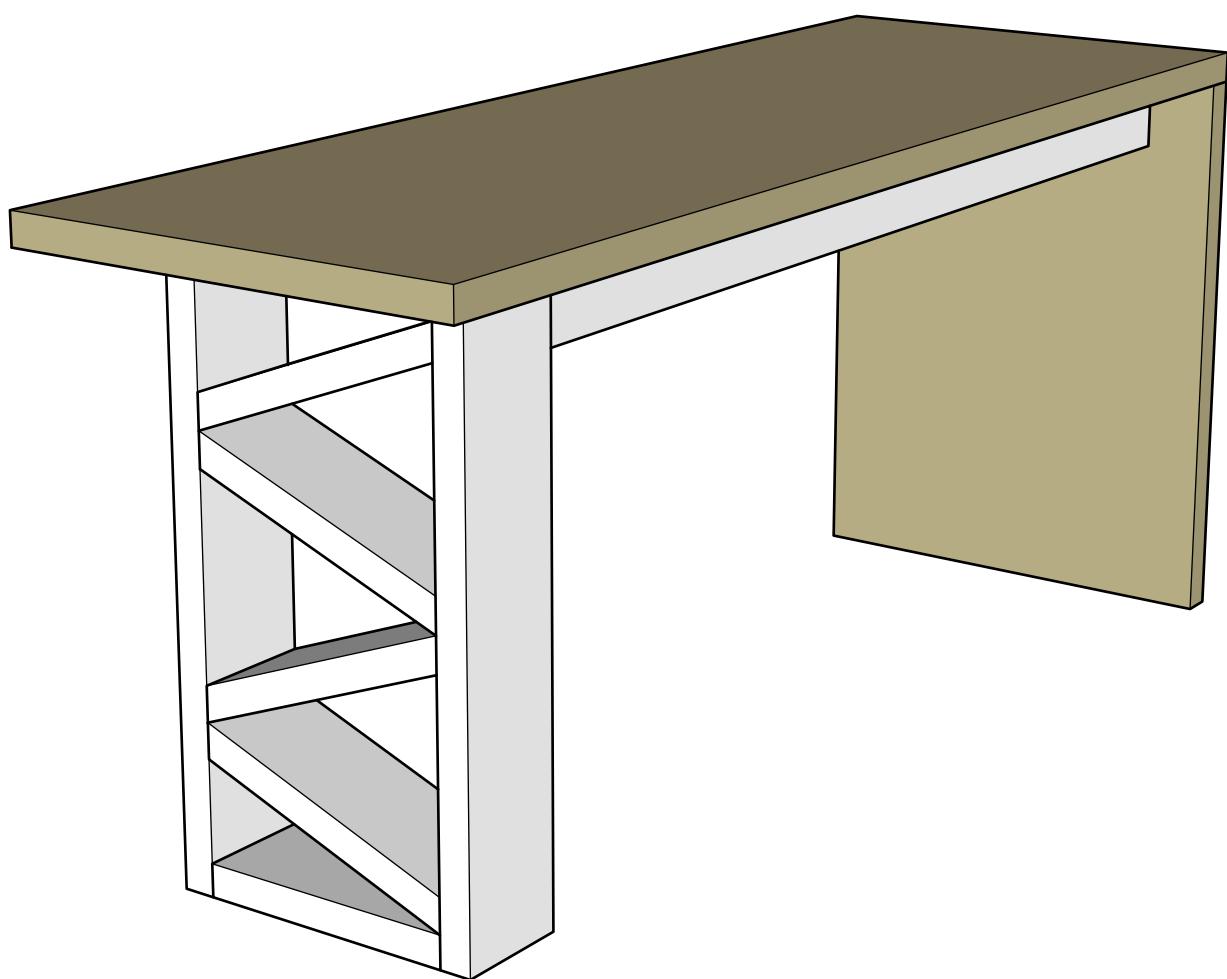




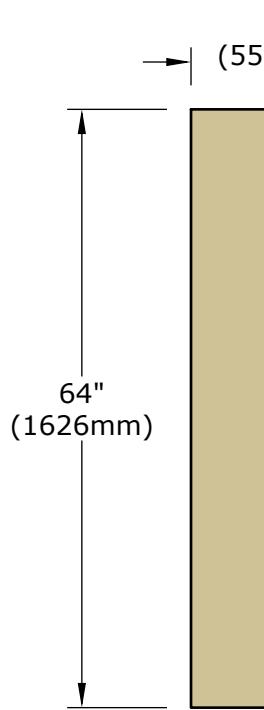
DIY budget desk

BUILD YOUR OWN

