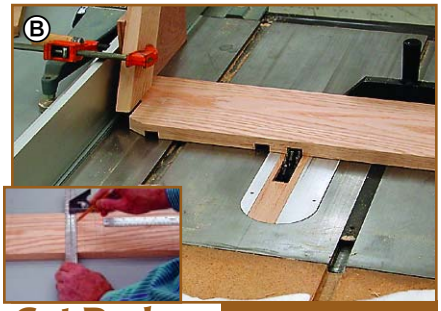
Media Case

By Bob Chapla

This media case was designed primarily to house CD's, but it will satisfy storage requirements for DVD's, VCR tapes, and a knick-knack or two. Fold-out shelves help the organizing process, and the case closes to provide a near dust-free environment.

Cut Rabbet

Step 1 Cut the sides (A) to the dimensions given in the material list. Cut a ⅜"-wide by ¼"-deep rabbet on the inside back edge of each side, as shown in photo A.



Cut Dadoes

Step 2 Measure and mark on the inside of the sides (A) the spacing for a series of eleven ¾"-wide by ⅜"-deep dadoes, as shown in photo B inset. The first dado is 2" from the top, and the second is 6" below it. Then there is a sequence of 1¾" and 6" spacings. The final dado is 5" below the last of these, and 2" from the bottom end. Cut the dadoes, as shown in photo B.

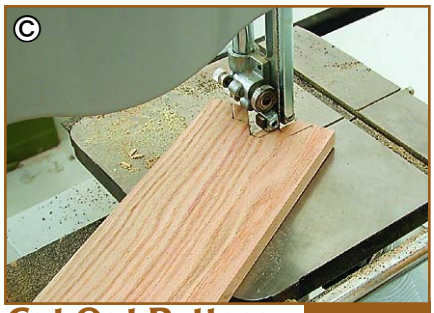
Material List

		T x W x L
A	sides (4) (oak)*	¾" x 6" x 48"
B	top and bottom shelves (4) (oak)	¾" x 6" x 10¾"
C	middle shelves (10) (oak)	¾" x 5¾" x 10¾"
D	pull-out shelves (8) (oak)	¾" x 5½" x 10 11⁄16"
E	flip-down trays (8) (oak)	¾" x 5½" x 9½"
F	top trim pieces (2) (oak)*	¾" x 3¾" x 10¾"
G	handles (2) (oak)*	¾" x 2½" x 12"
H	back (2) (oak plywood)	¼" x 10¾" x 42⅞"
I	top trim inlay (4) (wenge)	⅛" x ¾" x 4¼"
J	handle inlay (8) (wenge)	⅛" x ¾" x 3¼"
K	tray trim (8) (wenge)	5⁄16" x ½" x 3⅞"

Supply List

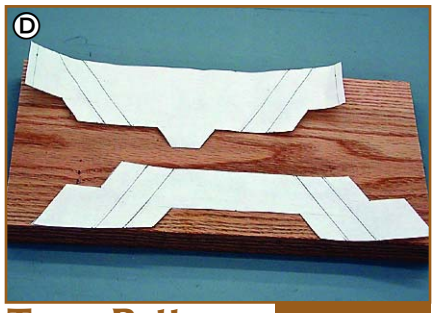
L	dowel plugs (8) (wenge)	⅜" diam. x ⅜"
M	wood screws (8)	#6 x 1¼"
N	piano hinge (1) (brass)	1½" x 36"
O	piano hinge (8) (brass)	1 1⁄16" x 8"
P	self-adhesive cork pads (16)	½" Shepard surface guard
Q	wood glue	

***Patterns needed for this project are located in pattern packet.**



Cut Out Patterns

Step 3 Find the side top and bottom patterns in the pattern packet. Cut them out on the band saw, as shown in photo C. Be careful that the dadoes are on the inside face and that the top end of the side corresponds to the proper dado spacing. An alternative approach would be to cut the end patterns, then cut the dadoes, which would mean reversing steps 2 and 3.



