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Larry Clayton  
Editor  
*WOOD*® magazine

## Adobe Acrobat Troubleshooting Guide

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**High-Rise**

# Trestle Table

With the popularity of kitchen islands, peninsulas, and breakfast tables in mind, I designed this multipurpose project. You can use it for morning coffee, meals, or anything you like. At 36" tall, the table's just right for standard 24" stools. And the 40"-long tabletop allows plenty of room for one person on each side.

Adapted from an early Shaker-design, this handsome piece looks equally at home in both Contemporary and Country decors. If you'd prefer to modify this design to serve as a four-person dining table, see the box labeled Seating and Sizing for a Trestle Table on Page 7.

*James R. Downing*  
James R. Downing,  
Design Editor

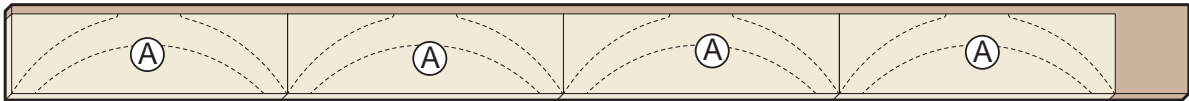
Bill of Materials					
Part	Finished Size			Matl.	Qty.
	T	W	L		
A* feet	1½"	6⅜"	22"	LM	2
B* uprights	1¼"	4¾"	31⅝"	LM	2
C leg caps	7⁄8"	3"	18"	M	2
D* stretcher	1⅛"	4¾"	29"	LM	1
E wedges	¾"	5⁄16"	3"	MA	4
F* top	1⅛"	26"	40"	EM	1

\*Cut parts marked with an \* oversized. Trim to finished size according to the how-to instructions.

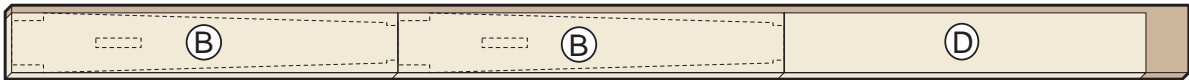
**Materials Key:** LM–laminated maple, M–maple, MA–mahogany, EM–edge-joined maple.

**Supplies:** 8–#10×1½" roundhead wood screws with 4 flat washers, clear finish.

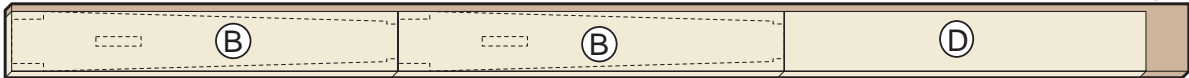
### CUTTING DIAGRAM



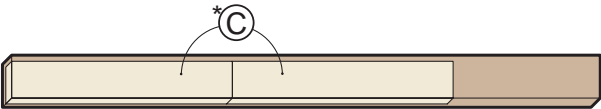
¾ x 7¼ x 96" Maple



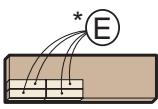
¾ x 5½ x 96" Maple



¾ x 5½ x 96" Maple

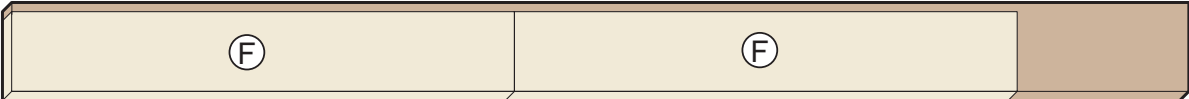


1⅛ x 3½ x 48" Maple

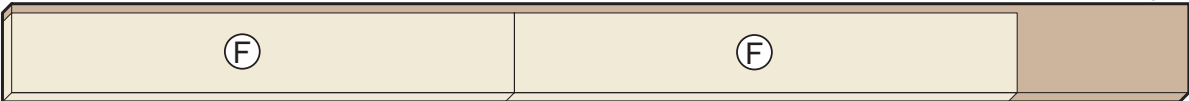


¾ x 3½ x 12" Mahogany

\*Plane or resaw to thicknesses listed in the Bill of Materials.



1⅛ x 7¼ x 96" Maple



1⅛ x 7¼ x 96" Maple



### Start with a pair of arched feet

**1** Cut four pieces of  $\frac{3}{4}$ " stock to  $6\frac{1}{2}$ " wide by  $22\frac{1}{2}$ " long for the feet (A). (We used hard maple for this project.)

**2** Cut a  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " dado  $\frac{3}{8}$ " deep, centered across each piece.

**3** Cut a scrap spacer measuring  $\frac{5}{8} \times 3\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ ". Using this to align the dados in two of the dadoed leg pieces, glue them together. Once the pieces are securely clamped together and won't slide out of alignment, remove the spacer. Remove any excess glue from the dadoed opening before the glue dries. Repeat the process to form the second foot, again taking care to align the dados.

