

easy build coffee table



Build this stylish modern table with Porta Pine Panels. Manufactured from premium quality clear grade pine, they are edge laminated providing more strength and stability than normal wide solid boards.

The design concept is simple: its just four boxes screwed together at right angles to each other. The height of each box is 190mm with mitred joints at the corners. A 6mm diameter dowel was added to the joint for increased strength. Then table was finished with Cabot's Chestnut Interior stain and a satin polyurethane.

what you'll need

- circular saw or table saw
- 6mm dowel drill
- electric or cordless drill
- tape measure
- combination square
- yellow glue
- flush saw
- mallet or dead blow
- 2 x Porta's laminated panels: 1800 x 405 x 19mm
- 2 x Porta's laminated panels: 1200 x 405 x 19mm
- 1 x pine dowel: 1200 x 6mm
- 1 length of DAR pine: 2400 x 19 x 19mm
- 4 x 75mm rubber castors
- 500ml Cabot's Cabothane
- 500ml Cabot's Interior Stain in 'Chestnut'
- masking tape



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6 simple steps

It's very important that all excess glue is removed prior to staining. Otherwise, the glue will seal the timber, preventing the stain from penetrating and resulting in ugly white patches.



Arrange the four pieces, face down, on a flat workbench in sequence (side, top, side, bottom). Use masking tape to hold the pieces together. Overlap the faces slightly to produce a nice tight mitre.



Flip all four pieces over onto the workbench simultaneously. Mask the inside edge of the mitre to assist with clean-up. Spread a good quality yellow glue evenly to both mitres, and then fold the pieces together to form a box, securing the last mitre with masking tape.



Check the box for square by measuring the diagonals. Make any necessary adjustments until both measurements are equal. Set the box aside and allow the glue to dry.



Drill 6mm-dia. x 30mm-deep holes in the side of the box, 10mm up from the end. Use three dowels: two positioned 40mm in from each edge and one in the centre. Apply wood glue and drive the slightly over-length dowel home. Flush off excess dowel.



Attach a 19 x 19mm cleat to the inside of the side panels to provide a fixing point for joining the boxes. Then screw the boxes together at right angles, through the cleats, using 32mm x 8g screws.



Sand the entire unit using 220-grit paper, to smooth and to remove any sharp edges. Apply the finish, and then fix four 75mm lockable castors to the underside.



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