

WOODWORKER'S JOURNAL

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Classic Project

In this plan you'll find:

- Step-by-step construction instruction.
- A complete bill of materials.
- Construction drawings and related photos.
- Tips to help you complete the project and become a better woodworker.

Cookie Jar Holder

GIFT SHOP Easy-To-Make Gift Projects

Cookie Jar Holder

Here's a gift project you can make on a quiet Saturday afternoon. All you need is a few scraps of pine and the cookie jars. The plastic cookie jars are available mail-order if you can't find them locally (see Bill of Materials).

Start by preparing enough stock for the holder. You'll need $\frac{3}{4}$ in. thick stock for the sides (A) and lid (D), and $\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick stock for the bottom (B), rails (C) and the handles (E).

Next, cut the stock to the sizes listed in the Bill of Materials. Always cut larger parts first to minimize waste.

The sides are cut to shape on a band saw or with a hand-held jigsaw. For the handhold cutouts, you'll need a coping saw or a jigsaw. The $\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide by $\frac{3}{8}$ in. deep dado on the sides can be cut with a router or a dado head in the table saw. Establish the mortise in the sides with a $\frac{1}{2}$ in. diameter drill bit, and square up the mortise with a chisel.

The through tenons on the rails are cut on the table saw. Before cutting the tenons, it's best to try the procedure with a piece of scrap the same thickness as the workpiece to insure a proper fit.

Set the dado head blade to its widest setting and $\frac{1}{8}$ in. high. Pass the workpiece over the dado head using the miter gauge for support. To get the tenons perfectly even, use a stopblock so each tenon is $\frac{7}{8}$ in. long. You'll have to make two passes for each shoulder.

Next, establish the $\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide by $\frac{3}{8}$ in. deep dadoes in the lids with the dado head in the table saw. Then cut the circles on a hand saw and form the lip with a straight cutter in the router table, clamping a V-block to the table as shown in the detail.

The handles are shaped on the band saw, and screwed and glued in place.

Next, sand and assemble the holder. Tapered pegs (G) whittled from scrap stock hold the mortises and tenons together, and are driven into the dado joints for the bottom. Drill a $\frac{1}{8}$ in. diameter hole and put a dab of glue on the pegs before driving them in. The ends of the through tenons are beveled with a sharp chisel.

We gave the holder a pickled white finish. Brush on a coat of white latex paint and wipe it off with a damp rag before it dries. To give the piece texture, leave more paint on the hand-to-reach areas at the joints. Cover the paint with a coat of shellac or lacquer. The lids are painted with two coats of yellow spray enamel.

Bill of Materials (all dimensions actual)			
Part	Description	Size	No. Pieces
A	Side	$\frac{3}{4}$ x 9 x 10	2
B	Bottom	$\frac{1}{2}$ x 9 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1
C	Rail	$\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{3}{4}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	2
D	Lid	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ dia. x $\frac{1}{2}$ thick	2
E	Handle	$\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2
F	Jar	as shown**	2
G	Peg	as shown	10

* Includes length of tenon.
** For a mail-order source for the jars, write to Meisel Hardware Specialties, P.O. Box 70, Mound, MN 55365. Their catalog is free. They sell for \$3.79 each not including postage and handling.

The Woodworker's Journal

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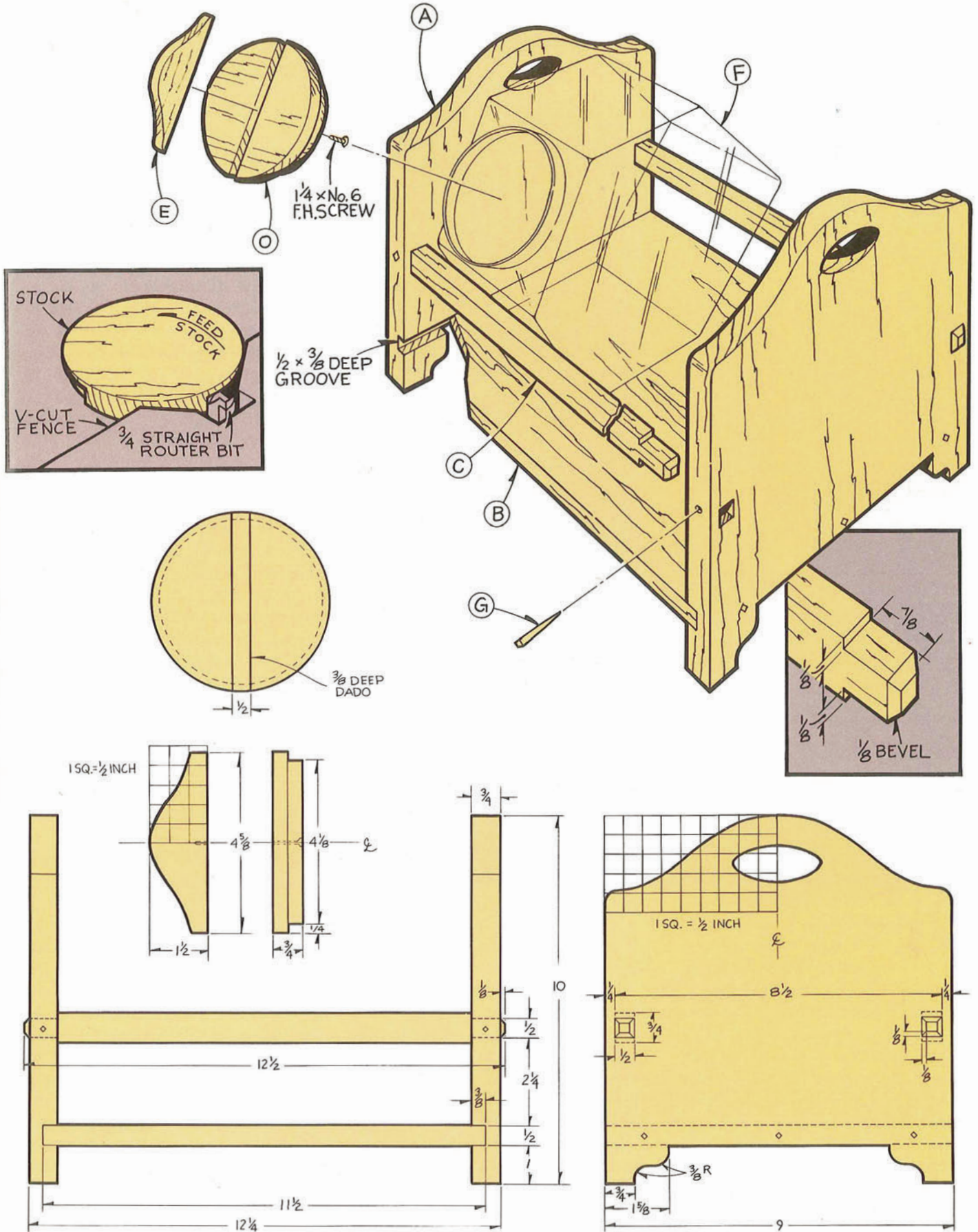
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(all dimensions actual)

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