



Adirondack Chair

Built by Brent and Gunnar Kallstrom

When we first saw this rustic Adirondack pine chair we were intrigued with the idea, but we also had some doubts. With the steeply angled back and long curved seat both slatted, how comfortable could the chair be? Well, much to our surprise, it is very comfortable. As a lawn or patio chair, it is something like a chaise lounge, allowing you to stretch out and relax. The wide arms are ideal for that paper plate picnic lunch and a tall glass of lemonade.

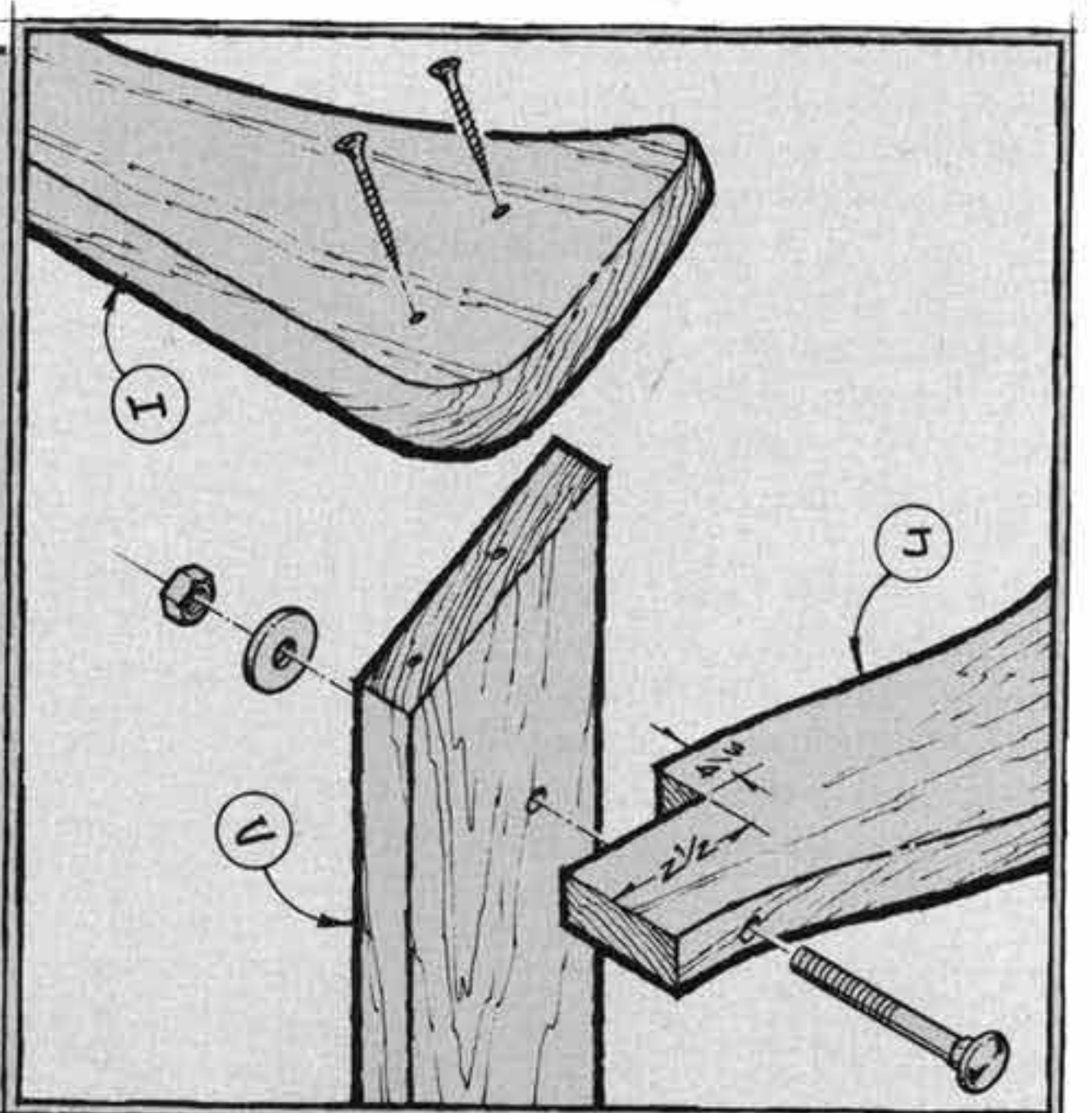
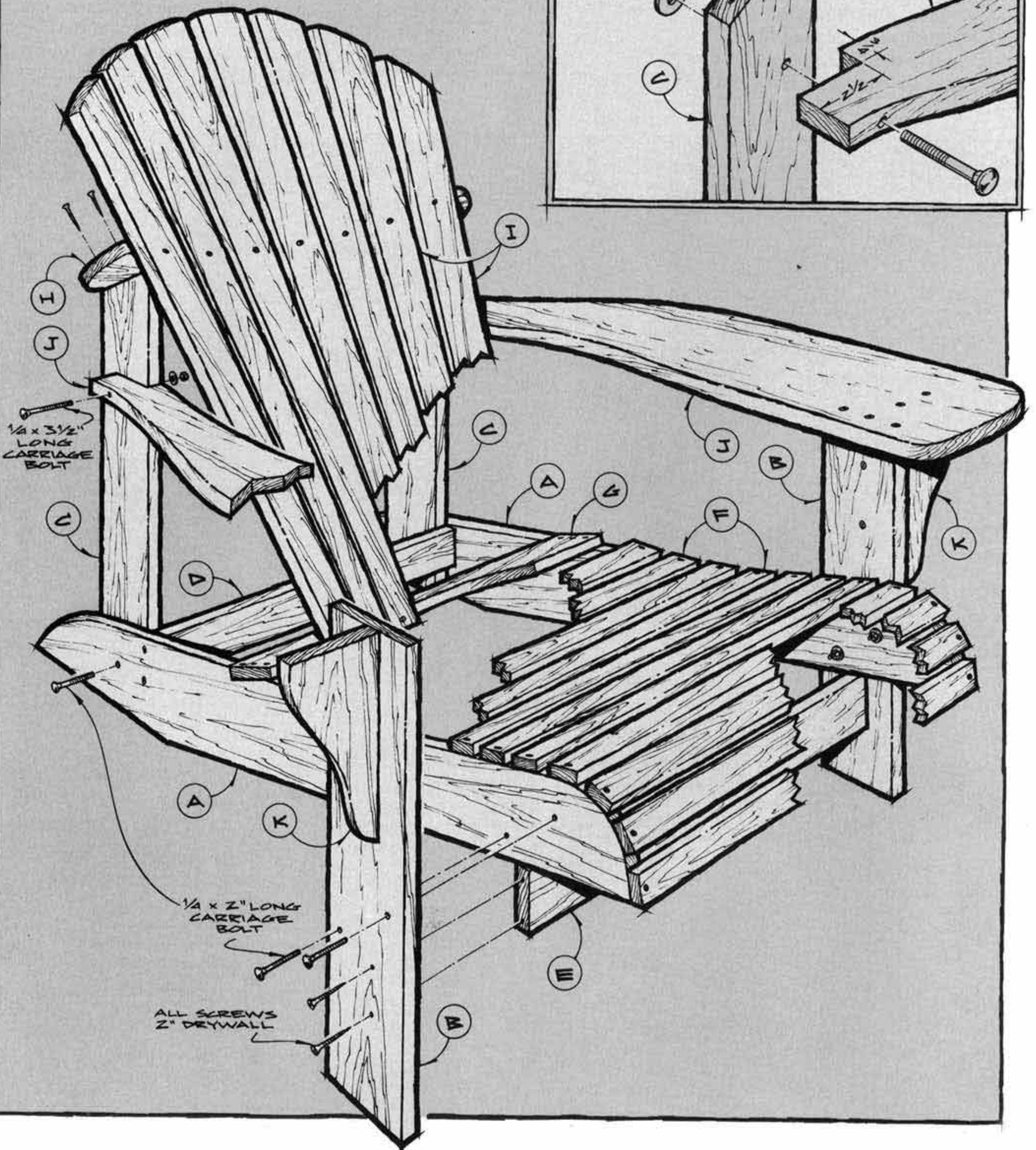
Best of all, the chair is easy to make.

