



AN ORIGINAL YOU CAN MAKE YOUR OWN

The Everyday Bookshelf

Simple boards. A gentle top overhang. Three useful shelves for books, plants and the little things that make a room yours.



30 in W x 48 in H x 11-1/2 in D

Common 1x12 boards + one 1x3 base rail + a plywood back.
Straight cuts and pocket-screw joinery. No curved cuts or special wood species.

Project visualization. Build to the [dimensioned drawings](#) and [cut list](#).

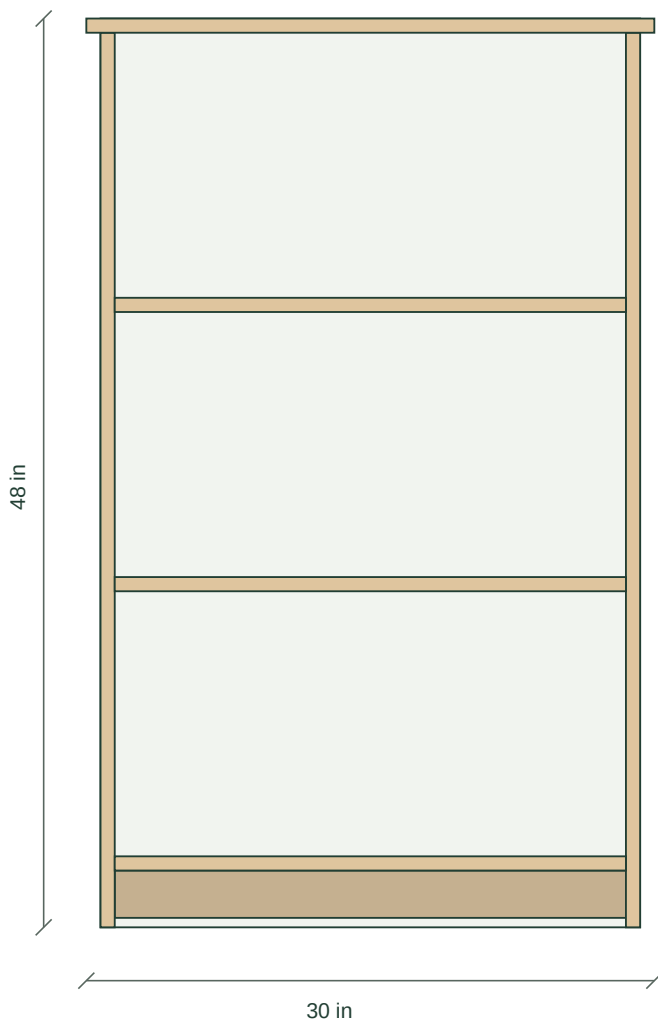


01 / THE DESIGN

A familiar size. A softer silhouette.

A medium-height bookcase with three equal openings, a 3/4 in top overhang at each side and a recessed base rail. Small details, with the same straight-cut construction as the case.

FRONT ELEVATION



Overall

30 in wide x 48 in high
11-1/2 in deep*

Each opening

27 in wide x 14 in high
11-1/4 in shelf depth

Small design details

Top overhang: 3/4 in each side
Base rail setback: 3/4 in
Base rail floor gap: 1/2 in

Required

Full plywood back
Furniture wall restraint

*Depth includes a true 1/4 in overlay back. The top is 11-1/4 in deep, flush with the front of the case; the back projects 1/4 in behind it. Approx. 762 x 1219 x 292 mm overall.

Plan note: dimensions checked digitally; not physically built or load-tested. No shelf load rating is specified.



02 / SHOPPING AND PARTS

Ordinary stock. Clearly sized.

Nominal 1x12 means actual 3/4 x 11-1/4 in; nominal 1x3 means actual 3/4 x 2-1/2 in. Measure before cutting. No particular species is required; common pine or whitewood is suitable.

BUY	QUANTITY / PURPOSE
1x12 x 8 ft	3 boards: one for both sides, one for three shelves, one for the top. A 4 ft board can replace the third if available.
1x3 x 4 ft	1 board for the recessed base rail.
Nominal 1/4 in plywood	One piece at least 28-1/2 x 48 in. A 4 x 4 ft panel works only if its actual length is a full, square 48 in; otherwise use a larger sheet.
Fasteners	28 x 1-1/4 in pocket screws, plus spares; about 50 x 3/4 in brads. Use pocket-screw thread recommended for your material.
Other supplies	Interior glue, 120/180 grit sandpaper, filler if desired, interior finish, anti-tip restraint and wall fixings suited to your wall.

