

Chapter 1 : The Best 72+ Split Top Roubo Plans Free Download PDF Video

The Split-Top Roubo Workbench is a modern twist on the classic Roubo. Inspired by Plate 11 of Andre Roubo's L'Art du Menuisier, Benchcrafted modified the design to compliment their unique hardware.

I have read many articles detailing what type of bench feature you need to do X, Y and Z, and in the end, it comes down to just needing a sturdy flat work surface and the rest will follow suit. Especially since it tended to wobble around when I would do just. As I am just getting started in woodworking, a bench seemed to make the most sense for me to start with, allowing me to focus on future projects, rather than being frustrated with my lack of work surfaces. My immediate bench inspiration came after discovering the writings of Christopher Schwartz, the current editor of Popular woodworking magazine and author of several books, most importantly in my case, The Art of Workbenches. In his book he describes a couple different types of benches, one of which is a French designed workbench known as the Roubo after its original french woodworker who popularized this style of bench. This was something that attracted me to it. It has that old world charm and makes you feel like you are honoring history in some way. It had thick legs, a thick top, and was bolted together to allow him to tear it down and move it with us wherever we went. It had big mortise and tenon joints to lock everything together and they way they locked together was always so satisfying to me. I like my house a lot, but it is not where I expect to be in ten years, especially if my little family gets any bigger, so I wanted a workbench that I could easily move away when the time is right. I fully expect this workbench to still be quite functional in ten years. I saw a few examples of Roubos with knockdown joinery online and that combined with the focus on hand tools and just plain weight of the thing, I decided that was what I wanted to go with. I think the prolonged build let me take things at a bit slower pace and not burn myself out with the hobby as I do with others. I also hold down a full time job and have a two year old my time commitment to woodworking is meager, at best. Now, where the heck would I find board feet of nice wood? Turns out I got lucky and found someone with a pile of wood from a deck they had just torn out. I think I even came back the next day to grab more of it. And then, it sat, piled up in my garage. Then sat some more. He offered to let me borrow it for a while to help clean up that wood. The wood pile starting from a pile of old, weathered, screw-ridden wood, I began to painstakingly remove each screw, nail and staple I could find. I also did my best to sort it into the sizes I would need. To get pieces of wood that thick, I was going to have to glue them up along their face. I used the trim saw to rough all of my boards to the necessary length, after removing the screws, nails and staples and stacked them up near the jointer. Trying to eye it and find the best portion of the boards many had severe splits and cracks along their length to use. I also tried to maximize the long boards I had to make the pieces for the top of the bench. Jointer Time with a fresh stack of wood next to the jointer, that would turn into my evening project for the next couple months. I realized one crucial aspect of woodworking if I wanted to make square stock. I desperately needed a planer to go along with the jointer. For those new to the craft, a jointer lets you cut one face perpendicular to another face usually an edge but will not make the opposite faces parallel to your nice 2 new square faces. This meant that the boards I was churning out came out looking something like a trapezoid or rhombus. Putting 6 boards together that are shaped like a trapezoid yields exactly what you would expect it to yield. I did my best to alternate the odd angles to mostly account for this issue, but it still left my lefts not quite square. Glue ups I had several major glue ups that preceded the massive top glue up, and I experimented with several different techniques. Starting with the legs first, one technique I used was to basically joint all the faces smooth, and then just glue and clamp the boards together to make the leg of an appropriate thickness. This worked well, the boards fit together well and the glue seemed to be very evenly spread throughout the joint. The second technique I tried was one that I turned to after getting frustrated with the out of square cuts that I was doing on the jointer. I decided to ask my woodworking friend if I could borrow his biscuit jointer. Clamped it up and the joint seems to hold just fine. I imagine the boards are under a reasonable amount of tension however, and the joints will probably fail prematurely. I expect at that point I will have the tools and knowledge to make a replacement leg that is better suited to the task. I also jointed the edges of the boards so that they were even, this meant the biscuit jointer