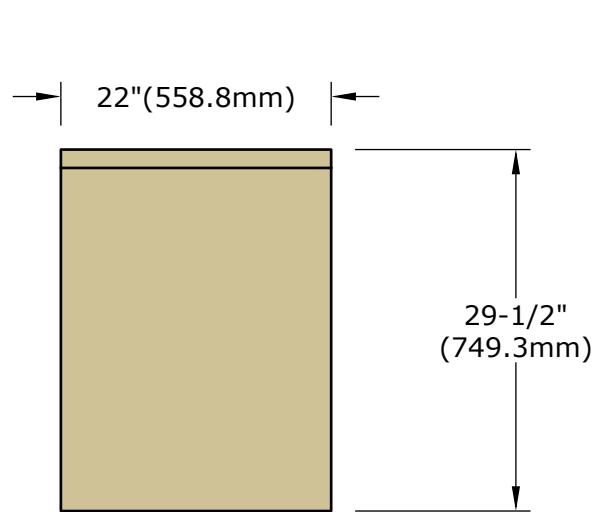


Overall dimensions

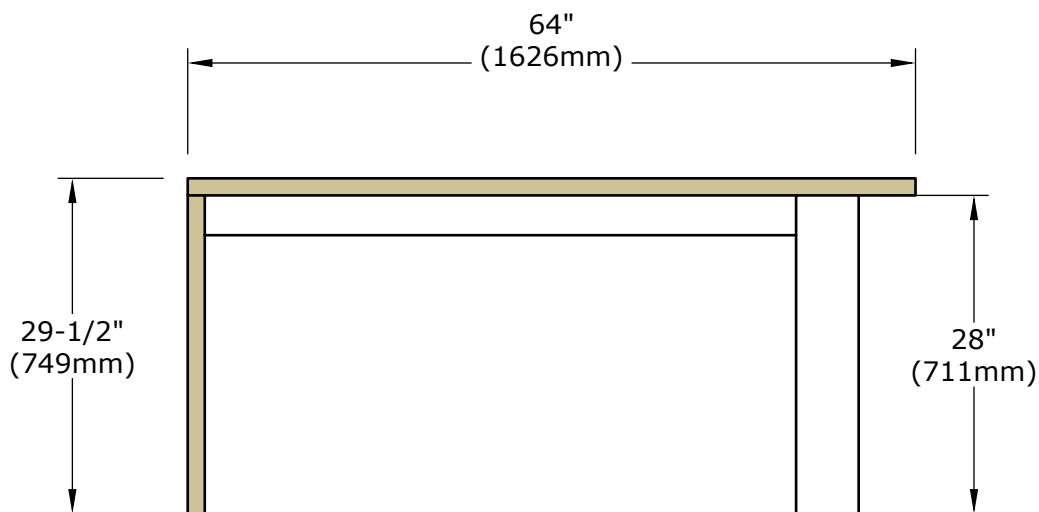
Top View:



