GRAINBENCH ORIGINAL | CONFIDENT BEGINNER

The Open Slat Laundry Hamper

A tall, airy hamper with five rows of 1x3 slats on corner posts and a plywood floor. A fabric liner keeps clothes off the wood.



SIZE	SKILL	TIME	JOINERY
18 in wide, 14 in deep, 25-1/2 in tall	Confident beginner	About 5 to 6 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 2x2 board, 8 ft	P corner posts
1 x 2x2 board, 4 ft (or an offcut at least 26 in long)	P corner posts
3 x 1x3 board, 8 ft	E end slats, L long slats
1 x 1x3 board, 4 ft	E end slats
1 x 1x2 board, 4 ft	C floor cleats
1 x 1/2 plywood, 2 ft x 2 ft panel	B floor

The posts are cut to 25 in for 1/2 in plywood. If your plywood is thinner or thicker, make them 25-1/2 in minus its actual thickness so they finish flush with the top slats.

HARDWARE AND SUPPLIES

ITEM	AMOUNT
#8 x 1-1/2 in flathead wood screws	80, plus a few spares
#6 x 1-1/4 in flathead wood screws	14, plus a few spares
Wood glue	Small bottle of interior wood glue
Sandpaper	120 and 180 grit
Finish	About 1 L (1 quart) of paint, stain or clear water-based polyurethane
Fabric liner	A removable cloth laundry liner about 16 x 12 in

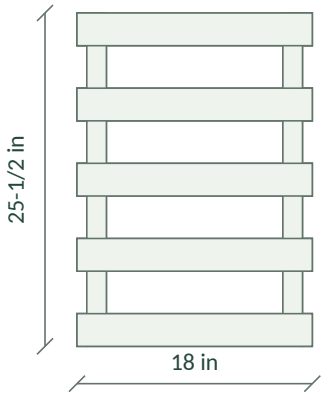
01 / MATERIALS, CONTINUED

TOOLS

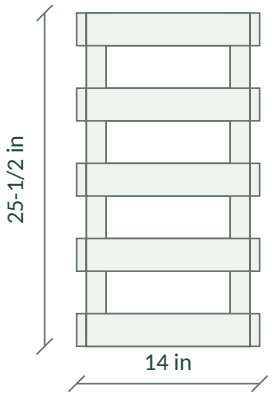
- Saw for straight crosscuts: mitre saw, or circular saw with a speed square
- Drill/driver with a countersink bit
- Tape measure, pencil and a combination or speed square
- 2 clamps that open to at least 18 in
- Sander or sanding block
- Safety glasses and hearing protection
- Spacers: a 1/2 in scrap and two 3-1/4 in blocks

FINISHED SIZE

FRONT



SIDE



Five rows of slats sit 0, 5-3/4, 11-1/2, 17-1/4 and 23 in up, leaving 3-1/4 in gaps. The posts stand inside each corner on top of the floor and finish flush with the top slats.

02 / CUT LIST

Cut the parts.

Measure the plywood first and cut the posts P to suit. Cut all the slats of each length at once so they match.

ID	PART	QTY	LENGTH	WIDTH	THICK	FROM
P	Corner posts	4	25 in	1-1/2 in	1-1/2 in	2x2
L	Long slats	10	18 in	2-1/2 in	3/4 in	1x3
E	End slats	10	12-1/2 in	2-1/2 in	3/4 in	1x3
B	Floor	1	16-1/2 in	12-1/2 in	1/2 in	1/2 plywood
C	Floor cleats	2	13-1/2 in	1-1/2 in	3/4 in	1x2