Trace Patterns

Step 4 Cut the top trim pieces (F) and the handles (G) to the dimensions given in the material list. Find the patterns for the top trim and handle in the pattern packet, and trace onto the wood, as shown in photo D. Grain direction is important on these pieces, so you may find it helpful to make copies of the patterns onto a transparent media like mylar or tracing paper. This allows for visibility of the wood.

Miter and Cut

Step 5 Cut out the handle patterns on the band saw, using a wide blade to minimize sanding. The handle is best cut using a combination of miter saw for the outside corners, then band saw for the rest, as shown in photo E and its inset. Sand all the cut edges smooth.

Step 6 The top trim pieces (F) are cut out on the band saw as shown in photo F. Sand the edges smooth.

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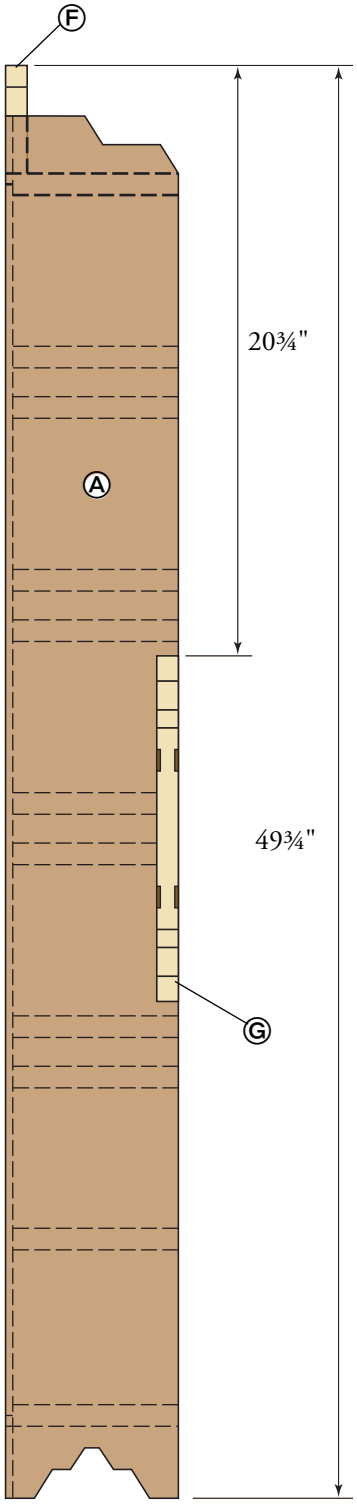
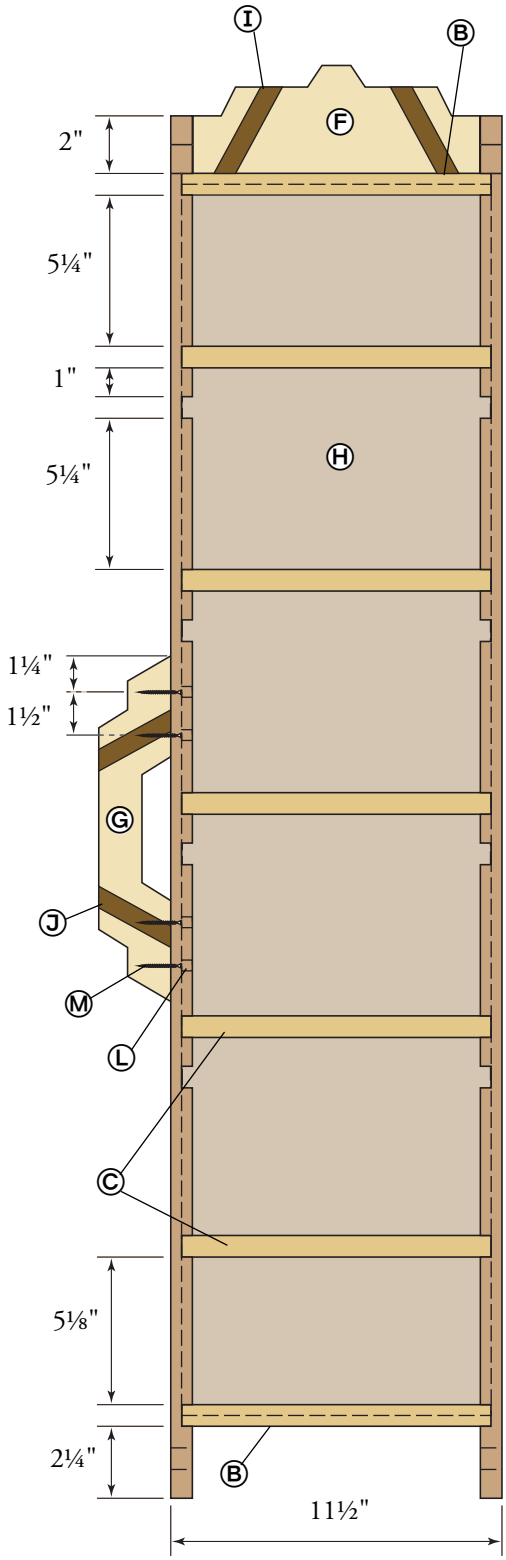
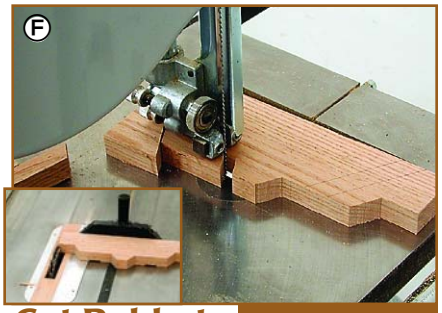