**4** Remove the clamps, and scrape the excess glue off the bottom edge of each lamination. Then joint the bottom edge of each foot lamination, and rip the opposite edge of each lamination for a  $6\frac{3}{8}$ " finished width.

**5** Duplicate and adhere the full-size half pattern on *Page 10*. Make sure the dashed dado lines on the patterns align with the mortise in the lamination. As shown in *Photo A*, bandsaw the foot to shape. (We used a  $\frac{3}{8}$ " blade, and sanded the tight radius with a  $\frac{5}{8}$ " spindle sander, where shown on the pattern.)

**6** Sand the bandsawn edges smooth to remove the saw marks. Next, trace the foot's outline onto the remaining foot lamination. Bandsaw and sand it to shape.

### Next, add a pair of tapered uprights and leg caps

**1** Cut four pieces of  $\frac{3}{4}$ " stock to  $4\frac{7}{8}$ " wide by  $31\frac{1}{2}$ " long for the uprights (B).

**2** Keeping the edges and ends flush, glue and clamp the pieces to form the two uprights. Later, remove the clamps, and plane equal amounts off both surfaces for a  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " finished thickness. Joint one edge, and rip the opposite



**A** Adhere the full-size paper pattern to the foot lamination, then bandsaw just outside the marked cutlines to cut the foot to shape.



**B** After cutting just outside the marked taper lines, use your jointer to joint to the line for a flat edge.

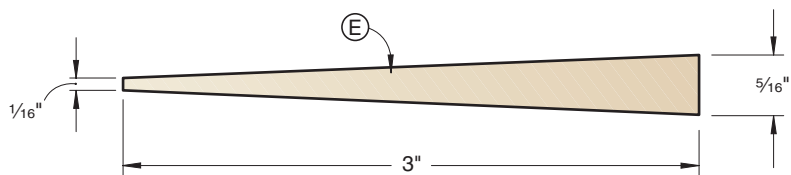
edge for a  $4\frac{3}{4}$ " finished width. Crosscut both ends for a  $31\frac{1}{8}$ " finished length.

**3** Using the Upright drawing on the Parts View and the details on the Exploded View drawing for reference, transfer the tenon and taper locations onto each upright.

**4** Fit your tablesaw with a dado blade. Cut rabbets where marked

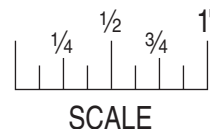
to form the tenons on the top and bottom ends of each upright.

**5** Mark the mortises on the outside face of each upright, then cut the mortises to shape. (We drilled a blade start hole, and scrollsawed the mortises to shape. You also could remove most of the waste with a drill bit, then chisel the sides smooth.)



