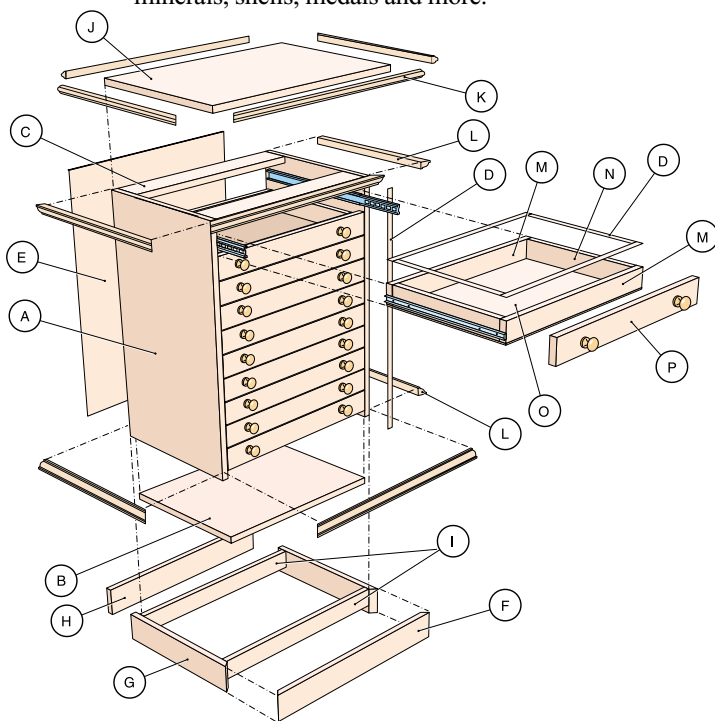


A collector's piece

Classic cabinet to store a collection of just about anything

A common problem faced by many collectors is the need for an attractive unit in which to store their items. This traditionally-styled cabinet will fit the bill nicely. With 10 drawers, each around 50mm deep, there's plenty of room for things such as minerals, shells, medals and more.



What you will need

Item Part	Size	Material
A Sides (2)	700 x 384 x 18mm	Particleboard
B Base	514 x 381 x 18mm	Particleboard
C Top rails (2)	514 x 80 x 18mm	Particleboard
D Edging (12 strips total)	22 x 1 x 2400mm	Mahogany veneer
E Back	700 x 538 x 4mm	Plywood
F Plinth front	588 x 80 x 18mm	Particleboard
G Plinth sides (2)	404 x 80 x 18mm	Particleboard
H Plinth back	552 x 80 x 18mm	Particleboard
I Plinth cleats (2)	552 x 55 x 18mm	Particleboard
J Top	600 x 410 x 18mm	Particleboard
K Top edge beads (total)	19 x 10 x 2150mm	Kalantas offset ovolo
L Trim (total)	19 x 19 x 3000mm	Kalantas ovolo
M Drawer fronts/back (20)	488 x 50 x 18mm	Particleboard
N Drawer sides (20)	314 x 50 x 18mm	Particleboard
O Drawer bottoms (10)	488 x 350 x 4mm	Plywood
P Drawer faces (10)	509 x 63 x 18mm	Particleboard

This unit is made of mahogany veneered particleboard with Kalantas trim. With care all parts can be cut from one 1220 x 2400mm sheet of particleboard and one sheet of plywood. Veneer edging is available in packs of 12 strips. You will also need 10 pairs of 350mm full-extension drawer runners, assorted screws and nails, 20 knobs of choice and oil finish. Total cost about \$400.

Here's how

Step 1 Cut the sides, base and rails (A,B,C) by running a circular saw along a straight batten clamped to allow for the distance between saw blade and edge of the saw base. Work with the sheet face down. Set the saw to cut 5mm deeper than the sheet. Support the particleboard and protect your benchtop by placing the sheet on scrap battens that you can saw partly into. If you have a Triton saw bench it will speed things up considerably.

