Do It Yourself

To print this page, select File then Print from your browser

URL: http://www.diynet.com/diy/ww_beds_furniture/article/0,2049,DIY_14438_2274601,00.html

Contemporary Headboard -- Frame Completion and Back-Panel

From "Wood Works"

episode WWK-107 -- More Projects »

With the mahogany frame, rails and legs all assembled and glued together, work proceeds removing the dog-ears, shaping the curved frame, and preparing the frame for installation of a mahogany plywood back panel.

Materials:

Mahogany plywood stock Headboard template

Jig saw

Hand-held router; flush-bearing bits; rabbet bit

Carpenter's pencil

Saftety glasses or goggles

Note: Cut sizes may vary. For exact measurements, please contact David Marks through his Web site -- information below under Resources.

Safety Alert: *Always* wear safety goggles or safety glasses when working with wood, saws, drills, routers, etc.

Shaping and Smoothing the Mahogany Frame

Steps:

- 1. With the glue completely dry, the clamps can be removed in preparation for cutting away the dog-ears and excess spline-stock from the frame joints (**figure A**).
- 2. A jigsaw is used to carefully cut away the excess wood from the curved frame (**figure B and C**).
- 3. With the excess wood pieces removed from the frame, the 1/2-inch



The headboard frame is now assembled. Host David Marks prepares to cut away the excess wood tabs -- or "dog ears" -- that assisted with clamping and gluing the assembly together.



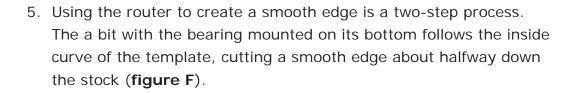
Figure A



Figure B

thick template -- used earlier to fashion the headboard -- is slid into position on top of the glued-up assembly (**figure D**).

4. Once aligned the template is used as a guide for creating the exact profile of the headboard. A hand-held router and flush-bearing bits are used to trim away excess mahogany and create a smooth edge on the frame. The template provides an exact path for the bearing-bits to follow (figure E).



6. The headboard is then flipped over, and a bit with the bearing mounted on its top follows the smooth edge to clean up the rest of the headboard (**figure G**).



Steps:

- 1. To install the mahogany plywood back-panel in the frame, a rabbet is cut into the back side of the frame. A 1/2-inch rabbet bit is installed in the hand-held router. The router is used to cut a 1/2-inch by 1/2-inch rabbet around the inside curve on the back of the frame (figure H) as well as the back of the top rail.
- 2. Since the rabbet bit leaves rounded corners, a sharp chisel is used to cut the bottom corners square (**figure I**) so that it will accept the square corners of the plywood panel.
- With the rabbet cut out, and the corners chiseled square, the frame itself can be used as a template for cutting out the curved plywood back-panel. The frame is set carefully onto the plywood panel (figure J).
- 4. The straight edge of the plywood is referenced up against the bottom edge of the rabbet (**figure K**), and the curve of the headboard is marked onto the plywood stock.
- 5. The plywood panel is cut to fit the curved shape using a jigsaw. A



Figure C



Figure D



Figure E



Figure F



Figure G

pattern-maker's rasp is used to smooth the edges of the cut panel.

6. Once it has been cut and shaped to the exact dimensions, the panel is given one final check for fit inside the rabbet (**figure L**).

In the following, and final, segment in this project, the headboard is finely shaped with various hand tools, the back-panel is installed, and a dark wood finish is applied.

Sponsored Resource

> <u>Click here</u> to order your tools and materials for this project from

Woodcraft!

RESOURCES:

Fine Woodworking

A magazine devoted to high-quality craftsmanship in woodworking.

The Taunton Press Inc Newtown, CT 06470 Phone: 203-426-8171

Fax: 203-426-3434

Email: service@taunton.com

The Small Wood Shop (The Best of Fine Woodworking)

Model: 1561580619

Author: Helen Albert (Editor)

Woodworking Techniques: Best Methods for Building Furniture from Fine Woodworking

Model: 1561583456

Author: Fine Woodworking Magazine

The Taunton Press Inc Newtown, CT 06470 Phone: 203-426-8171 Fax: 203-426-3434

Email: service@taunton.com

Mastering Woodworking Machines (Fine Woodworking Book)

Model: 0942391985 Author: Mark Duginske

David Marks Website



A hand-held router is used to cut a smooth edge on the headboard once it has been assembled.



With the frame assembled, its curve can be referenced to create a plywood back-panel.



Figure H



Figure I

David Marks, DIY's *Wood Works* host, is a master woodworker. For more information on cut sizes and project details, please contact him via his Website at www.djmarks.com

Beds and Bedroom Furniture: The Best of Fine Woodworking

Model: 1561581917

Author: Editors of Fine Woodworking

(1997)

The Taunton Press Inc Newtown, CT 06470 Phone: 203-426-8171 Fax: 203-426-3434

Email: service@taunton.com

The Complete Woodworker's Companion

Model: 0823008665 Author: Roger Holmes

(1996)

Watson-Guptill Publications Lakewood, NJ 08701-9914

Phone: 908-363-5679

Fax: Private

The Complete Book of Wood Joinery

Model: 0806999500

Author: Richard J. Descistoforo

(1997)

Sterling Publishing Co. Inc.

New York, NY 10016 Phone: 212-532-7160 Fax: 800-542-7567

Advanced Woodworking

Model: 0783539126

Author: Editors of Time Life Books



Figure J



Figure K



Figure L

Do It Yourself: Bedroom

1998

Time-Life Books Inc. Alexandria, VA 22314 Phone: 703-838-7000

Fax: 703-518-4124

Popular Woodworking Magazine (F & W Publications, Inc.)

F & W Publications, Inc. Cincinnati, OH 45207 Phone: 515-280-1721

Website: www.popularwoodworking.com

• ALSO IN THIS EPISODE:

Contemporary Headboard -- Mockup, Template and Frame

Contemporary Headboard -- Joinery

Contemporary Headboard -- Frame Completion and Back-Panel

Contemporary Headboard -- Shaping and Finishing