Side View

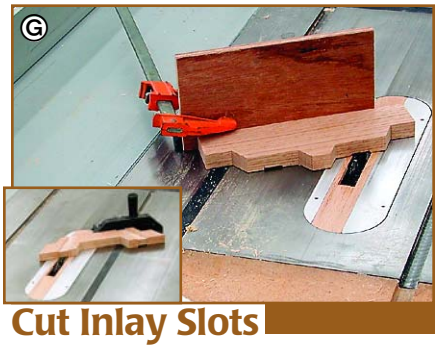


Front View



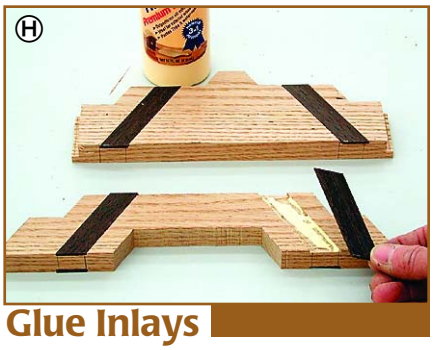
Cut Rabbets

Step 7 Cut a ⅜"-wide by ½"-deep rabbet on the front edges of both ends of the top trim piece (F), as shown in photo F inset. The ⅜"-wide by ¼"-thick tab that is left will fit into the rabbet cut in step 1 on the back edge of the sides (A).



