GRAINBENCH ORIGINAL | CONFIDENT BEGINNER

The Evening Charging Valet

A shallow tray for phones, keys and a watch, with a backstop drilled for charging cables. The chargers stay outside the tray.



SIZE	SKILL	TIME	JOINERY
12 in wide, 7-1/4 in deep, 4-1/4 in tall	Confident beginner	About 2 hours, plus finish drying	Screws and glue

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01 / MATERIALS AND TOOLS

What to buy.

LUMBER AND SHEET GOODS

BUY	USED FOR
1 x 1x8 board, 4 ft (or an offcut at least 13 in long)	B base
1 x 1x4 board, 4 ft (or an offcut at least 13 in long)	R backstop
1 x 1x2 board, 4 ft (or an offcut at least 24-3/4 in long)	F front lip, S side lips

Every part is short, so offcuts work well.

HARDWARE AND SUPPLIES

ITEM	AMOUNT
#8 x 1-1/2 in flathead wood screws	10, plus a few spares
Wood glue	Small bottle of interior wood glue
Sandpaper	120 and 180 grit
Finish	About 250 mL (half a pint) of paint, stain or clear water-based polyurethane
Cable grommets (optional)	2, sized to the holes

TOOLS

- Saw for straight crosscuts: mitre saw, or circular saw with a speed square
- Drill/driver with a countersink bit
- 3/4 in Forstner or spade bit (or the size your cable plug needs)
- Tape measure, pencil and a combination or speed square
- 2 clamps that open to at least 12 in
- Sander or sanding block
- Safety glasses and hearing protection

02 / CUT LIST

Cut the parts.

Cut all the parts square. Check that your cable plugs fit through a 3/4 in hole before drilling R.

ID	PART	QTY	LENGTH	WIDTH	THICK	FROM
B	Base	1	12 in	7-1/4 in	3/4 in	1x8
R	Backstop	1	12 in	3-1/2 in	3/4 in	1x4
F	Front lip	1	12 in	1-1/2 in	3/4 in	1x2
S	Side lips	2	5-3/4 in	1-1/2 in	3/4 in	1x2

CUTTING DIAGRAMS

1x8 x 4 ft

13 in used, including 1 in to square the end and 1/8 in per cut



1x4 x 4 ft

13 in used, including 1 in to square the end and 1/8 in per cut



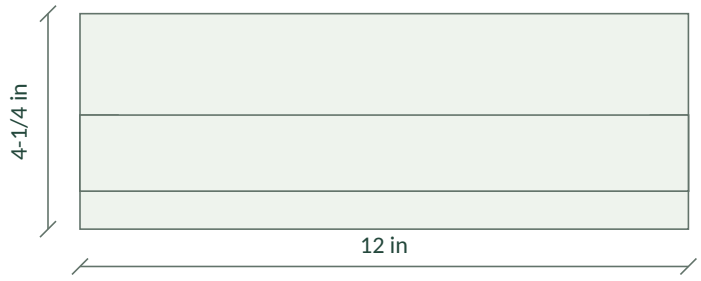
1x2 x 4 ft

24-3/4 in used, including 1 in to square the end and 1/8 in per cut

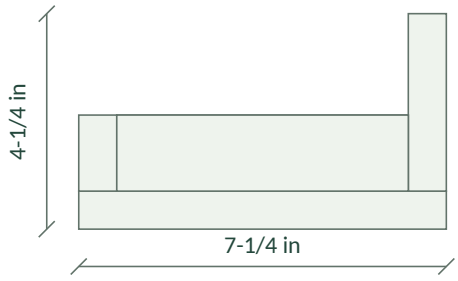


FINISHED SIZE

FRONT



SIDE



The backstop stands on the back edge of the base and the front lip on the front edge. The side lips fit between them. The two cable holes sit 4 and 8 in from the left, 1-3/4 in up.

