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Bill Krier  
Editor  
WOOD® magazine

### **Adobe Acrobat Troubleshooting Guide**

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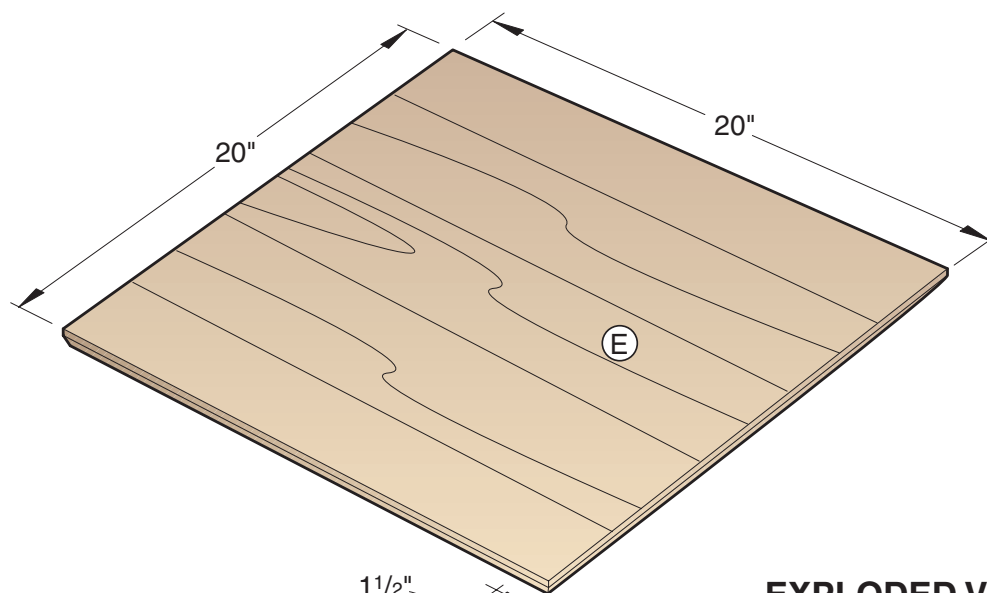
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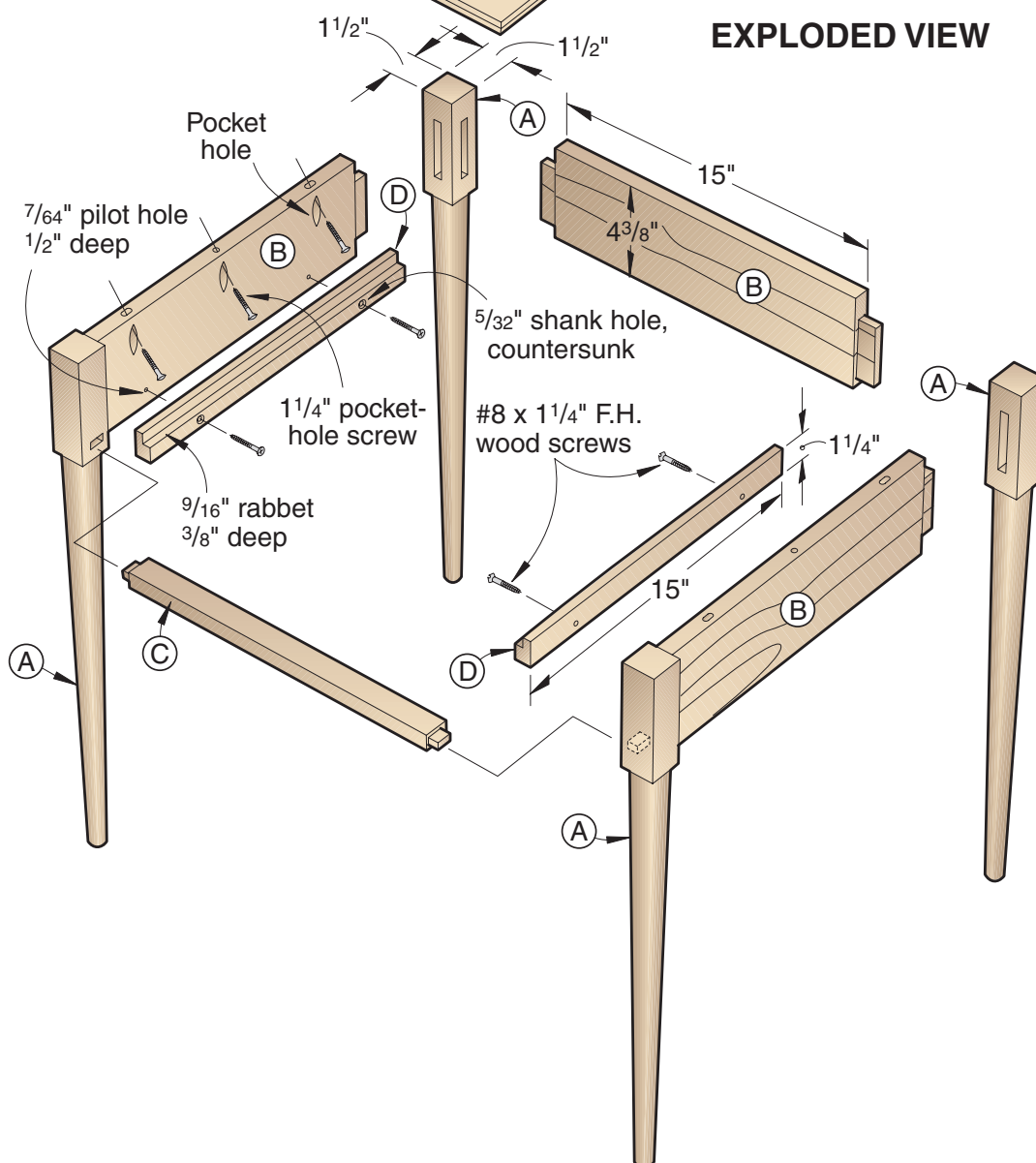
The tradition lives on  
simply stated  
**Shaker Nightstand**