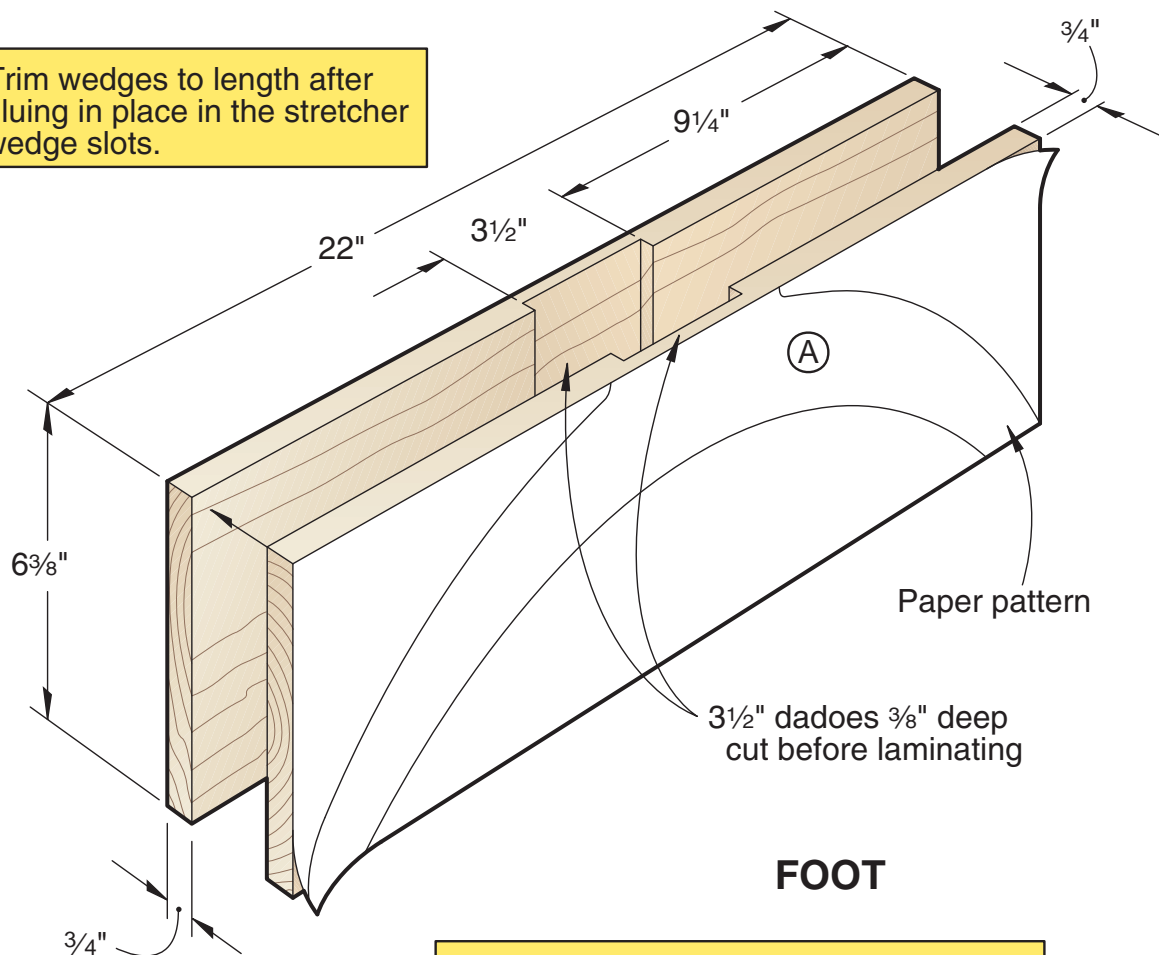
WEDGE  
FULL-SIZE PATTERN

To ensure full-sized patterns are correct size, your printer should be set to print at 100% (not fit to page). Measure full-sized patterns to verify size.



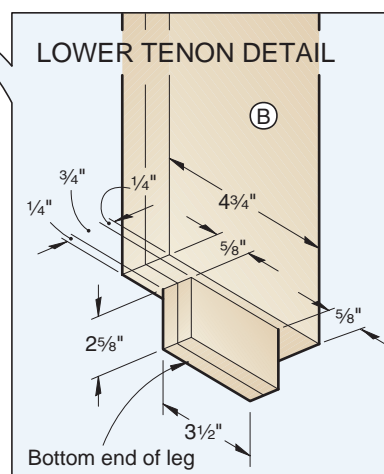
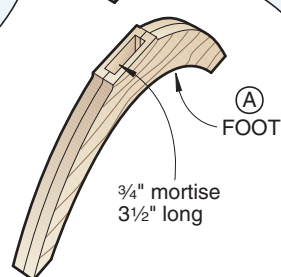
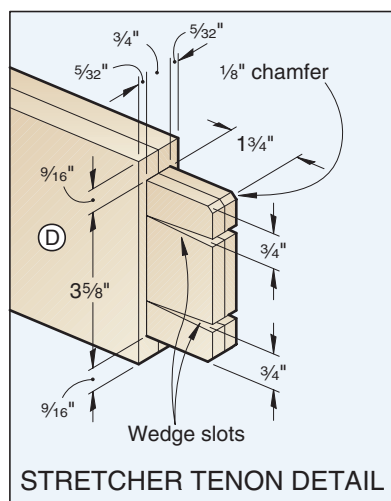
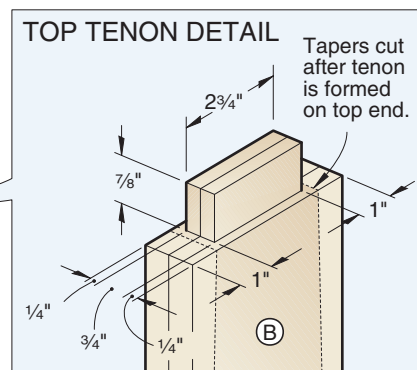
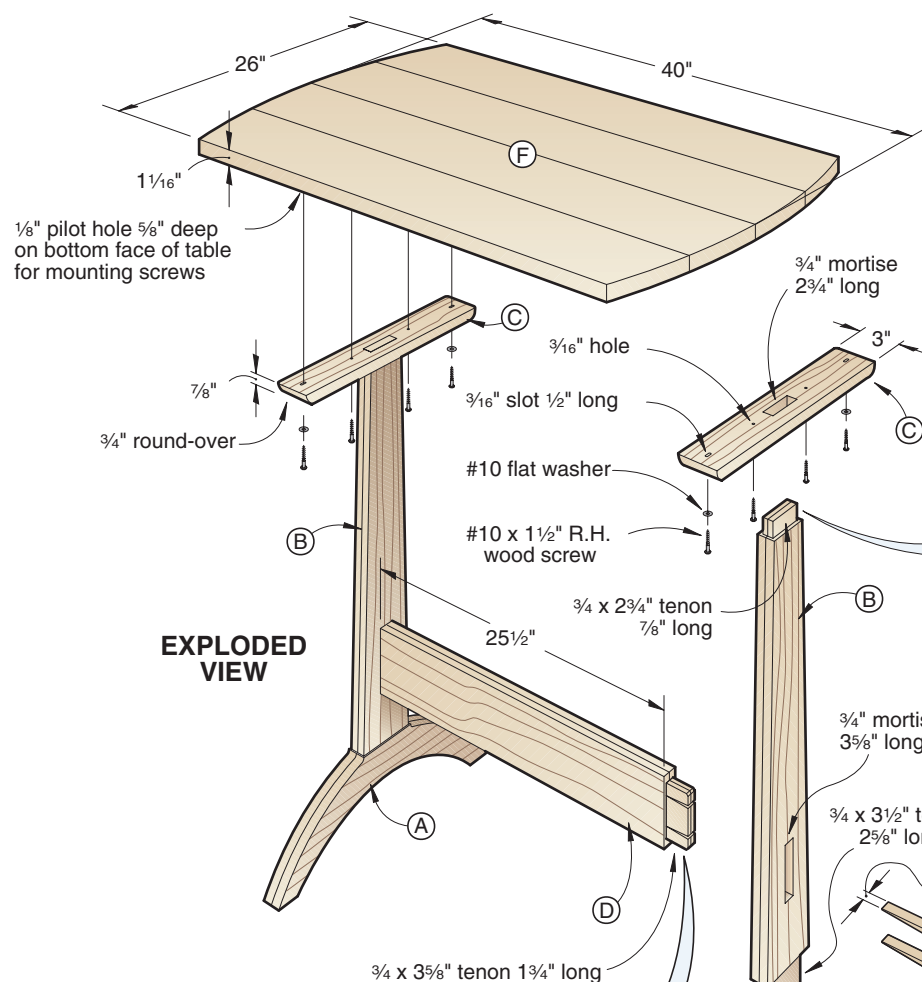
SCALE

