

WOODWORKER'S JOURNAL

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In this plan you will be getting:

- Step by Step construction instruction.
- A complete bill of materials.
- Exploded view and elevation drawings.
- How-to photos with instructive captions.
- Tips to help you complete the project and become a better woodworker.



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The All-Purpose Shop Table



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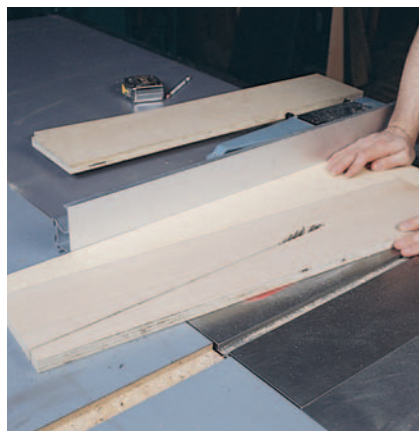
The All-Purpose Shop Table

Just one sheet of plywood and a handful of screws builds this rugged, useful work table. It's perfect for assembly and finishing jobs, or you could even use it for broad outfeed support at the table saw.

You may hear a different story about the brass at the Pentagon, but our guys in uniform sure know how to squeeze a dime for all it's worth. As a GI during World War II, the author helped build thousands of these all-purpose tables at bases throughout the south Pacific. The design calls for only one sheet of 4 x 8 plywood and, judging from the cutting diagram shown on the next page, every inch gets used short of the sawdust left on the ground. If you need a sturdy workshop table, this one truly has been certified by the test of time.



Step 1: After cutting the plywood into sections (see diagram on pg. 43), follow the layout and the Material List to cut the individual pieces to size.



Step 2: Make a tapering jig from scrap wood, as shown in the Taper Jig Layout drawing on the next page, and rip the leg panels to size and shape.



Step 3: Drill counterbored pilot holes in the wider leg pieces, then glue and screw the legs into four corner brackets. Glue plugs into the counterbores.



Step 4: Glue and screw the aprons to the leg brackets, making sure to secure the end aprons first to get the correct overlap at the corners.

