

# WOODWORKER'S JOURNAL

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## Classic Project



### 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.

## Band-Sawn Napkin Holder

**GIFT SHOP**

### Band-Sawn Napkin Holder

This stylish napkin holder will make an attractive addition to any dining room setting. In use, the angled bottom makes the two halves tip together so the napkins stay neatly in place. The leather acts as a hinge.

Brad and Sandy Smith, owners of Bradford Woodworking in Worcester, Pennsylvania, were kind enough to share their design with us. It's a good seller at the many craft shows they attend throughout the country.

The procedure for making the piece is shown on the facing page. Begin by cutting 1 1/2 in. thick stock to 2 1/4 in. wide by 14 in. long. We use cherry, but just about any wood can be used.

Using the full-size pattern provided, trace the profile on the stock as shown. Once traced, use a band saw to cut out the profile (but don't cut the 13-degree angle yet), taking care to stay slightly on the waste side of the line. Sand the band-sawn surfaces, starting with 80-grit, followed by 120-, 180-, and 220-grits. If you have one, a drum sander will come in handy here.

The table saw is used to cut the 13-degree angle on the bottom end of each half. Before starting, though, it's a good idea to make an auxiliary wooden fence for the miter gauge. The fence should be made from flat, straight stock (plywood is a good choice), and it should be long and high enough to support the project stock. For a Sears 10 in. table saw, a fence that's about 3/4 in. thick by 2 1/2 in. wide by 12 in. long will work just fine. Use wood screws to firmly secure it to the miter gauge.

Now, set the table saw blade to make the 13-degree angle shown. Also, set the blade to a height of 1 1/8 in. If your blade tilts to the left (when viewed from the front of the saw), you'll need to use the right hand miter gauge slot for this step. If your saw blade tilts to the right, use the left hand slot. Our illustration shows a saw with a blade that tilts to the left, so the miter gauge is in the right hand slot.

Next, clamp a stopblock to the auxiliary fence. Locate the stopblock so that, when the stock is crosscut, it establishes the 6 1/4 in. length of each napkin holder half. Hold the stock firmly against the miter gauge auxiliary fence and the stopblock, then crosscut the stock to get one of the halves. Use the same procedure to cut the other half to length.

In order to provide a means to securely attach the leather, you'll first need to cut a 1/2 in. wide by 3/4 in. deep by 2 1/2 in. long stopped dado in each half. This is best done with a router table and a 1/2 in. diameter straight bit. You'll also need a pair of stopblocks.

To make the dado, set the bit to a height of 1/8 in. and secure the router table fence 3/4 in. from the bit as shown. Also, clamp the stopblocks to the fence, locating them 2 1/2 in. on each side of the router bit center line (see Top View of Router Table). Start the router and, while holding the stock on the table at an angle (see End View — Dado Cut), butt the end against the fence. Slowly lower the stock into the bit, then cut the 2 1/2 in. long dado using the stopblocks to control the length. To complete the dado, you'll need to repeat the process two more

times, once with the bit set 1/4 in. high, and once with the bit set 3/8 in. high. (Making the 3/8 in. deep dado cut in three steps results in a smoother cut with less burning.)

You'll need some leather to make the hinge. Just about any kind will do so long as it's flexible enough to permit the two halves of the holder to tip together. If you don't have a local source, you can get leather via mail-order from the Tandy Leather Company, P.O. Box 791, Fort Worth, TX 76101. We ordered their "Half Back" (part number 4130) which is a piece of 1/8 in. thick leather measuring 3 1/2 in. wide by 4 1/4 in. long. The price is 98 cents each plus 50 cents shipping and handling. We cut it into two pieces, each one measuring 2 1/4 in. wide by 3 in. long, then the two pieces were glued together to get a thickness equal to the 1/8 in. wide dado cut. White glue does a good job bonding leather.

The two halves of the napkin holder can now be final sanded. When smoothed to your satisfaction, glue the ends of the leather into the dado. Use white glue and allow to dry thoroughly. To complete the project, apply two coats of a good penetrating oil.

