



AN ORIGINAL YOU CAN MAKE YOUR OWN

The Simple Square Planter Cover

A small square sleeve for an ordinary plant pot. Two broad boards on each face give the shape a calm rhythm, with no legs, rim or decorative trim.



12-1/2 in W x 12-1/2 in D x 11 in H

One carefully selected 1x6 x 8 ft board.

Four edge-glued wall panels; open top and open bottom.

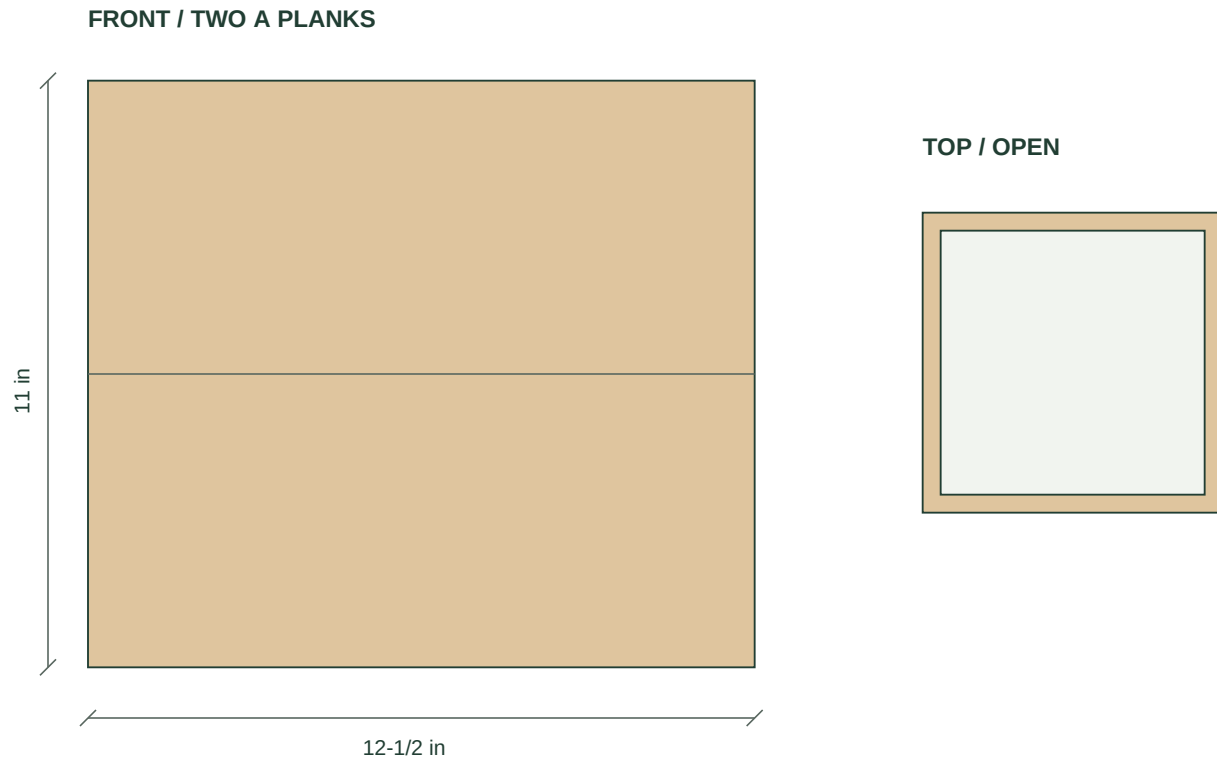
Project visualization. Build to the [dimensioned drawings](#) and [cut list](#).



01 / DIMENSIONS

Simple parts. A different purpose.

Use the dimensions below to plan the build and its final position. Drawings are references; do not scale the page to mark cuts.

**Overall**

12-1/2 in square x 11 in high.

Inside opening

11 x 11 in, with no bottom. Check the pot and saucer together before building.

Four wall panels

Each is two 1x6 planks edge-glued horizontally. A panels are 12-1/2 in wide; B panels are 11 in wide and fit between A.

Plan note: dimensions and stock layouts checked digitally; not physically built or load-tested. No weight capacity is specified.



02 / SHOPPING AND PARTS

Buy the stock. Label every part.

Common indoor pine or whitewood is suitable; no special species is required. Store sizes are nominal. Measure actual thickness and width before setting up the saw and joinery.

BUY	QUANTITY / NOTES
1x6 x 8 ft	1 full-length board; actual 3/4 x 5-1/2 in. The layout is close: verify usable length, end condition and kerf before cutting.
Pocket screws	16 x #8 x 1-1/4 in coarse-thread pocket screws for softwood, plus spares.
Separate pot	An indoor nursery pot and watertight saucer/liner fitting within the 11 x 11 in opening; allow clearance. They rest on the floor, not on this sleeve.
Other supplies	Interior wood glue, sandpaper and a moisture-resistant interior finish; use as directed by its maker.

CUT LIST

FINISHED SIZES / INCHES

ID	PART	QTY	STOCK	LENGTH	WIDTH	THICKNESS
A	Front / back planks	4	1x6	12-1/2	5-1/2	3/4
B	Side planks	4	1x6	11	5-1/2	3/4

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.

Tools

Tape, square, pencil, supported crosscut saw, drill/driver, clamps, sander, and suitable eye/hearing/dust protection. Pocket-hole jig and bits; clamps and protected cauls for flat panel glue-ups. A plane or shop edge-preparation service may be needed.



03 / CUT AND PREPARE

A clear layout before the first cut.

