

WOODWORKER'S WJOURNAL

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Classic Plan

In this plan you'll find:

- Step-by-step construction instruction.
- A complete bill of materials.
- Construction drawings and related photos.
- Tips to help you complete the project and become a better woodworker.

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Dog/Cat Bed





Photo by Tim Lee

Dog/Cat Bed


Given the fact that pets are such loyal and devoted friends, what better Christmas gift than a bed of their own? This bed, crafted in solid walnut, is sized to accommodate a cat or small-to-medium size dog. The bed's overall dimensions could be increased as necessary to fit a larger animal if your "best friend" tends toward Saint Bernard or Great Dane size. Of course, the bed could also be made from pine or some other hard or softwood.

Start this project by laying up stock for the bottom (C). If your stock has been edge-joined accurately, only mild pressure is required with the pipe clamps. While you are waiting for the bottom to dry, rip stock for the front and back (A) and ends (B). After mitering the ends of these pieces, use the router equipped with a wing cutter as shown to cut the stopped spline grooves. Note how parts A and B are clamped back to back with an additional guide piece for extra router support. Also note that the bearing is assembled between the router and the

cutter. This permits the cutter shaft to be fully chucked in the router.

Use a chisel to square the stopped end of the spline grooves, and cut four hardwood splines with the grain running across the miter as shown. After band or jigsawing the front and back cutouts, glue and assemble the box. While the box is drying, use a bearing-guided $\frac{1}{4}$ in. Roman ogee router bit to shape the bottom perimeter. This is a good router table operation. When dry, the box perimeter is radiused as shown to establish the $\frac{1}{4}$ in. round-over.

After cutting out the four feet (D), drill and slot the base as shown to accept the six mounting screws. The slotted holes are required to allow expansion and contraction of the stock across the width of the base. Screw the bottom to the box, then glue the four feet in place.

When final sanding was complete, we finished our bed with Deft clear aerosol spray finish. This protective satin coating should wear well, and can be easily renewed when necessary. 

Bill of Materials
(all dimensions actual)

Part	Description	Size	No. Req'd.
A	Front/Back	$\frac{3}{4} \times 5 \times 24$	2
B	End	$\frac{3}{4} \times 5 \times 18$	2
C	Bottom	$\frac{3}{4} \times 19\frac{1}{2} \times 25\frac{1}{2}$	1
D	Foot	$\frac{3}{4} \times 2 \times 2$	4

