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Mobile Clamping Cart

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- Step by Step construction instruction.
- A complete bill of materials.
- Exploded view and elevation drawings.
- How-to photos with instructive captions.
- Tips to help you complete the project and become a better woodworker.



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A Mobile Clamping Cart for the Small Shop

Necessity is the mother of invention. In some shops, that's not a clever proverb, it's a design philosophy. Assembly supplies start to pile up so you design a storage fixture for them. This one has caught the eye of more than one visitor, so we thought we'd present it to you. It's a great solution to organizing clutter in a small shop.





Roll your clamps right to your work station and the appropriate supplies – glue, screws and biscuits will be close at hand.

Slicing Up the Sheet Stock

Begin your journey toward more organized clamping and gluing sessions by cutting the cart's sides and bottom to size (pieces 1 and 2) on the table saw. Create the angle on the front corner of the sides (see the *Elevation Drawings* on the next page) with a hand-held circular saw guided by a straight-edge. Rip solid stock to make pieces 3 through 6. While you're at the saw, rip the walnut banding (piece 7), too. Apply the banding to the sides and allow the glue to cure. Now, form the rabbet on the front rail

with a dado head in your table saw and notch one of the long rails, as shown in the *Drawings*. Clamp and glue pairs of long and short rails together and, after the glue

has cured, cut them to length. Attach the appropriate rails and cabinet support to the cart bottom with glue and screws. To assemble the sides and bottom, pre-drill counter-bored screw holes and, with the help of a friend, bring the pieces together. NOTE: Secure just the middle long rail at this time. See the *Drawings* for details.

Making the Center Cabinet

A clamp cart should hold more than just clamps; you also need glue, biscuits, screws and other fasteners as well. The center drawers on this cart should tidy things up well. Begin making the center storage cabinet by cutting its plywood parts (pieces 8 through 11) to size and shape (form the notch to accommodate the back rail as well). Rip some oak banding (piece 12) and use it to cover the exposed edges of the plywood pieces. Pre-drill counterbored screw holes,

assemble the cabinet (without the back) and slide it into place on the cart sub-assembly. Secure it to the rails with screws. Now go ahead and secure the back with glue and screws.

Cut the parts for the tray bank sides and top (pieces 13 and 14) and band their edges. Notch the upper corner for the rails. Put a 1/4" dado head in your table saw and plow a series of

3/8"-deep dadoes to accept the dust proof tray bottoms, as shown in the *Elevation Drawings*. Locate and cut the biscuit joints on the cabinet top and the tray bank sides. From 1/4" hardboard, cut the tray bank divider (piece 15). Now install the tray bank sides and divider with glue, screws and biscuits securing the joints.

With that subassembly in place you can install the remaining rails, both long and short. Next, cut all ten clamp dowels (pieces 16) to length (mount them to best accommodate the clamps you own), and the pipe dividers (pieces 17). Again, determine whether you have 3/4"- or 1/2"-diameter pipe clamps before you attach them. The drawer slides, casters and the hinge (pieces 18 through 20) will be mounted a bit later.

Building Drawers and Trays

The drawer faces (pieces 21, 22 and 23) are cut from 3/4" plywood and edged with the walnut banding. The drawer sides, fronts and backs (pieces 24 through 29) are made from 1/2" plywood with locking corner joints. (See the *Detail*, on page 35.) Plow the dadoes in the sides and fronts for the drawer bottoms (pieces 30) and you're ready to assemble the drawers.

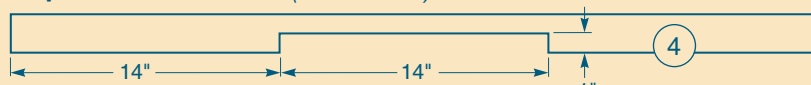
The tray sides, fronts and backs (pieces 31 and 32) are assembled with the same corner joints as the drawers. Their bottoms (pieces 33), are glued and pin-nailed in