Cut Inlay Slots

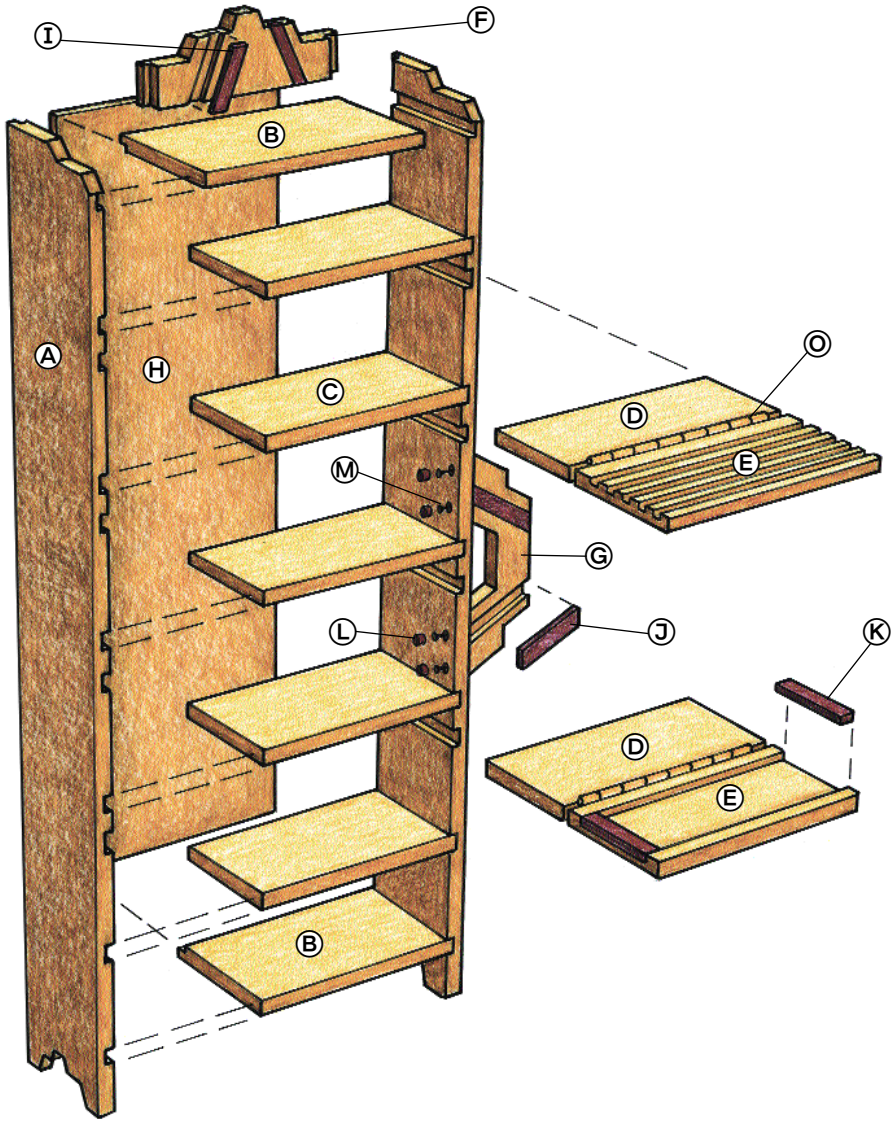
Step 8 Using stacked dado blades totaling ¾" in width, cut ⅛"-deep slots at 30 degrees and ¾" from the bottom outside front edges of the top trim pieces (F), as shown in photo G. A similar cut is made on the handles (G), but at 1½" from the outside edges and on both the front and back, as shown in photo G inset.

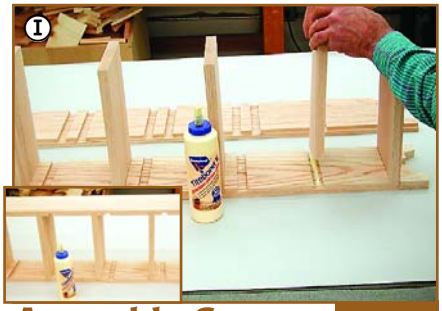


Glue Inlays

Step 9 Cut the top trim inlay (I) and the handle inlay (J) to the dimensions given in the material list. Trim to fit in the slots cut in step 8, and glue in place, as shown in photo H.

Exploded View





Assemble Carcase

Step 10 Cut the top and bottom shelves (B) to the dimensions given in the material list. Cut a ¼"-deep by ⅜"-wide rabbet in the back edge of each.

