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Scroll Saw Blade Caddy

In this plan you will be getting:

- 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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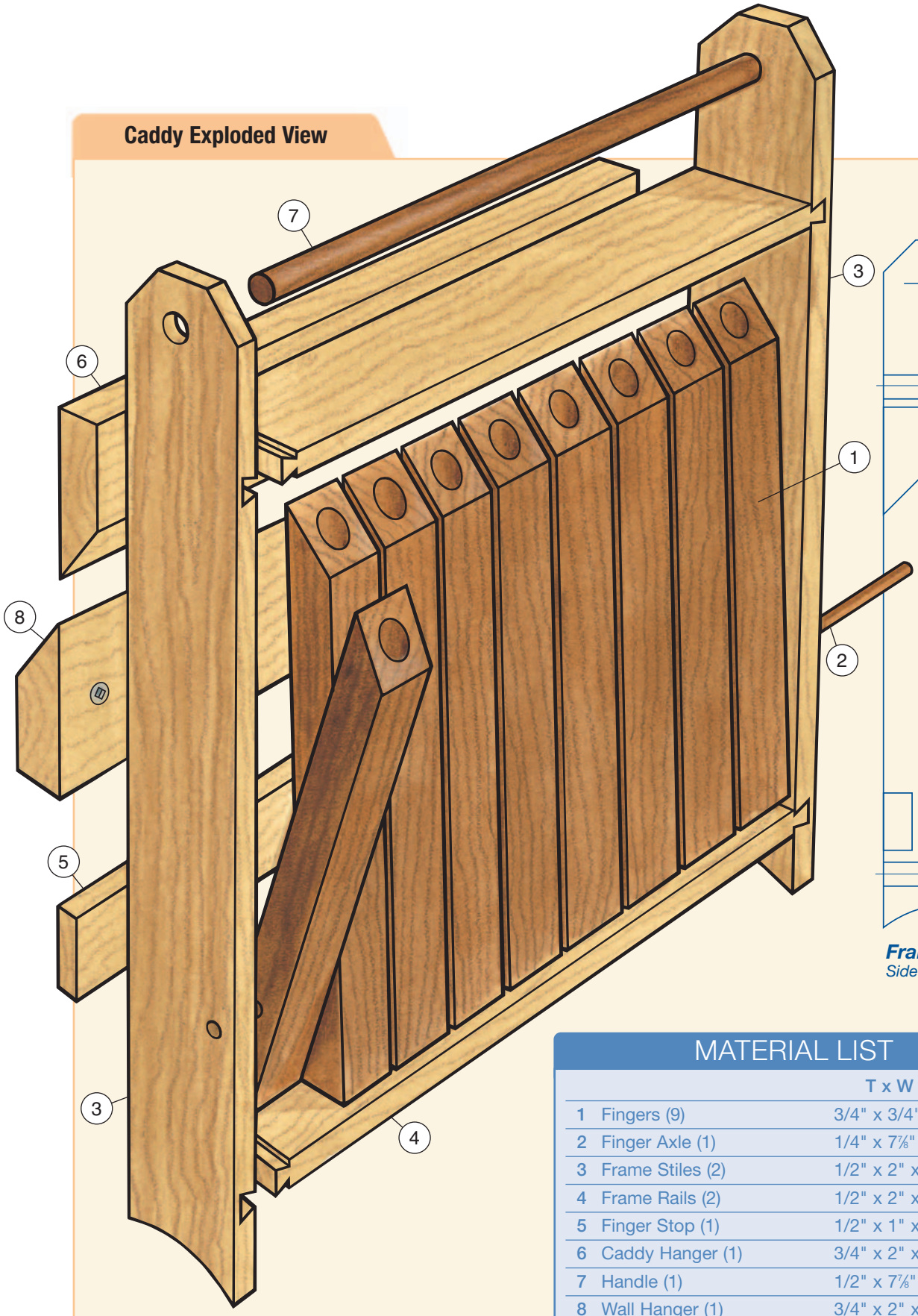
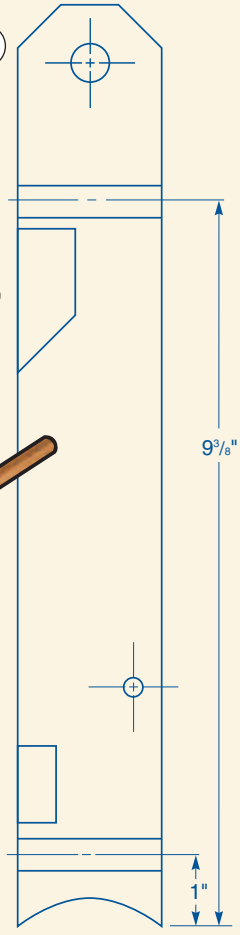
Scroll Saw Blade Caddy

Put an end to bent or disorganized scroll saw blades when you build this simple storage caddy. Nine storage "fingers" tip out to hold various blade types, and interlocking cleats make the caddy easy to mount to a wall or cabinet near your saw.