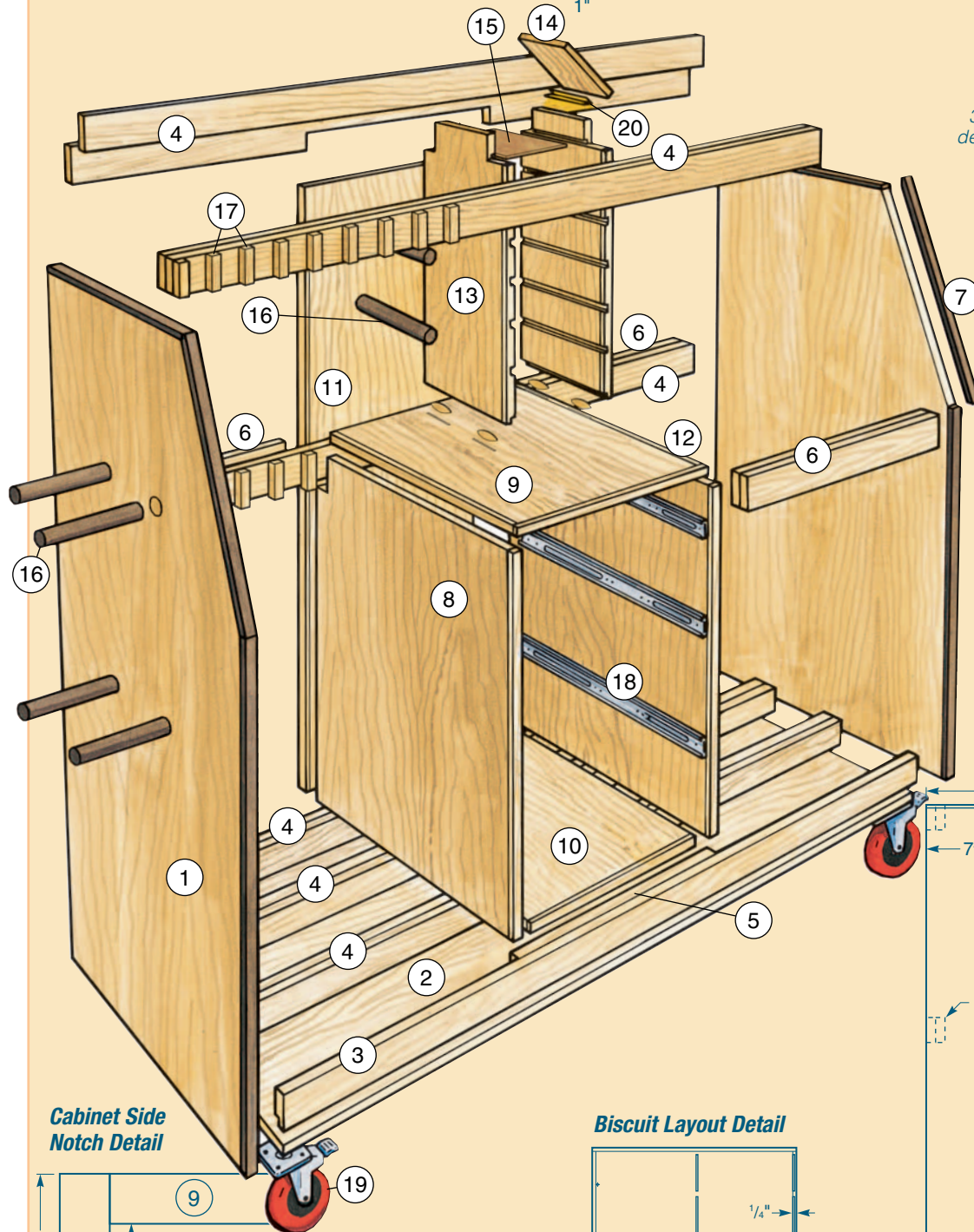
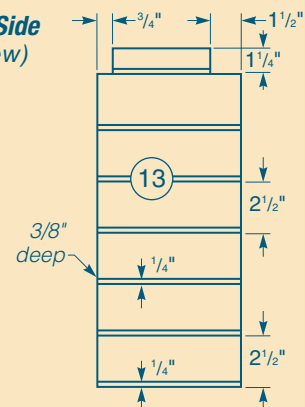
Rip the large plywood pieces first. The sides and bottom form the shell of this rolling cart.