CUTTING DIAGRAMS

2x2 x 8 ft — 76-1/4 in used, including 1 in to square the end and 1/8 in per cut



2x2 x 4 ft — 26 in used, including 1 in to square the end and 1/8 in per cut



1x3 x 8 ft — 91-1/2 in used, including 1 in to square the end and 1/8 in per cut



1x3 x 8 ft — 91-1/2 in used, including 1 in to square the end and 1/8 in per cut



1x3 x 8 ft — 89-1/4 in used, including 1 in to square the end and 1/8 in per cut



1x3 x 4 ft — 38-3/4 in used, including 1 in to square the end and 1/8 in per cut



02 / CUT LIST, CONTINUED

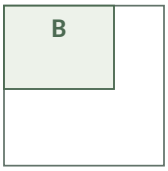
1x2 x 4 ft

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



1/2 plywood, 2 ft x 2 ft

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

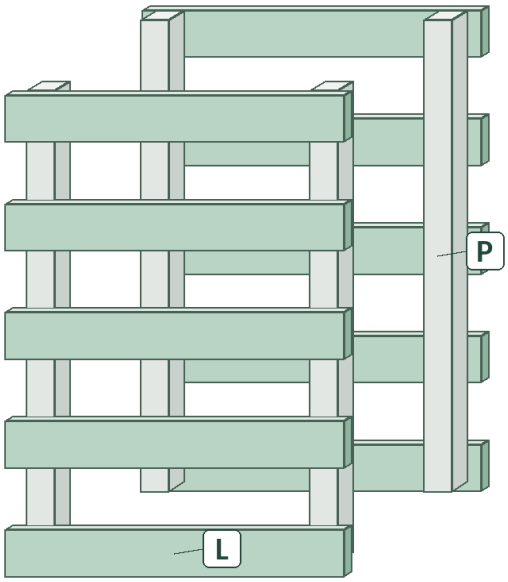


03 / BUILD

Put it together.

STEP 1 Build the front and back

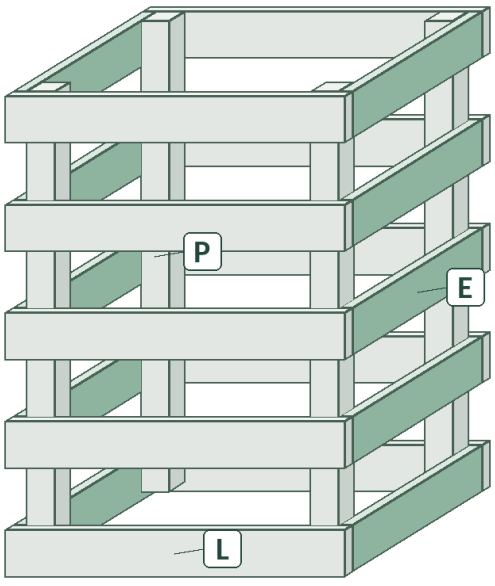
Lay two **P** on a 1/2 in spacer and place five **L** across them, using the 3-1/4 in blocks to set the gaps. Glue each contact and drive 2 screws per post, 1 and 1-3/4 in up from each slat's bottom edge. Make the back the same way.



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

STEP 2 Add the ends

Stand the front and back up and fit the **E** slats between them at the same heights. Glue and drive 2 screws per post, this time 1-1/4 and 2 in up from each slat's bottom so they miss the first set. Check it is square.



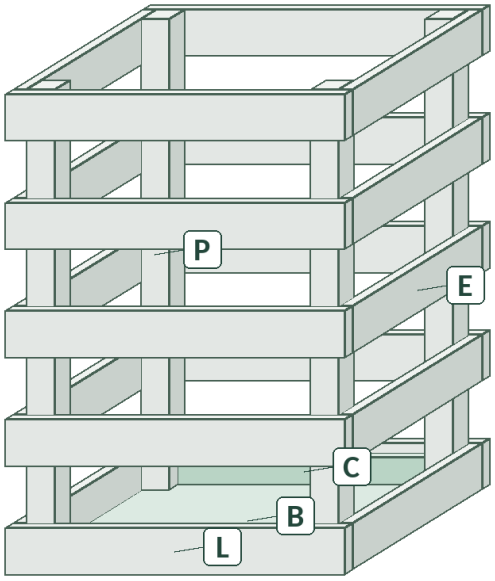
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03 / BUILD, CONTINUED

STEP 3

Fit the cleats and floor

Fit each **C** inside the bottom long slat between the posts, 1/2 in up from the bottom, and screw through the slat into it with 4 screws. Turn the hamper over, drop **B** in below the cleats and drive 3 screws up into each.

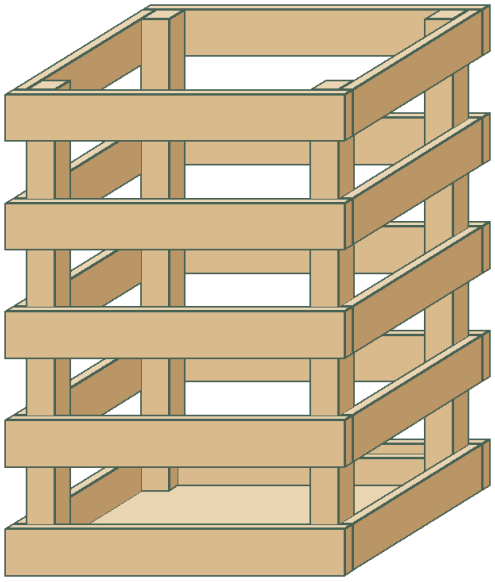


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STEP 4

Finish

Sand every slat edge smooth so nothing snags clothes, apply your finish, and drop in the liner.



CARE

For dry laundry. Empty it before moving and lift from underneath.

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