was putting the biscuit in the same exact spot in from the edge on all the faces. This glue up went a lot smoother and I learned a crucial lesson in biscuit alignment. Clean up and more finishing work I slowly finished all of the glue ups over time all except the top. I was postponing that as long as possible but once completed, I moved on to finishing up the faces of these glued up legs and stretchers on the jointer to give them a nice even face. After running the pieces over the jointer, I was left with what seemed to be pretty decent hunks of wood that were starting to look like they might go to a workbench. For the legs, I tended to just rough the size out, since I knew that I had cut them long in the first place, so you can see in the previous photo that two of the legs are nowhere near the same length. I also decided to chamfer the feet to help relieve splintering when I dragged this puppy around the room. Joinery I picked myself up a useful little ring bound book called Joints and it gives you a brief overview and execution details of many common types and styles of joinery. It helped me learn a bit more about the mortise and tenon joint, which I would use extensively throughout this project. More on this later. For now, I just wanted to cut the tenons on the tops of the legs that would slip into the bench top. I say these were rough dimensions because as I am cutting the shoulders, they were often close enough to the joining faces of two of the boards, that it ended up splitting along the face and deepening the shoulders. I am learning, and this is a workbench, so I made sacrifices where I thought I could afford them. The bench seems no worse for wear now. I had no way of extending the reach of the bit more than an inch or so to the right of the shoulder, so I had to saw the remaining chunk off by hand after getting to the point pictured below. Given the setup time to get the router set up with the straight edge in exactly the right spot, I cut the other three tenons by hand, first by sawing down the shoulder to my scribed depth, and then cutting the cheeks after standing the leg up and clamping to the side of my pallet stacker, I mean workbench. This is the layout mark of a stretcher on the leg. Looks nice and square, no? I now use a. You can see the merit in fitting in place rather than relying on drawings or plans to mark your joinery! Assembling the Sides I decided to build the base first so that I could throw a door on top of it or somehow use it to help me build the top, which in hindsight was a good choice. The base was good joinery practice too. Since I had decided to go with a split top roubo, I needed horizontal stretchers between the front and back legs on each side to support the insides of each of the two large top pieces. Had I made a full roubo top, the top itself would have been enough to bridge the gap between front and back side legs. These stretchers were actually an afterthought. Making a split top meant I only needed about 22 or so, so I could cull out the worst of the boards I had earmarked for the top. For reference, to help you visualize the end result as I go through the joints in the base, here is a picture of the dry fit of one of the sides. You can see the top stretcher that is meant to support the insides of the two top pieces. The joints for each stretcher were pretty simple mortise and tenons. I also learned something recently that, had I known upon embarking on this project, would have guided me to make my tenons thinner with more shoulder on all 4 sides: This means to an extent that a thinner tenon has just as much holding power as a thicker tenon of the same length. Increasing the shoulder size would have increased that racking strength of the base as well. As built, the tenons only had a shoulder on two or three sides to enable me to make the largest tenon possible which I now know to be a misguided assumption. This will theoretically allow the workbench to rack in the directions that lack shoulders. The tenon is flush with the stretcher along the bottom and inside toward the center of the bench. I will also note that chopping out the waste from one of these mortises let alone twelve! I had sore shoulders for a few weeks as I was cutting all these mortises. Once all the joints were cut, I wanted to draw bore them and not glue them, just in case I screwed up. I could drill out the pin and take the joint apart. You can see the drawbore holes in the first side dry fit photo, and also in this one: To drawbore these joints this is the process that I followed: Once enough of the pin has extended through the hole to fill the drawbore hole, flush cut both ends and voila! One drawbored mortise and tenon! Because of that, I needed the entire side dry fit as I was hammering the final drawbore pins into the joints, to make sure it would all fit in the end. It was also beneficial because it let me clamp the joints as I was drawboring which relieved a bit of the strain on the drawbore hole in the tenon as I hammered it through. Here are a couple pics of the joint after drawboring. This means that what you see in the hole is a little gap all around the pin inside the hole. Assembling the Base After each side assembly was done, I was able to dry fit the entire base with the long floor stretchers along the front and back. If you look closely at the

