

Plan 1



Rug-running Sports Coupe



The perfect toy for that cute little rugrat in your life. This project can easily be completed in a weekend and is designed to be tough enough to take a three-year-old's beating!

Step-by-step instructions to complete the rug-running sports coupe!

Cars come in so many shapes and sizes that the design possibilities are limitless, and kids always have vivid imaginations when it comes to automobiles. We recommend softwoods for the parts, as they're easy to shape with files and sandpaper. For contrasting colors, try pine and redwood. The pine blends well with manufactured parts like wheel axles, tire hubs and dowels. Rubbarider wheels, a fun product from Rockler, add a delightful realistic feel to this project (Call Rockler Woodworking & Hardware for specialty parts; 800-279-4441).

Full-size Patterns for the car are shown on the previous pages, and the Material List will help you pick woods of the correct dimensions for each part. The primary tool used for making the car is a scroll saw, although the drill press also came in handy.

Building The Car

Most of the construction is straightforward, but there are four details to

review to keep everything crystal clear. None of them are difficult, but pointing them out now will help you avoid head scratching when you build your car.

Each side and its mating door start out as one piece of wood. Cut the overall shape of the side on the scroll saw, then drill the 1/8" hinge pivot hole for the door. By drilling the hole now you can guarantee its accuracy. After the hole is drilled, cut out the door with a scroll saw. When you put the doors back in the sides, tap in the pivot dowel without any glue. The doors always swing perfectly.

Although this is hidden from view on the completed car, the trunk lid and hood each pivot on 1/8" x 1/2" dowels held in the sides. Be sure to drill the holes on the inside face of each side before assembling the car, then pin the hood and trunk lid when you join the sides with the body. Don't use any glue on these pivots.