Here's an elegant example of Shaker simplicity that you can build to compliment the Shaker bed we have plans for or you can mix with traditional or contemporary furniture. See the photos of Shaker bed and Shaker cheval mirror on *page 7*.



## EXPLODED VIEW



## Start by turning the legs

**1** To make the legs (A), you'll need four pieces of cherry 1½" square by 25" long. If you don't have stock this thick, you can laminate two pieces of ¾" stock, or see the Buying Guide on *page 7* for our source of turned legs. If you laminate stock, make the blank extra long, and then trim both ends for a 25" length. See the Turned Leg drawing *below* for reference.

**2** Mark diagonal lines on both ends of each leg to find the centers. Indent each centerpoint with an awl. For symmetrical legs, it's critical to carefully locate the centerpoints, and center the spur and cone centers on these centerpoints in the next step.

**3** Mount a leg between centers on your lathe. Using a skew, turn the taper on the leg to the shape shown on the Turned Leg drawing. Repeat for each leg.

**4** Mark mortises on adjacent surfaces of each leg, where shown on the drawings on *page 4*. Note that while the back legs are identical, the front legs are paired. Also, note that the mortises for the front stretcher (C) are not centered; they sit back ½" from the front edge of each leg. This places the stretcher back ⅜" to match the setback of the apron rails. Hold the legs together to verify the locations and alignment before cutting.

**5** Following the three-step procedure on the Mortise detail accom-



**Mark the mortise locations carefully, and use a drill press with a fence for alignment to remove most of the stock.**

panying the Leg Mortise drawing on *page 4*, machine the mortises where marked. As shown in **Photo A**, we used our drill press to remove most of the mortise material. The drill-press table fence helps align the holes.

## Now, cut the apron rails, stretcher, and guides

**1** From ¾" cherry, cut the side and back apron rails (B) and front stretcher (C) to size.

**2** Fit your tablesaw with a dado blade and your miter gauge with a wooden extension. Cut the ½"-long tenons on the ends of the apron rails (B) and stretcher (C). See the Leg Mortise drawing for