03 / BUILD

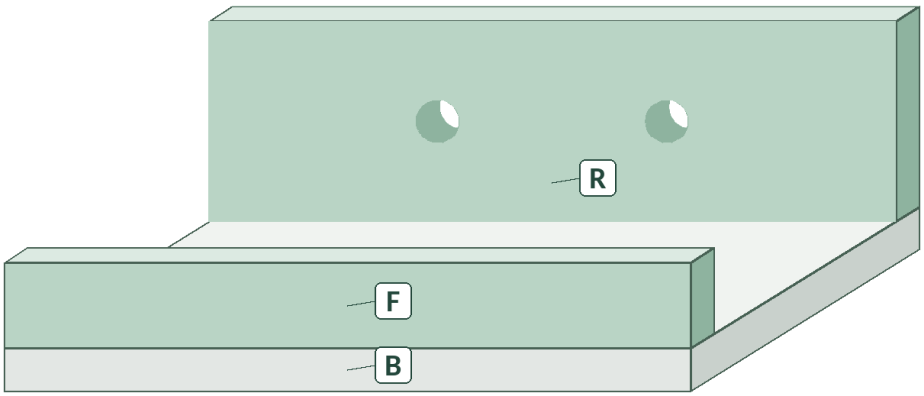
Put it together.

STEP 1 Drill the cable holes

Clamp **R** over scrap and drill two 3/4 in holes through it, 4 and 8 in from the left end and 1-3/4 in up from the bottom edge. Sand the hole edges smooth.

STEP 2 Attach the backstop and front

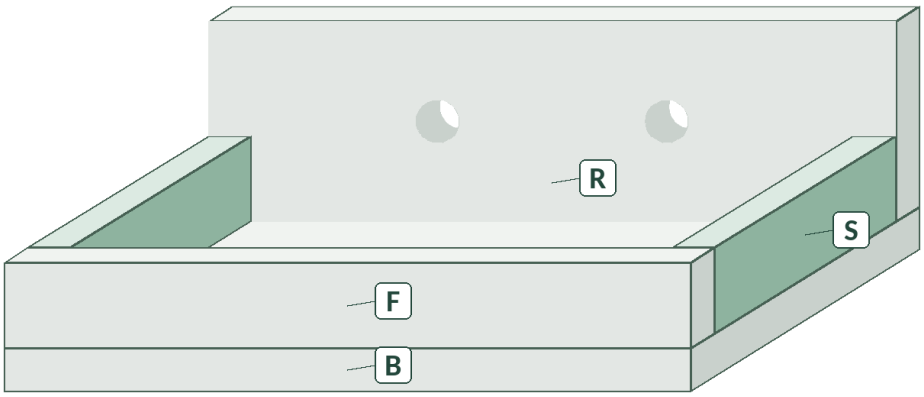
Drill and countersink 3 holes up through **B** along each long edge, centred on where **R** and **F** will stand. Glue their bottom edges, stand them flush at the back and front, and drive 3 screws into each.



GREEN: added in this step | GREY: already in place

STEP 3 Add the sides

Glue each **S** between **F** and **R** on the side edges of the base and drive 2 screws up through **B** into each.



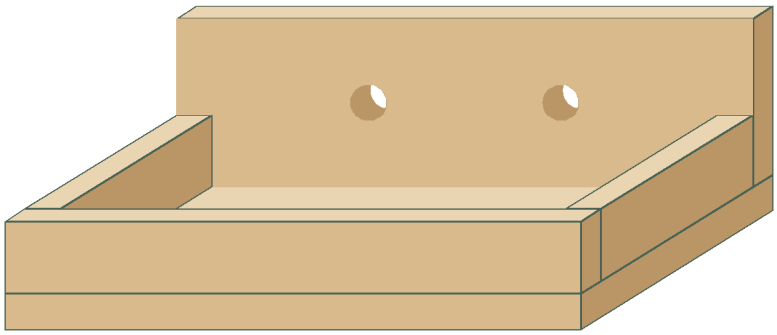
GREEN: added in this step | GREY: already in place

03 / BUILD, CONTINUED

STEP 4

Finish

Sand, round the edges, and apply your finish. Feed the cables through once it is fully dry.



CARE

Keep the chargers and plugs outside the tray where they stay cool, and follow your device makers' charging advice.

Browse more free plans > **Plan your own cut list >** **How to read a plan >**

Dimensions, part counts and cutting layouts were checked digitally. The plan has not been load-tested.