MATCHFIT™

MATCHFIT
X-PAD 4 PACK
STARTER PROJECT

Walnut Pet Buffet with Food Storage

MICROJIG®

MATCHFIT™

PROJECT OVERVIEW

This 2-bowl pet buffet with food storage makes feeding your furry friends more convenient, and stylish! It was designed to demonstrate how **MATCH**FIT Dovetail Clamps, upgraded with **MATCH**FIT X-PADs, make assembling this piece significantly easier than traditional methods. It has mitered joints, but only 3 sides. Without a 4th side to distribute pressure evenly, band clamps are not an option. With just four Dovetail Clamps and X-PADS, the parts can be clamped together on a flat surface, with ample pressure on all sides of the mitered joints for a successful glue up.

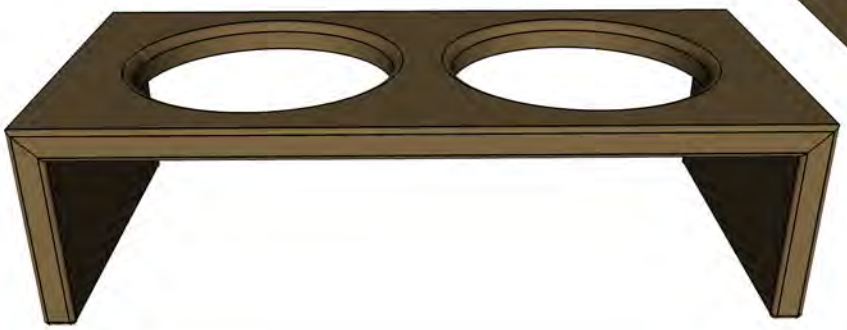
TOOLS & MATERIALS

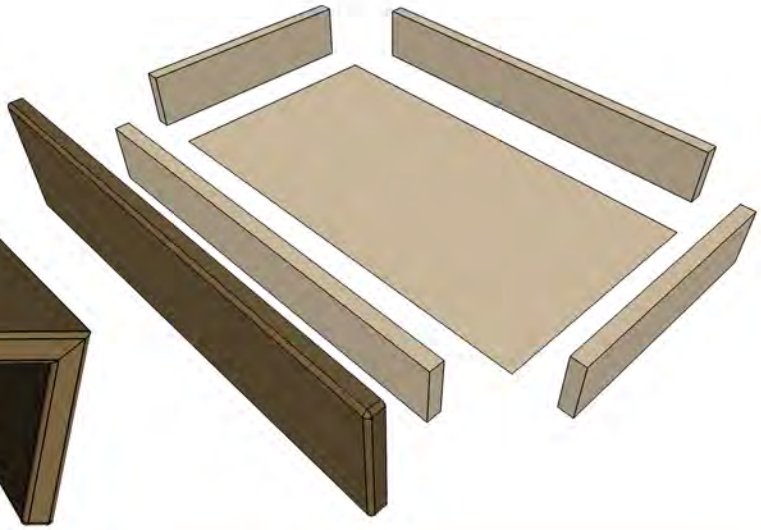
TOOLS

- (4) MATCHFIT Dovetail Clamps
- 4-Pack of MATCHFIT X-PADs (1 package)
- MATCHFIT dovetail clamping surface
- Table saw
- Miter gauge or table saw sled
- Handheld router
- Circle cutting router jig
- 45 degree chamfer router bit
- ¼" straight or spiral router bit
- A dog (corgi or corgi-mix recommended)

MATERIALS

- ¾" thick hardwood of your choosing, 9"W x 30"L
- ¾" thick hardwood, 4" wide x 16-¼" long
- ½" thick plywood 2" wide x 48" long
- ¼" thick plywood, 8" wide x 16" long
- 8" drawer slides
- Push-to-open drawer catch
- Clear coat of your choosing





MICROJIG

INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 1 - CUT THE STOCK TO SIZE