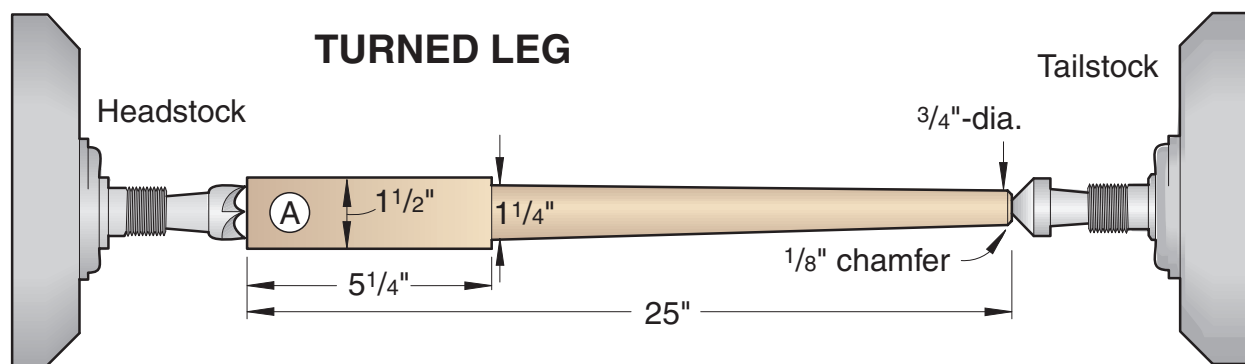
## Materials List

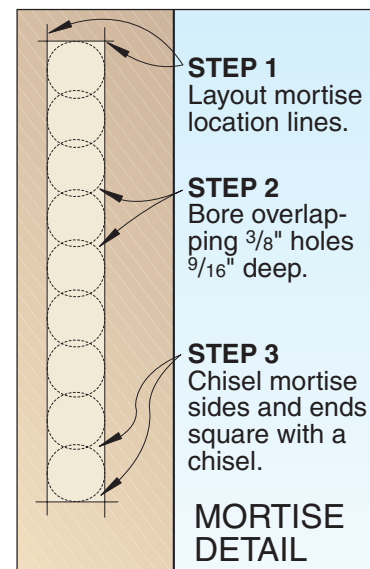
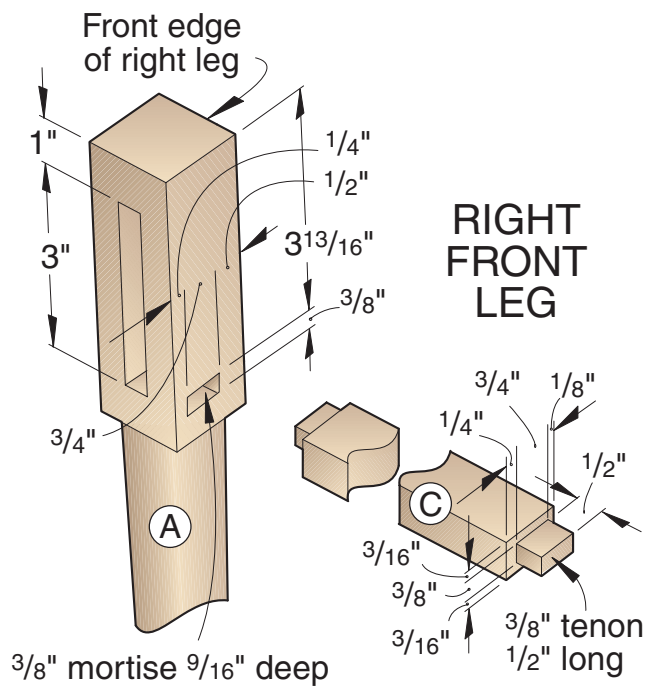
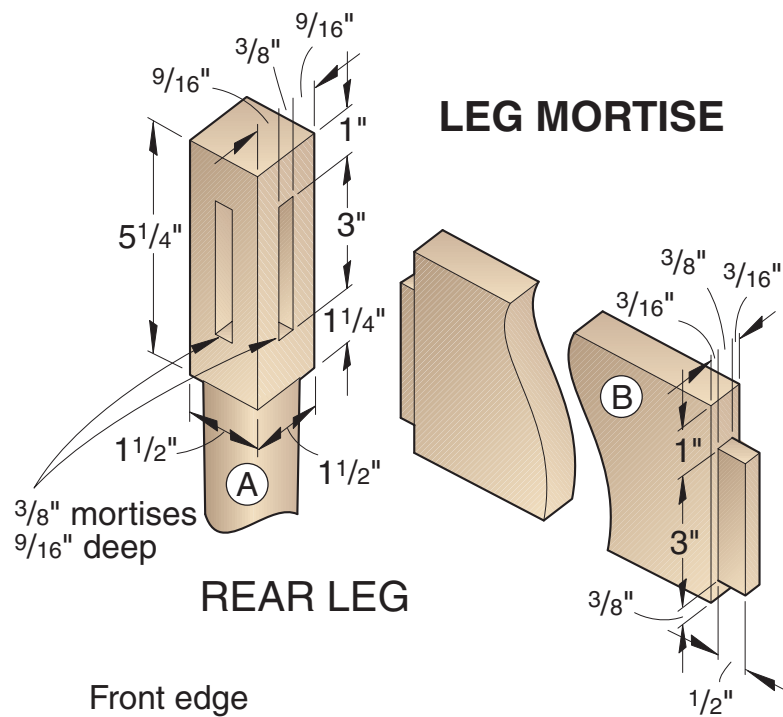
BASE	FINISHED SIZE			Matl.	Qty.
	T	W	L		
A legs	1½"	1½"	25"	C	4
B aprons	¾"	4⅞"	16"	C	3
C stretcher	¾"	1⅞"	16"	C	1
D guides	¾"	1¼"	15"	C	2
E* top	¾"	20"	20"	EC	1
DRAWER					
F front	¾"	3½"	14⅞"	C	1
G sides	½"	3½"	16¼"	C	2
H back	½"	3"	14⅞"	C	1
I bottom	¼"	14⅞"	14¼"	P	1
J stop	½"	1⅞"	2"	C	1