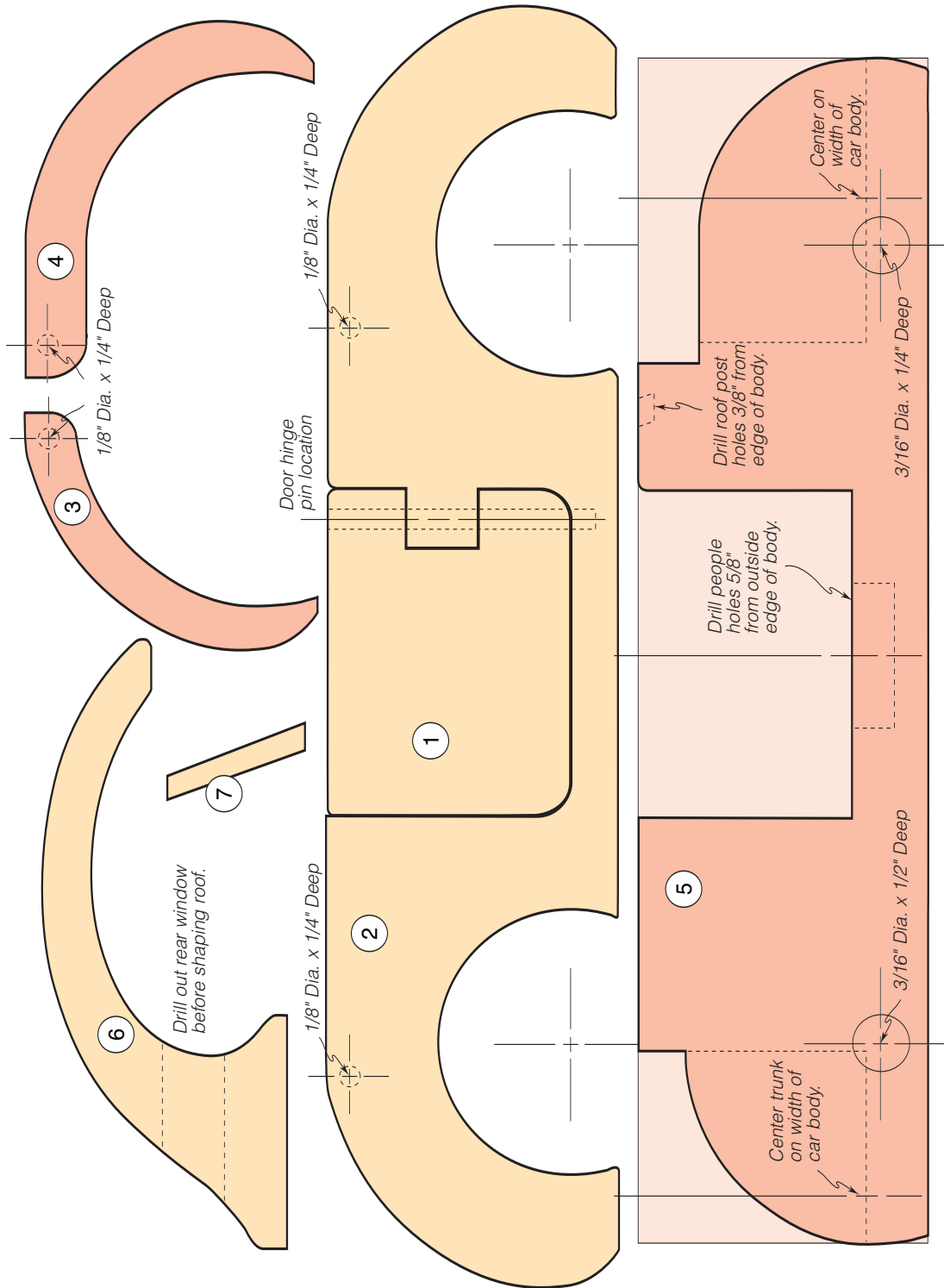
The third point concerns drilling the

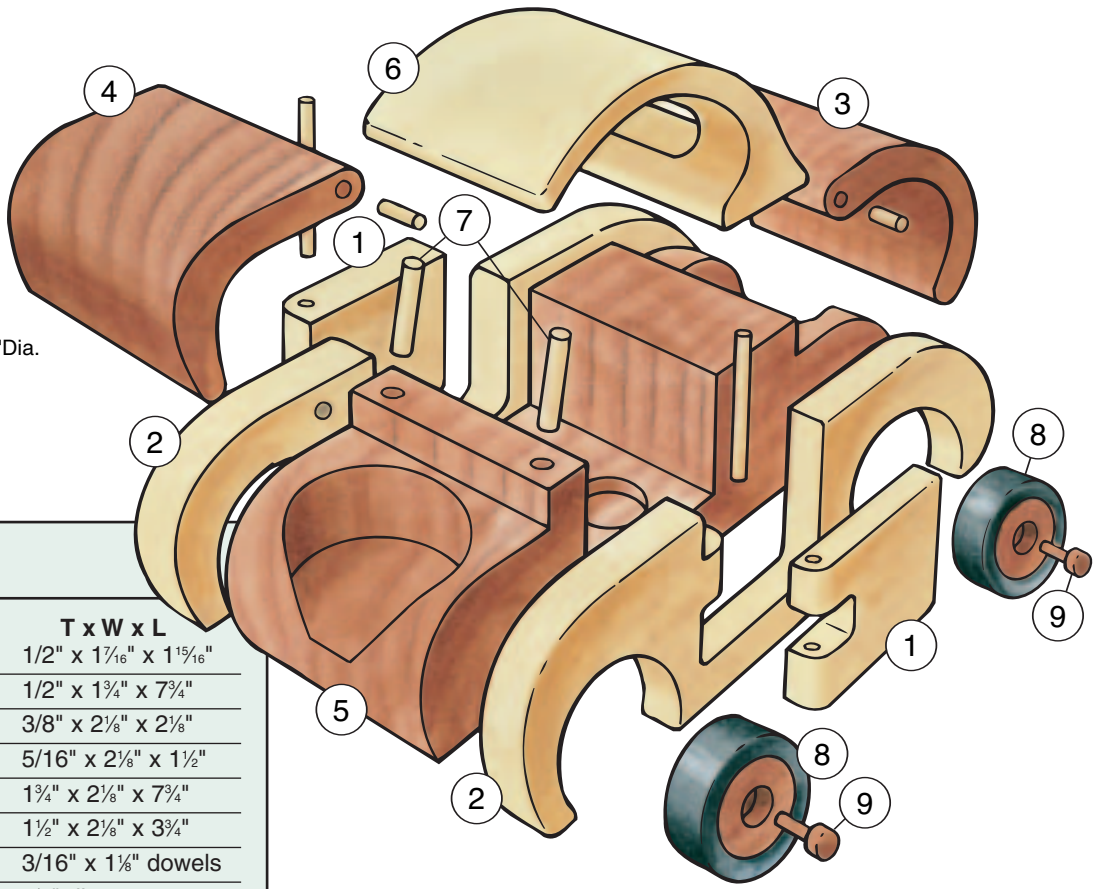
1/8" holes in the body for the trunk and engine compartment, as well as the back window in the roof. Use a drill press and a Forstner bit to bore out these holes before shaping the blocks of wood, then cut the blocks to shape with a scroll saw. It's more difficult to drill the holes after the wood is shaped.

