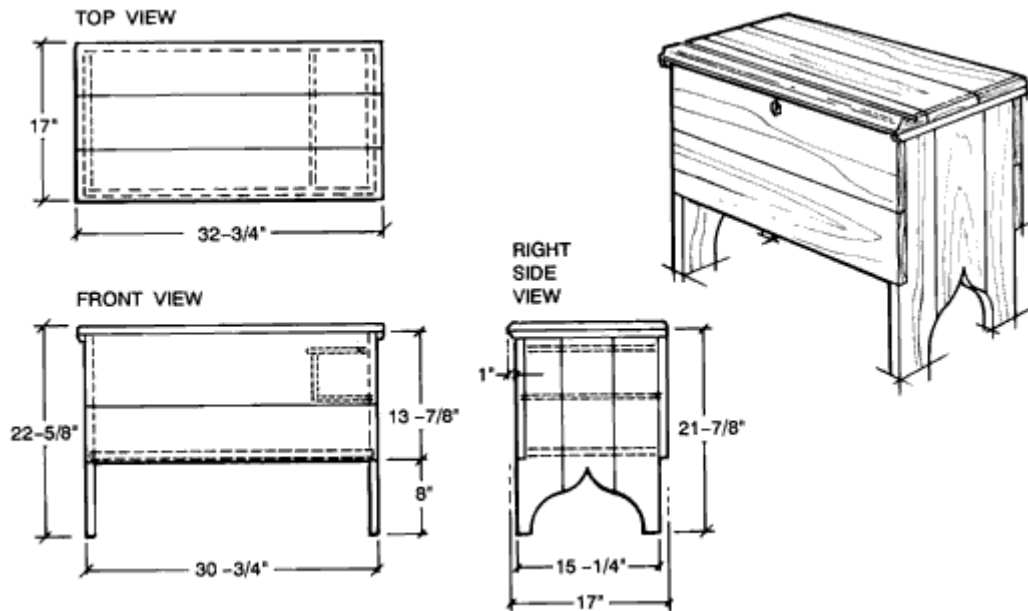


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# **PINE BLANKET CHEST**

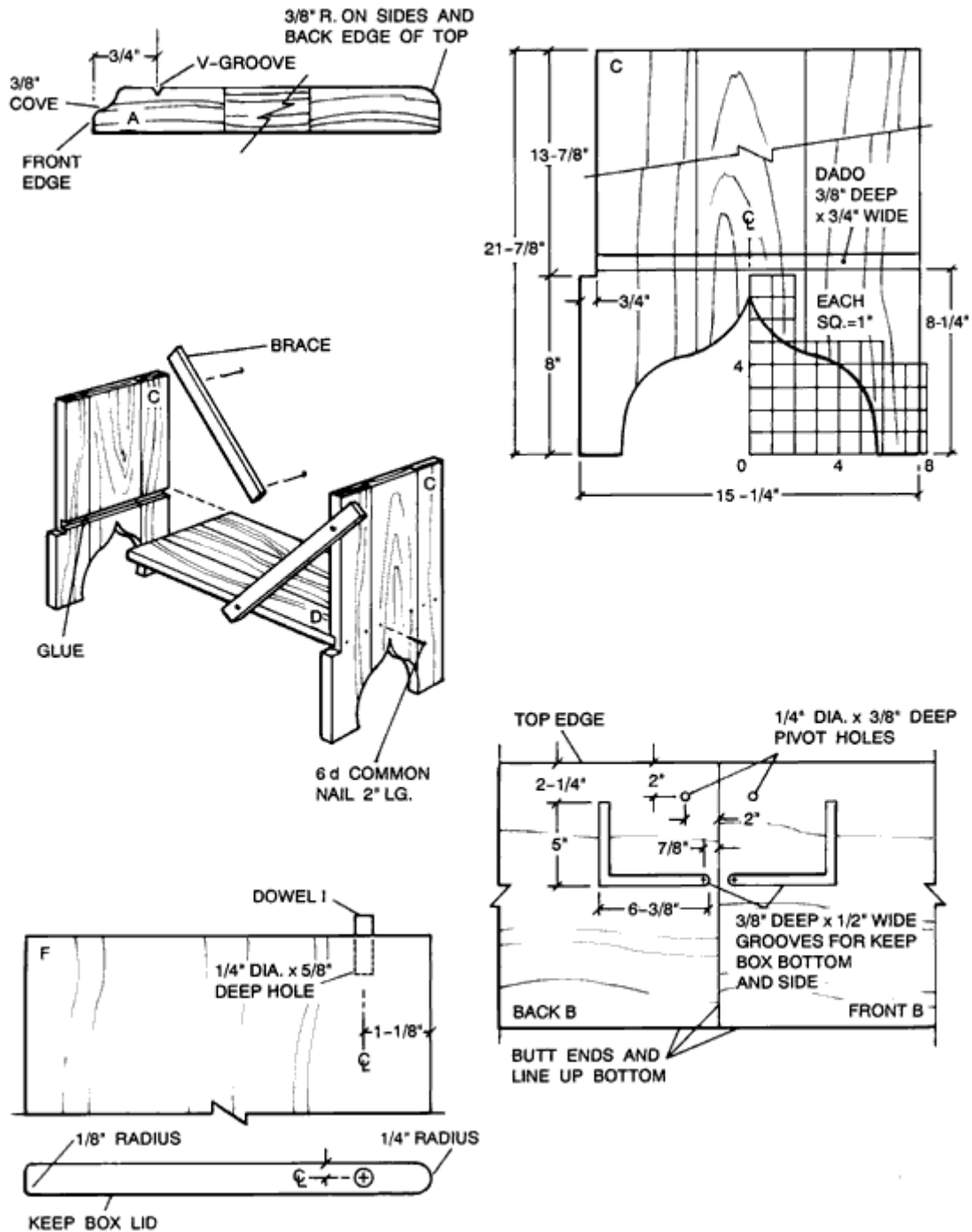




### Steps for building the Pine Blanket Chest:

1. Cut all parts to size (see the cutting list); note that Parts A, B, C and D are initially cut slightly over-length to make edge-joining easier. Using glue and no. 20 biscuits, join the boards to make up six members (front, back, ends, bottom and top): use bar clamps to keep all sections tightly joined while the glue dries. The next day, these parts can be cut to their actual sizes, as shown in the drawing.
2. Shape the front edge of top A with a cove cutter chucked in the router. Then, replace the cove cutter with a V-groove cutter to rout the shallow V-cut along the front edge as shown. Finally, switch to a 3/8-in. rounding-over bit to shape the ends and back edges of top, A.
3. Lay out the leg shape on 1/4-in. plywood or hardboard and cut it out. Sand the cut edges smooth to remove any irregularities left by the saw blade. Set the pattern aside for use in Step 5.
4. Position the end panels back-edge to back-edge with inside surfaces up. With a framing square, check across leg bottoms to make certain they are perfectly aligned. When they are, apply light pressure with a bar clamp to hold them in place. Then, lay out the location of the dado, which will receive the bottom member, on the interior surfaces. After determining the router shoe offset (i.e.; the distance from cutter edge to shoe edge) with the 3/4-in. straight cutter in its chuck, clamp or tack a straightedge to serve as a guide for ploughing the dado across both boards at one time.
5. Next, tack the two end pieces together, with inside surfaces (the planes with dadoes) abutting. Trace the leg pattern onto the top member. Cut out the notch at front using a band saw or handsaws (rip and crosscut). Then, cut out the leg shape using either a saber or scroll saw.
6. After all chest parts have been cut to shape and size, plane the surfaces to remove any squeezeout where boards are joined. Smooth all boards beginning with 100-grit sandpaper and finish with 120-grit.
7. Cut the parts for the Keep Box to size.