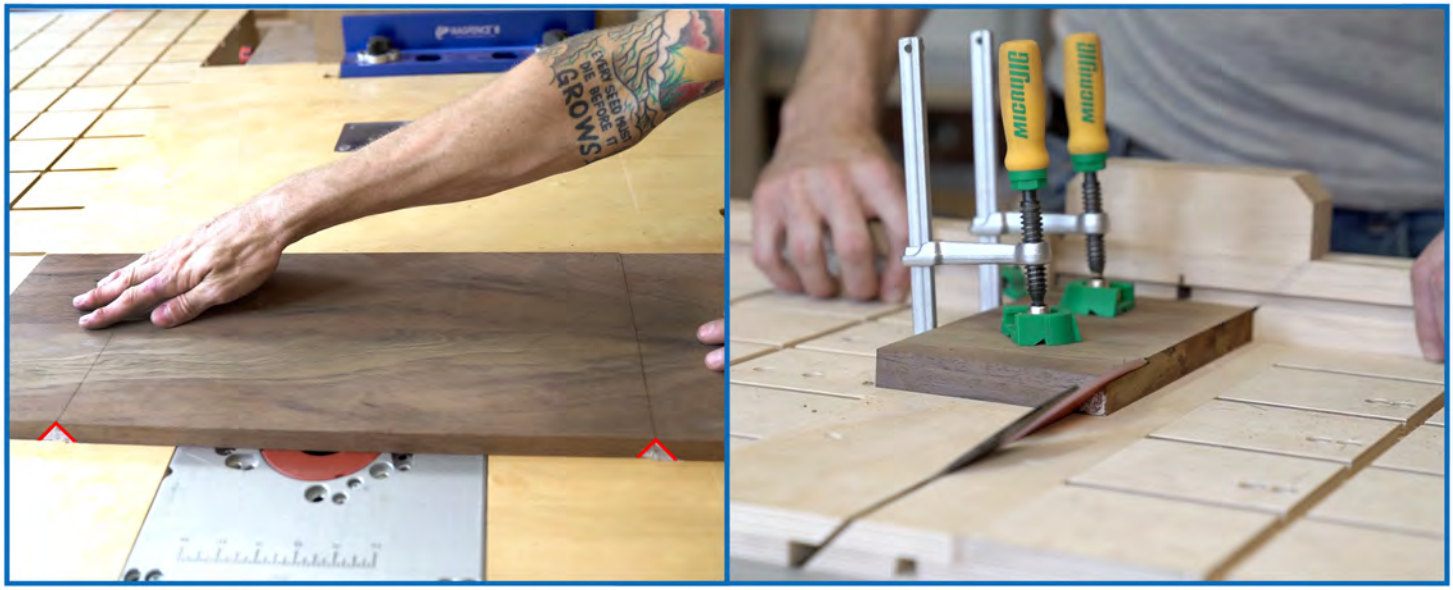
Cut a single ¾" thick hardwood board to finish at 9" wide x 28-¼" long. Make sure that it's flat, square, and of uniform thickness.

Next, cut 5" of from both ends of the 28-¼" long board. Don't cut them both from the same side.

INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 2 - CUT MITER JOINTS

Tilt your table saw blade to 45 degrees. Using a miter gauge or table saw sled, crosscut one end of each 5" board (sides). It helps to lay out the 3 parts in order and mark out the cuts. Cutting the wrong side will eliminate the possibility of a continuous grain pattern.



Next, crosscut *both* ends of the 18" long board at 45 degrees.

INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 3 - ASSEMBLE TOP AND SIDES

Lay the 3 parts flat with the mitered edges facing down, in the order they'll be assembled. Put a strip of painters tape across the parts where they meet, then flip the parts over. Apply wood glue to all four mitered edges and join the 3 parts.

Align the X-PADs' Edge Positioning Guide with the outermost corner of the joints with the Screw Center Guide off the edge of the material, tighten clamps.

Use a machinisht square to ensure that the sides are 90-degrees with the top. If necessary, lightly tap the sides with a non-marring mallet to square them up with the top.

INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 4 - BUILD FOOD DRAWER

While the glue is drying, cut ½" thick plywood down to 2" wide x 48" long. From the 48" long strip, crosscut (2) 14-½" long parts, and (2) 8-¼" long parts.