Cart Carcass Exploded View

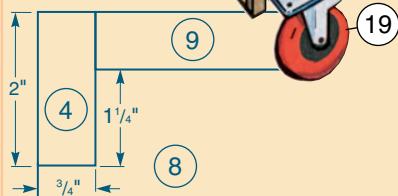
Top Rail Notch Detail (Front View)



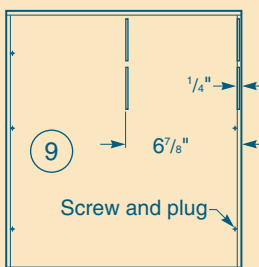
Tray Bank Side (Inside View)



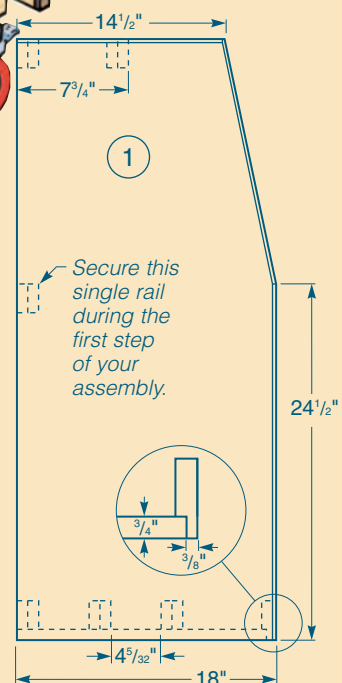
Cabinet Side Notch Detail



Biscuit Layout Detail



Cart Side



The bottom subassembly is set back the width of the walnut trim.

MATERIAL LIST—CART CARCASS

		T x W x L
1	Sides (2)	$\frac{3}{4}$ " x $17\frac{3}{4}$ " x $41\frac{1}{2}$ "
2	Bottom (1)	$\frac{3}{4}$ " x $17\frac{3}{8}$ " x 42"
3	Front Bottom Rail (1)	$\frac{3}{4}$ " x $2\frac{3}{4}$ " x 42"
4	Long Rails (11)	$\frac{3}{4}$ " x 2" x 42"
5	Cabinet Support (1)	$\frac{3}{4}$ " x 2" x 14"
6	Short Rails (4)	$\frac{3}{4}$ " x 2" x 14"
7	Walnut Banding (1)	$\frac{1}{4}$ " x $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 260"
8	Cabinet Sides (2)	$\frac{3}{4}$ " x 16" x 21"
9	Cabinet Top (1)	$\frac{3}{4}$ " x $13\frac{1}{2}$ " x $15\frac{1}{4}$ "
10	Cabinet Bottom (1)	$\frac{3}{4}$ " x $12\frac{1}{2}$ " x 16"
11	Cabinet Back (1)	$\frac{3}{4}$ " x $13\frac{1}{2}$ " x 38"
12	Oak Banding (1)	$\frac{1}{4}$ " x $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 115"
13	Tray Bank Sides (2)	$\frac{3}{4}$ " x 7" x $16\frac{1}{2}$ "
14	Tray Bank Top (1)	$\frac{3}{4}$ " x $4\frac{3}{4}$ " x 7"
15	Tray Bank Divider (1)	$\frac{1}{4}$ " x $6\frac{1}{4}$ " x $4\frac{3}{4}$ "
16	Clamp Dowels (8)	1" Dia. x 8"
17	Pipe Dividers (30)	$\frac{1}{2}$ " x $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 2"
18	Drawer Slides (3 sets)	16" Full-extension
19	Casters (4)	Locking
20	Piano Hinge (1)	Brass

place. Note that on the overhanging edges of the bottoms, these fit into the dados you cut in the tray bank sides. The walnut tray faces (pieces 34) are made in pairs—first drill the finger hole and then slice the blank down the center (see *Tray Face Blank Layout Detail*, above right). Attach them with screws.