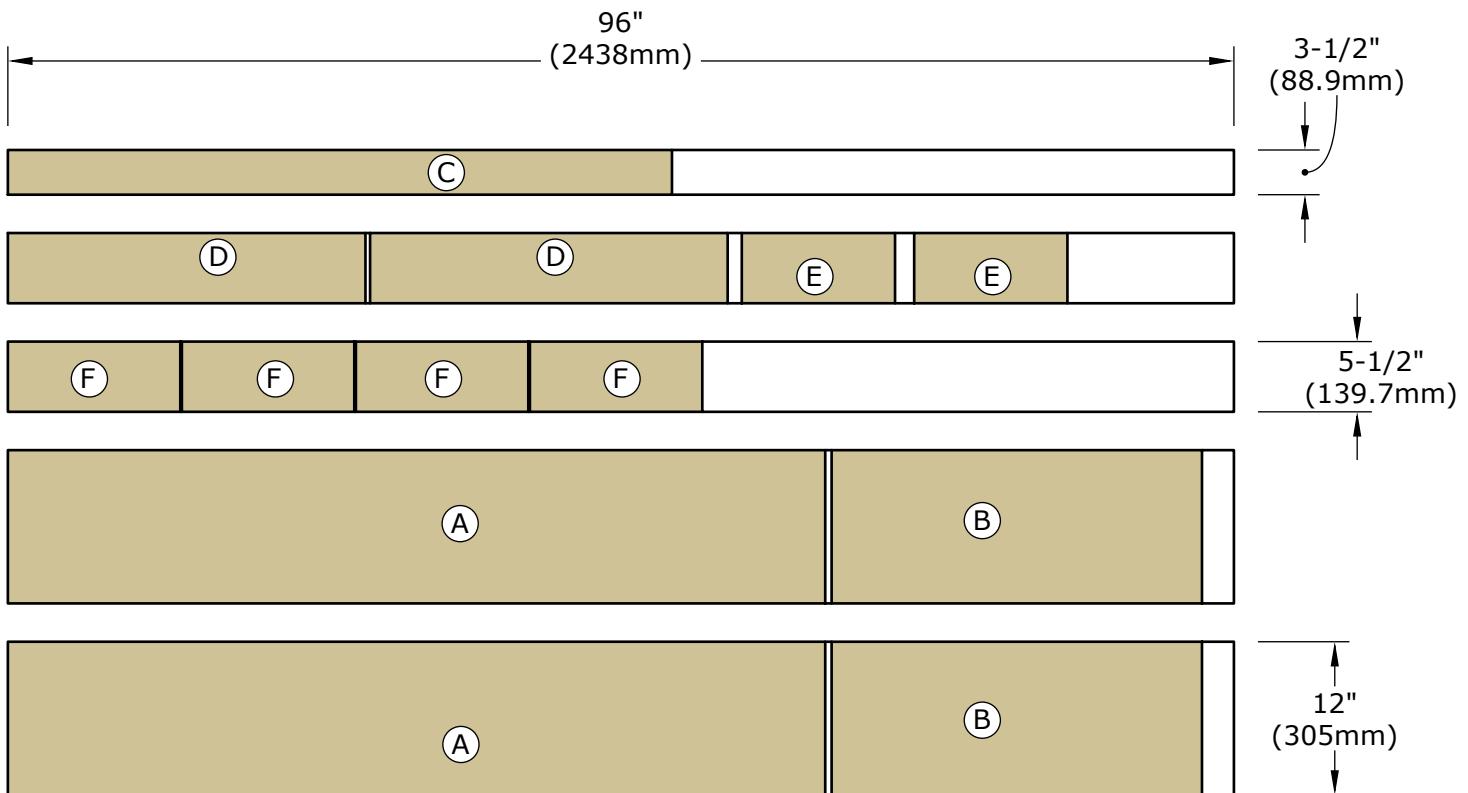
Side View:



Front View:



- (1) 2in by 4in by 8ft Lumber
- (2) 2in by 6in by 8ft Lumber
- (2) 2in by 12in by 8ft Lumber



Materials list

- (2) 2in x 12in by 8ft Southern yellow Pine (**HD** SKU #852570)
- (2) 2in x 6in x 8ft pine board (**HD** SKU #161713)
- (1) 2in x 4in x 8ft pine board (**HD** SKU #161640)
- (1) 1/2in dowels (**HD** SKU #899416)
- (1) 2-1/2in pocket holes screws (**HD** SKU #1000092357)
- (1) LED used - <https://amzn.to/2YsbPF6> (optional)
- (1) LED connector clip kit - <https://amzn.to/2zUC78N> (optional)