CUT LIST

FINISHED SIZES / INCHES

ID	PART	QTY	STOCK	LENGTH	WIDTH	THICKNESS
A	Sides	2	1x12	47-1/4	11-1/4	3/4
B	Bottom / two shelves	3	1x12	27	11-1/4	3/4
T	Cap top	1	1x12	30	11-1/4	3/4
D	Base rail	1	1x3	27	2-1/2	3/4
C	Overlay back	1	1/4 ply	48	28-1/2	1/4 nom.

Stock is the store label; **length, width and thickness** are the finished part sizes. Quantities are individual pieces. Allow for saw kerf and square the ends before measuring. Plywood thickness is nominal: measure the actual panel.

Tools

Tape, square, pencil, supported crosscut saw setup, saw/guide for the plywood back, pocket-hole jig with bit and stop collar, drill/driver, clamps, sander, brad nailer, and suitable eye, hearing and dust protection.

Choose straight, dry interior boards. Avoid splits, loose knots at joints and pressure-treated stock. If thickness or width differs, revise affected cuts and jig settings before starting; do not silently substitute thinner stock.



03 / CUT AND MARK

Simple cuts. Consistent marks.

Board cutting layout: each strip represents one board; labels give part ID and cut length in inches. Allow a 1/8 in saw kerf between parts. Keep full board widths; no lumber ripping is needed.

1x12 x 96 in



1x12 x 96 in

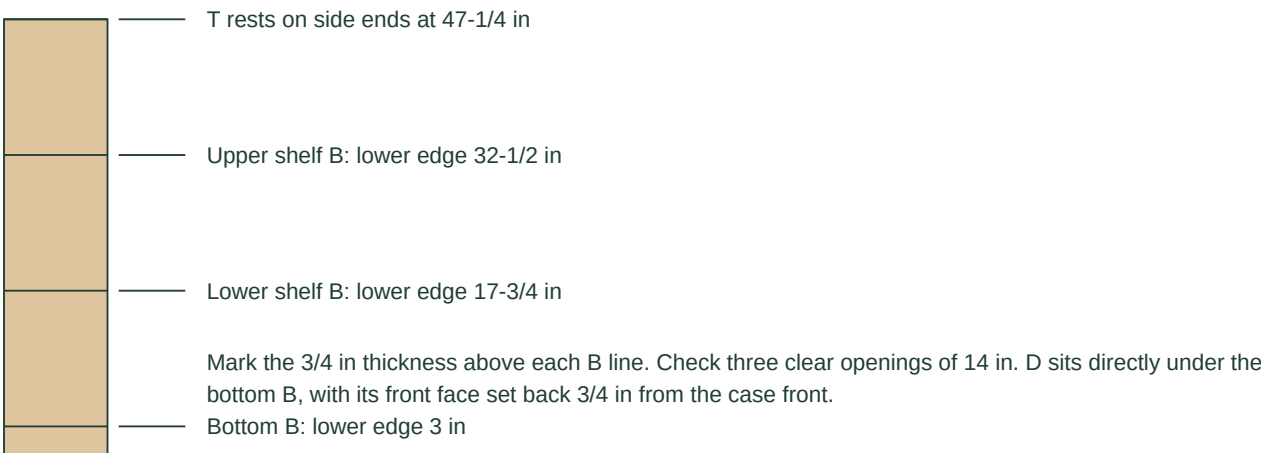


1x12 x 96 in (or 48 in)



Cut D at 27 in from the 1x3. Cut C to the assembled case width and full height, not to the wider cap top. The side layout leaves about 1-1/4 in after two kerfs: check actual board length and end damage first. Buy longer stock if necessary.

INSIDE FACE OF BOTH A SIDES - MEASURE UP FROM THE FLOOR END



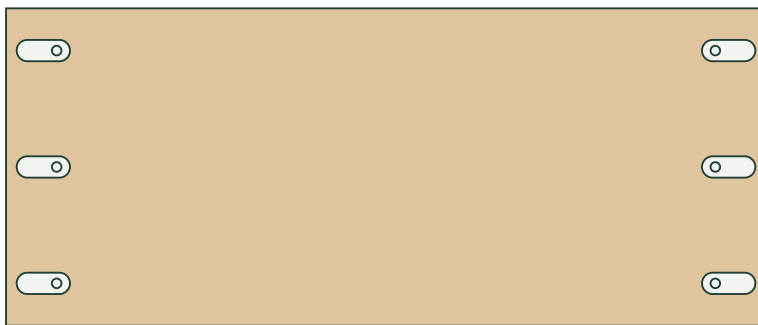
Metric reference: A length 1200.15 mm; B length 685.8 mm; T length 762 mm; opening height 355.6 mm. Inch dimensions control; avoid rounding individual parts independently.