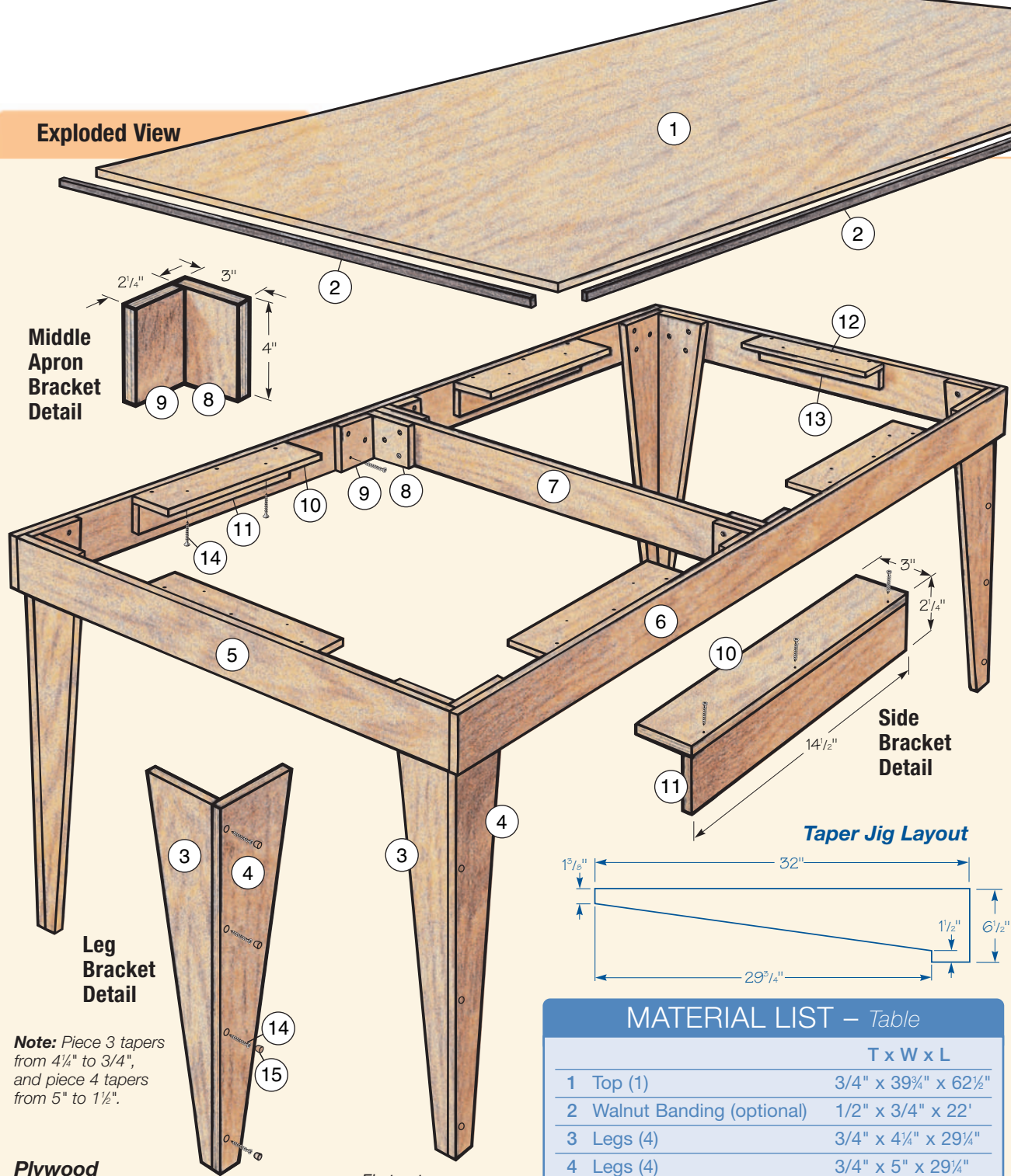


Step 5: Assemble the pieces for all of the support brackets and install the middle apron. Next, mount the remaining brackets to the aprons.

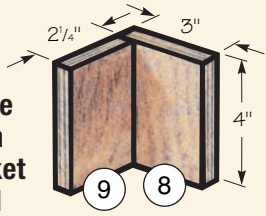


Step 6: Band the top with hardwood strips and lay it on your workbench. Position the base on the top, check for squareness and screw the base to the top.

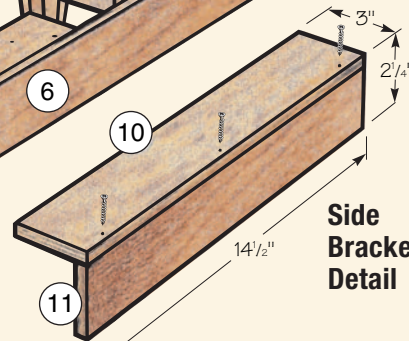
Exploded View



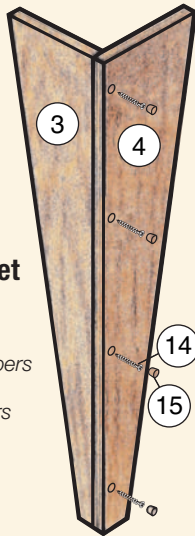
Middle Apron Bracket Detail



Side Bracket Detail

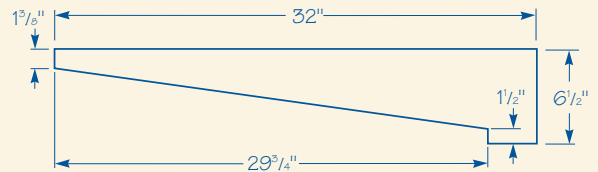


Leg Bracket Detail

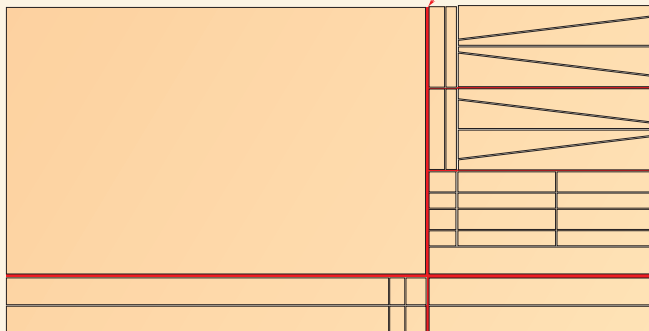


Note: Piece 3 tapers from 4 1/4" to 3/4", and piece 4 tapers from 5" to 1 1/2".

Taper Jig Layout



Plywood Cutting Diagram



Cut your 4 x 8 sheet of plywood into manageable sections following the red lines, beginning with the line labeled first cut.

MATERIAL LIST – Table

| | T x W x L |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Top (1) | 3/4" x 39 3/4" x 62 1/2" |
| 2 Walnut Banding (optional) | 1/2" x 3/4" x 22' |
| 3 Legs (4) | 3/4" x 4 1/4" x 29 3/4" |
| 4 Legs (4) | 3/4" x 5" x 29 3/4" |
| 5 End Aprons (2) | 3/4" x 4" x 33 3/8" |
| 6 Side Aprons (2) | 3/4" x 4" x 57" |
| 7 Middle Apron (1) | 3/4" x 4" x 33 3/8" |
| 8 Middle Apron Supports (4) | 3/4" x 3" x 4" |
| 9 Middle Apron Supports (4) | 3/4" x 2 1/4" x 4" |
| 10 Side Supports (4) | 3/4" x 3" x 14 1/2" |
| 11 Side Supports (4) | 3/4" x 2 1/4" x 14 1/2" |
| 12 End Supports (2) | 3/4" x 2 5/16" x 12" |
| 13 End Supports (2) | 3/4" x 1 5/16" x 12" |
| 14 Screws (100) | #8-1 1/4" |
| 15 Oak Plugs (16) | 3/8" Dia. |