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Teddy Bear Bank



coins), fit the shaft with its dowels and end plates, glue-fix the bear to the top of the box, run the control cords down into the box and then variously tie the cords to the spring or shaft.

MATERIALS LIST—

MAKING THE TEDDY BEAR BANK

Having studied the working drawings for making the box and carefully selected your wood, set out the various dimensions and cut out the ten component parts—the four sides, the base, the top and the four inside-corner fillets. Cut the rabbets at the corners and glue up. Round over the edges of the base and lid with a quarter-curve profile and fit with countersunk screws.

Trace the side-view profile of the bear through to your chosen wood—best if it's a soft easy-to-carve timber like lime, jelutong or basswood—and cut it out on the scroll saw. Rerun this procedure for the front views. You should finish up with six parts—the head, the body, two arms

and two legs. Drill 1/2"-diameter holes down through the body, up into the head, through the shoulder and into the arm, and fit stubs of 1/2"-dowel for the neck and for the jointed arm.

When you have made the basic parts for the bear, use a knife to swiftly whittle the cutouts to shape. Don't try for anything fancy, just go for uncomplicated and stylized chunky forms.

Finally, having first used a scalpel and sandpaper to tidy up and create a good finish, use a dash of black acrylic paint to detail the nose, eyes and mouth.

PUTTING IT TOGETHER

Once you have made the box and all the parts that go to make the bear, then comes the difficult task of putting the whole thing together. It's not so much that any single stage is difficult, but that everything has got to be just right. If one of the control strings is too slack, or the shaft is too tight, or whatever, then the movement won't work.

Start by running 1/16"-diameter holes through the neck and arm stubs. The neck needs a side-to-side hole for the pivot and a front-to-back hole for the control cords, while the arm needs a single front-to-back through-hole for both the control cords and the pivot strings. In essence, the controls are beautifully simple. There are four cords—one to pull the head down, one to pull the head up, one to pull the arm down and one to pull the arm up. And of course, depending upon how you want the action to go, fix either the "up" or the "down" cords to a lightweight tension "pulling" spring so the lever action becomes the positive movement.

Finally, when you are happy with the movement, cut two slots in the box (one for the lever and one for the

TEDDY BEAR

A Head (1)	2" × 2" × 2"
B Body (1)	2" × 2" × 3"
C Arms (2)	1" × 3/4" × 3"
D Legs (2)	3/4" × 2" × 3"

Note that all the above pieces are oversize and allow for cutting waste.

BOX

E Front (2)	3" × 4 1/4" × 6 1/2"
F Shaft plates (2)	1/4" × 2" × 2"
G Top (1)	1/2" × 5 1/2" × 7 1/2"
H Bottom (1)	1/2" × 5 3/4" × 7 3/4"
I End (2)	3/8" × 5" × 4 1/4"
J Corner fillets (4)	5/8" triangular section at 4 1/2" long

HARDWARE AND EXTRAS

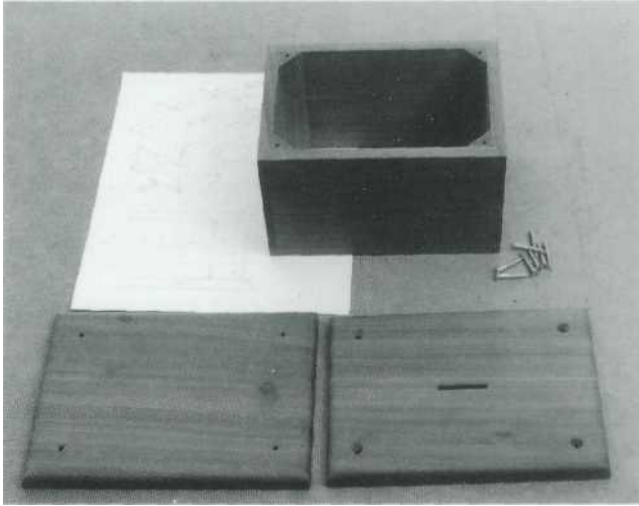
K Drive shaft (1)	broomstick dowel—cut to fit
L Slot and lever bars (2)	1/4" dowel—cut to fit
M Strong cord	—to fit
N Brass screws	—various
O Small quantity of black acrylic paint	

Note that all box measurements are to size.

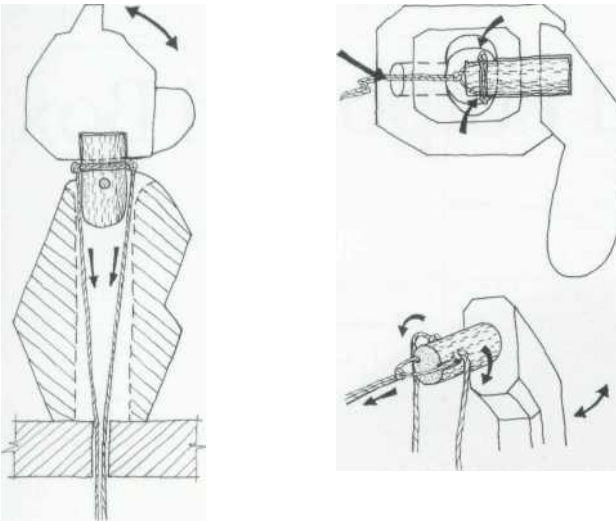
SPECIAL TIP: GLUING

For swiftly fitting and fixing all the control cords, you can't do better than a cyanoacrylate. It's good for holding the knots tight, for little trial-and-error holds, for fixing the bear to the top of the box. In fact, it's just about perfect for everything.

STEP-BY-STEP STAGES



The finished box, with the bottom and top slabs ready to fit. Note how the fixing screws are placed so they run into the corner fillets.



2. Next we string the bear. This cross section shows how the control cords operate the up-and-down movement of the head on the pivot. Be sure to use strong twine and nonslip knots. Notice the plan view at top right, showing how the arm is both pivoted and controlled by the cords. A detail of the cord is shown at bottom right. See how one cord pulls and pivots the arm, while the other two cords operate the up-and-down movement.