Step 11 Cut the middle shelves (C) to the dimensions given in the material list.

Step 12 Assemble the carcase of the case using glue (Q), as shown in photo I and inset. Place the top and bottom shelves in position, making sure that the rabbet is placed in the rear to receive the back. The middle shelves are placed in the upper of the double dado, leaving the lower empty to receive the pull-out shelves.

Glue and Nail

Step 13 Cut the back (H) to the dimensions given in the material list. Attach it to the carcase with glue and brads, fitting it into the pre-cut dadoes, as shown in photo J.

Attach Top

Step 14 Attach the top trim piece (F) with glue, as shown in photo K. The tab will fit into the pre-cut dado on the top of the sides.

Attach Handles

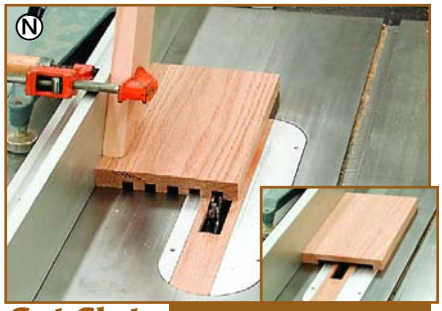
Step 15 Glue and clamp the handles into place on the carcase, as shown in photo L. The bottom of the handle should be 17" from the bottom of the cabinet side, with the first screw hole 1" above. A second screw hole is drilled 1½" above the first. A second pair of holes is drilled 7" above into the other part of the handle. Attach with screws

Glue and Plug

(M), the heads of which are inset ⅜".

Step 16 Cut plugs (L) to the dimensions given in the material list. Glue into place over the inset handle screw heads, as shown in photo M. Sand the plugs flush.

Step 17 Cut the flip-down trays (E) to the dimensions given in the material list. These can be custom cut to

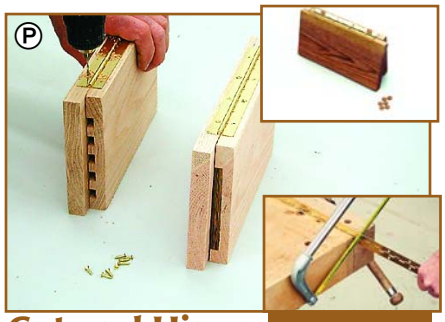


Cut Slots

your particular needs. To hold CD's, cut a series of five 7/16"-wide by 5/16"-deep grooves across the length of the tray, starting 9/16" from the front edge and 7/16" apart, as shown in photo N. For a handy snack (or hold anything) tray, remove the 7/16"-wide material left standing between the slots, as shown in photo N inset.

Attach Trim

Step 18 Cut the tray trim (K) to the dimensions given in the material list. After the material is removed from the snack type flip-down tray, as described in step 17, the trim can be glued onto the ends, as shown in photo O. The use and location of your case should dictate how these trays are designed.



Cut and Hinge

Step 19 Cut the pull-out shelves (D) to the dimensions given in the material list. Cut the piano hinge (O) into eight 8" lengths with a hack saw, as shown in photo P lower inset. Hinge the pull-out shelves and flip-down trays together in pairs, as shown in photo P.

Step 20 Attach a pair of self-adhesive cork pads (P) to the hinge, as

Attach Hinge

shown in photo P upper inset, to help level the flip-down tray.

Step 21 Flush the cabinets together face-to-face and attach the piano hinge (N), as shown in photo Q.

Step 22 The wood was left natural with a satin polyurethane finish to match a stereo cabinet. Oil and wax would be a fine alternative. **WW**

Customize Flip-Down Trays

The trays that flip down off the pull-out shelves can be designed to suit your particular needs. One of the trays in this case is cut with slots to hold CD's in a slightly slanted position, as shown in the photo. The other tray can function as a mini-end table. Decide what works for you and adapt as needed!