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Project: Entry Bench

Overview: This bench measures six feet in length to accommodate all the foot traffic coming and going. No screws are needed for assembly. Simply cut, sand, glue, paint and put to use. The file can also be modified to make the bench longer or shorter to accommodate any size room.

Materials: 3/4" furniture grade plywood

Minimum Cutting Area: 4' x 8'

Bit Size: 1/4"

Finishing: For this example several coats of latex paint were brushed on to give it the desired color.



Always read the entire project details before starting to cut the file yourself

Account for the thickness of the physical material on hand and the material thickness in the file

This file is zeroed to the tables surface, Zero your bit to the tables surface



As the file starts cutting the profile of the parts make sure the cut is going all the way through the work piece and into the table surface. If you need to adjust any part of the file make sure you do not remove the hold down or you will loose position. Included with the cut file is a hold down toolpath that shows where it is safe to put screws. Run this file separately from the cut file so you can screw down the work piece, or if you have a different size board or different type of hold down disregard the file.



Tabs are use to hold all the pieces to the scrap wood attached to them. Use a utility knife to score these edges. Never try to push a piece out without cutting the tab, it will tear the grain on your project. Sand remaining tab flat.



Before assembly take the time to route desired edges to add to the projects appeal. Also spend some time sanding all edges and faces for all of the pieces.



Start by partially filling ALL of the seat mortises with glue. Use a small brush to push the glue onto all of the inner sides. This will make for a much stronger glue joint.



Insert the bottom stringer first. It can go either way, all of the tenons are centered to the seat. Push this down in place before moving to the next step.



There are three leg pieces. Make sure they fit through the bottom stringer and push down into the seat mortises. Assembling this project upside down is key to a smooth assembly.



Once the stringer is in place and the three leg pieces clamp this assembly and let the glue dry for the manufactures recommended time. Titebond II is the preferred glue used here. Leave upside down until the glue has dried, or it will run out of the dog bones.



For alignment purposes the backrest is dry clamped into place with no glue. This will help hold the project square while the glue sets up from the previous assembly.



Just like before from the seat apply glue to the remaining mortises on the backrest.



Position the bench so that the glue will not run out of the backrest during the glue drying time.



Make sure clamps are used to hold the pieces together until the glue has setup.



Double check any edges where hands might grab, body parts might rub up against and give them a good sanding to prevent any splinters.



Several coats of an interior latex paint were all that were used for this example. Feel free to be creative and finish to your likings.



This bench measures six foot in length. If your entry area is not big enough to accommodate this size of a bench modify the file to a desired length of your choosing. Also decorative shapes like "hearts" may look good cut into the seat portions or backrest of this project.