\*Initially cut parts marked with an \* oversized. Then, trim each to finished size according to the how-to instructions.

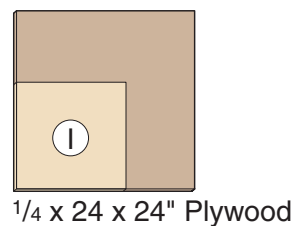
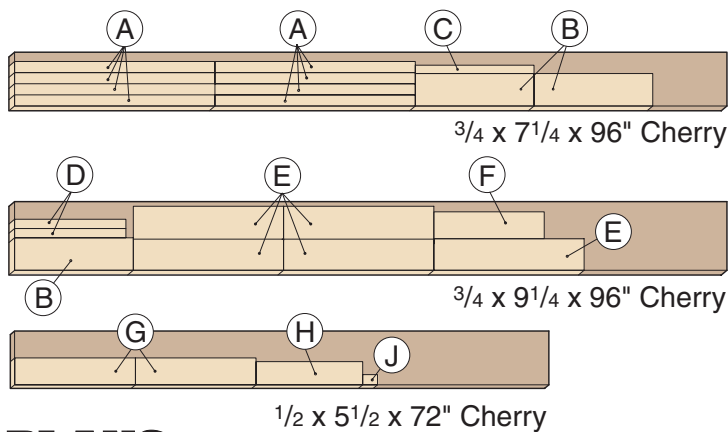
**Materials key:** C=cherry, EC=edge-joined cherry, P=plywood.