Step 2 On the back of each side (A) use the saw to cut a 4 x 12mm rebate to house the back. Set your saw to cut 12mm deep, running it along a straight edge for a clean cut. Break off small ridge left behind and clean rebate with chisel.

Step 3 Apply edge veneer (D) to front edges of the sides using an iron to melt glue. Then press with a soft wood block to assist bonding. To avoid tearing the veneer, remove excess with a coarse file using a scissor action at a shallow angle filing towards the board. Finish with sandpaper.

Step 4 Screw the sides to the base and top rails after pre-drilling with a screw pilot bit that bores pilot hole, clearance hole and countersinks in one operation. Fronts are flush.

Step 5 Cut the back (E) making sure it is square. Apply glue to the rebate, then nail back to one side. Pull the unit square before hammering in the rest of the nails.

Step 6 Cut plinth front (F) with a 45° mitre at each end. The plinth sides (G) only have a mitre on the front edge – make one for each side. Cut the plinth back and cleats (H,I), then centre, glue and screw the cleats to the front and back, with the top edges flush. Glue and nail the sides to the plinth back. Apply glue to the front mitres and ends of cleats, bring in plinth front and hold in place with masking tape until glue sets.

Step 7 Lay the top (J) face down on the workbench, mitre the corners of the top edge beads (K) then glue and nail them in place. Working face down ensures the top edges will be flush.

Step 8 Locate the cabinet on the plinth so the plinth stands 19mm proud of the cabinet at front and sides. Screw cabinet to cleats. Locate the top with a 10mm overhang at the back, and even overhangs at sides. Screw up through the top rails. Mitre and add the trim (L) at the plinth and under the top to hide particleboard edge and screw holes.

Continued

A collector's piece (cont)

Step 9 To make the drawers, measure the opening width of the cabinet and subtract 26mm – the thickness of two drawer runners. Cut the fronts, backs and sides (M,N), then edge veneer all tops and ends of fronts and backs. Glue and screw together one drawer and add the drawer bottom (O). Test fit in cabinet with a runner assembly each side. It should be a snug fit. Adjust if necessary, then make the rest of the drawers. Cut the drawer faces (P). Veneer tops and two sides.

Step 10 Stand a drawer on the bench and hold a drawer runner against one side, also resting on the bench. Partly pull the extension arm out of the runner and set its front edge 2mm from the front of the drawer. Insert a screw through the exposed hole. Pull the casing further back until the back screw hole is exposed and insert another screw. Take off outer casing. Repeat for other side. Number the back of the drawer (No 10). Set the outer casing of the runner in the bottom of the cabinet and pack it up 4mm using offcuts of the plywood. Push runner to back of cabinet and screw in place. Push the drawer in completely, then hold the drawer face in place with a 2mm cardboard spacer between face and base. Hold in place with clamps, remove from cabinet, then screw on face from the inside. Screw on drawer knobs 90mm in from each edge of each drawer.

Step 11 Prepare the next drawer with the runners on the sides as before. Mark it No 9. This time place several spacers on top of the drawer sides already in place so they are approximately 4mm above the drawer face. Place a similar number of packers front and back on both sides of the drawer then position outer runner cases and screw on. Insert drawer and screw on drawer face with a 2mm gap to face below. Continue until all drawers are fitted. Check from time to time that face tops remain parallel to cabinet top. To fit top drawer face, drive fixing



screws into the drawer front and push face against them to mark screw holes. The position of faces on fronts will vary from drawer to drawer, and drawers are not interchangeable.

Step 12 Fill nail holes and slight gaps with a Minwax Blende-Fil filling pencil. Soften the wax with a lighter, apply to hole, and sand when cool. Thoroughly sand the unit all over, being careful not to sand through veneer at edges. Apply three good coats of furniture oil such as Minwax Antique Oil, rubbing surface with 0000-grade steel wool between coats.

A Tape front plinth mitre joint until the glue is fully set. This will avoid nail holes you'll need to fill later.

B Rest drawer and runner on bench before screwing to drawer sides.

C To install runners in cabinet, rest them on packers on lower drawer. The number of packers will vary with drawer positions.