HD= Home Depot

Finish:

- Minwax Espresso 273 Gel Stain
- Primer
- Oil based white gloss paint

Tools needed

- Circular saw <https://homedepot.sjv.io/kqd6N>
- Sander <https://amzn.to/3fdy1Zv>
- 1/2 dowel jig <https://amzn.to/2KXI0V4>
- Pocket hole jig <https://amzn.to/2WqLZi0>
- Drill
- Measuring Tape
- Speed Square
- Clamps

Labeled Parts:

Parts	Description	QTY	Length	Width	Thickness	Materials	Notes (Cut details)
A	Desk Top	2	64in (1626mm)	11in (279.4mm)	1.5in (38.1mm)	2 by 12 by 8ft southern yellow pine	
B	Leg panel	2	28in (711mm)	11in (279.4mm)	1.5in (38.1mm)	2 by 12 by 8ft southern yellow pine	
C	Apron	1	52in (1321mm)	3.5in (88.9mm)	1.5in (38.1mm)	2 by 4 by 8ft lumber	on pages 5
D	Leg Sides	2	28in (711mm)	5.5in (139.7mm)	1.5in (38.1mm)	2 by 6 by 8ft lumber	on pages 5
E	Leg Top and bottom	2	12in (304.8mm)	5.5in (139.7mm)	1.5in (38.1mm)	2 by 6 by 8ft lumber	on pages 5
F	Angled Parts	4	13.5in (342.9mm)	5.5in (139.7mm)	1.5in (38.1mm)	2 by 6 by 8ft lumber	on pages 5

Exploded Parts:

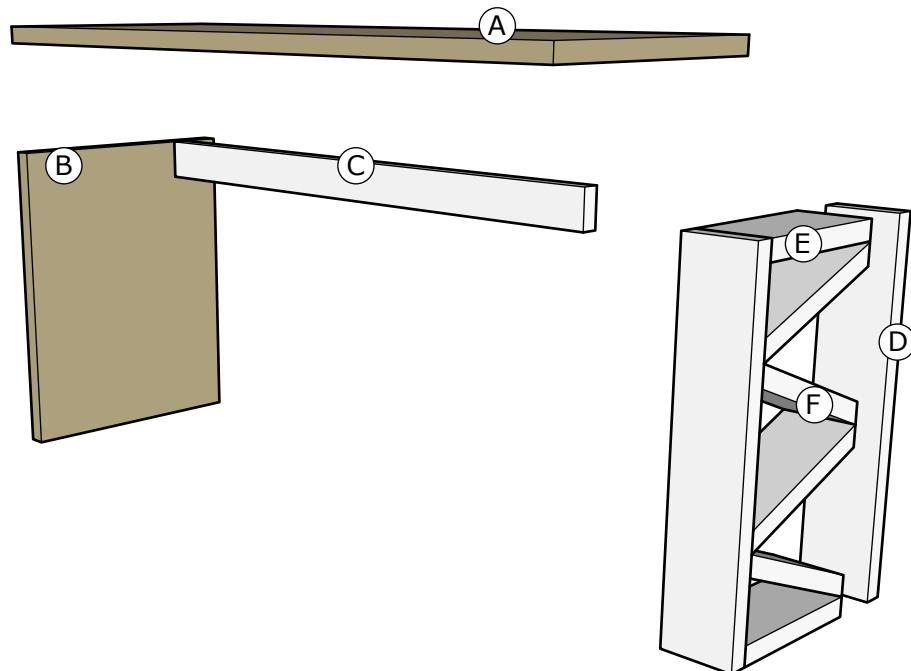


Figure 1. (part C)

