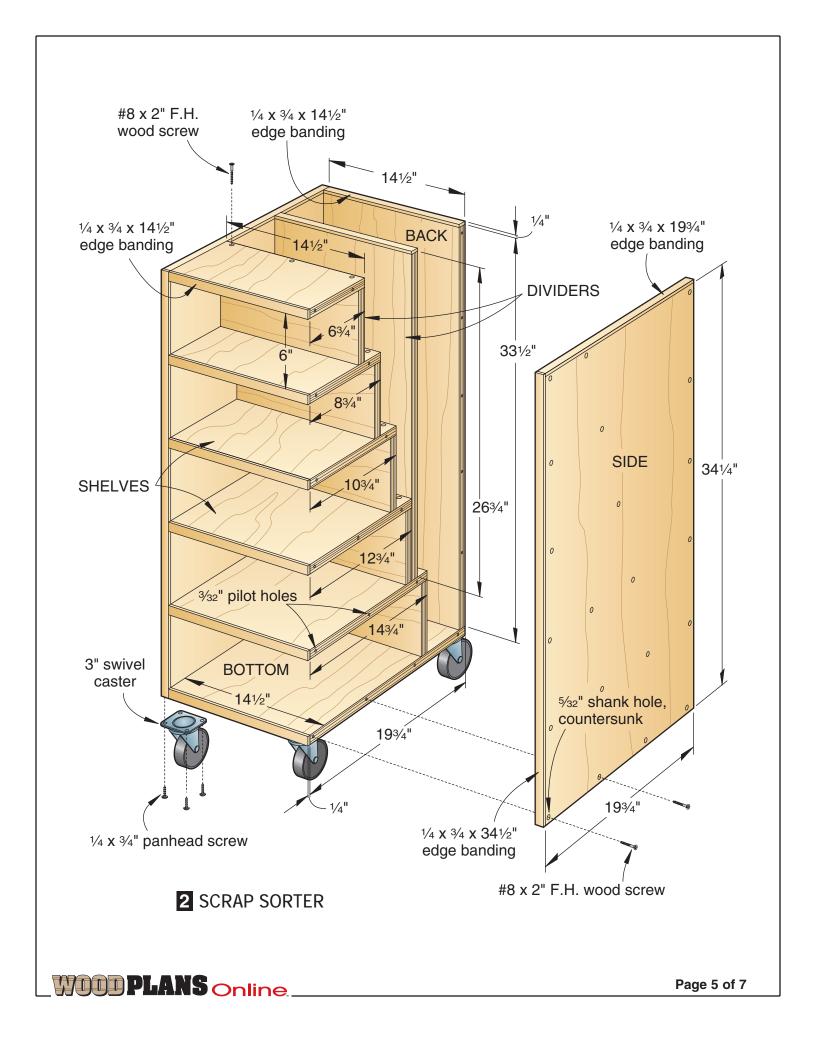
shown. This will dress up the project while protecting the plywood edges from nicks.

Place both side pieces face to face and drill shank holes for the #8×2" screws that will hold the cart together. Also drill shank and pilot holes, and then assemble each of the divider cubbies.

As and the parts through 150-grit, and apply two coats of clear finish to all the cart's pieces.

Now assemble the cart. We used screws only—no glue—to allow tweaking the fit of each piece.

6 Install four 3" swivel casters to the bottom corners of the cart, where shown. To do this, turn the cabinet upside down, place a castor at each corner, mark and drill the holes, and screw the casters in place.



Storage Solution 3: Upstanding sheet storage cart



Sheet goods never store easily, and they take up a lot of shop space. This tall cart allows you to store full sheets, half sheets, and cutoffs in a small area. Though sizeable, it rolls around with little effort. We've even included wall-mounting brackets you can add if your shop floor is rough or out of level. If your ceiling is less than 9', take a pass on this project.