Our last note has to do with fitting the roof on the posts. Drill the post holes in the body at a 20° angle, then, after joining the sides to the body, glue in the posts. Next, carefully file the top of each post at an angle to meet the roof. When the roof sits evenly on the body ledge and the posts, glue everything in place.

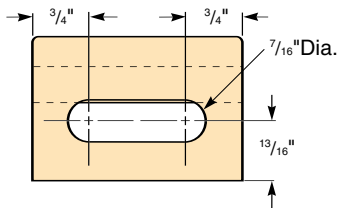
The rubber wheels come with axles, but you should cut them a little shorter so they don't break into the trunk or engine compartments when they're installed. After assembly, tint the wheel hubs with a little cherry stain to match the redwood, then topcoat the car and the wooden people with two coats of oil finish.

Full Size Patterns





Rear Window Drilling Detail



MATERIAL LIST

	T x W x L
1 Doors (2)	1/2" x 1 7/16" x 1 15/16"
2 Sides (2)	1/2" x 1 3/4" x 7 3/4"
3 Trunk Lid (1)	3/8" x 2 1/8" x 2 1/8"
4 Hood (1)	5/16" x 2 1/8" x 1 1/2"
5 Body (1)	1 3/4" x 2 1/8" x 7 3/4"
6 Roof (1)	1 1/2" x 2 1/8" x 3 3/4"
7 Roof Posts (1)	3/16" x 1 1/8" dowels
8 Tires (4)	1 1/2" diameter
9 Axles (4)	7/32" diameter
10 People (2)	7/8" dia. x 2 3/8" tall

Plan 2 Circus Elephants on Parade

If you're creating a folk art collectible, use a piece of 2 x 6 pine for this project. But if you've got a child in mind, try laminating two pieces of 3/4" Baltic birch and your pachyderms will last for years!



Step-by-step instructions to complete the circus elephants on parade!

Antique shops are full of old toys that kids would love to get their hands on. Instead, they're purchased by folk art collectors. With this family of elephants you have a choice. If you're looking for an "instant heirloom" use 2 x 6 pine. If you'd like the perfect gift for a child, laminate two pieces of 3/4" Baltic birch plywood. Your elephant will be stronger, especially in the trunk and tail areas.

Install a 1/8" hook tooth blade with 9-10 teeth per inch on your band saw to get started. If you can make the tight curves on the *Full-size Pattern*, make one photocopy, temporarily glue it to your stock, and start cutting. If you can't cut the tighter curves, make three photocopies of the pattern and use one for each elephant, temporarily gluing them to three separate pieces of stock. Before band sawing the elephants, drill out the inside curve of each trunk,

using a 1/2" bit for the larger elephant and a 3/8" bit for the other two. This way, you'll eliminate the toughest band saw cuts. The rest of the body can be cut easily, and a little filing will ensure a tight fit.

Once your elephants are cut out, drill a 7/32" hole completely through each pair of legs for the wheel axles. Follow the pattern to locate the holes to accommodate 1 1/2", 1 1/4" and 1" toy wheels.

Finishing the Elephants

To prepare the wood for finishing, sand the elephants to 150-grit, and then carefully file the interlocking joints until they slip together easily. The first coat is a mixture of two parts black oil-based enamel with one part flat urethane varnish. This makes a tough finish with a somewhat transparent appearance. For the second coat, mix two parts of blue oil-based enamel with one part ure-