next photo, you can actually see the bottom right joint still was a bit tight and needed some paring to get it down to size. Since I want to be able to move with this bench eventually, I needed to make the base come apart, so I decided to use lags to hold the long stretchers in place, rather than glue or drawbore pins. I drilled pilot holes through the backs of the long stretcher mortises in the center of each, dry fit the joints, then drilled back through the pilot holes from the other side into the tenons. Once those pilot holes were drilled deep enough into the tenon, I pulled the tenon out and drilled a larger clearance hole through the leg to accommodate the lag screws I got, and routed out a flat countersunk hole for the washer on the lag screw. It really enabled me to start putting my hand plane to use! I took some time to arrange the top boards I had into sets that fit well together, putting nicer boards on the outside and ones that had splits towards the inside, hoping that their neighbors would help stabilize them after glueup. You can see the pile of top boards, weighing down the bench as I worked on each board individually. Originally I was planing the edges of each board individually, but as I realized earlier, I needed consistent widths to enable the biscuit jointer to make accurate biscuit cuts on faces that were to be glued up. I started to plane about 5 or 6 boards at a time to get them to a consistent height before attempting a glue up. This pic is after planing 5 boards to the same width and adding biscuits at each end and in the middle see pic for placement. I took this half top and laid it down on my floor, and started the process over again with the top boards for the second half. Finally I had them both done and just needed to cut the mortises for the top of the base to slide into. This pic shows both pieces resting on top of the base tenons, waiting to be marked with a pencil for cutting.

Chapter 2 : # Plans For A Desk

Benchcrafted Split Top Roubo Bench Plan. The Split Top Roubo bench plan was inspired by the bench illustrated in Plate 11 of Andre Roubo's classic 17th century treatise on cabinetmaking, L'Art du Menuisier.

Split Top Roubo Plans Basically, anyone who is interested in building with wood can learn it successfully with the help of free woodworking plans which are found on the net. The specific way each feature is presented and the material covered in these sites are the best reason for downloading Split Top Roubo Plans woodworking plans for your construction projects. Even though the plans provided in them are more suited to the needs of professional and advanced woodworkers, the suggestions and guidance offered can even make the most ignorant person successfully complete any Split Top Roubo Plans woodwork projects. Professionals find the free plans useful because it helps them save time in creating designs for their clients. Benefits Of Split Top Roubo Plans With the Split Top Roubo Plans free woodworking plans package, you will get help to build all kinds of projects, be it furniture, sheds, beds or wind generators. These plans are very user friendly which helps in making each woodworking project enjoyable and simple. These online plans offer more options to woodworkers than any other sources. You can find the perfect woodworking plan according to your level of expertise or desired need. There are plans for beginners, professional and weekend hobbyists. For newcomers, these plans are a must have package as they are very simple to use and contain colored images of the highest quality and detailed instructions stepwise for every woodworking projects. Many of these Split Top Roubo Plans free woodworking plans online allow you to access thousands of ideas to assist you in building your project in a quick and professional way. You get blue prints, images and materials when you download these plans from the net. It does not matter whether you are skilled or not, these detailed instructions will assist you all through your project till you have completed it successfully. You will also get tips on how to start a woodwork business from some of the free woodwork plans online. These Split Top Roubo Plans woodworking plans also have few limitations to speak of, though these are minor ones compared to the advantages you gain from them. One of the common complaints about free plan software is the time which is taken for it to get downloaded completely. These plans are quite vast and if the internet is slow, it might take you hours to download the whole Split Top Roubo Plans plan. The other disadvantage of free plan is that the measurement provided is of a specific kind even though both kinds of measurement systems are available. You lose time by making the effort to convert the measurements into your kind of measurement system. On the whole, any of the free plan software are great and every woodworker can greatly benefit from the plan packages for building woodworking projects in a confident and successful way. The free woodworking plans are worthy of a trial. This is true, especially, when you need assistance in your woodworking skill, while working on a specific project. You can select from the vast amount of plans available in the free Split Top Roubo Plans woodworking plans online, which are offered by expert and experienced woodworkers. If you do not have the proper information, instruction, and skill, you may land up spending more money and time than you originally intended to spend. As a beginner woodworker, you need have the space, time and the correct tools. Having said, there are a few essential factors that you should keep in mind, before starting with any woodworking project. If you are beginner, you should first need to be very interested in woodworking. Creating something new with your own hands is a special feeling. Do not start a project if you are not interested, as this may land you in a bad place. Think of the main reason of creating this woodworking project. Decide on the uses of the item you are making. Consider your skills and analyze the time you have, before you start with a project. Start projects that you can finish. If you are in the middle of some work, then it is better not to start any project at all. If you keep these essential points in mind before you begin a Split Top Roubo Plans woodworking project, it will become very easy for you to achieve success. Woodwork requires planning as much as it requires effort. So how do you get started? As a beginner, always select a project that has a very basic build up or a simple construction. Some easy to begin projects include, bird feeder, benches, shelves, etc. As soon as you get hold of the techniques, you can always move to the next level of woodworking projects, like cabinets, sheds and others. Beginning projects should always be less complicated and less frustrating so