Note: For structural strength, we used 3/4" plywood; five sheets suffice for the project shown. If you intend to finish or paint the project, you'll find it easier to simply apply it to the full sheets before you begin cutting and assembly. We applied two coats of water-based finish using a paint pad, taking care to not coat the plywood edges.

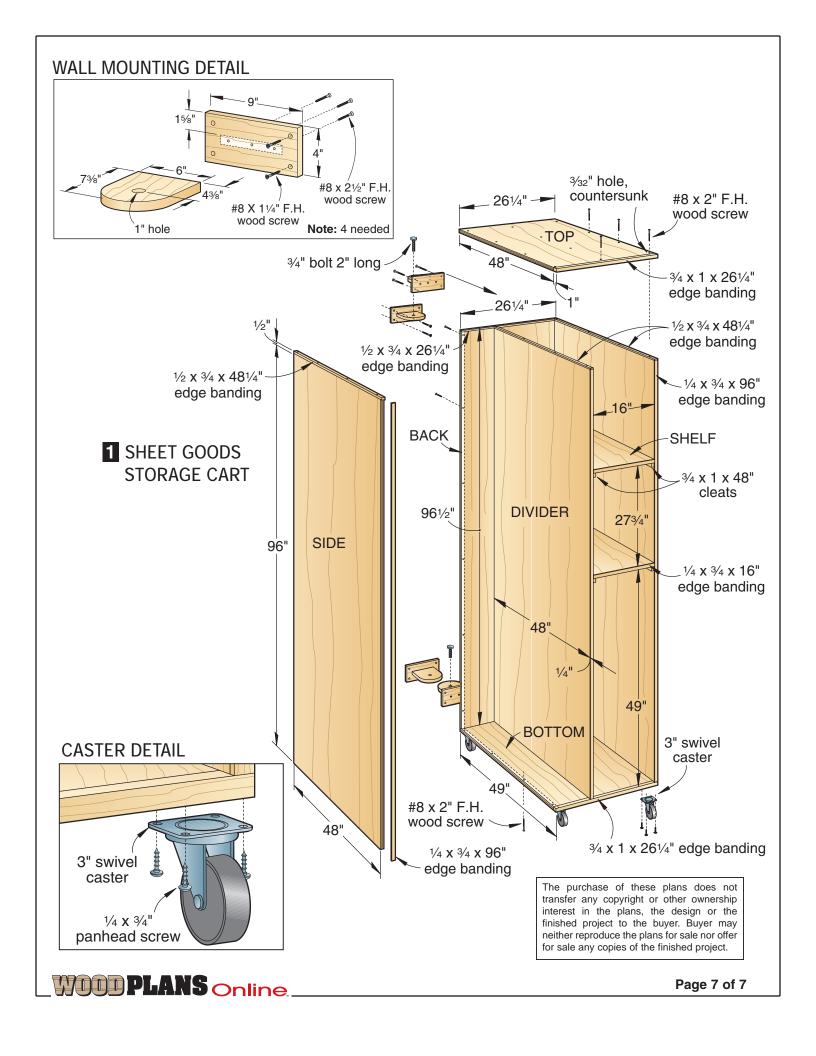
1 Cut the top, bottom, back, and shelves to the sizes shown on Drawing 3.

Next, cut edge banding (we used popplar) to the sizes shown in the drawing. Note that the edge banding on the front edge of the top and bottom extends these plywood parts by 1", whereas the edge banding on the front edges of the top, bottom, sides, divider, and shelves extend the plywood parts by 1/4". This ensures alignment. Now, cut the shelf cleats to size.

Apply edging where shown, and the same finish or paint used on the plywood parts. Attach the shelf cleats using #8×¾" screws.

Assemble the cart using #8×2" screws, as shown. You may want a friend to help move the configuration and steady the large pieces. We found it easiest to install the shelves between one side and the divider, and then add the back, top and bottom, and final side. When done, install 3" swivel casters, where shown.

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