The Woodworker's Journal



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Using the full-size pattern provided, trace the profile on the stock as shown. Once traced, use a band saw to cut out the profile (but don't cut the 13-degree angle yet), taking care to stay slightly on the waste side of the line. Sand the band-sawn surfaces, starting with 80-grit, followed by 120-, 180-, and 220-grits. If you have one, a drum sander will come in handy here.

The table saw is used to cut the 13-degree angle on the bottom end of each half. Before starting, though, it's a good idea to make an auxiliary wooden fence for the miter gauge. The fence should be made from flat, straight stock (plywood is a good choice), and it should be long and high enough to support the project stock. For a Sears 10 in. table saw, a fence that's about  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. thick by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in. wide by 12 in. long will work just fine. Use wood screws to firmly secure it to the miter gauge.

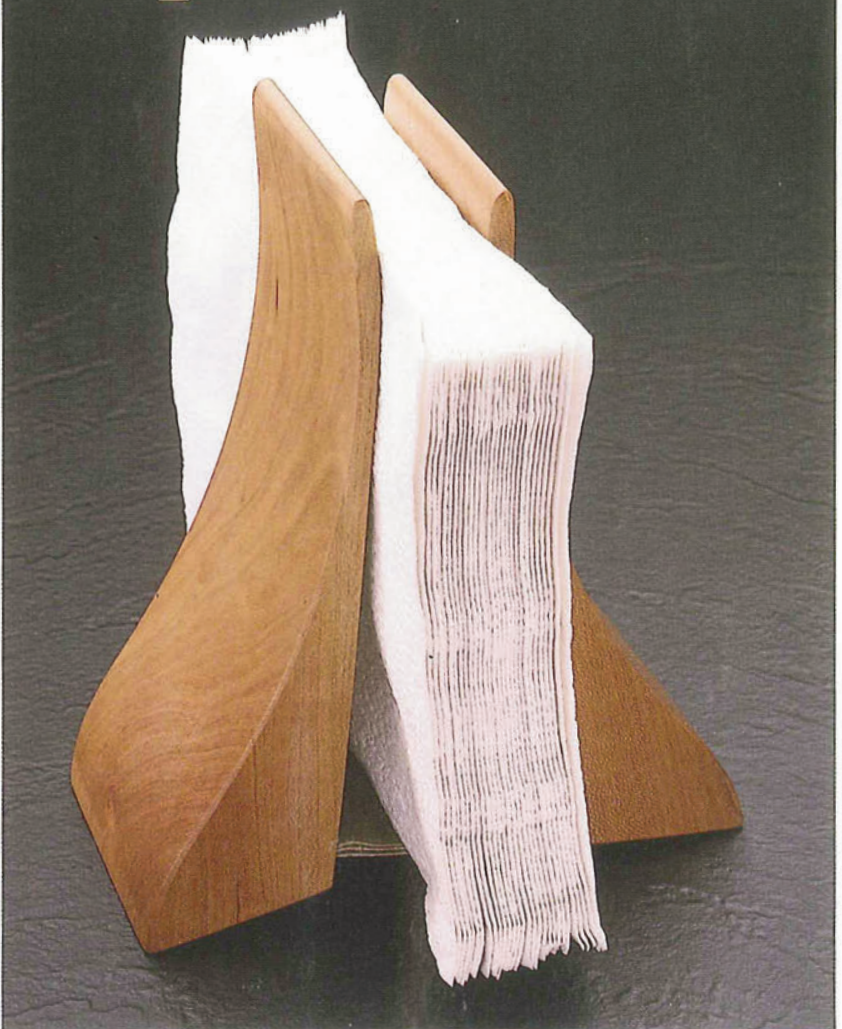
Now, set the table saw blade to make the 13-degree angle shown. Also, set the blade to a height of  $1\frac{7}{8}$  in. If your blade tilts to the left (when viewed from the front of the saw), you'll need to use the right hand miter gauge slot for this step. If your saw blade tilts to the right, use the left hand slot. Our illustration shows a saw with a blade that tilts to the left, so the miter gauge is in the right hand slot.

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In order to provide a means to securely attach the leather, you'll first need to cut a  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. wide by  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. deep by  $2\frac{3}{8}$  in. long stopped dado in each half. This is best done with a router table and a  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. diameter straight bit. You'll also need a pair of stopblocks.