Each strip is a stock board. Labels show part ID and length in inches. Allow a 1/8 in kerf; square an end first and measure every cut from its new end.

1x6 x 96 in

A / 12-1/2	A / 12-1/2	A / 12-1/2	A / 12-1/2	B / 11	B / 11	B / 11	B / 11	
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1

Plan cuts for front/back planks (A) and sides (B)

The eight lengths total 94 in. Eight 1/8 in kerfs use another 1 in, leaving only 1 in for squaring and damaged ends. Measure the actual board and saw kerf first. If it does not provide that usable length, buy extra stock rather than shortening the plan parts.

2

Cut and label all A and B planks

Cut four A at 12-1/2 in and four B at 11 in, retaining the full 5-1/2 in width. Match grain for each two-board face. Mark outside, inside and upper edges; do not use badly cupped or split stock.

3

Glue A and B into four wall panels

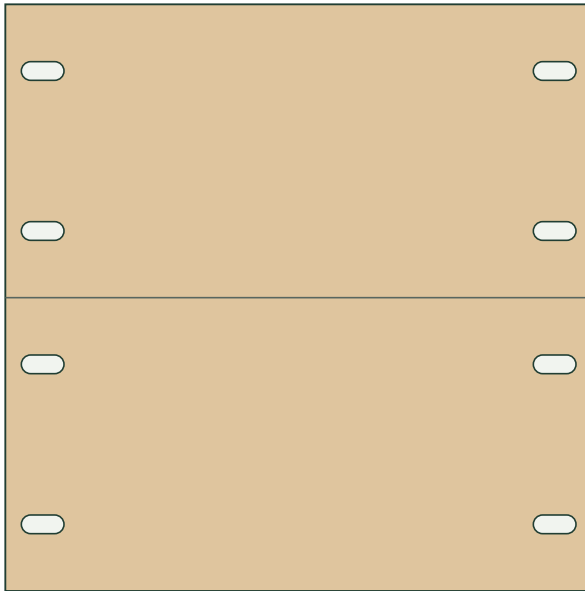
Edge-glue two A planks into each 12-1/2 x 11 in front/back panel. Edge-glue two B planks into each 11 x 11 in side panel. Edges must mate without forced gaps. Clamp on a flat protected surface, keep faces flush and follow full glue cure directions. Significant width loss from edge preparation requires revising panel heights consistently.



Choose the fixing. Check the fit.

The enlarged sketch shows the relevant joint or hole locations. Use the labelled parts and actual stock thickness; test the fixing on matching scrap before assembly.

B / INSIDE FACE



Four pockets per end.
Avoid the centre glue seam.

A receives the screw tips.

4 Drill side panels (B) for pocket joints

Use #8 x 1-1/4 in coarse-thread pocket screws for the specified softwood, with a head approved for the jig. Set jig and stop collar for the actual 3/4 in stock. Test on matching offcuts, clamp square and drive at low clutch torque; check for splitting, stripping and projecting tips. Put pockets on the INSIDE of each B panel, four at each vertical end. Centres from the panel bottom: 1-1/4, 4-1/4, 6-3/4 and 9-3/4 in. These avoid the central glue seam. Eight screws per side panel; A receives the screw tips.

5 Join both side panels (B) to the first A panel

Stand the panels in their final upright orientation. B fits BETWEEN the front/back A panels; its ends meet their inside faces. Glue the B front ends lightly, clamp square and flush at the outside edges, then fasten four screws per side into the first A panel.

[Pocket-screw selector](#)



05 / ASSEMBLE AND FINISH

Keep it square. Finish it simply.

Support the work while turning or clamping it. Keep parts on their marked reference faces, and follow glue and finish curing directions before installation or use.

6

Close the square with the second A panel

Glue the remaining B ends, fit the second A panel, clamp square and fasten the other eight screws. Align upper and lower edges. Check 12-1/2 in outside dimensions, 11 in inside opening and matching diagonals. There is no bottom or upper rim to add.

7

Ease edges and finish A/B walls

Ease exposed edges lightly by hand, leaving joining faces square. Sand with 120 then 180 grit as appropriate and remove dust. Test the finish on an offcut. Follow its preparation, ventilation, application and full cure directions. Coat inside, outside and exposed edges with the selected interior finish, allowing its full cure. A finish does not make the sleeve a watertight planter or protect the floor from a leaking saucer.

8

Fit the separate pot and liner

Set the cured sleeve on a level indoor surface. Place the plant pot in its own watertight saucer or liner within the opening, with clearance from the wooden walls. The pot weight must rest on the floor/support surface. Do not fill the wooden sleeve with soil or pour water into it.

Detail to keep in mind

Each visible face is a complete two-board wall panel. Drill pockets into the two B side panels only; the four hole heights avoid the 5-1/2 in glue seam. The bottom remains fully open so water and pot weight are not carried by a wooden base.

**06 / FINAL CHECK**

Ready for its place in the room.

Check the completed project and its fixings before putting it into everyday use. Correct any loose, split or sharp part before loading.

9**Inspect all A/B joints and the placement**

Check the sleeve is square, stable and free of sharp edges, open seams, split boards and projecting screws. Correct defects before use. Remove the pot before lifting the sleeve; it is a decorative cover, not a pot carrier.

Use and care

Indoor decorative use only. Water the plant outside the sleeve when practical, dry spills promptly and inspect the saucer and floor regularly. Do not sit, stand or stack heavy items on the sleeve. Repair loose or split joints before reuse.

Part reminder

A - Front / back planks / **B** - Side planks

Questions? service@grainbench.com