



Build a Kids Storage Box

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Parents will appreciate the ingeniousness of this double-duty storage unit/chalkboard. Besides stashing toys, the unit lets kids' imaginations run wild in a litter-free, paperless way. Chalkboard paint makes it a snap to turn any surface into a doodling board. Note: This unit is NOT designed to be freestanding. It must be placed against a structure or fence.

TOOLS AND MATERIALS CHECKLIST

Tools

- Table saw
- Dado blade (optional)
- Compound mitre saw
- Corded or cordless drill
- #8 countersink
- drill bit
- Trim router with guide
- round-over router bit
- Safety glasses
- Measuring tape
- Carpenter's square
- 18-gauge brad nailer
- foam roller and tray
- paintbrush
- Painting gloves

Materials

- 1-1/2" #8 woodscrews (approx. 50)
- 1-1/4" 18-gauge brad nails (approx. 100)
- 18-gauge brad nails (approx. 100)
- 4" x 8" sheet & good-one-side plywood (2)
- 2" x 4" x 8" cedar (5)
- 1"x 4"; x 8" cedar (6)
- 4" tongue & groove cedar paneling (3 4-packs)
- Bun feet (4)
- Exterior hinges (2)
- Spring safety hinges (2)
- 1 litre exterior grade primer
- 1 litre Rust-oleum black chalkboard paint
- 1 litre exterior grade clear coat
- 2" painter's tape
- Large bottle outdoor carpenter's glue

STEP-BY-STEP PROJECT GUIDE**Step 1****BEGIN BY CUTTING**

the pieces that will make up the body of the box from two 4' x 8' sheets of $\frac{3}{4}$ " plywood. One 48" x 68" back; one 18-1/2" x 48" base; one 19-1/4" x 48" face; two 18-1/2" x 19-1/4" sides. To make a hinge support cut a cedar 2" x 4" to a length of 46".

**Step 2****ASSEMBLE THE BODY**

of your box using carpenter's glue and 1-1/2" #8 woodscrews.

**Step 3****PRIME AND PAINT**

the bun feet with a light sanding between coats; then, to install them, drill a $\frac{1}{4}$ " centering hole 2-1/2" from the front or back and side in each corner. Attach from inside the box with three 1-1/2" woodscrews.

**Step 4****PRIME THE EXTERIOR OF THE BOX**

then paint the face and upper panel with Rust-oleum black chalkboard paint; sand lightly between coats.



Step 5

USE TONGUE AND GROOVE

cedar to line the inside of the box. Attach with glue and $\frac{3}{4}$ " 18-gauge brad nails.

Step 6

TO MAKE THE CEDAR SURROUND FOR THE UPPER PANEL

rip three 8' cedar 2" x 4" to 2". On the cut face dado a $\frac{3}{4}$ " channel 1-3/8" deep, 5/8" from the 2" front edge. Use a trim router with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " round-over bit to finish the front edge. Next cut the two side caps at 68" and remove the 5/8" tongue from the bottom 19-1/4" of each cap where it fits along the edge of the box. With the third piece cut the top cap at 69-1/4" and remove the front and back tongues from 2" on either end to fit between two side rails and cap the corners. Glue and pin the surround using 1-1/4" 18-gauge brad nails.



Step 7

TO MAKE THE CAP FOR THE TOP EDGE OF THE BOX

rip an 8' 2 x 4 to 2-1/2" and centre a 1" dado $\frac{3}{4}$ " deep. Notch the side caps to fit over the 2 x 4 hinge support and mitre the corners to fit the front cap. Glue and pin the cap using 1-1/4" 18-gauge brad nails. Next rip a 2 x 4 from 1-1/2" to $\frac{3}{4}$ " and cut to 45" to cap the back hinge support. Install by gluing and countersinking 1-1/2" #8 woodscrews. To complete the cap cut a piece of 1" x 4" cedar to 45" and install on the upper face using glue and 1" 18-gauge brad nails.



Step 8

USE TONGUE AND GROOVE

cedar to finish the sides and upper face of the box. Glue and pin using $\frac{3}{4}$ " 18-gauge brad nails. To finish the corners cut 1" x 4" cedar to 3/8" thick and rip to 1-3/8" for the front edge and 2" for along the base. To complete the front base rip 1 x 4 cedar to 2" and install on the sides and bottom using glue and brad nails.

Step 9

TO FINISH THE LID

rip a piece of 1 x 4 cedar to $\frac{3}{4}$ " and attach to the edge with glue and brad nails. Complete the lid

surface by installing 1 x 4 cedar ripped to 2" and insert tongue and groove panels.



Step 10

FILL ALL NAIL HOLES WITH WOOD FILLER

sand and apply clear-coat to all surfaces. Install safety hinges (inside box) to finish.