



14975EZ: Landscape Cutting Boards

Cutting boards are always popular gift items, and over the years we've seen them made in what seems to be an endless variety of shapes and styles.

Of the many that we've seen though, these landscape designs remain one of our favorites.

They require a minimum of time and effort, yet the result is a design that's both unusual and attractive.

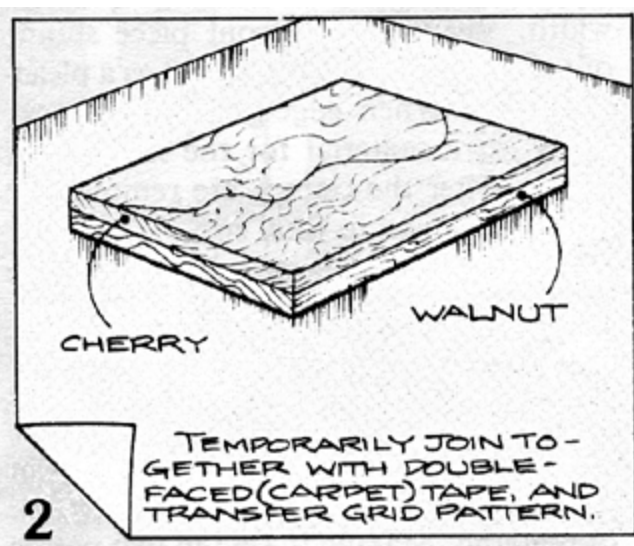
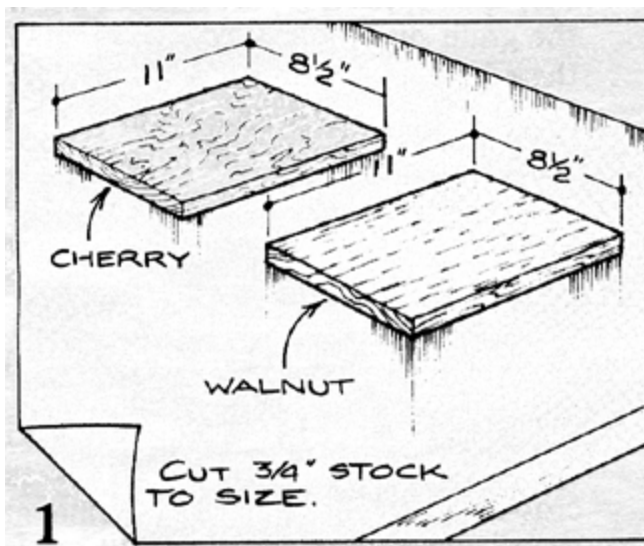
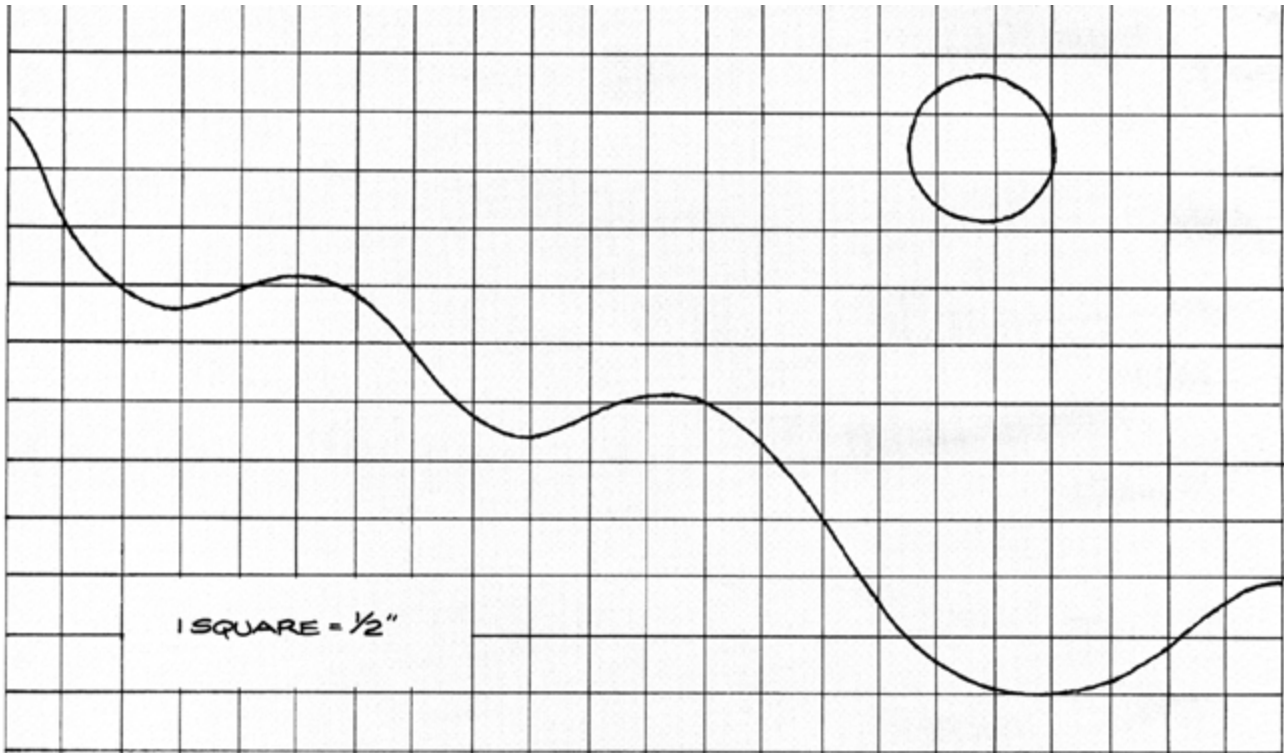
We used cherry and walnut for ours, but just about any combination of wood species can be used as long as there is good color contrast.