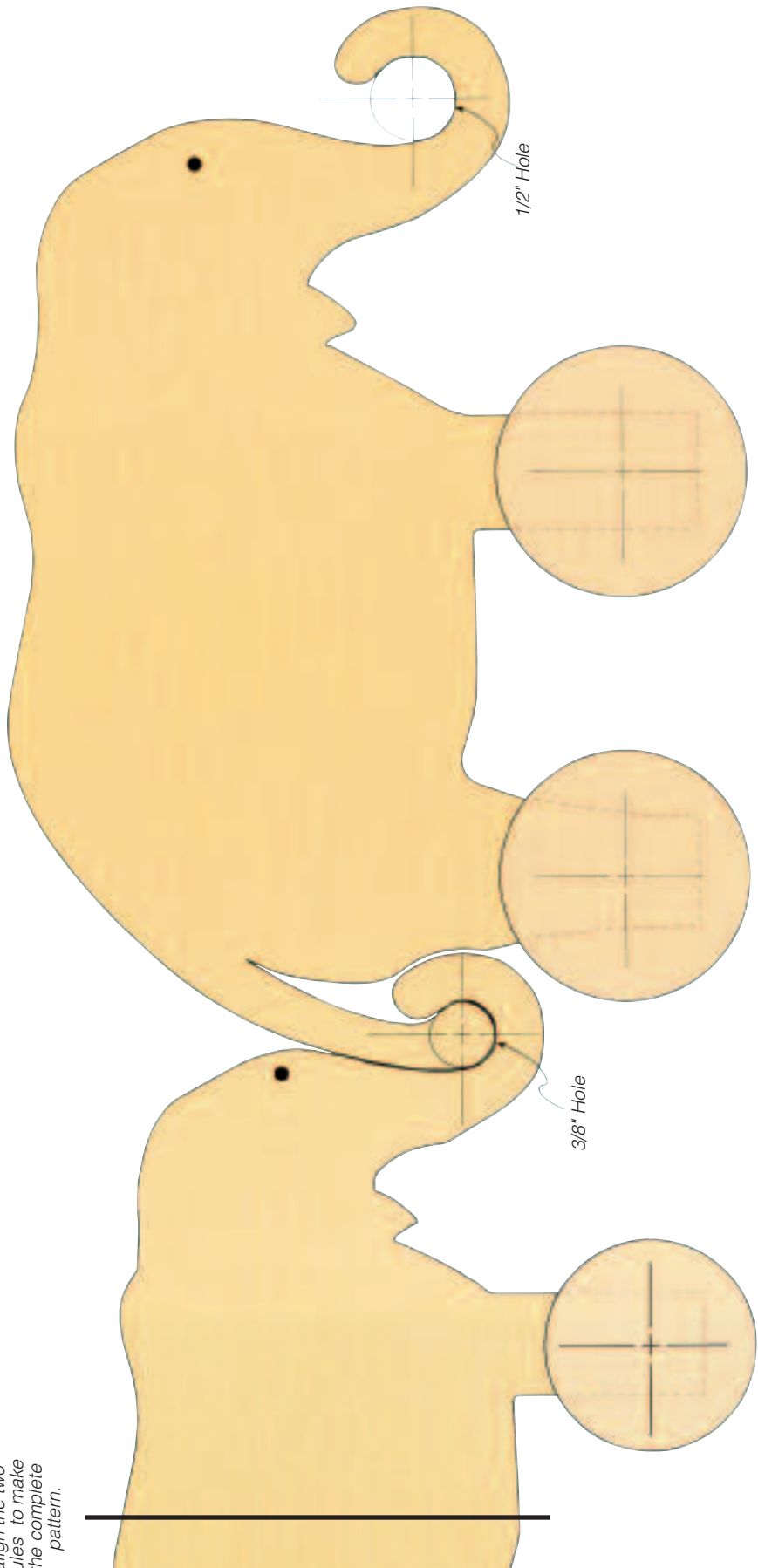


To get an antique look, use a base coat of black followed by a coat of blue. Paint for each coat is mixed with urethane first.

thane. When painting the red wheels (black undercoat first), suspend them with fishing line with a split shot weight at one end so you can paint both sides at once. Complete the assembly by slipping the axle pegs through the wheels and gluing them to the legs. To give the elephants their antique appearance, lightly sand a few spots with 600-grit sandpaper and some 0000 steel wool. Limit your sanding to the edges and a few spots, particularly where you think normal wear and tear would occur.

Full Size Patterns

After printing out, align the two rules to make the complete pattern.



Use 1/2" wheels for the father.

Use 1/4" wheels for the mother.

Full Size Patterns