04 / POCKET-HOLE DETAIL

Angled holes, explained.

A pocket-hole jig drills at an angle. Its entrance looks elongated on the board face; it is not an oval drill bit. Symbols below show locations, not an exact pocket shape or drilling template.

B / UNDERSIDE

FRONT EDGE

Hardware reference: Kreg pocket-screw selector

B: 18 screws

Three pockets at each end of all three B boards.

Centres from front:

1-1/2, 5-5/8, 9-3/4 in.

A: 6 screws

Three pockets on the inside face at the TOP end of each A side, in the same depth positions. They drive upward into the underside of T.

D: 4 screws

Two pockets at each end on the REAR face of D, centred 5/8 and 1-7/8 in above its lower edge. They drive into the inside side faces. T has no pockets.

1

Set the jig: sides (A), shelves (B), rail (D)

Use the jig maker's matching stock setting and stop-collar position. The jig sets pocket setback and angle; the dimensions here locate holes across the board. Clamp each part before drilling. Avoid knots and keep designated inside/underside faces consistent.

2

Test a shelf (B) to side (A) joint

For pine/whitewood, use #8 x 1-1/4 in coarse-thread pocket screws (e.g. Kreg SML-C125), with a head approved for your jig. This standard length assumes BOTH boards are actually 3/4 in and the jig/collar are set correctly. Clamp scrap square and drive at low torque; check for tip breakthrough, splitting or stripping before proceeding.



05 / ASSEMBLE THE CASE

Build square. Add the details.

Use a flat, supported work surface. Keep all B front edges flush with the A front edges. Clamp before driving screws so boards cannot creep.

3 Prepare sides (A), shelves (B), top (T) and rail (D)

Cut and label the lumber. Sand inside faces while accessible; keep glue faces bare. Mark both A sides, then drill all pockets as on page 5. Check matching B lengths and board widths. Dry-fit and confirm all three openings are 14 in high.

4 Join the shelves (B) to the sides (A)

Lay one A inside-face up, supporting each B perpendicular at its marked line. Glue each B end lightly, clamp square and flush, then drive three screws per end into the first side. Support the boards while adding the second A. Glue, align to matching marks and fasten the remaining nine B screws. Turn the supported assembly as needed for driver access.

5 Centre the cap top (T) on the sides (A)

Position T on the A upper ends, overhanging 3/4 in on both left and right. Its front and rear board edges are flush with the case boards; C later projects behind it. Glue the A upper ends, clamp T and drive the six side pockets upward into T. Check equal overhangs and avoid overtightening.

6 Fit the base rail (D) beneath the bottom (B)

Fit D between A, directly under bottom B. Set its front face back 3/4 in from the A front edge; its lower edge is 1/2 in above the floor ends. Glue its ends and upper edge, clamp, then fasten two pocket screws per end from the rear face. Support the case while turning it for access. Keep the rail in this version.

Before the back

Case width: 28-1/2 in. Width with T: 30 in. Full height: 48 in. Side height: 47-1/4 in. All three openings: 27 in wide x 14 in high. Confirm no projecting screws, split joints or twist.



The finishing steps matter.

The full back is required for this design. Fit it while the case is square, then finish and secure the bookcase before loading.

7

Square the case and attach the back (C)

Lay the case face down on padding, rear edges level. Measure case diagonals between the side corners, excluding the T overhang; adjust until equal and check corners with a square. Cut C to case width and full 48 in height. Align flush with the outside side faces and floor ends; its top meets the top edge of T.

Mark fastener centre lines on C: both sides, T rear edge and all three B rear edges. Glue those rear edges lightly. Tack opposite corners, recheck diagonals, then fix with 3/4 in brads about every 4 in around the perimeter and along B. Keep fasteners centred on the 3/4 in edges, at least 1 in from corners, and away from pocket screws. Keep hands clear of the nail path. Inspect for escaped brads and allow the glue to cure.

8

Sand and finish all parts (A, B, C, D, T)

Lightly soften exposed edges with sandpaper; no router profile is needed. Preserve square joining faces. Fill defects if desired, sand with 120 then 180 grit as suited to the finish, and remove dust. Test finish on an offcut. Follow preparation, ventilation, coating and full cure directions. Natural wood or paint both suit this design.

9

Secure the top (T) / sides (A) to the wall

Place on a level indoor floor. Fit a furniture anti-tip restraint to solid top/side structure and suitable wall structure, following the hardware maker's instructions. Never attach only to C. Account for baseboards without forcing the case to lean. Load only after restraint fitting and finish cure; place heavier items low and distribute weight.