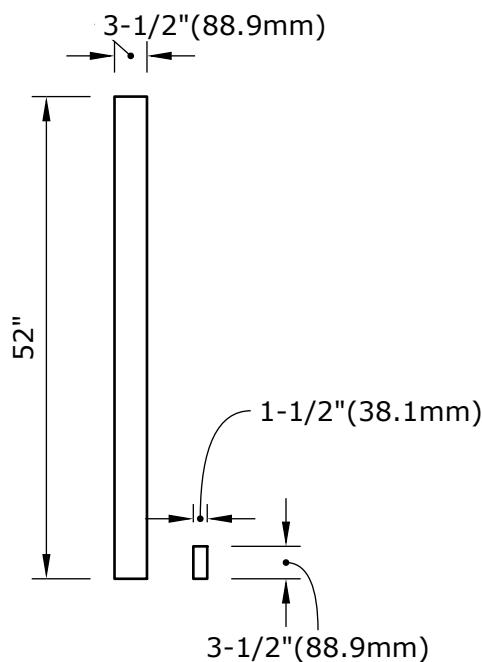


Figure 2. (part F)

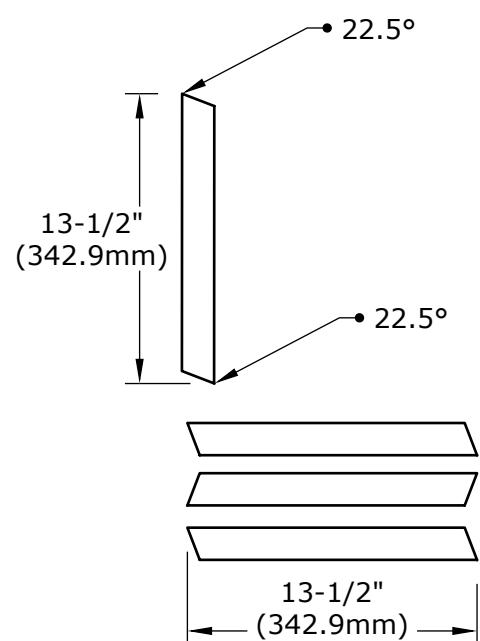


Figure 3. (part D)

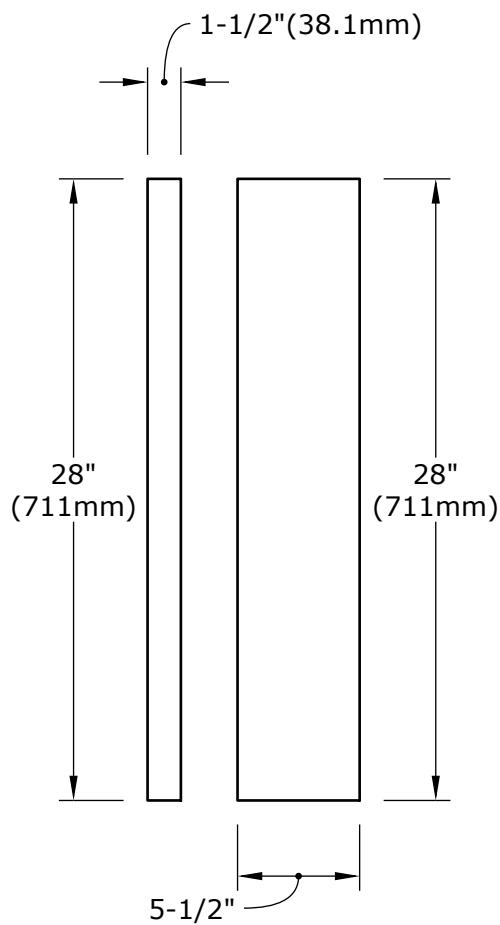
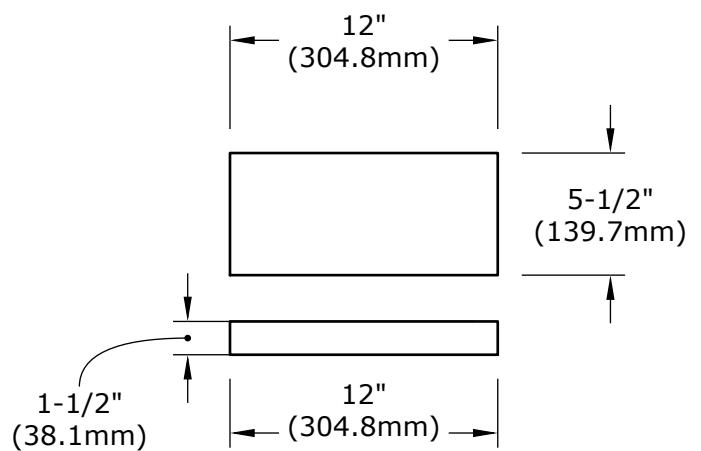


