GRAINBENCH ORIGINAL | CONFIDENT BEGINNER

The Kitchen Recipe Box

A small lift-off-lid box for 4 x 6 or 3 x 5 recipe cards. Two cleats under the lid keep it centred, and a plywood bottom is glued on underneath.



SIZE	SKILL	TIME	JOINERY
9 in wide, 6 in deep, 6-1/4 in tall	Confident beginner	About 2 to 3 hours, plus finish drying	Pocket screws, glue and brads

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01 / MATERIALS AND TOOLS

What to buy.

LUMBER AND SHEET GOODS

BUY	USED FOR
1 x 1x6 board, 4 ft	F front and back, S ends
1 x 1x2 board, 4 ft (or an offcut at least 8-1/8 in long)	C lid cleats
1 x 1/4 plywood, 2 ft x 2 ft panel (or an offcut at least 6 x 9 in)	B bottom
1 x 1/2 plywood, 2 ft x 2 ft panel (or an offcut at least 6 x 9 in)	T lid

The plywood pieces are small, so offcuts of 1/4 in and 1/2 in plywood work perfectly.

HARDWARE AND SUPPLIES

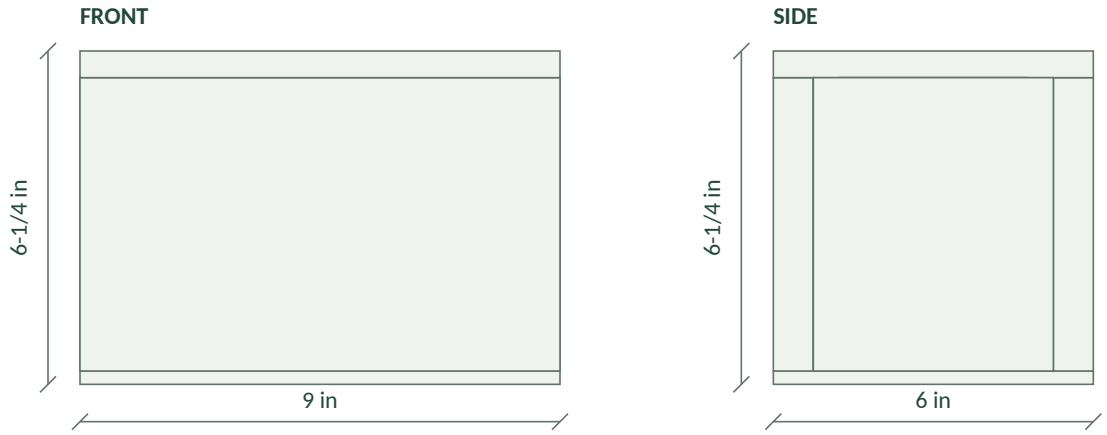
ITEM	AMOUNT
1-1/4 in coarse-thread pocket-hole screws	8, plus a few spares
3/4 in brads	About 12, for the bottom
Knob	1 small knob (about 1 in) with a screw short enough for a 1/2 in lid, usually 3/4 in
Wood glue	Small bottle of interior wood glue
Sandpaper	120 and 180 grit
Finish	About 250 mL (half a pint) of paint, stain or clear water-based polyurethane

01 / MATERIALS, CONTINUED

TOOLS

- Saw for straight crosscuts: mitre saw, or circular saw with a speed square
- Pocket-hole jig set for 3/4 in stock, with its stepped bit and a #2 square driver bit
- Drill/driver
- Tape measure, pencil and a combination or speed square
- 2 clamps that open to at least 12 in
- Hammer and nail set, or a brad nailer
- Sander or sanding block
- Safety glasses and hearing protection

FINISHED SIZE



The ends S fit between the front and back F. The bottom is glued and nailed under the walls, and the two cleats under the lid drop just inside the walls to keep the lid in place.

02 / CUT LIST

Cut the parts.

Cut the walls F and S, the bottom B and the lid T square. B and T are both 9 x 6 in; check their diagonals.

ID	PART	QTY	LENGTH	WIDTH	THICK	FROM
F	Front and back	2	9 in	5-1/2 in	3/4 in	1x6
S	Ends	2	4-1/2 in	5-1/2 in	3/4 in	1x6
B	Bottom	1	9 in	6 in	1/4 in	1/4 plywood
T	Lid	1	9 in	6 in	1/2 in	1/2 plywood
C	Lid cleats	2	3-1/2 in	1-1/2 in	3/4 in	1x2

CUTTING DIAGRAMS

1x6 x 4 ft

28-3/8 in used, including 1 in to square the end and 1/8 in per cut



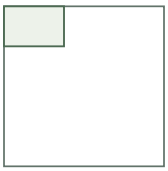
1x2 x 4 ft

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



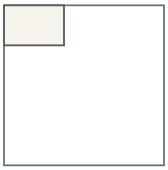
1/4 plywood, 2 ft x 2 ft

Long edge runs left to right. Allow 1/8 in between parts for the saw.