Except for the back slats (I), which are cut from wider stock on the table saw using a tapering jig, all the remaining parts are made from $\frac{3}{4}$ in. thick common pine boards, and should therefore require no ripping.

Start with the two seat frame members (A). After applying the 18 degree taper to the back bottom, transfer the grid pattern illustrated in the auxiliary side view, and band or saber saw the seat curve. Notch for the lower back frame (G) and radius the back corner as shown. Cut the front

legs (B) to length, and then the back legs (C), using the table saw to establish the 57 degree miter on the top end of the back legs. Cut the two stretchers (D and E) to length, and make the eleven seat slats (F).

Now make the back frames (G and H), as shown in the auxiliary top view. Use a pencil tied to a string anchored by a nail to mark the respective radii. For part G, the length of the string between the pencil and nail will be $15\frac{1}{2}$ in., while for part H the string length will be 23 in.



The seven back slats (I) are all cut on the table saw, using a simple tapering jig (described in The Beginning Woodworker column in March/April 1986). All should be cut to the same initial dimensions (2 3/4 in. wide tapering to 2 in. and 32 in. long). Then butt the back slats together and scribe a 21 in. radius across the top. Secure the slats with clamps and a cleat (to prevent chattering) and cut the 21 in. radius with a saber saw.

Make the arms (J), laying out their shape from the top view grid pattern, and cut to shape with the band or saber saw. Notch the arms to accept the back legs, and lay out and shape the two arm braces (K) as illustrated in the front view grid pattern.

Bill of Materials (all dimensions actual)

Part	Description	Size	No. Req'd.
A	Seat Frame	3/4 x 5 1/2 x 38 1/2	2
B	Front Leg	3/4 x 5 1/2 x 20	2
C	Back Leg	3/4 x 3 1/2 x 25 1/2	2
D	Back Stretcher	3/4 x 3 1/2 x 18 1/2	1
E	Front Stretcher	3/4 x 3 1/2 x 20	1
F	Seat Slat	3/4 x 1 1/2 x 20	11
G	Back Frame (lower)	3/4 x 3 1/2 x 20	1
H	Back Frame (upper)	3/4 x 4 1/2 x 22	1
I	Back Slat	as shown	7
J	Arm	3/4 x 7 1/4 x 31	2
K	Brace	3/4 x 3 1/2 x 7 1/2	2

The chair is assembled with plastic resin glue (white or yellow glue won't stand up to regular exposure to water), 2 in. drywall screws, and plated carriage bolts as shown in the exploded view. When laying out the back slats, note that their spacing is about 3/8 in. at the top, tapering to less than 1/8 in. at the bottom. Chamfer any sharp edges, and sand corners and ends as needed to prevent splintering.

We finished our chair with Cuprinol brand wood preservative. Cuprinol will help the wood retain its natural rustic look, while preventing rot and decay. A reapplication of the Cuprinol once a year will insure years of trouble-free outdoor use from this chair. WJ