Figure 4. (part E)



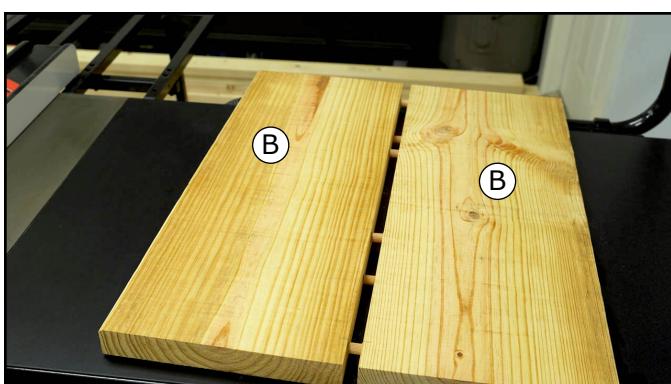
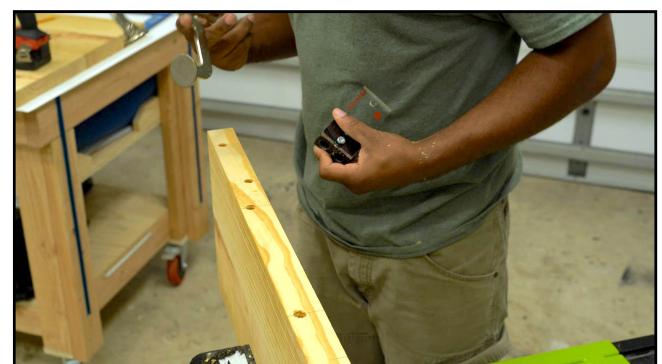
1 Line up the boards

First, cut the lumber in two, from the (2"x12"x8ft stock) cut 29in off for the leg. This can be cut down later to the final dimension. Next, rip off one side circular saw, a table saw, or even a jointer to create a straight edge. Now, push the two cut edge up to one another, one indication you have a straight edge, you should see no gap. Do this for the tabletop and also the leg panel.



2 Make the dowel holes

For this step, you will need a dowel jig (3/8 or 1/2 dowels could work). Starting at the end, place a mark 1.5in from each end, then drill your first hole. I spaced them 10in apart on one side of the lumber. Next, I drilled a second row on the opposite side, to stagger the dowels.



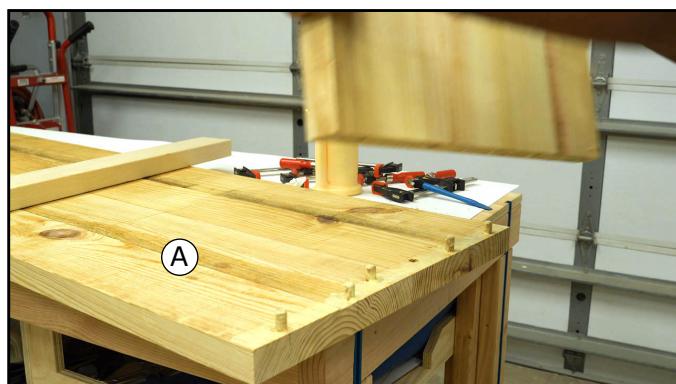
A). After drilling all the holes do a dry fit to make sure the holes line up correctly.