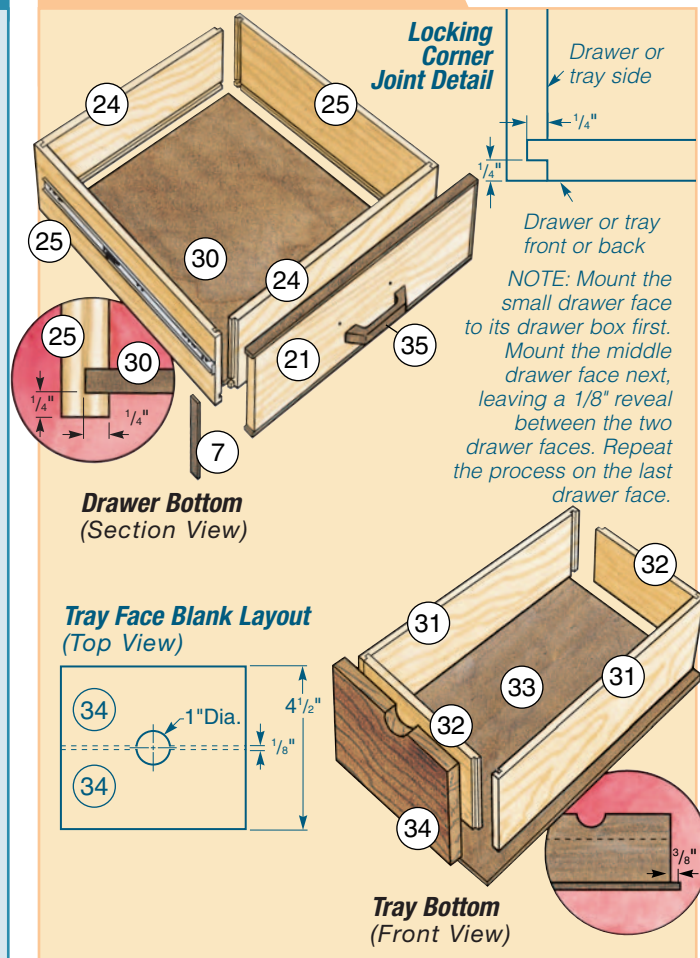
Now mount the drawer pulls (pieces 35), casters, and the hinge on the tray bank top, and you are nearly done. Cover all exposed screw holes with walnut plugs and topcoat with a penetrating finish.

You will likely want to modify the cart to suit your specific clamp collection. Keep in mind that you can fit a lot in those drawers ... that's where all our C-clamps and band clamps go.



With two stops established on the fence, drill the holes to mount the drawer pulls.

Drawer & Trays Exploded View



MATERIAL LIST—DRAWER & TRAYS

		T x W x L
21	Small Face (1)	$\frac{3}{4}$ " x $4\frac{1}{4}$ " x $13\frac{1}{2}$ "
22	Middle Face (1)	$\frac{3}{4}$ " x $6\frac{1}{4}$ " x $13\frac{1}{2}$ "
23	Large Face (1)	$\frac{3}{4}$ " x $9\frac{1}{4}$ " x $13\frac{1}{2}$ "
24	Small Front & Back (2)	$\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x 11"
25	Small Sides (2)	$\frac{1}{2}$ " x $3\frac{3}{4}$ " x $15\frac{1}{2}$ "
26	Middle Front & Back (2)	$\frac{1}{2}$ " x 6" x 11"
27	Middle Sides (2)	$\frac{1}{2}$ " x 6" x $15\frac{1}{2}$ "
28	Large Front & Back (2)	$\frac{1}{2}$ " x 8" x 11"
29	Large Sides (2)	$\frac{1}{2}$ " x 8" x $15\frac{1}{2}$ "
30	Bottoms (3)	$\frac{1}{4}$ " x 11" x 15"
31	Tray Sides (12)	$\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{3}{4}$ " x $6\frac{1}{4}$ "
32	Tray Fronts & Backs (12)	$\frac{1}{2}$ " x $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{7}{8}$ "
33	Tray Bottoms (6)	$\frac{1}{4}$ " x $6\frac{1}{4}$ " x 7"
34	Tray Faces (6)	$\frac{3}{4}$ " x $2\frac{3}{16}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ "
35	Pulls (3)	Wood