**Note:** Trim wedges to length after gluing in place in the stretcher wedge slots.



FOOT

**Note:** Initial lamination should measure 6 1/2 x 22 1/2" before trimming to the finished size shown here.



**6** Bandsaw just outside the marked mortise lines. Then joint to the line, as shown in *Photo B*.

**7** Cut the leg caps (C) to size. Rout a  $\frac{3}{4}$ " round-over along the bottom ends of each cap.

**8** Cut a mortise in the center of each leg cap, where shown on the Parts View drawing. The mortise in the leg cap should fit snug on the upright tenon.

**9** Mark the locations, and form a pair of screw expansion slots on each cap. Then mark the center-points, and drill a pair of shank holes through each cap.

**10** Glue and clamp the two leg assemblies (A, B, C) together.

**11** Trim and sand flush the tenon protruding from the bottom arched edge of each foot. (We used a 3" spindle sander.)

### Connect the leg assemblies with a stretcher

**1** Cut two pieces of  $\frac{3}{4}$ " stock to  $4\frac{7}{8}$ " wide by  $29\frac{1}{2}$ " long for the stretcher. Glue and clamp the two pieces together face-to-face. Later, remove the clamps, and trim to finished size.

**2** Layout and mark the tenon on each end of the stretcher. Cut the rabbets so the tenon fits snug inside the upright mortises.

**3** Cut or sand a  $\frac{1}{8}$ " chamfer on the corners of each stretcher tenon, where shown on the Stretcher Tenon detail accompanying the Exploded View drawing. (We formed ours using a disc sander.)

**4** Using the full-size pattern for reference, cut four mahogany wedges (E) to shape.

**5** Using one of the wedges as a template, mark a pair of wedge slots on each stretcher tenon, where shown on the detail. Cut just inside the marked lines to form the wedge slots.

**6** Glue and clamp the stretcher between the leg assemblies, checking for square.

**7** Put a small amount of glue in each wedge slot, then tap the wedges in place. After the glue

has dried, use a fine-tooth saw to trim the ends of the wedges flush with the ends of the tenons. Sand the tenons smooth.

### Edge-join pieces for a solid-stock top

**1** Edge-join narrower stock to form a tabletop blank measuring 26" wide by 41" long.

**2** Remove the clamps, and scrape off the excess glue. Carefully mark and bandsaw a radius on each end of the tabletop (F). See the Parts View drawing on *Page 9* for reference. Sand the surfaces and band-sawn edges smooth. Sand a slight round-over along the top edges of the tabletop to break the sharp edge.

### And last, finish and final assemble your table

**1** Finish-sand the base and tabletop. Apply the finish (we applied several coats of satin polyurethane, rubbing between coats with 320-grit sandpaper.) Don't forget to finish the bottom side of the tabletop.

