

Project 00000EZ: Child's Settle Table

Space is at a premium in many homes, especially in kids' rooms, so it's a big advantage to have a piece of furniture that can be put to use in more than one way. This piece, a child-sized version of an Early American settle table, offers that advantage. With the top down it's a desk or table; with the top up it's a chair. And under the liftoff seat you'll find valuable storage space for all those toys that never seem to have a home.

We use #2 common pine was for all parts. To keep waste to a minimum we designed the project so that standard width stock can be used for many of the parts. The sides (A) are made from a 1 x 12, the front and back (B) from a 1 x 6, the seat (E) from a 1 x 6 and a 1 x 8, and the top (G) from two 1x10s.

Child's Settle Table Materials List

Part	Description	Size	No. Req'd	
А	Side	3/4" x 11-1/4" x 20"	2	
В	Front and Back	3/4" x 5-1/2" x 6-3/4"	2	
С	Bottom	3/4" x 9-3/4" x 15-7/8"	1	
D	Foot	3/4" x 1-3/8" x 7-1/4"	4	
E	Seat	3/4" x 12-3/4" x 15"	1	
F	Seat Cleat	1" x 1-1/2" x 9-1/2"	2	
G	Тор	3/4" x 18-1/2" x 28"	1	
Н	Top Cleat	1" x 3-1/2" x 16-1/2"	2	
I	Pivot Rod	1/2" dia. x 21" long	1	
J	Locking Rod	1/2" dia. x 4" long	1	

Child's Settle Table Complete Schematic





Child's Settle Table Step-by-Step Instructions

- 1. Select two 20" lengths of 1" x 12" stock to make the sides (A).
- 2. Cut the sides to length.
- 3. Lay out and mark the location of the 3/4" wide x 5/16" deep dado that is cut to accept part C.
- 4. Use the router equipped with the dado-head to cut this dado.
- 5. This groove can be cut with the router or with the table saw equipped with a dado head.
- 6. Equip the table saw with the dado-head cutter to begin making the pair of 3/4" deep x 5-1/2" long notches in each side that accept parts B.
- 7. Set the dado head cutter to make a 3/4" deep cut.
- 8. Use the miter gauge attached to an auxiliary fence at least 5" wide to pass the stock, on edge, through the cutter and make the first cut.
- 9. Slide the stock over a bit, then make a second cut.
- 10. Continue this process until the 5-1/2" wide notch is cut.
- 11. Use a compass to lay out the various curves at the top and bottom of the sides.
- 12. Use the band or saber saw to cut out the curves, staying just slightly on the waste side of the marked line.
- 13. Sand the curves exactly to the line.
- 14. Rip each piece for the front and back (B) to width so that they fit snugly in the notches cut in parts A.
- 15. Cut each part B to 1/2" longer than their final widths.
- 16. Measure the length of the dado groove in parts A.
- 17. Rip the stock for the bottom (C) to this exact dimension.
- 18. Cut the bottom to final length, making sure the ends are cut square.
- 19. Final sand parts A, B, and C.
- 20. Use glue and countersunk flathead wood screws to join parts A and C.
- 21. Plug the countersunk holes as shown.
- 22. Trim each part B to final length.
- 23. Join parts B to parts A and C.
- 24. Make the four feet (D) as shown.
- 25. Edge-glued the feet to parts A and B, working carefully to make sure that the ends and edges are flush.
- 26. Cut the seat (E) and the seat cleats (F) to length and width.
- 27. Round the edges of the seat cleats slightly as they are pictured.

- 28. Pre-drill the holes, making them slightly oversized to permit movement, for the three counterbored flathead wood screws that are driven through the top of the seat and into each cleat to join these parts. **NOTE: Do not use glue here as the seat must be free to move with changes in humidity.**
- 29. Cut the stock for the top cleats (H) to length and width.
- 30. Transfer the curved profile shown in the drawing to each end of the cleat.
- 31. Use a band or saber saw to cut out the profile, staying just outside the marked line.
- 32. Sand the curved profiles to the line.
- 33. Attach the top (G) to the top cleats (H) in the same manner you attached the seat cleats to the seat.
- 34. Place parts G and H on part A and center it.
- 35. Use the pivot holes in part A as guides and bore the matching holes in parts H.
- 36. Insert the pivot rod (I). NOTE: No glue is needed to fasten the pivot rod.
- 37. Add the locking rod (J) to secure the top in place when it is being used as a table.
- 38. Final sand all parts, taking care to round over all sharp edges.
- 39. Finish as desired.
- 40. Apply a coat of paste wax to complete the project.

These plans were originally published in Volume 10, Issue 1 of *The Woodworker's Jour*nal (Jan./Feb. 1986, pages 54-55).