Do not climb, sit or stand on the bookcase. Recheck joints and restraint periodically. Unload if a shelf sags, a joint loosens, the case racks or a board splits; correct the cause before reuse.

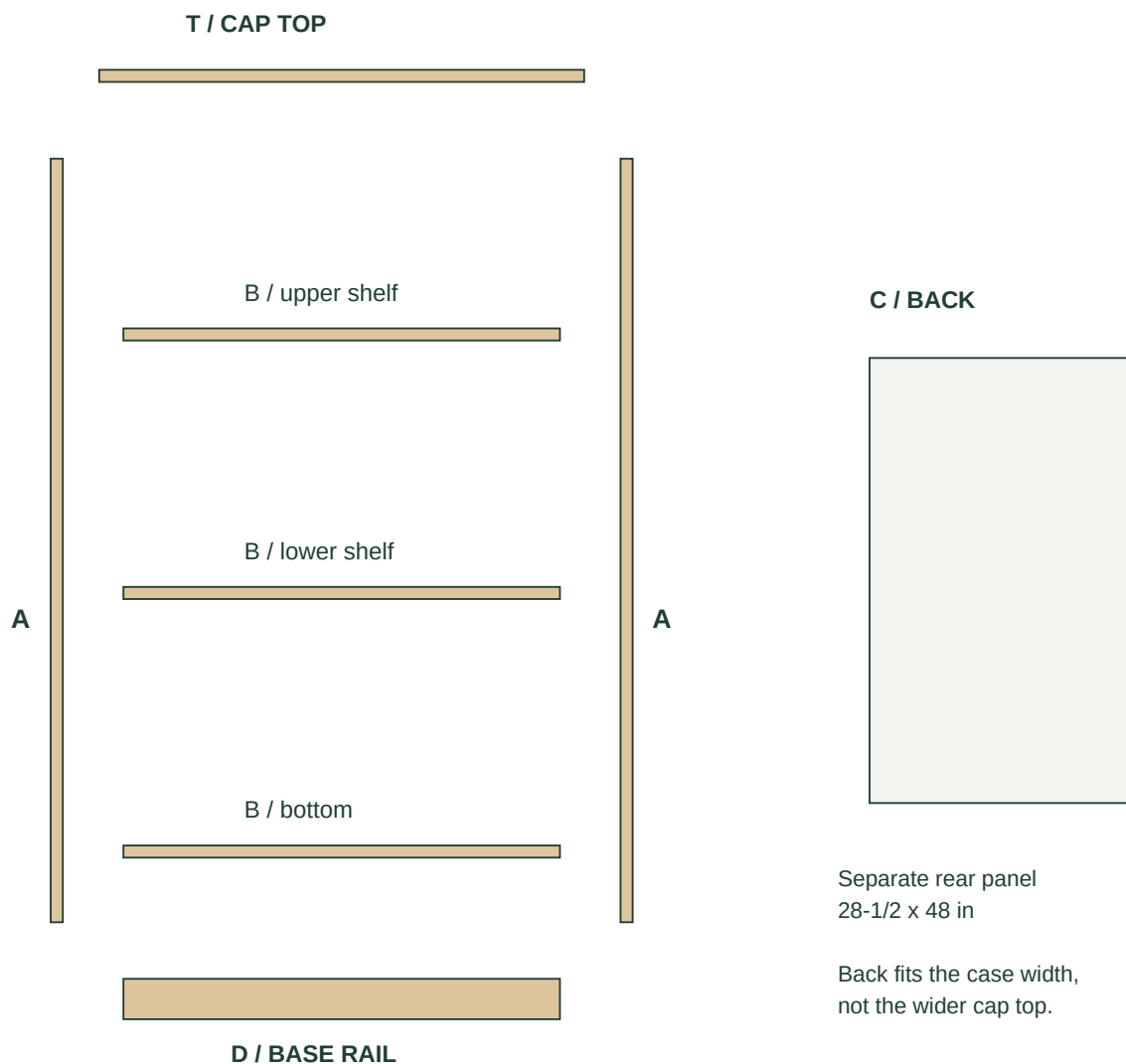
Questions? service@grainbench.com



07 / ASSEMBLY DRAWING

Every part, without hidden faces.

Exploded front elevation. Parts are separated for clarity, with gaps exaggerated. Read this together with the dimensioned front elevation and marking layout; it is not a cutting template.



How the parts meet

B and D fit between A. T rests on A with equal side overhangs. D sits under bottom B and is recessed 3/4 in at the front. C overlays the rear edges of A, B and T; it does not fit inside the openings. Follow page 4 for final placement.