

Tiled Coasters

Because the tiles in these coasters can be personally selected to match any kitchen's color scheme, they make wonderful presents for friends and family. The finished pieces nest in a convenient stand, one that's small enough to fit on a windowsill but appealing enough to display almost anywhere in the house.

Materials List

White pine is recommended for this project.

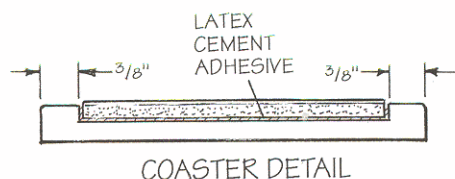
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|-----|-------------------------|------------------|
| (1) | 3/8" x 3-3/4" x 15-1/2" | Coaster bases |
| (1) | 3/8" x 4-3/4" x 4-3/4" | Base |
| (1) | 1/4" x 12" | Birch dowel pins |
| (4) | 3" x 3" | Ceramic tiles |

Suggested Tools

Table saw
3/8" drill
1/4" drill bit
Router
1/4" straight bit
1/2" chisel
Coping saw
Try square
C-clamp
12" straightedge

Hardware & Supplies

Yellow wood glue
Latex cement adhesive
Masking tape
Spray lacquer



Construction Procedure

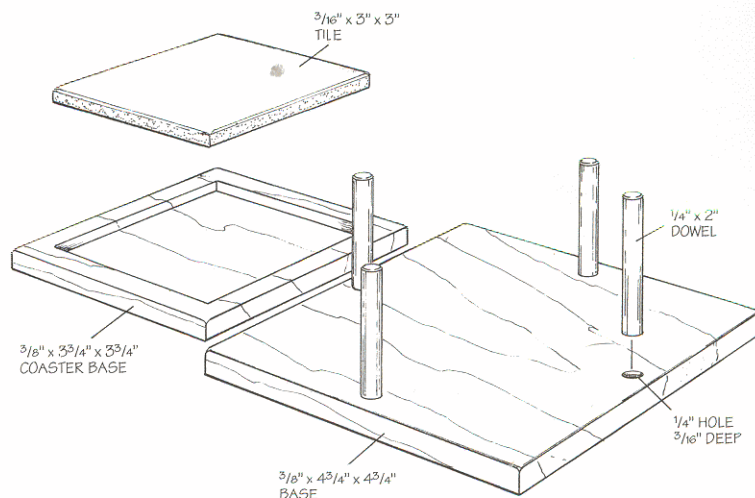
1. Measure 3/8" from the end of the 15-1/2" board, and using a try square, strike a line across its width.

2. Measure 3" from the line, and strike a second line across the board's width. Then strike a third line 3/8" from the second, and a fourth line 1/8" from the third. (The 1/8" line allows for saw kerf when the coaster bases are cut.)

3. Repeat the procedure three more times to mark cutting lines for a total of four 3-3/4"-square coaster bases.

4. Now measure in 3/8" from each long edge, and strike lines lengthwise down the board. Note that these two lines, along with the lines drawn earlier, define the routed areas in which tiles will eventually be set.

5. Clamp the piece to a bench, and using the straight bit in the router, remove the 3"-square marked





centers to a depth of $\frac{3}{16}$ " (or to the specific thickness of your purchased tiles). A $\frac{3}{8}$ " border should remain all around each tile bed.

6. Cut the piece into four squares along the marked $\frac{1}{8}$ " lines.

7. Clean and square the corners of the routed areas with a chisel, and sand the four pieces lightly.

8. Cover the routed area with masking tape, and finish the wood with several coats of spray lacquer.

9. After removing the tape, cement the tiles into their beds with the latex adhesive. Use a damp sponge to clean up any excess cement.

10. Using the straightedge and square, mark two center lines across and along the face of the $4\frac{3}{4}$ " base.

11. On the center lines, measure and mark points $\frac{5}{16}$ " in from each edge.

12. At each mark, drill a $\frac{1}{4}$ " hole to a depth of $\frac{3}{16}$ "

13. With a coping saw, cut four 2" lengths from the 12" dowel.

14. Glue the dowels into the four holes in the base, and sand the assembled base lightly.

15. Finish the base with several coats of spray lacquer.