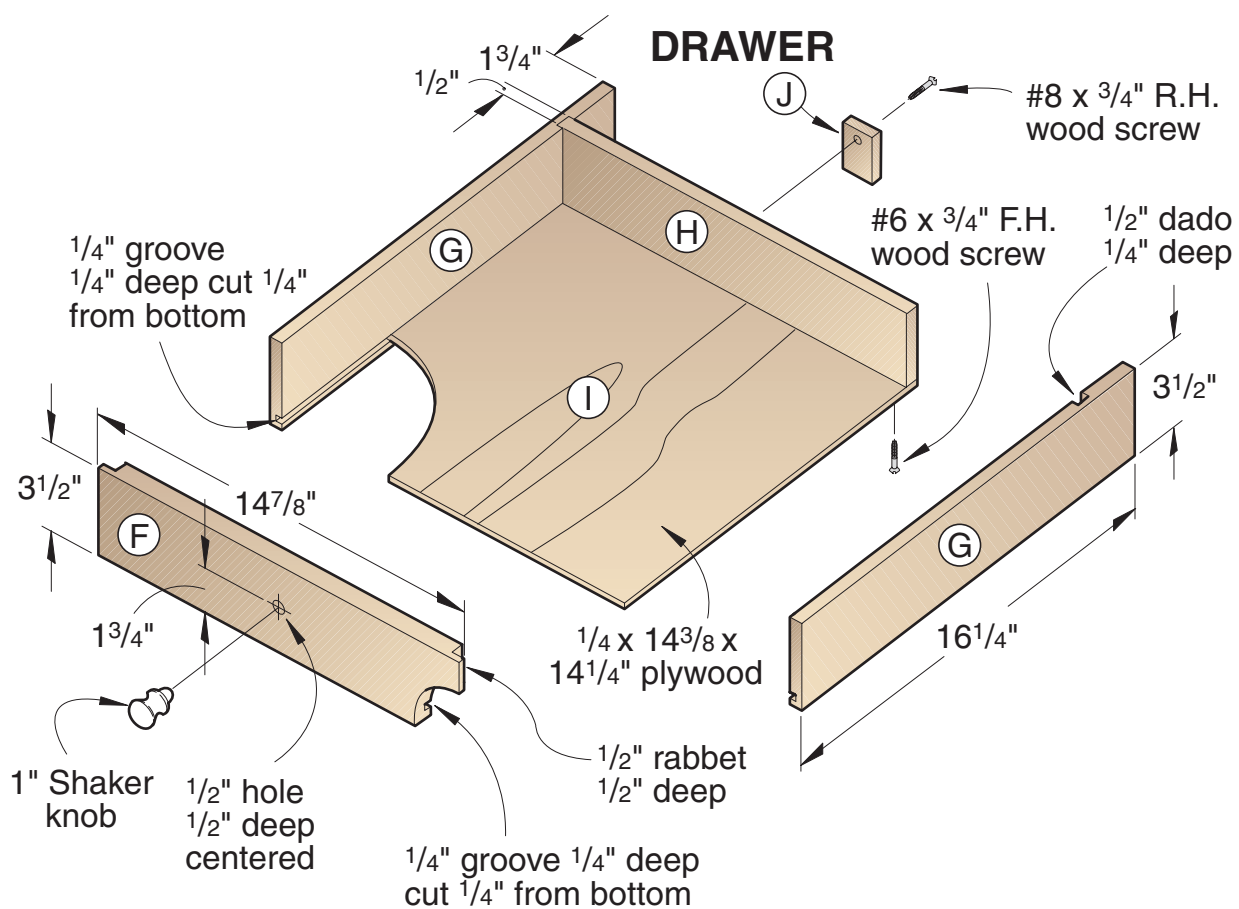
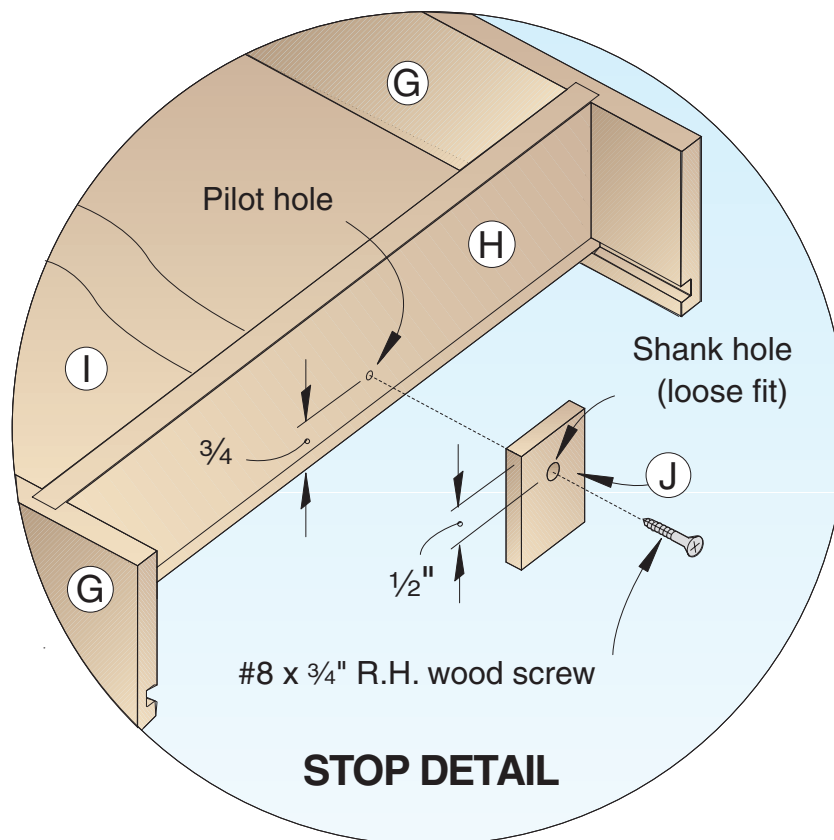
**Supplies:** 1¼" pocket-hole screws (6), 1" Shaker knob, #8×¾" roundhead wood screw, #6×¾" flathead wood screws, #8×1¼" flathead wood screws, finish.