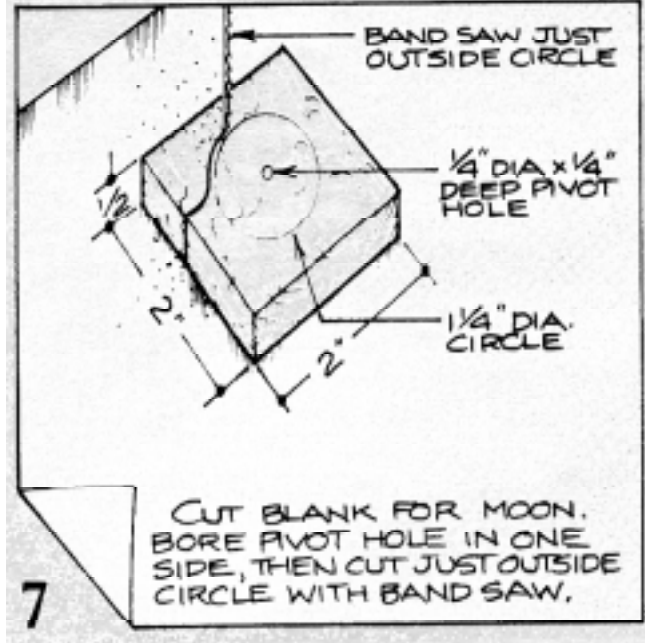
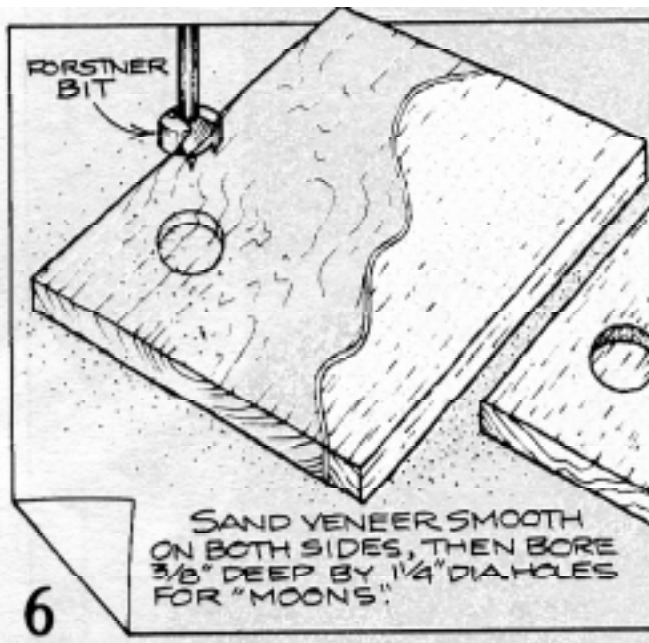
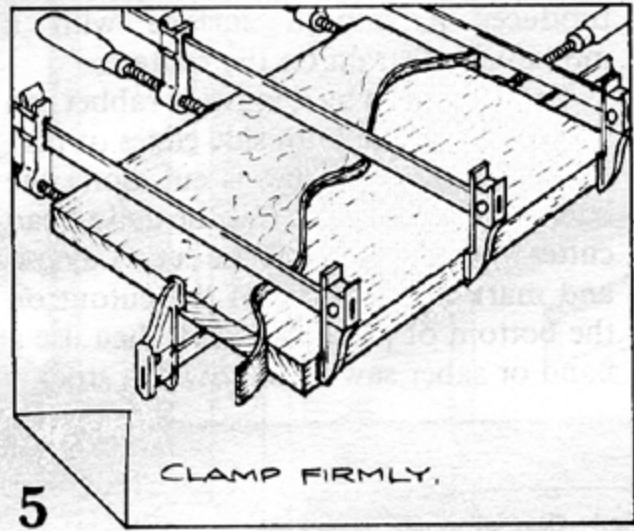
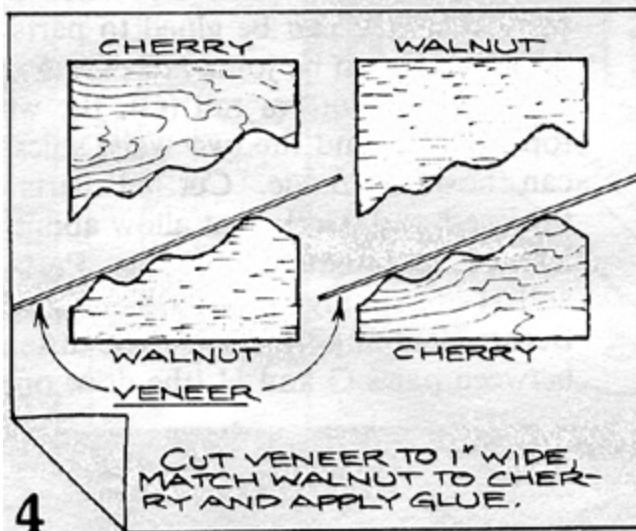
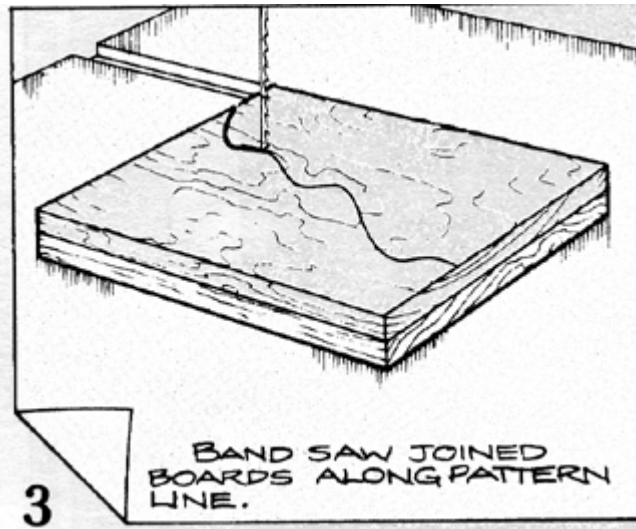
The maple veneer strip serve to fill the space made by the band saw cut while at the same time creating a nice detail.