If you're a regular scroll saw user, you know that it takes more than one blade tooth configuration to cut the variety of woods, plastics and even soft metals that we encounter in our shop projects. Trouble is, blade manufacturers don't tend to package blades in containers that hold up over the long haul. And, scroll saw blades are easily bent and damaged if they're stored in a drawer with other odds and ends. Our blade caddy has nine tip-out storage "fingers" that will keep your spare blades organized and safely stored. A hanging system comprised of a pair of interlocking French cleats makes it easy to hang near the saw. One of these (piece 8) is attached to the wall, while the other (piece 6) is part of the caddy. Now, a fresh blade is always easy to find and just an arm's reach away.

Caddy Exploded View

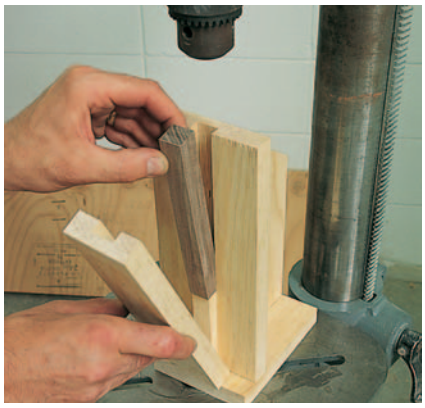




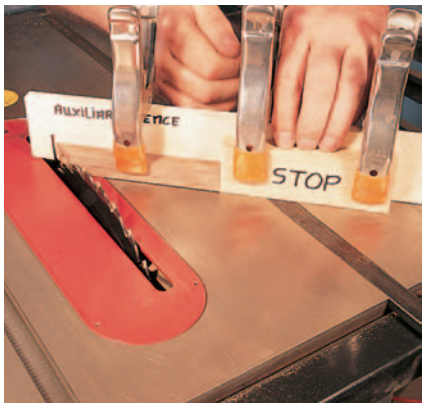
Frame Stile
Side View

MATERIAL LIST

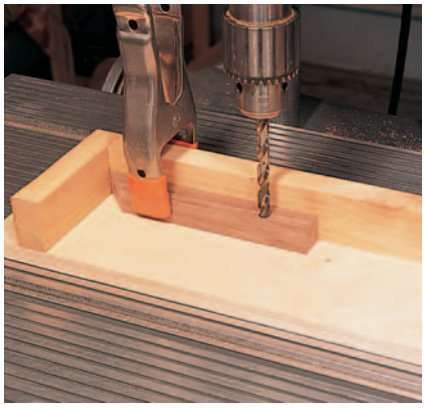
		T x W x L
1	Fingers (9)	3/4" x 3/4" x 6½"
2	Finger Axle (1)	1/4" x 7⅞" Dowel
3	Frame Stiles (2)	1/2" x 2" x 12"
4	Frame Rails (2)	1/2" x 2" x 7⅜"
5	Finger Stop (1)	1/2" x 1" x 6⅞"
6	Caddy Hanger (1)	3/4" x 2" x 6⅞"
7	Handle (1)	1/2" x 7⅞" Dowel
8	Wall Hanger (1)	3/4" x 2" x 6⅜"



Step 1: *Cut the nine 3/4" square fingers (pieces 1) to size, then use a centering jig to drill a 3/8" hole in one end of each. This jig is made from shop scraps and is nothing more than a vertical stand that locks the workpiece into a pair of matched dadoes (see* Technical Drawings*, next page).*