1/2 plywood, 2 ft x 2 ft

Long edge runs left to right. Allow 1/8 in between parts for the saw.



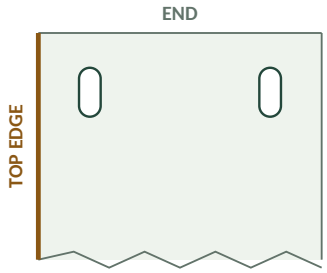
03 / BUILD

Put it together.

STEP 1 Drill the pocket holes

Drill 2 pocket holes at each end of both **S** on the inside face, 1 in from the top and bottom edges.

S **Ends**
Inside face

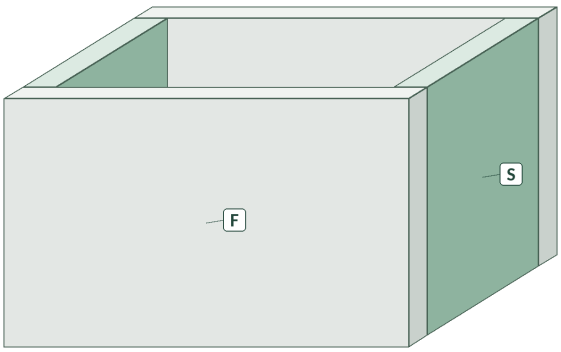


Same at the other end
2 at each end | 8 total
1, 4-1/2 in from top edge

Ovals = pocket-hole entries, enlarged. Not a drilling template.

STEP 2 Build the walls

Glue the ends of each **S** and clamp them between the two **F**, flush at the top, bottom and outside. Drive 8 screws and check the box is square.

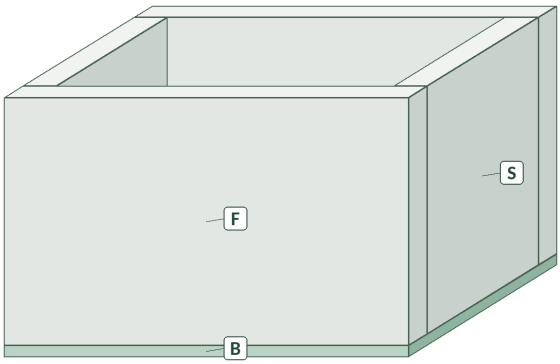


GREEN: added in this step | GREY: already in place

STEP 3

Add the bottom

Spread glue on the bottom edges of the walls, set the box on **B** with the edges flush all round, and nail the bottom on with brads about every 2 in.

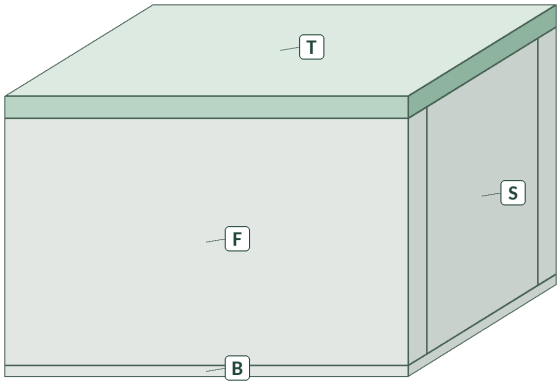


GREEN: added in this step | GREY: already in place

STEP 4

Make the lid

Lay **T** face down. Glue the two **C** to its underside, running front to back, 1 in in from each end and 1-1/4 in in from the front and back edges. Clamp until dry. Check that the lid drops on without binding, then drill a hole in the centre of the top for the knob.

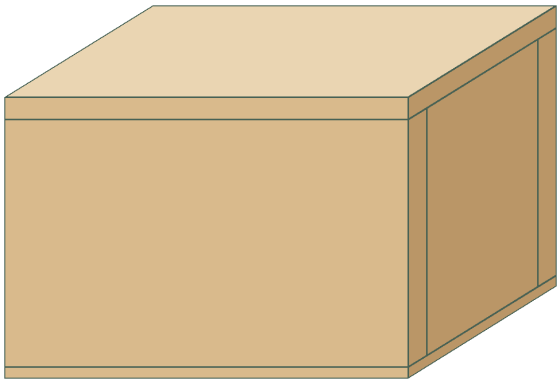


GREEN: added in this step | GREY: already in place

STEP 5

Finish

Sand, ease the edges, apply your finish, and screw on the knob.



03 / BUILD, CONTINUED

CARE

Keep it dry and lift the box by its base, not by the lid.

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