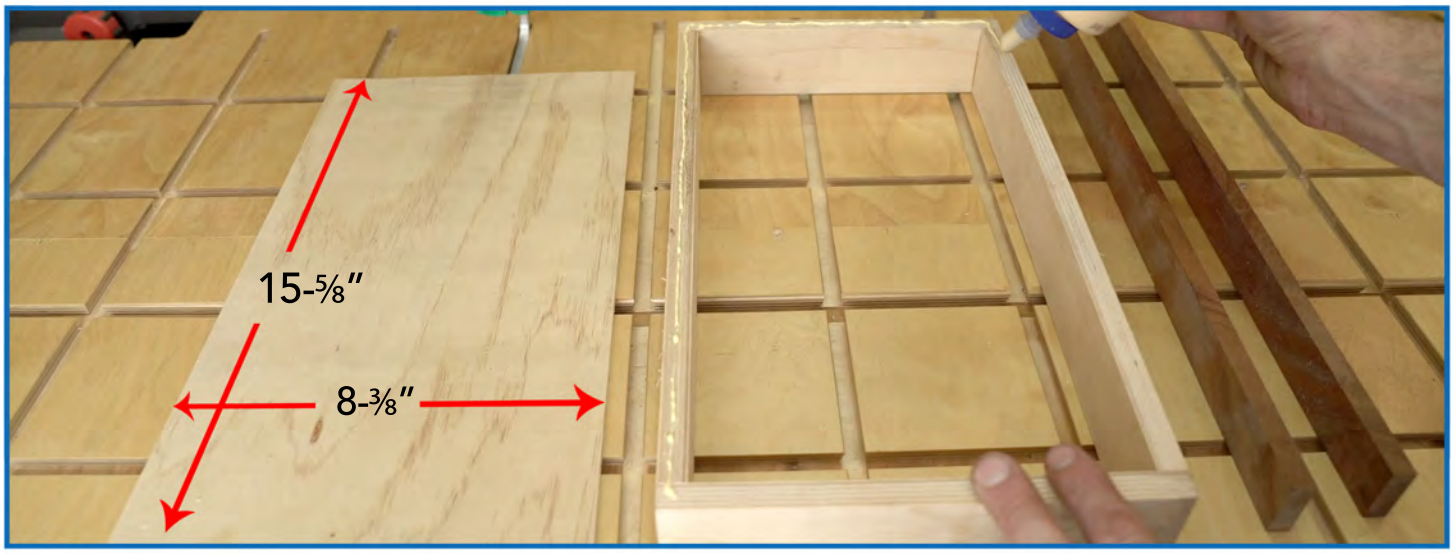
Glue and clamp the four parts together with the short parts overlapping the long parts as shown. The assembly should finish at 8-¼" x 15-½".

NOTE* The bottom piece pictured is only to prevent glue squeeze-out from getting in the dovetail tracks. It is not a part of the drawer box.

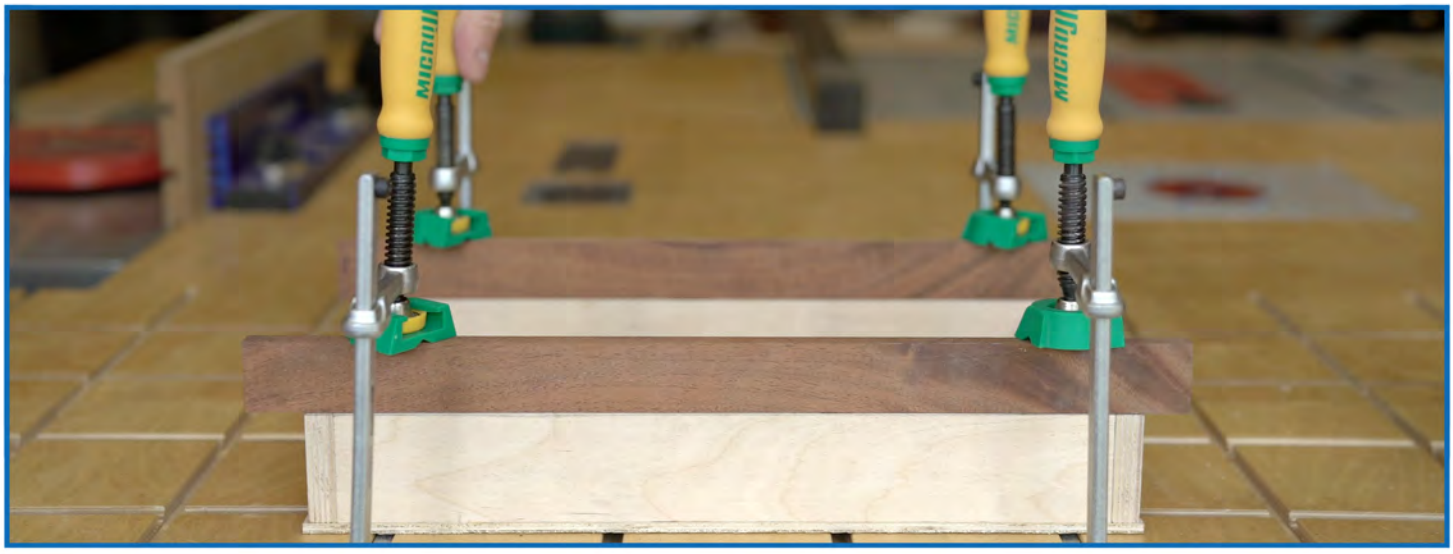
INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 4: BUILD FOOD DRAWER CONTINUED

Cut a piece of ¼" thick plywood to finish at 8-⅜" x 15-⅝". This will be the bottom of the drawer. Apply glue to the bottom edge of the 4-sided drawer assembly, then flip it over and place it on top of the drawer bottom.