B). If the dry fitting is successful, apply wood glue in the holes and insert the dowels into the holes. Also, apply wood glue to the exposed side of the dowel and the surface. Now, connect the boards and add clamps to close the joint. Do this for both the leg and the desktop. Finally, take a wet rag and clean off the glue squeeze out.

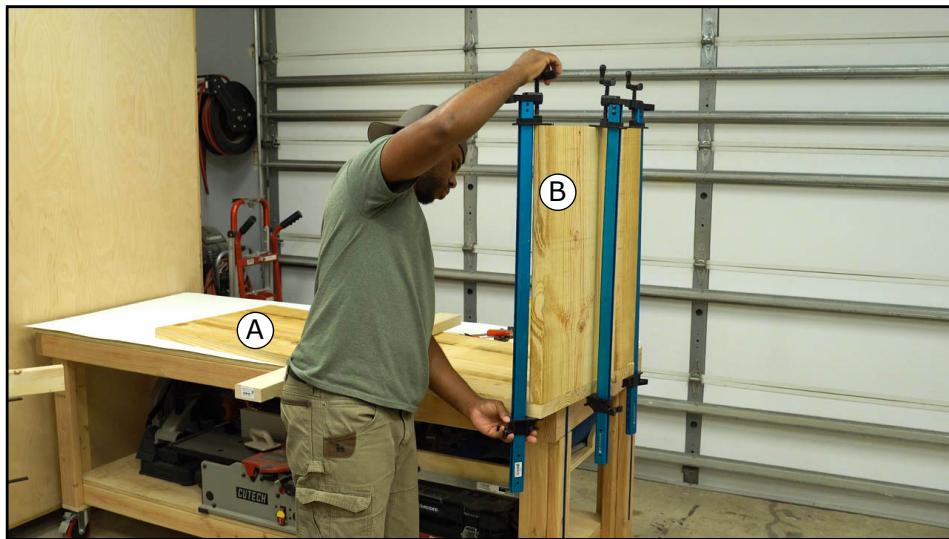


3 Trim the lumber

Trim the desktop and leg to the final length. Now, place the leg at one end of the desk, make sure the leg is even with the end of the top part (**A**). Next, make a mark on the inside, this way, you know the boundaries of the leg-drill 5 to 6 dowel in the top and leg to connect the two. Then do a dry fit.



A) Now connect the leg part (**B**) to the top. Apply wood glue to the holes, dowels, and joining surface. Clamp the pieces and check that it is squared.



4 Sand

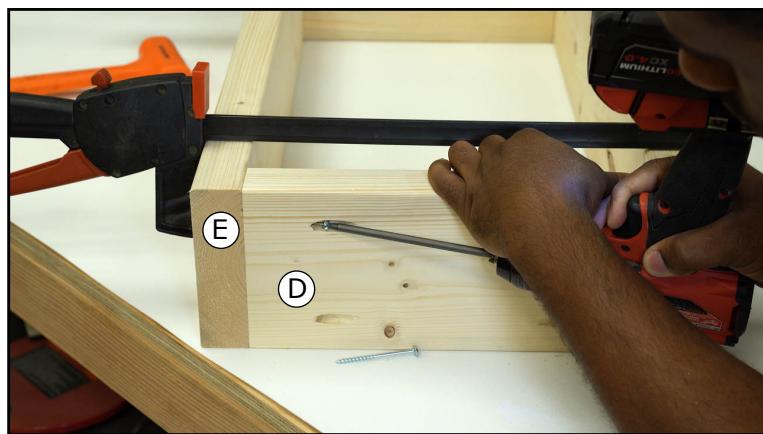
Sand the parts down before assembly.



