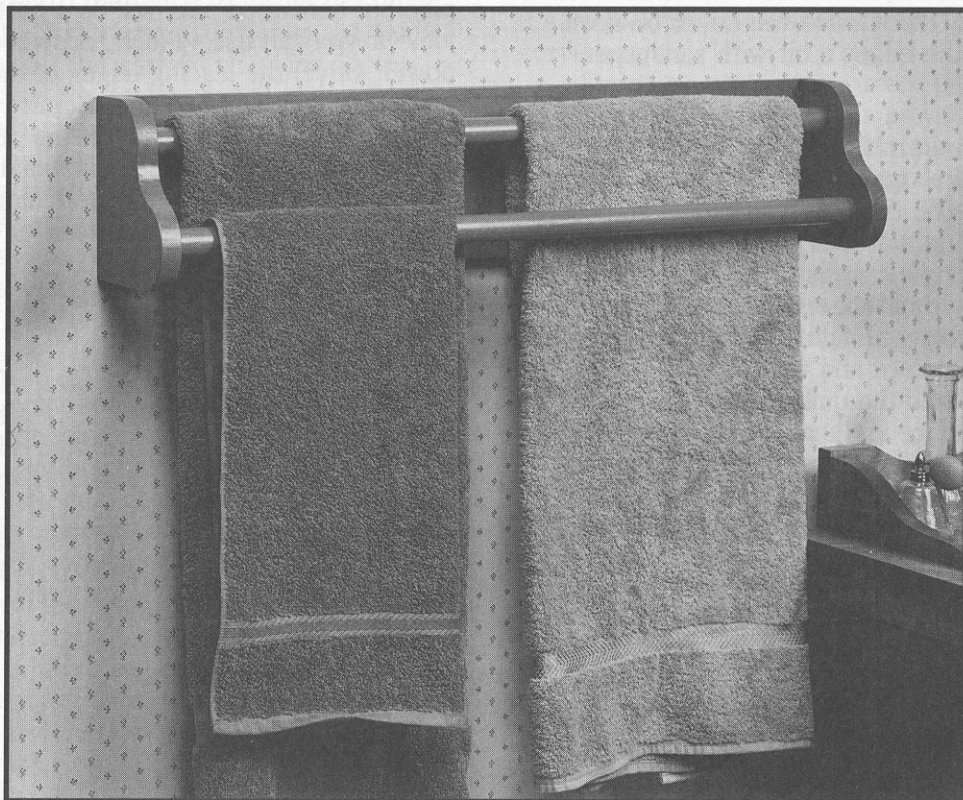


TOWEL RACK

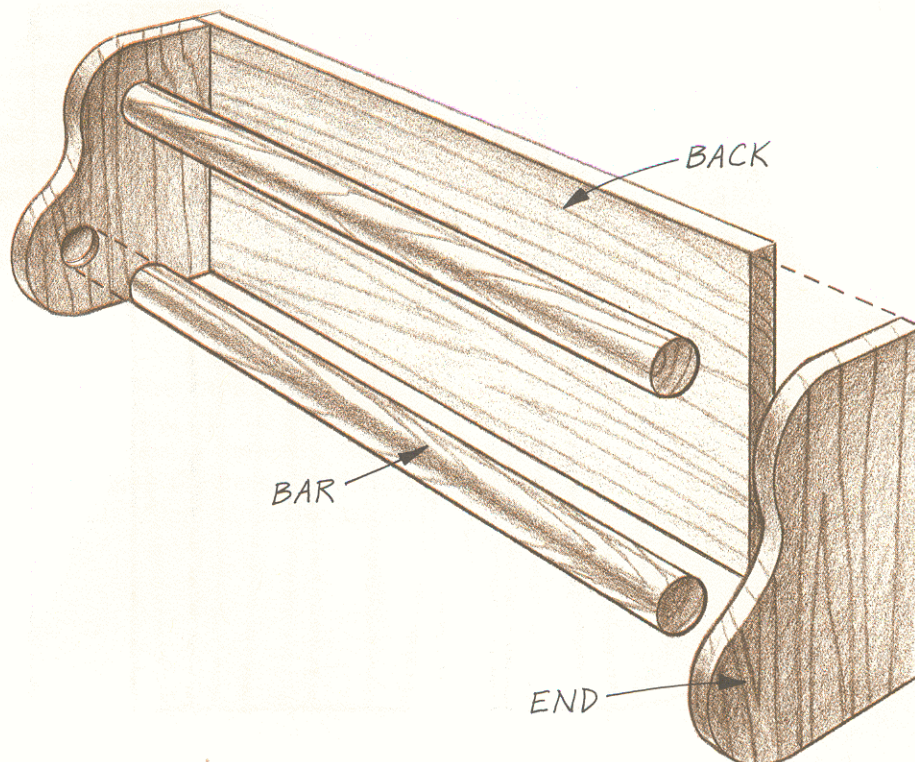
The solution to some of life's problems is so simple and obvious that it can't belong to any particular style but is at home anywhere. This towel rack is an example.

The simple, straightforward construction of the rack makes it an evening's project at most. It then goes right to work drying towels and keeping them handy.