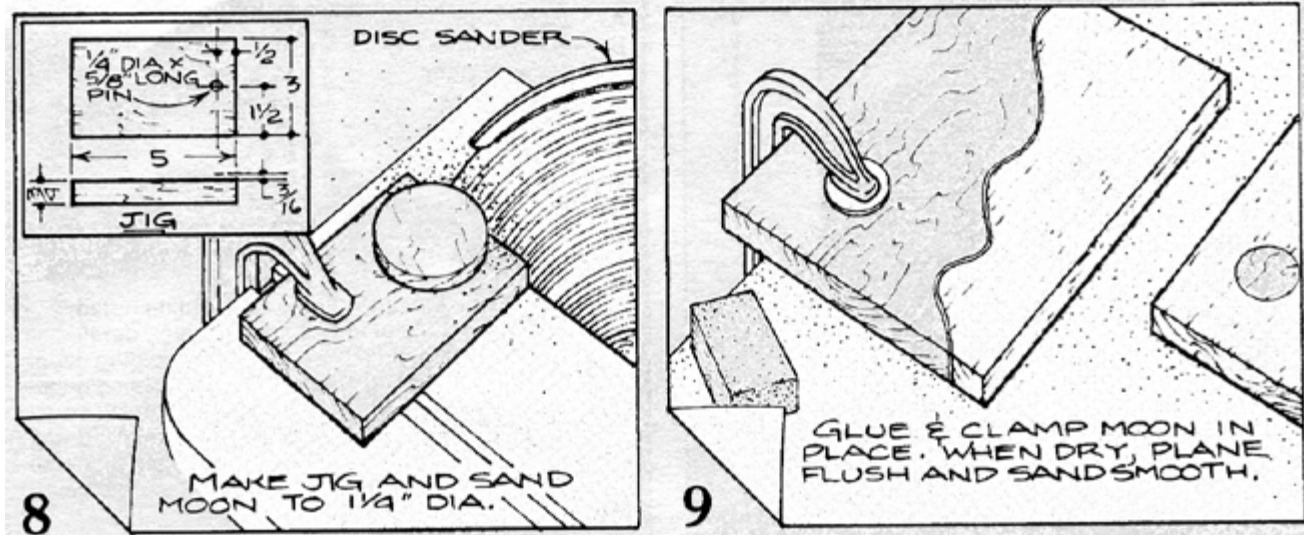
Steps 1 through 9 explain the construction techniques.