**2** Place a blanket on your workbench top. Position the tabletop (F) upside down on the blanket. Now, center the base (also upside down) on the tabletop. Using the previously drilled holes and slots in the leg caps (C) as guides, drill pilot holes into the bottom side of the tabletop, and screw the assemblies together. Center the screws in the slots, tighten them, then back them off about half a revolution. You want the screws to be able to move back and forth in the slots as the tabletop expands and contracts with seasonal humidity changes. 🌳

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Project Design: James R. Downing  
Illustrations: Kim Downing, Lorna Johnson  
Graphic Design: Jamie Downing  
Photography: Perry Struse  
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# Seating and Sizing for a Trestle Table

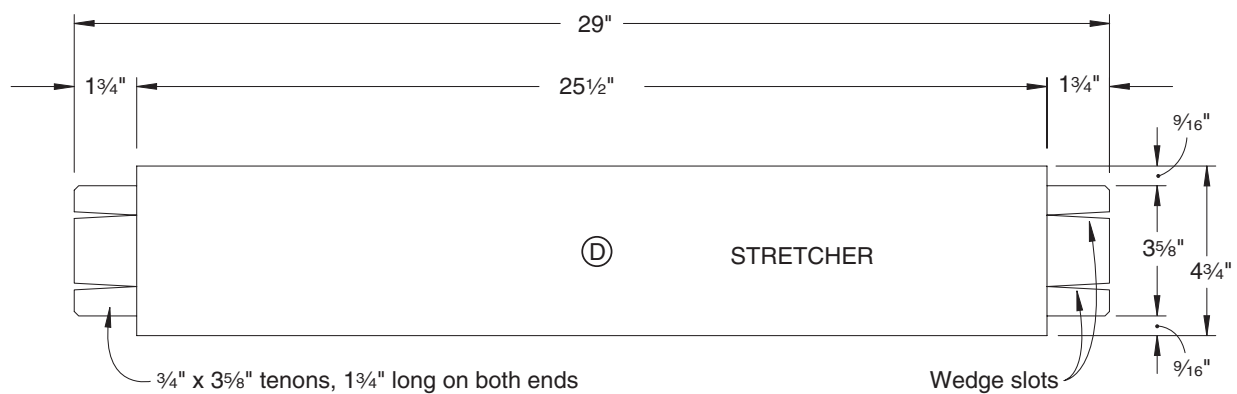
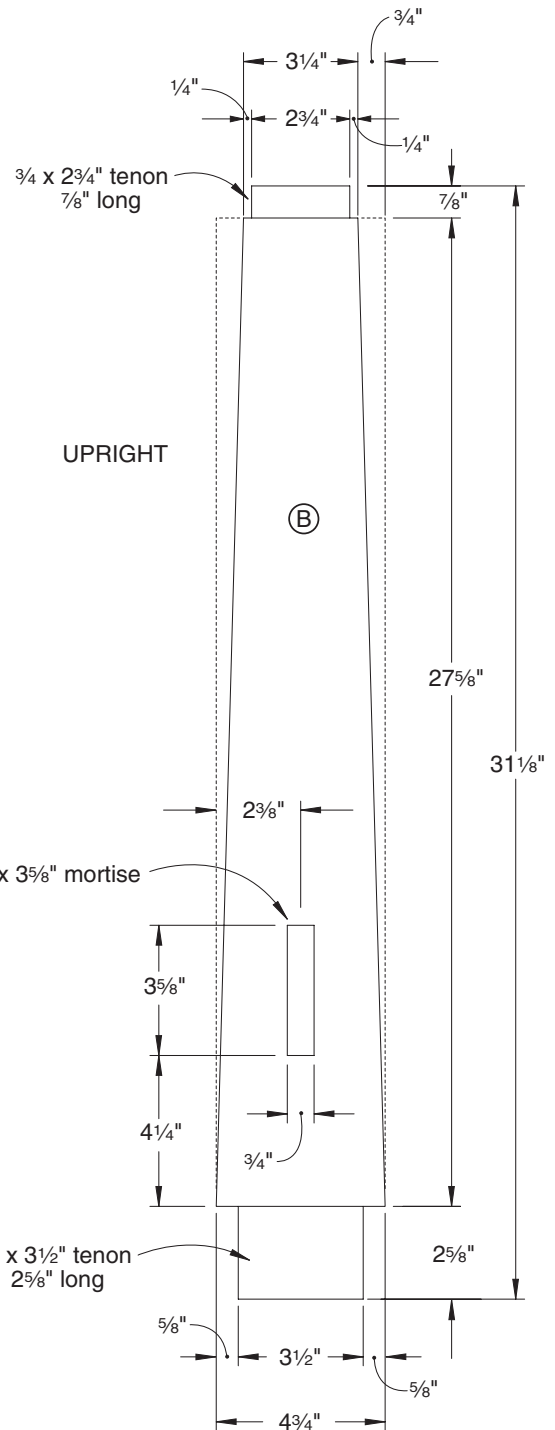
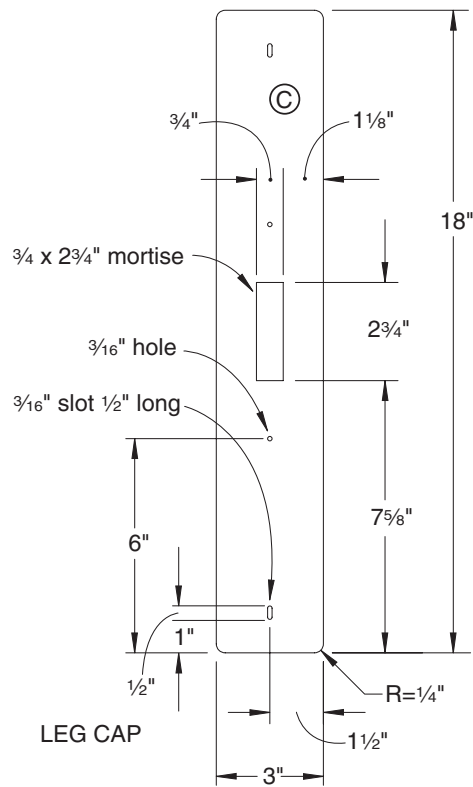