## CUTTING DIAGRAM







reference. See Photo B for our method of measuring the thickness with a vernier calipers. We cut stock first to verify the fit of the tenons into the mortises in the leg. When checking the fit of the tenons, we wrap paper around the tenon, and then slipped the tenon into the mortise. The paper ensures that you have enough room for glue coverage for a strong joint. An extremely tight fit can force the glue off mating surfaces when fitting the pieces together and results in a weak, glue-starved joint. Glue and clamp the base (A–C) together, checking for square.

**3** Cut the drawer guides (D) to size. Now, cut or rout a  $\frac{9}{16}$ " rabbet  $\frac{3}{8}$ " deep along the top inside edge of each. See the Front Section View drawing on *page 7*, keeping the bottom edge of the guides flush with the bottom edge of the apron rails, drill a pair of mounting holes in each guide, and screw them to the inside face of the apron rails, where shown on the Front Section View drawing.

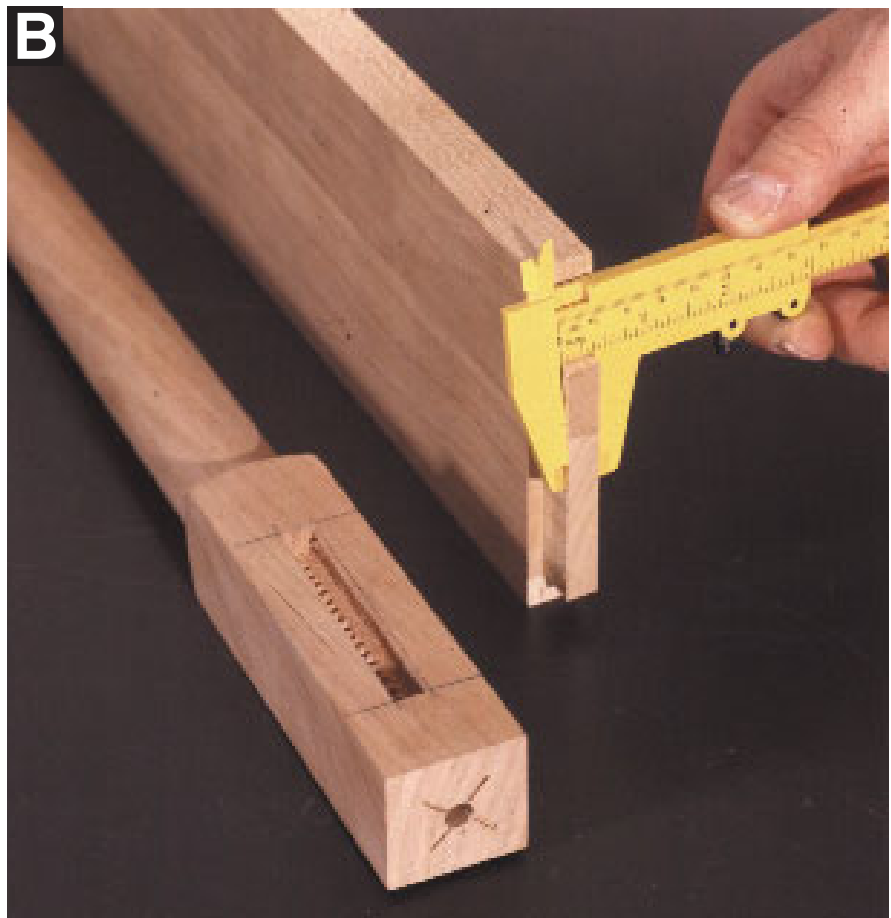
### The tabletop comes next

**1** Edge-join enough  $\frac{3}{4}$ "-thick stock to form a blank measuring 21" square for the tabletop (E). (We used five  $4\frac{1}{4}$ "-wide pieces to form the top.) Pay close attention when clamping the pieces together that the lamination stays flat.

**2** Remove the clamps, scrape off the excess glue, and trim the edge-joined top (E) to finish size (20" square).

**3** Rout a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " chamfer along the bottom edge of the tabletop, where shown on the Front Section View drawing. (To minimize chip-out, we routed ours in several passes, increasing the depth of each pass.)

**4** Turn the tabletop and base upside down, and center the assembled base on the bottom of the tabletop. Using a pocket-hole



**For snug-fitting joints we used a vernier calipers to measure the leg mortises and mating tenons on the aprons.**

jig, drill the mounting holes, and screw the base to the top. To allow for wood movement, remove the jig and rock the drill bit in the hole to create a slotted shank hole. This allows the screw to move slightly with the expansion and contraction of the solid-wood tabletop.