This procedure keeps waste to a minimum and results in two cutting boards.

Landscape Cutting Boards Complete Schematic







Landscape Cutting Boards Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Select 3/4" thick straightgrained stock that's free from knots or other defects for best appearance.
2. Cut two boards, one from cherry and one from walnut, each measuring 8-1/2" wide by 11" long.
3. Use double-faced carpet tape to temporarily join the two boards together, making sure the edges are flush.
4. Transfer the grid pattern to the top board.
5. Use a fine-toothed blade (12 or more teeth per inch) that's 1/8 – 1/4" wide to band saw the joined boards.
6. Cut 1" wide maple veneer to a length of about 18".
7. Match each cherry section to a mating walnut half.
8. Apply glue to both sides of the veneer and to the mating surfaces of the walnut and cherry, making sure the veneer extends above the surface on both sides so that it can be sanded flush after the glue dries.
9. Clamp the two sections firmly.
10. Keep the end edges aligned with an end clamp.
11. Allow the glue to dry.
12. Sand the veneer flush with the surface on both sides and the ends.
13. Lay out and mark the location of the "moon" on each side.
14. Use a forstner bit to bore a 1-1/4" diameter by 3/8" deep hole for the moon.
15. Cut a 1/2" thick by 2" square blank for the moon.
16. Use a compass to scribe a 1-1/4" diameter circle.
17. Bore a 1/4" diameter by 1/4" deep pivot hole on one side only.

18. Use the band saw to cut just outside the scribed circle.
19. Make a jig for the disc sander to sand the moon to a perfect circle by using a piece of 3/4" scrap stock cut to about 3" wide and 5" long.
20. Drill a 7/16" deep hole at a point 1/2" from one end to accommodate a 1/4" diameter x 5/8" long pin.
21. Glue the pin in the hole, making sure that it protrudes 3/16".
22. Start the disc sander.
23. Assemble the moon to the jig pin.
24. Slide the jig toward the disk sander until it sands to the 1-1/4" diameter circle.
25. Stop the sander and clamp the jig to the disk sander table.
26. Rotate the moon 360 degrees to create a perfect circle.
27. Glue and clamp each moon in place.
28. Allow the glue to dry.
29. Smooth and final sand.
30. Finish with non-toxic finish.

These plans were originally published in Volume 9, Issue 6 of *The Woodworker's Journal* (Nov./Dec. 1985, pages 50-51).