8. Then, position the chest front and back members edge-to-edge (i.e.; the front's right edge should abut the back member's left edge, with their top edges aligned) so the grooves to receive the Keep Box front and bottom panels can be laid out. Rout grooves 3/8-in. deep using a 1/2-in. straight cutter; make certain you also use tacked-on guides to prevent the router from "walking off" the cutting line when you rout. At this time, also lay out and bore the blind holes, which will receive the lid's dowel hinges.
9. Round over the front edge of the Keep Box lid and bore the dowel holes. Glue-in the dowel "hinges."
10. Final pre-assembly step; shape the cleats as shown, bore the screw pilot and countersink holes and attach cleats to the underside of the top using glue and wood screws, as shown.

**Cabinetmaker's Tip:** Notice the shape (cross-section view) of these cleats. You will find it easier to obtain this shape if you chamfer cleats before installing them on the top.



### Assembling the Pine Chest

11. Fasten the back to the chest bottom and legs using glue and 1-1/2 in. common nails. (Nail heads should be set slightly below the surface after the cabinet is fully assembled.)
12. Lay the carcass on its back and install the Keep Box bottom and front into the slots in the carcass back, without glue. If necessary, apply clamp pressure to ensure that these parts are fully seated in their slots. Nail Keep Box front to bottom front using 1-1/4 in. brads.
13. Apply glue to front edges of chest legs and bottom and install front with Keep Box parts positioned in the slots in front member and the lid dowel hinge placed in its respective hole. When all is in place, fasten front to carcass with glue and nails.
14. Stand the chest upright and put the top in place. Then, mark and cut the hinge mortises in both top and back members.
15. Locate the position for the false keyhole at front; bore a small hole, about 1/4-in. deep. Paint the hole interior black or, use a permanent black ink marker.
16. Install hinges and the keyhole escutcheon plate so you can make certain that carcass and top align. Make any necessary adjustments if they do not. When satisfied with the fit, remove the hardware so you can move on to the next step--finishing.