### The drawer adds valuable storage

**1** From  $\frac{3}{4}$ " stock, cut the drawer front (F) to size. Then, from  $\frac{1}{2}$ " stock, cut the drawer sides (G) and back (H) to size.

**2** Using the dimensions on the Drawer drawing, cut the rabbets and grooves in the drawer front and sides.

**3** Drill a hole, centered in the drawer front, for the Shaker knob. Test-drill a hole in a scrap stock

to verify the necessary size for your particular knob.

**4** From  $\frac{1}{4}$ " plywood, cut the drawer bottom (I) to size. Dry-clamp (no glue) the drawer together to check the fit of all the pieces. Remove the clamps, and check its fit into the opening. Then, glue and clamp the drawer (F–I) together, checking for square.

**5** Cut the drawer stop (J). Drill the mounting hole for connecting it to the back of the drawer. Slide the drawer into the base, and the add the stop to the back of the drawer. See the Stop detail accompanying the Drawer drawing on *page 5*. Don't drive the mounting screw too tight. Allow the stop to rotate on the screw so it can be swung out of the way to clear the front stretcher for removing the drawer from the base.

## Clean it up, and add the finish

**1** Remove the top (E) and drawer from the base. Finish sand the base, top, and drawer.

**2** Add the finish. (We used stain and Minwax fast-drying polyurethane.) Reconnect the top, and add the knob to the drawer.

## Buying Guide

**Preturned legs.** Four 1½"-square cherry legs 25" long and 1" cherry knob, \$59.95 ppd., kit no. SHLEGS. Schlabaugh & Sons Woodworking, 720 14th Street, Kalona, IA 52247, or call 800/346-9663 to order. 🌿

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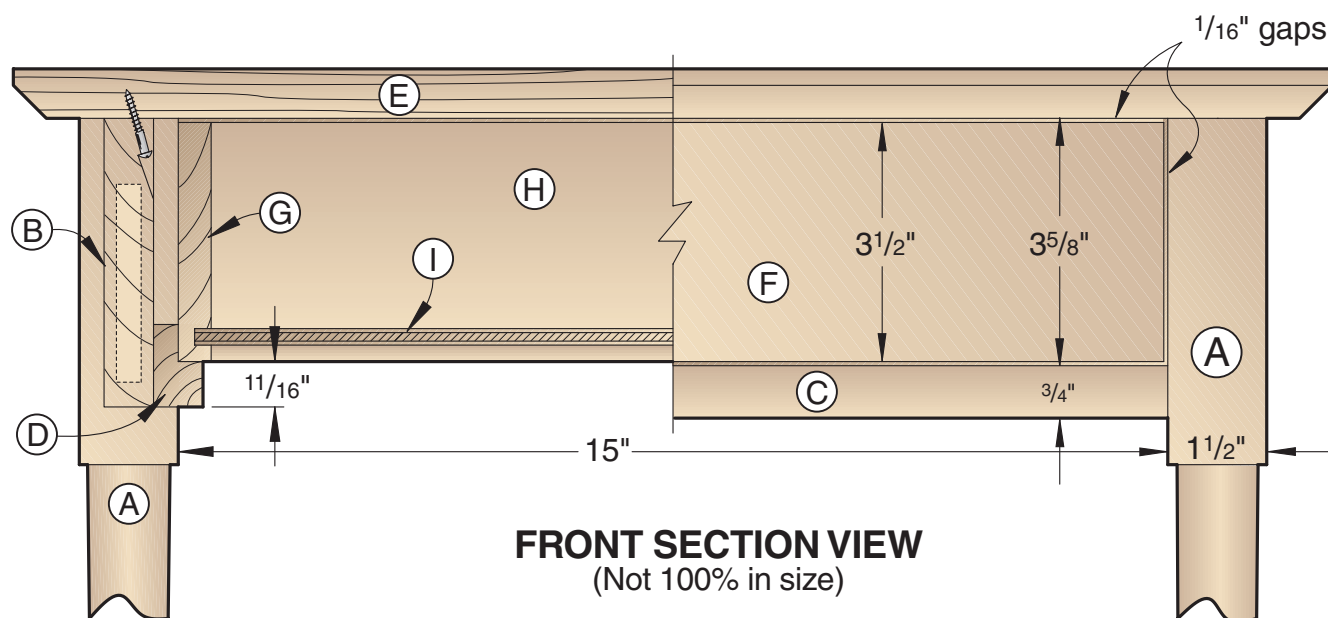
Here's more Shaker furniture plans you can order. Now you can build a bedroom full of these beautiful and fashionable pieces so you can proudly say "I made these!" To order these two other Shaker furniture plans, go to the Downloadable Woodworking Plans section of the **WOOD STORE**.