To make the dado, set the bit to a height of  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. and secure the router table fence  $\frac{5}{8}$  in. from the bit as shown. Also, clamp the stopblocks to the fence, locating them  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in. on each side of the router bit center line (see Top View of Router Table). Start the router and, while holding the stock on the table at an angle (see End View — Dado Cut), butt the end against the fence. Slowly lower the stock into the bit, then cut the  $2\frac{3}{8}$  in. long dado using the stopblocks to control the length. To complete the dado, you'll need to repeat the process two more

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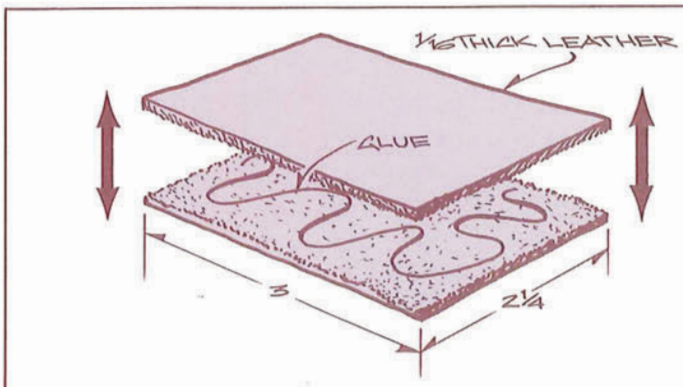
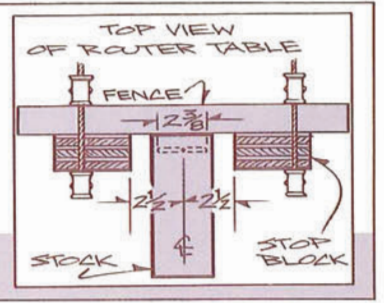
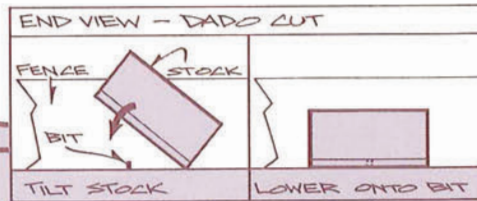
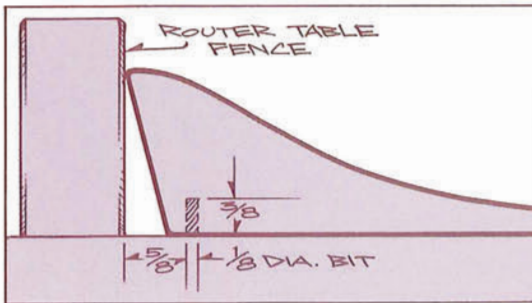
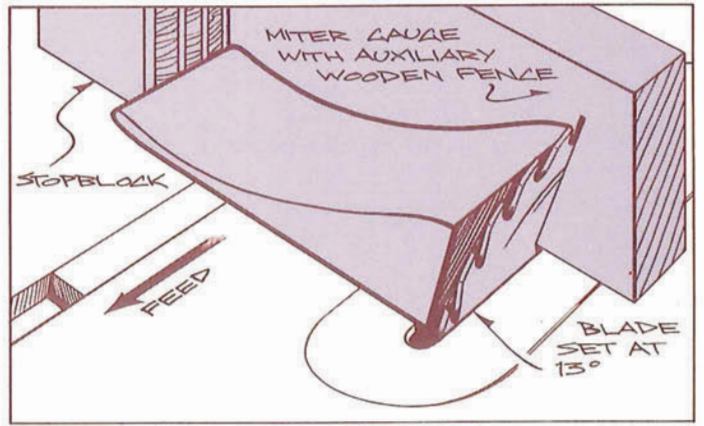
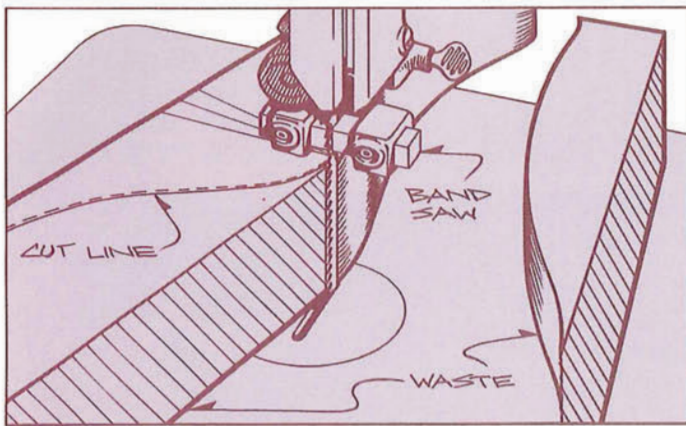
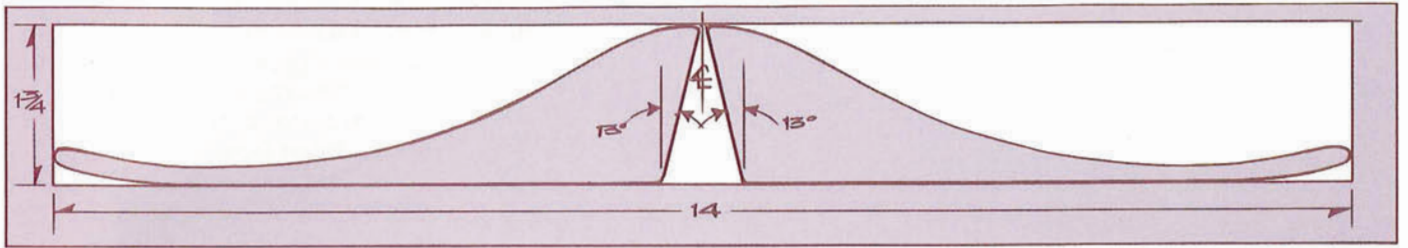
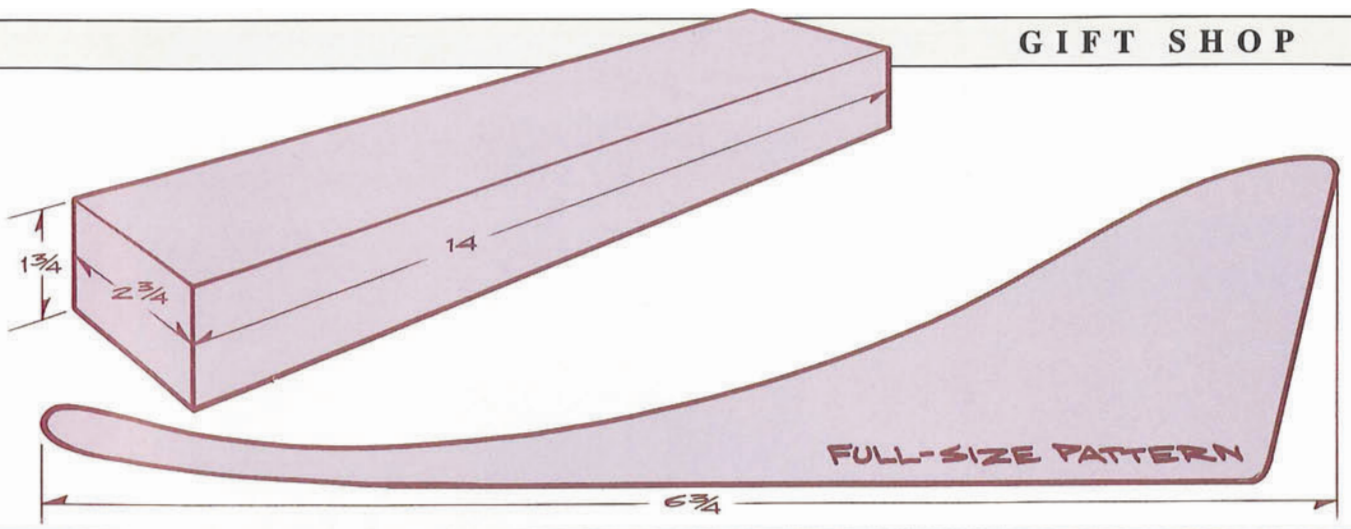


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