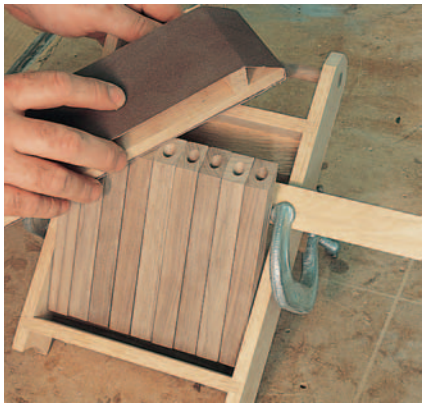


Step 2: *On your table saw, miter the top of each finger at 45°. A long auxiliary fence equipped with a stop will ensure that all pieces are cut to the same length. Make sure you use clamps to keep your fingers away from the saw blade when working with such small parts.*



Step 3: *A simple indexing jig holds the workpiece as you drill the 5/16" holes that will house the 1/4" hardwood dowel axle (piece 2). Using this jig will ensure that all nine holes line up properly. Blow sawdust out of the jig between each drilling to avoid buildup.*

Step 4: *Remove most of the waste for the dovetail dadoes in the stiles (pieces 3) with a straight router bit, then finish with a 9° by 1/4" dovetail bit. To make the matching tails on the rails (pieces 4), move the fence to cover a portion of the dovetail bit (see* Technical Drawings*).*



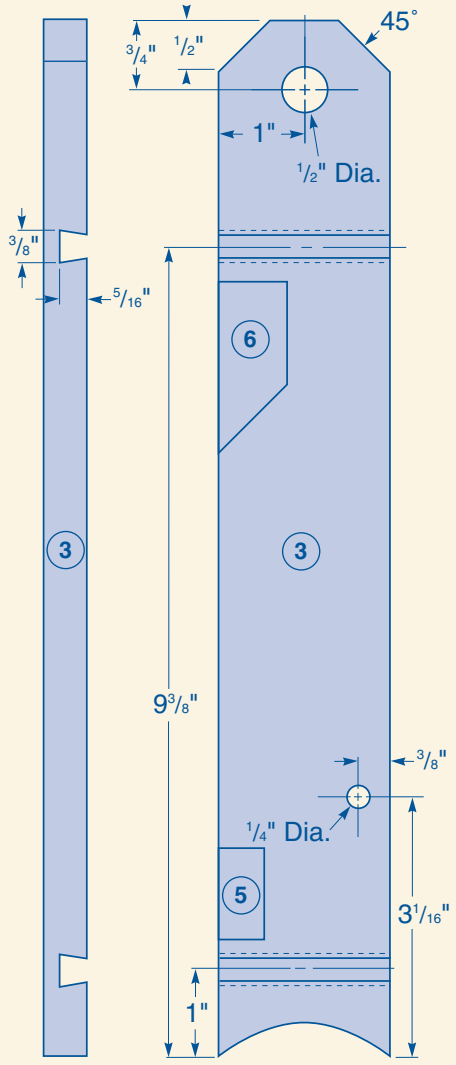
Step 5: *Use the* Technical Drawings *to drill 1/2" and 1/4" dowel holes in the stiles, then glue and clamp the frame, including the finger stop (piece 5), caddy hanger (piece 6), and handle (piece 7). Now dry-fit the fingers and axle and, with a brace clamped behind them, sand the tops flush.*

Step 6: *Finish the fingers and all of the frame except the outsides of the stiles before final assembly. After the finish is dry, permanently install the fingers and axle, then sand the axle ends flush and finish the outside faces of the caddy stiles and the wall hanger (piece 8).*

Technical Drawings

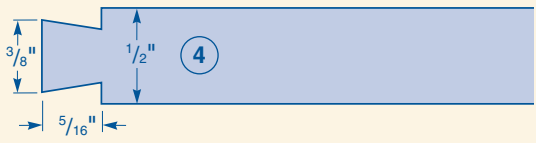
Frame Stile

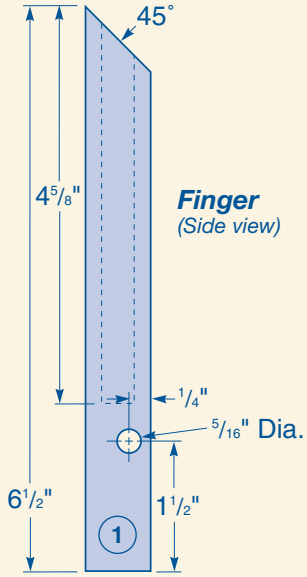
(Front view) *(Side view)*



Frame Rail

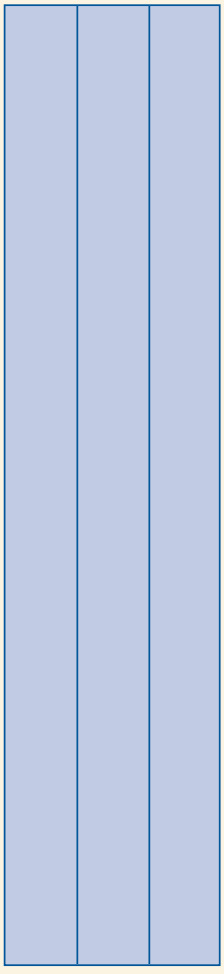
(Front view)