1 Cut the parts to size. Choose a straight-grained board for the back. If you work in strong hardwoods, make it $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick as shown in the drawings. If you prefer pine or one of the softer hardwoods like basswood or poplar, make it $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick and make the ends $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches long instead of the $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches shown in the drawing. Rip the back and stock for the ends to 6 inches wide.



EXPLODED VIEW



CUTTING LIST

Part

Dimensions

Ends (2)

 $\frac{3}{4}" \times 6" \times 5\frac{1}{2}"$

Bars (2)

1" dia. $\times 27\frac{1}{4}"$

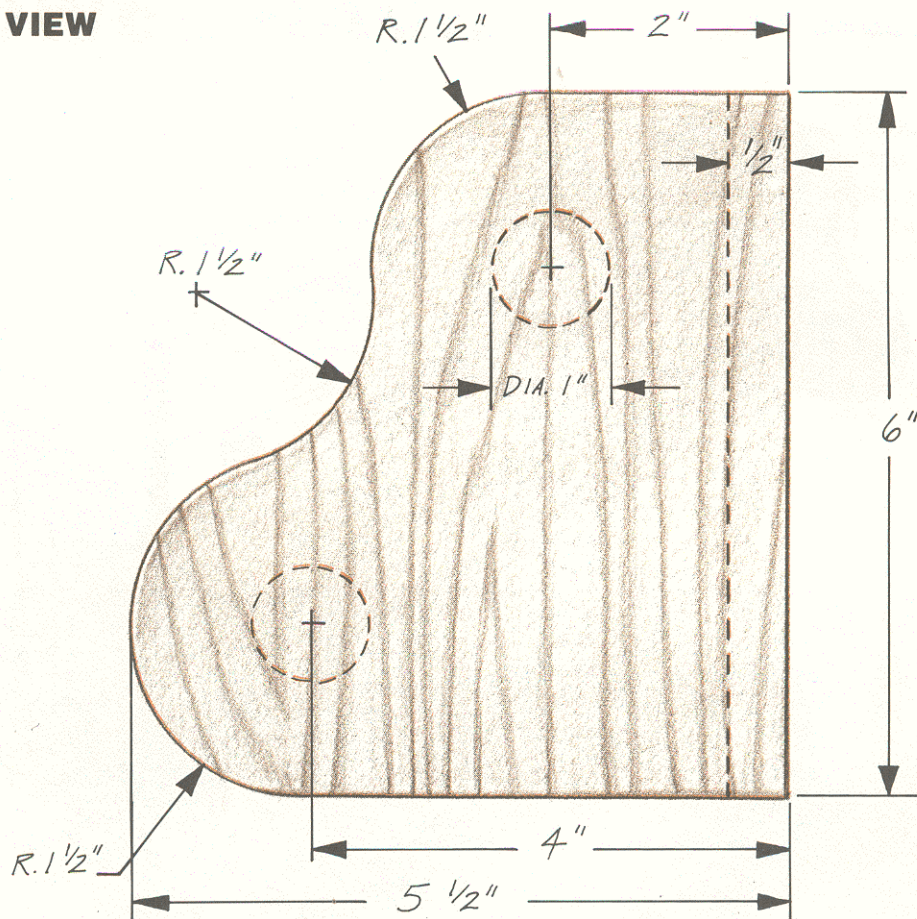
Back

 $\frac{1}{2}" \times 6" \times 27\frac{1}{4}"$

Hardware

6 finish nails, 1"

#8 flathead wood screws

SIDE VIEW

Crosscut the back and the 1-inch-dowel towel bars to length. All three should be exactly the same length. Crosscut the ends to 5 1/2 inches long (or 5 3/4 inches as mentioned previously.)

2 Cut the ends to shape. Lay out the shape of the ends with a compass, marking the centers clearly for

when you will drill the 1-inch holes. Saw to the line with a coping saw, then smooth the sawn edges with a fine rasp and sandpaper. Bore the 1-inch-diameter holes 3/8 inch deep.

3 Rabbet the ends for the back. Adjust the table saw to cut 3/8 inch deep. Hold a scrap of the back stock

against the rip fence and adjust the fence so the scrap just covers the teeth on the blade. With these adjustments, saw the first side of the rabbets with the ends inside-face down. Now hold an end on its back edge alongside the blade and raise the blade to the height of the first rabbet cut. Adjust the rip fence so there is $\frac{3}{8}$ inch between the blade and the fence. With the ends on their back edge and the outside face against the fence, saw the second side of the rabbets.

4 Assemble the rack. Apply glue to the rabbets and the bar holes. Insert the bars in one of the ends, then fit the other end onto the bars. Fit the back into the rabbets, then clamp the assem-

bly from end to end. When the glue is dry, drive three 1-inch finish nails through each end into the back.

5 Apply a finish. Prime, then paint the towel rack to match the door and window trim in the bath or kitchen where you intend to hang the rack. Install the rack by drilling pilot and shank holes for #8 wood screws through the back and into studs in the wall. Counter-sink the holes, then drive in the screws. Use screws long enough to go through your wallboard or plaster and 1 inch into the studs. If you like, you can counter-bore the screw holes and plug or fill and paint over them, or you can use brass screws and leave them showing.