5

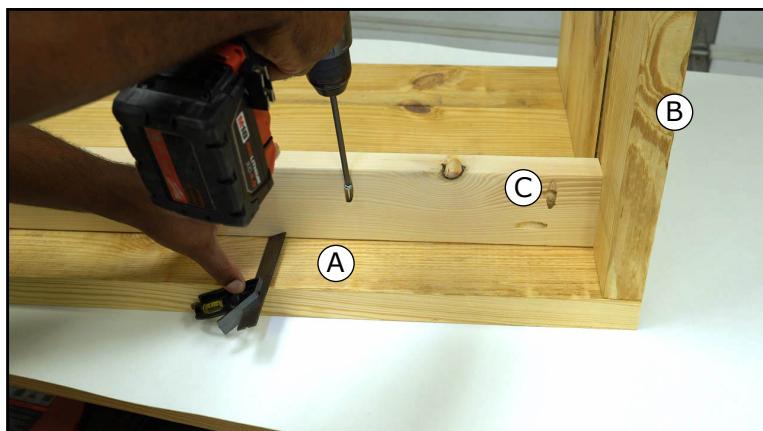
Assemble parts

Locate part (E) and (D). Assemble the leg. Drill pocket holes or use dowels to join part (D) to (E). Make sure part (D) is on the inside.

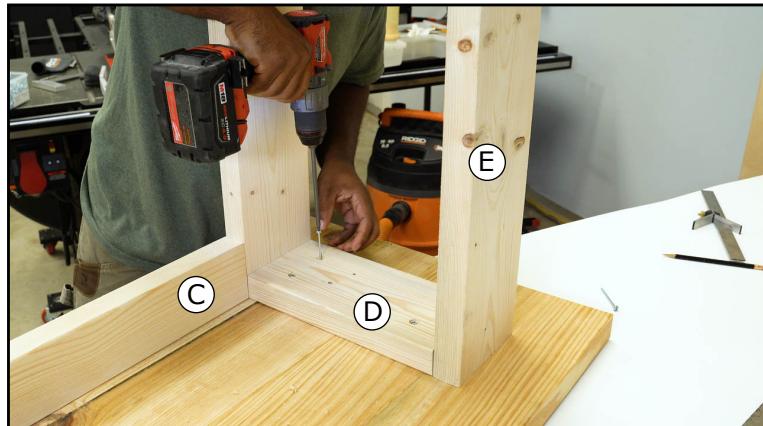


A). Install part (C) 3-1/2"(88.9mm) away from the edge of Part (A).

Note: The pocket holes can face either direction, depending on how you prefer.



B). Line up the leg with part (C). Secure this with four 2.5in wood screws, two near each end of part (D).



C). Install part (F) with wood glue. This is not meant to be structural just added decor.



6 Sanding the top

Whether you have an orbital sander or a belt sander, either one can sand this rough lumber. Start off with the following grit of sandpaper 80, 120, 180, and 220 for a smooth finish.



A). Round over the edges if you do not have a router similar results can be achieved with a sander.



B). When you get to this stage you can apply the finish to your taste. I applied an espresso finish on the top and the leg. I used a Gel stain and applied one coat with a brush one surface at a time.



C). I used a clean rag to remove the stain and move to the next section.



D). Here is a finished look of the stained and raw look.



E). For a nice contrast, white paint was applied to the apron and the decor leg.

*White oil-based paint was used for this. I saw a better sheen and less visible brush streak, in my opinion.

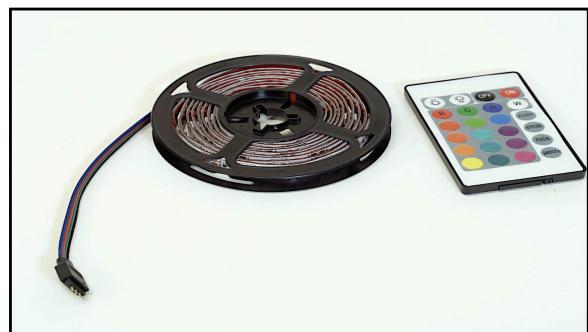


D). I applied a wipe on poly for a topcoat. Two to three coats should do the trick.



7

If you chose to add LEDs to the desk, any LED kit should work.



A). For a lower glow like this.



Layout the LED strip like this. Run the strip along the white section on the desk.



B). For an upper glow like this.



Run the strip along the back of the desk.



DONE!



Video: <https://youtu.be/9dWzupkBcNU>



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