The drawer bottom is ⅛" oversized, which will give you a 1/16" reveal around all four sides. Ensure that the bottom overhangs all four sides, then clamp in place. You may want to use cauls to ensure even pressure. Allow glue to dry before unclamping.

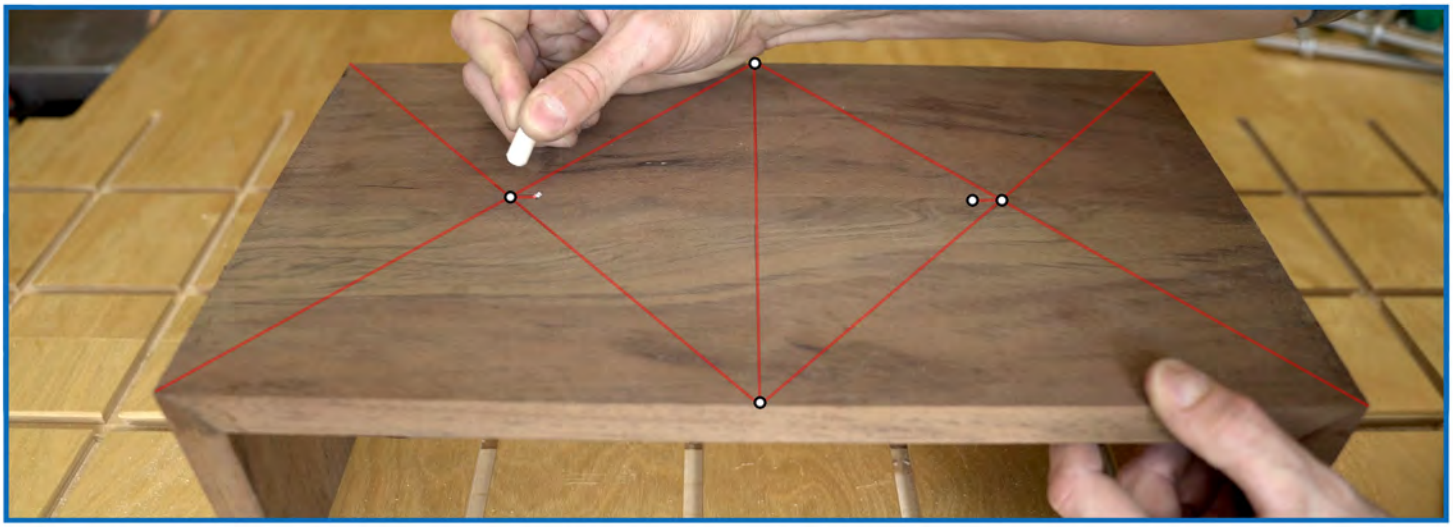


INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 5: CUT BOWL HOLES

Measure the diameter of the bowls you chose for this project. The bowls used for these instructions are 6-½" around at the top lip. The lip will sit on top of the surface, so the hole for the rest of the bowl will be ¼" smaller in diameter.

Mark the center of the long side top and draw a line straight across. Next draw diagonal lines from each corner to the center line. Where the diagonal lines intersect, mark 1/2" in toward the center line to prevent the bowls from interfering with the drawer.



INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 5: CUT BOWL HOLES CONTINUED

Based on the diameter of the bowls you're using, cut the holes out of the top using either a router with a circle cutting jig, a template with a flush trim bit. Because the edge of the hole will be covered by the lip of the bowl, this can also be done carefully with a jigsaw, depending on your level of command and comfortability with the tool.

Using a 45 degree chamfer bit, route a 1/4" chamfer around the (top) inside edge of both holes. The chamfer will allow the bowls to self-center in the holes, and prevent them from rattling around too much.

INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 6: MAKE DRAWER BOTTOM DISAPPEAR

Using the same 45 degree chamfer bit on the router, chamfer the excess off of the drawer bottom. The chamfer should begin at the joint between the walls of the drawer and the bottom.

STEP 7: INSTALL FOOD DRAWER

Install the drawer slides according to the manufacturers' instructions. The drawer front will be inset, so the slides should be installed so that the drawer front sits flush with the front edge of the top and sides. Once the drawer is installed and properly positioned, attach the drawer front with an ⅛" reveal on all four sides.

INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 8: FINISHING

At this point, you can add roundovers or route other edge profiles to your liking, or simply sand it. The piece shown in these instructions has a 3⁄16" roundover on all outer edges of the walnut parts (sides, top, and drawer front).

We recommend applying at least 2 coats of clear finish (on the walnut parts only) to protect the piece from moisture. The piece shown was finished with 4 coats of semi-gloss lacquer. The inside of the food drawer was finished with food-grade oil. Anything other that food-grade oil could pose a health risk to your pet.