

HOW TO

BUILD A STORAGE CHEST

In a land of hot summers, it is pleasant to be able to store blankets out of site and in a place where they can be kept in good condition. A blanket storage chest is a practical and attractive piece of furniture.

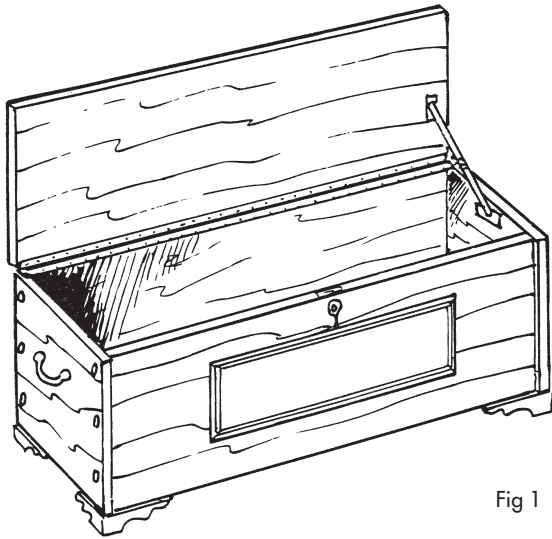


Fig 1

TOOLS

- Drills and bits to match screws
- Plane or portable electric plane
- Tape measure and square
- Long Rule - for straightedge
- Panel saw or fine toothed circular saw
- Hammer and screwdriver

MATERIALS

- Sides and Lid: Veneered particle board 2400x1200x18mm
- Base: 12mm thick ply
- Runners: 19mmx19mm dressed pine
- Matching iron-on edging
- PVA adhesive trade quality
- Screws: 35mmx8gauge countersunk chipboard screws
- Screws for base: 25mmx8gauge gold passivated countersunk chipboard screws
- Cabinet Buttons: for screw holes
- Sandpaper: 220 and 320 grit for sanding between coats of polyurethane
- Clear polyurethane: Timber finish
- New Brush: for polyurethane finish
- Cabinet stay and matching screws, alternatively just fasten a cord
- Piano hinge: (to length of box)
- Side handles with through bolts: (not screws)
- Box Lock: 60mm, preferably brass

SAFETY

- Always keep tools and materials away from children.
- Read the instructions before beginning your project.
- Wear an approved dust mask when cutting, planing or sanding timber AS/N251716.

Although every care has been taken to ensure that the information and advice given in this guide is authoritative no legal liability is accepted for such information and advice.

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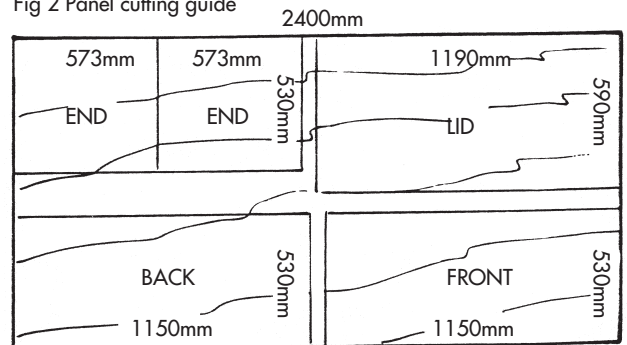
WHERE TO BEGIN

The box illustrated is designed to be cut out of veneered panelling. This type of chest can be built as large as 1200mm long by 600mm high by 600mm wide. The size recommended here will enable the sides, ends and lid to be cut out of a single 2400x1200x18mm thick panel and the bottom can be cut out of 12mm thick ply.

Marking Out: Lay the veneered board on a pair of stools and place some soft material underneath to prevent scuffing. Mark out the sides, ends and top utilising the perimeter machine edges of the panel as much as possible for exposed edges for receiving the iron-on edging. Also ensure the grain is horizontal on sides and edges. Follow the cutting guide. See fig.2.

Cutting out: The sides can be cut out using a panel saw, portable circular saw or table saw. With a table saw, use a fine tooth blade to save dressing the cut edges otherwise saw 1-2mm away from the line and

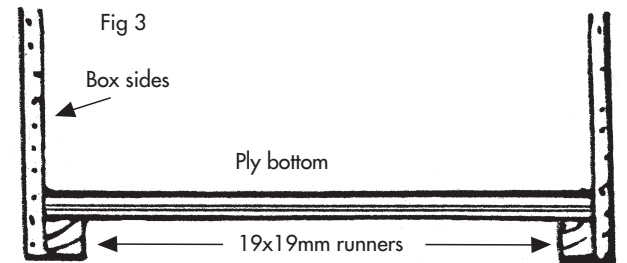
Fig 2 Panel cutting guide



ASSEMBLY

The ends must extend past the front and back 3-4mm at each corner. See fig.1. Note the 530mm width on each piece represents the box height and the 573mm width on the ends represents the box width. Mark and square a line down 3-4mm from each edge of the two ends. Glue the ends with PVA adhesive or similar and also screw fasten with 35mmx8gauge c/s (countersink chipboard screws). Pre-drill the holes. Three screws are sufficient for each side. Push matching cabinet buttons into the screw heads. Make sure the screws are a flush fit or slightly below the surface. Cut the 19x19mm wood runners to support the bottom and fasten them in place on the four sides. Glue then drive screws approx. 200mm apart. Cut the bottom to fit and make sure it is square. Attach the same way using 25mmx8gauge c/s gold passivated chipboard screws. Drive them through the ply from inside the box into the runners. Cut and iron the edgings. Lay the lid in position to check for fit. It should overhang the front and ends. The overhang on the front will become the handle. The piano hinge can be attached to the lid and then to the box. A cabinet stay can be fitted or just fasten a cord. Fit handles using four through bolts. Use nuts and washers. Attach a 60mm wide brass lock as a box lock.

Fig 3



FINISHING

Using a new brush, apply several coats of polyurethane. Allow the first coat to dry at least 24 hours then lightly sand with the 220-grit paper. Use the 320-grit paper before applying the final coat.

Other trimmings: Add Decorative corner legs to keep the blanket box above the floor level. Decorative mouldings mitre cut to a rectangular pattern on the front as shown in fig.1 will help make the blanket box an heirloom. The lid could be upholstered should you desire. This project could be completed in a weekend and should provide years of pleasure.

For further expert advice consult the qualified team members at your local Bunnings Warehouse.