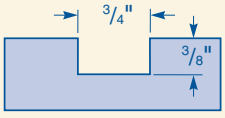




Finger
(Side view)

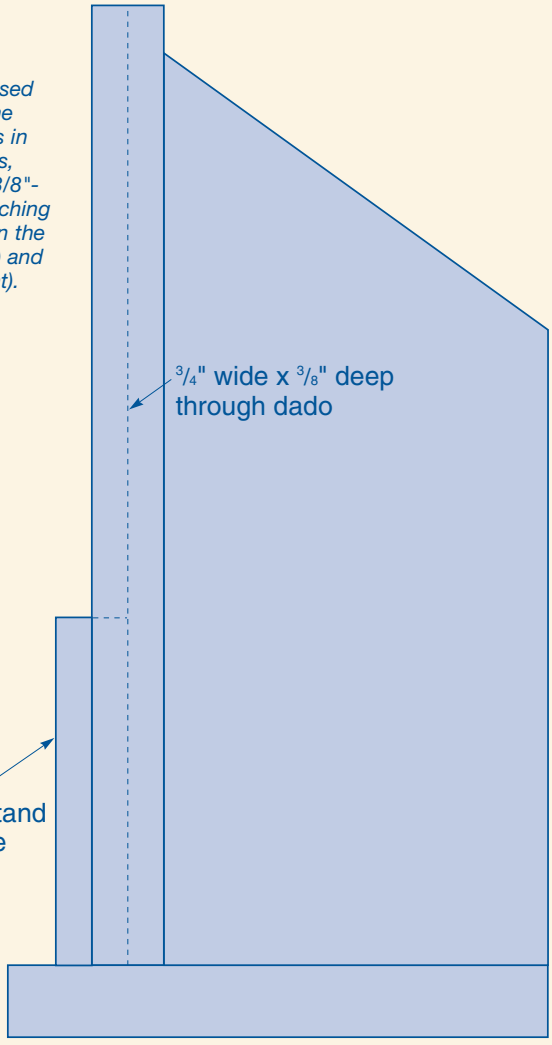
Centering Jig Plate
(Front view)



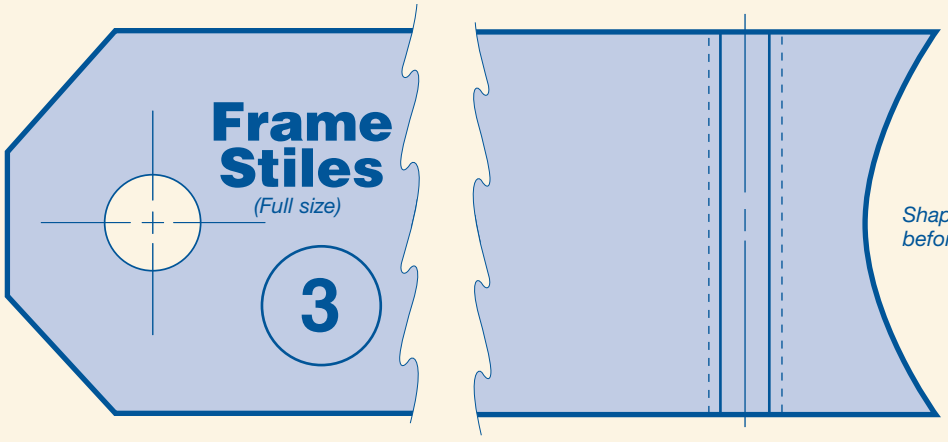


This jig, used to bore the 3/8" holes in the fingers, requires 3/8"-deep matching dadoes on the plate (left) and base (right).

Centering Jig Base
(Side view)



NOTE: *Use 3/4" x 3/4" scrap to get the bit centered on the workpiece. Then clamp the base in place to bore the blade holes in the fingers.*



Shape top and bottom before assembly.