Trestle-design tables have been a favorite of designers for centuries. They're rugged, practical, and fit in well with Early American, Country, and even Contemporary furnishings. Our table, with its 26×40" top, works well for one or two people. To select seating for our 36"-high table, we recommend keeping the seats 12" to 13" below the top surface of the table-top. Be sure to figure in cushion compression (usually half the cushion thickness) if you use one. The distance from the floor to the middle of the cushion for our tall chairs was 24".

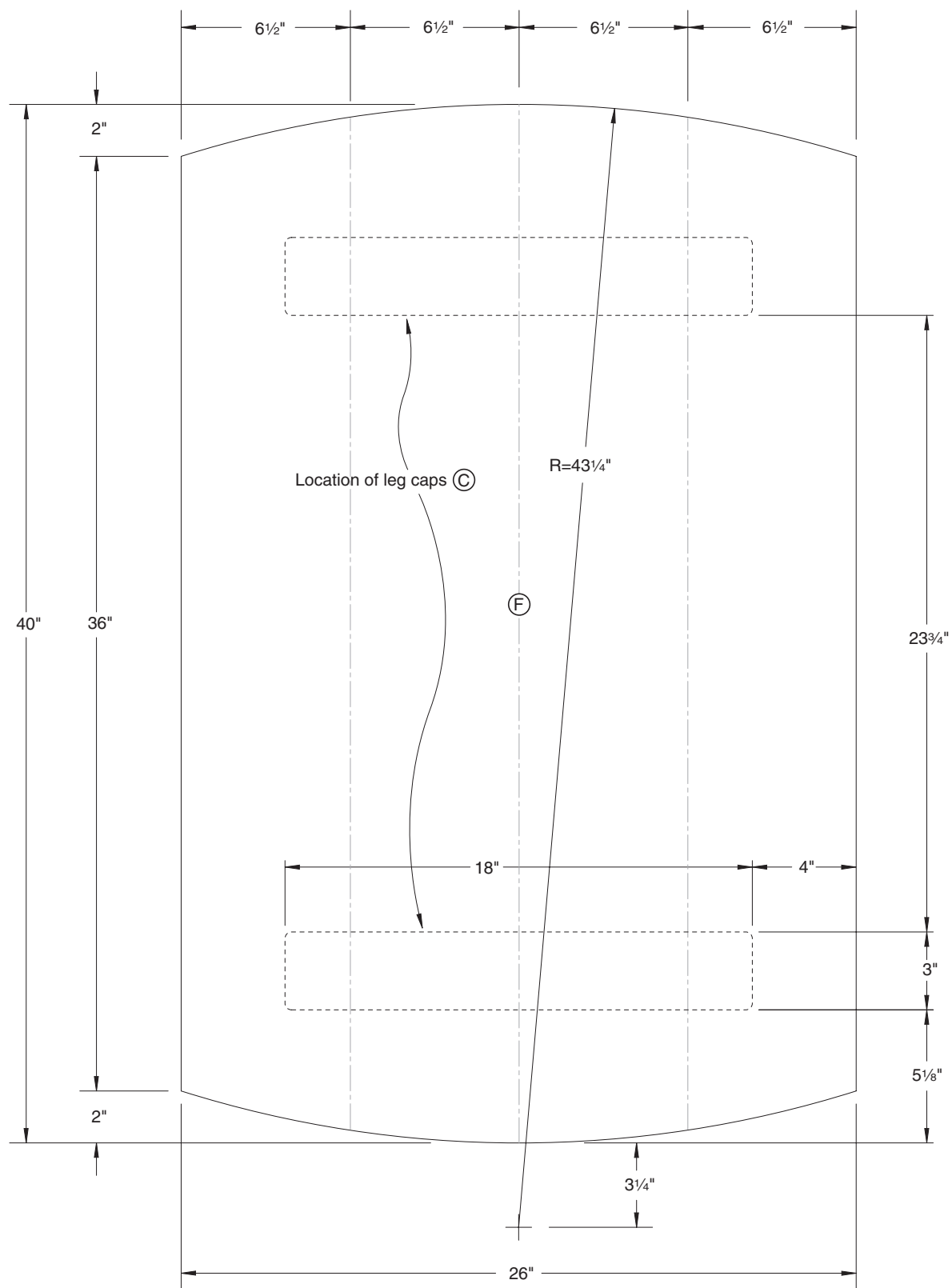
To enlarge and lower this table to accommodate four people and normal kitchen chairs, we recommend a 30×60" top, as shown *above*, as well as shortening the table to 29" high, as shown. You'll also need to lengthen the stretcher so the distance between the uprights is 39 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". To accommodate shortening the table, simply shorten the uprights (B) by taking 7" off the top of the uprights.