that you have a better knowledge of working with woods and their tools. Once the project is selected, start selecting your tools. Many people think that power tools are needs. However, for beginners basic hand tools can be very handy and more than helpful in completing a project. If woodworking is your hobby, then a few tools that you would require are: Workbench - A workbench is required for precise cuts and measurements. The workbench when fixed with vises offer ample space to work. Hammer - Hammer is an essential tool for woodworks. It helps you to drive nails, pins, staples, etc. A small and lightweight hammer will make things much easy for you. When you buy a hammer, always check the balance between the weight and stand. Always select a sturdy, yet lightweight product. Saw - A saw is another tool that you cannot live without while woodworking. This tool helps you to cut woods at different sizes. There are different types of saws available in the market. Choose a size that you can handle. Screwdriver - Screwdrivers are available in different shapes and sizes. Mostly there are Canadian types and standard flat type. Having all of them will help you in advance woodworking. You can also buy power screwdrivers as they make the work much faster. Measuring tape - It is another very important tool that you cannot work without. The measuring tape helps you to measure wood before they can be attached together. Wrench - Some woodworking projects require fixing bolts and fixes. For such projects, you require wrench. However, this is not a tool for beginners, but having it would make work easier for you at a later stage. Drill - Drill helps you make holes in wood. Power drills are more useful but they cost more. Low wattage power drills will make the task much easy. Other small and basic tools - These include pencils, gum, staple gum, level, erase, first aid kit and shop vac. Based on the type of project you want to complete, pricing can be determined. The simple the project, the less cost it involves. However, at the very beginning buying the tools will be a little hefty. Therefore, it is better to fix a budget first on the tools, then on the project. Buying the basic tools will ensure that you do not need to buy any more material other than the wood ply. Split Top Roubo Plans Time and Instructions Instructions are one of the primary things that every beginner should follow. It is like the woodworking Bible. Instructions guide is a very easy to understand process, what to do and how to do it. It is a systematic guide for completing the project. Time also plays an important role in the building of woodworking projects. Woodworking projects require time and therefore it is necessary for a beginner to have ample amount of time every week. Nevertheless, the most essential thing that will help you to achieve success is proper planning. With proper planning and a strategy, it is possible to achieve success quickly. If you know the purpose of woodworking, the item you want to build, the tools you require to own and the average time you can give every day; then you are all set to go. Split Top Roubo Plans Conclusion All these tips and instruction will make the woodworking projects and plans for beginners fast to complete. Always make sure that you have all the essential tools, materials, space ready. Keep the instructions of building an item handy. Proper strategy and planning will help you to make a great woodworking project for your home. Plans for Wood Furniture, is a renowned woodworking expert. Plans for Wood Furniture recommends Plans for Wood Furniture for better knowledge on woodworking plans. According to Plans for Wood Furniture good woodworking plans for beginners can essentially help a newbie in learning techniques.