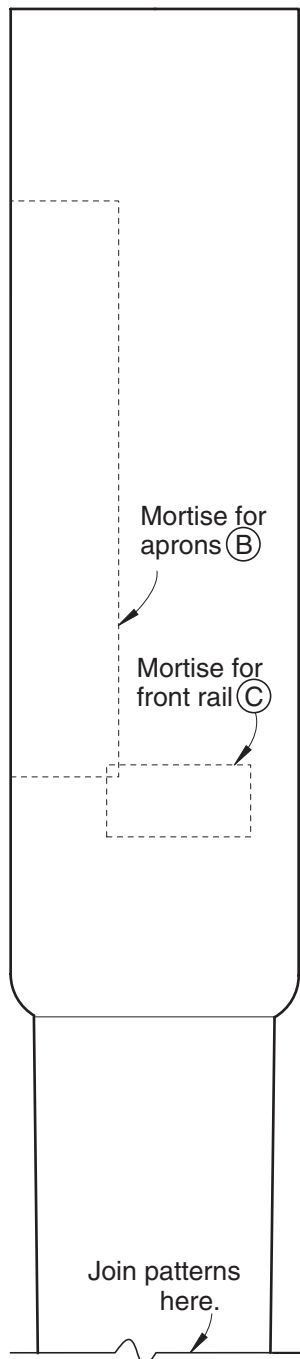
Shaker  
cheval mirror  
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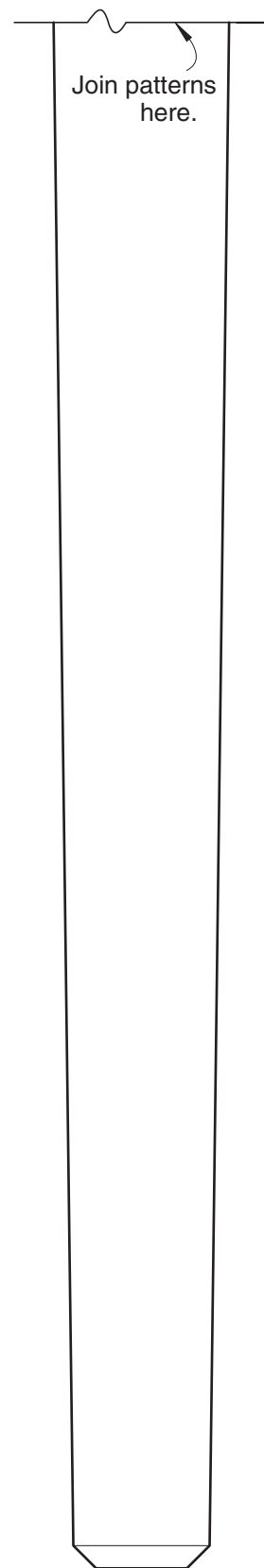
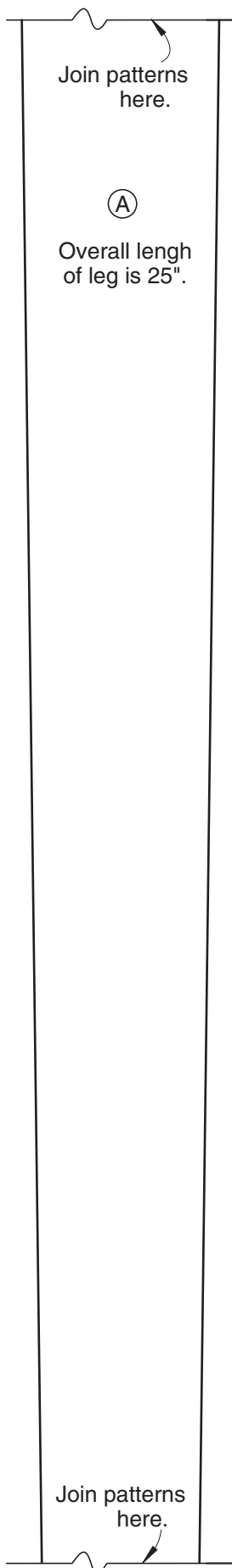
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