## PARTS VIEW

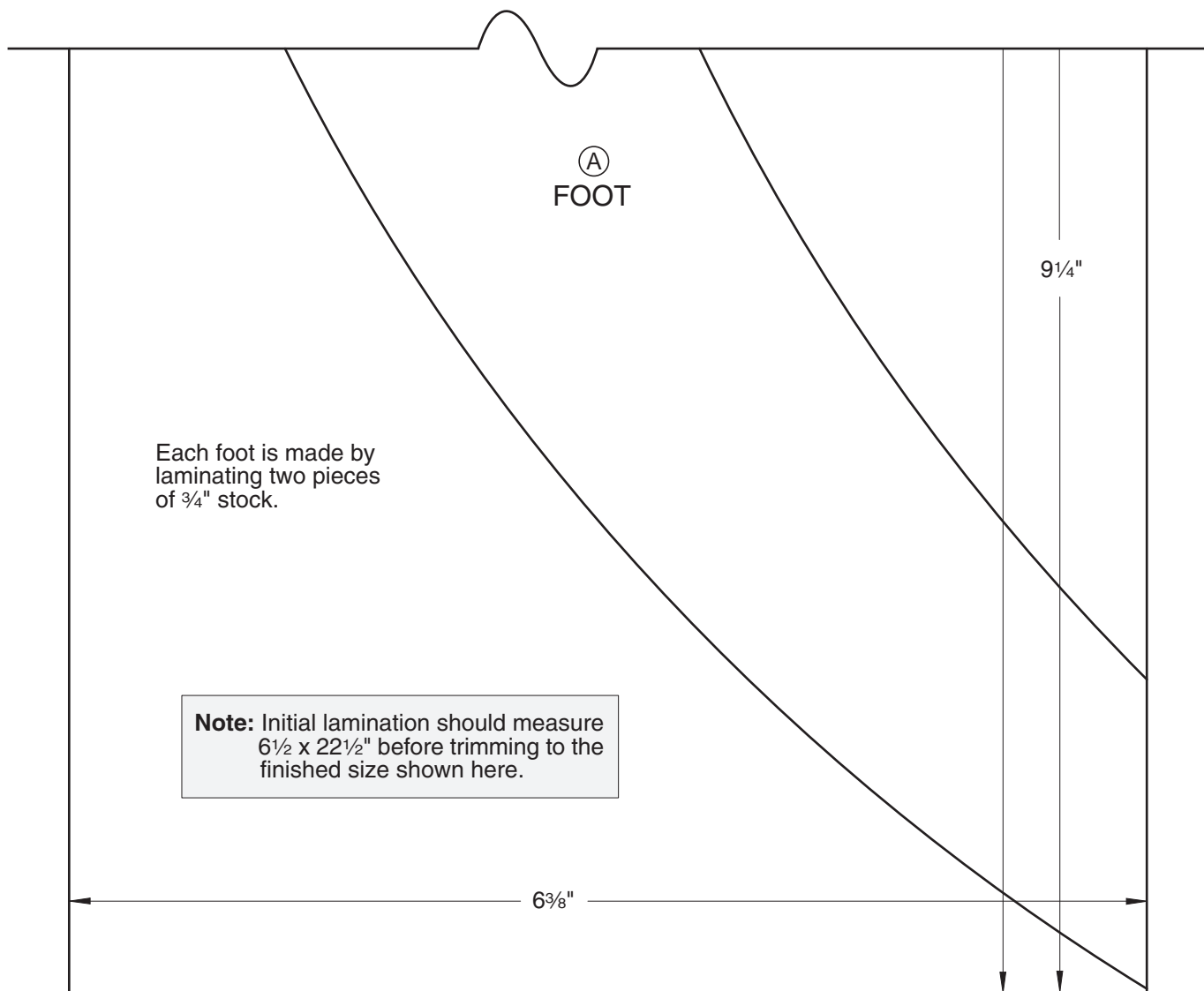
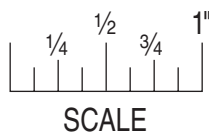