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Chapter 3 : # Small Chalet Cabin Plans

Plans are available on their own, or included with our Benchmark's Package which includes everything you need to build the Split Top Roubo, except wood. EFFORTLESS WORKHOLDING The Split Top Roubo is widely used by professional furnituremakers, teachers and schools, as well as amateur woodworkers.

I seem to be at that point with my bench. I have however been able to knock out the rest of the leg vise and the sliding dead man. The installation of the leg vise hardware was pretty similar to the wagon vise with few exceptions. Once I got the hole drilled all the way through I took the rod and threaded it through and since the pine is so soft it was able imprint the sides of the hole. Once the rod was able to slide through without force I assembled the hardware so I could mark out the fitting. I know I took more pictures of the assembly but I cannot for the life of me find them. Anyhow, it was pretty much the same as when I did the wagon vise install and in my last post you saw that the hardware was already complete. I decided against that for a couple reason and the main one being available tools. Instead I went for a simple taper. Once everything was flat, square and parallel, I did a dry fit. I took everything apart and examined the bench surfaces. After a bit of planing I had a better fit but still needed some work. Next was working on the parallel guide. Since I had already cut the through mortise when I assembled the legs it was just a matter of transferring location on to the vise. After the mortise was cut I made the parallel guide to fit snug in the leg vise but a hair smaller than the mortise of the bench leg so things would slide smoothly. Everything seemed to move smoothly so I figured I was ready to tighten things down. For some reason I decided to do this with the vise half way pulled out. When I went to check the fit I actually got it stuck. I could close it all the way but getting it to back out I had to reach under and lift the parallel guide for it to come loose. After some tweaking around a bit I figured it out. I closed the vise, clamped it down and then tightened the hardware. This gave me a smooth operation all the way in and all the way out. Auger bits and pine do not seem to like each other. No matter what I did, drilling fast or slow, little pressure or a lot of pressure, things were just UGLY. Blow out on the back was horrible, even with a sacrificial board and predrilling the back. Overall it slides real smooth considering the track and groove are a less than perfect fit.

Chapter 4 : # Split Top Roubo Workbench Plans Pdf

These Split Top Roubo Plans woodworking plans also have few limitations to speak of, though these are minor ones compared to the advantages you gain from them. One of the common complaints about free plan software is the time which is taken for it to get downloaded completely.

Chapter 5 : Benchcrafted Blog

Split-Top Roubo Plans unique, apart from the Split-Top and Gap Stop features, is that we've drafted the plans around our own vise hardware, making the vise installation clear and straightforward, in a length that works perfectly for furnituremaking.

Chapter 6 : # Plans For Decking

Dan My Projects, Split-Top Hybrid Roubo Workbench Leave a comment December 10, December 10, 4 Minutes Assembling the Base Out of all the joinery for the bench, I think this wedged through dovetail mortise and tenon was the most nerve racking.

Chapter 7 : DIY Roubo Workbench Plans | The Year of Mud

Comprehensive Plans for an Extreme Woodworking Bench, that can be built on almost any budget. Specs: 80 inches

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wide x 30 inches deep x 36 inches tall. All legs and rails are solid 4 inches x 5 inches.

Chapter 8 : Benchcrafted Split Top Roubo Bench Plan

Varathane Satin Triple Thick Polyurethane product review. Trying out some new polyurethane on some drawer fronts that I had. Stuff is really thick, about the consistency of Elmer's glue.

Chapter 9 : The Roubo Workbench Build - Blood, Sweat, and Sawdust

After many requests for bench plans that feature our vises, we're excited to announce the Benchcrafted Split-Top Roubo plans! blog.quintoapp.com