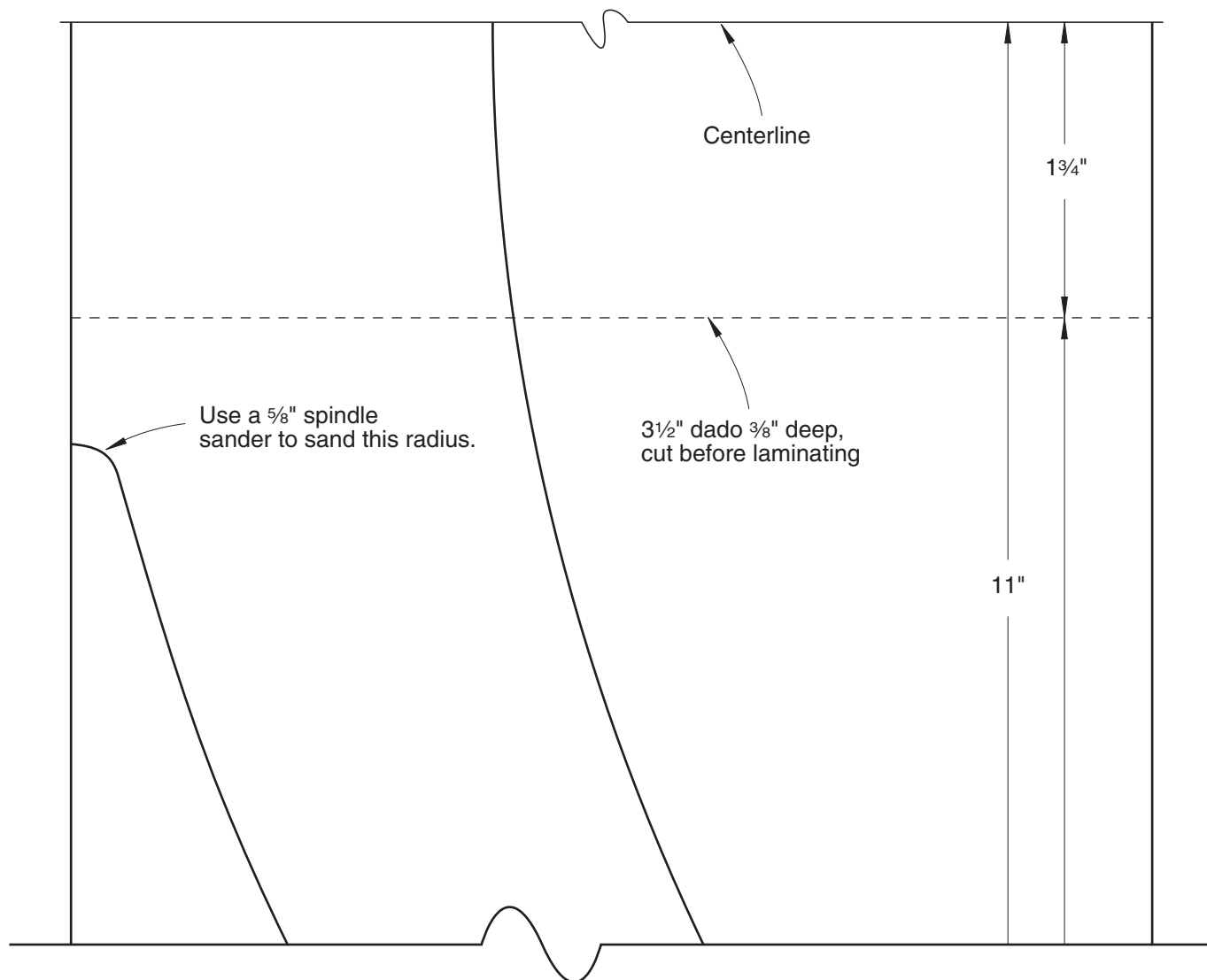
# PARTS VIEW



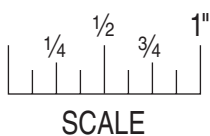
TABLETOP

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