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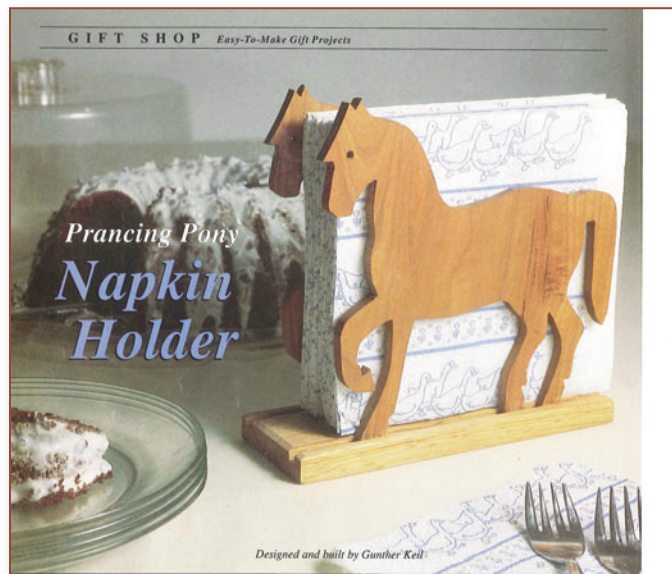
Classic Project



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.

Prancing Pony Napkin Holder



A few hours in the workshop should be all that's needed to make this fanciful napkin holder. We've also found that it doubles nicely as a letter rack. It's a great project for scroll saw enthusiasts, although the band or saber saw can also be used. The horses are made from cherry, and the base is oak, but just about any combination of woods can be used.

The two horses are made from 1/4 in. thick stock. If you don't have a thickness planer, check with your local lumberyard or millwork shop as they will often plane down thicker stock for a nominal charge. Usually, we can suggest resawing as another option, but in this case the 7 in. wide stock is a bit too wide for most band saws. However, you could resaw 3/2 in. wide stock, then edge-glue it to

get the 7 in. width. And, of course, there is another method for thinning stock that cabinetmakers have used for generations — a few minutes work with a sharp hand plane.

You'll need enough 1/4 in. thick stock to yield two pieces, each one measuring at least 7 in. square. Transfer the full-size horse profile from the drawing to one of the pieces, then stack one piece upon the other using double-face tape to temporarily join them. Stacking the two pieces will enable you to cut both at the same time. For greatest strength, the grain direction on both pieces should run vertically (see illustration).

Now, bore the 1/8 in. diameter eye holes, then cut out the horse profile using the scroll saw, band saw, or saber saw. Once cut, use files, scrapers, and

sandpaper to smooth the edges. Areas of short grain can easily break, so use care here. After the edges have been smoothed, you can separate the two pieces and remove the tape.

Cut the 3/8 in. thick base to 2 1/4 in. wide and 7 1/4 in. long. The chamfer can be added with a file or block plane. Use the table saw and rip fence to cut the two grooves as shown in the drawing. The grooves should be just wide enough to create a snug fit for the feet of each horse.

Glue the horses in the grooves as shown, then set aside to dry. Once dry, use a chisel to remove any glue squeeze-out before adding a clear finish. We used a penetrating oil, but a varnish or shellac will also work fine.



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Having trouble downloading the plans?

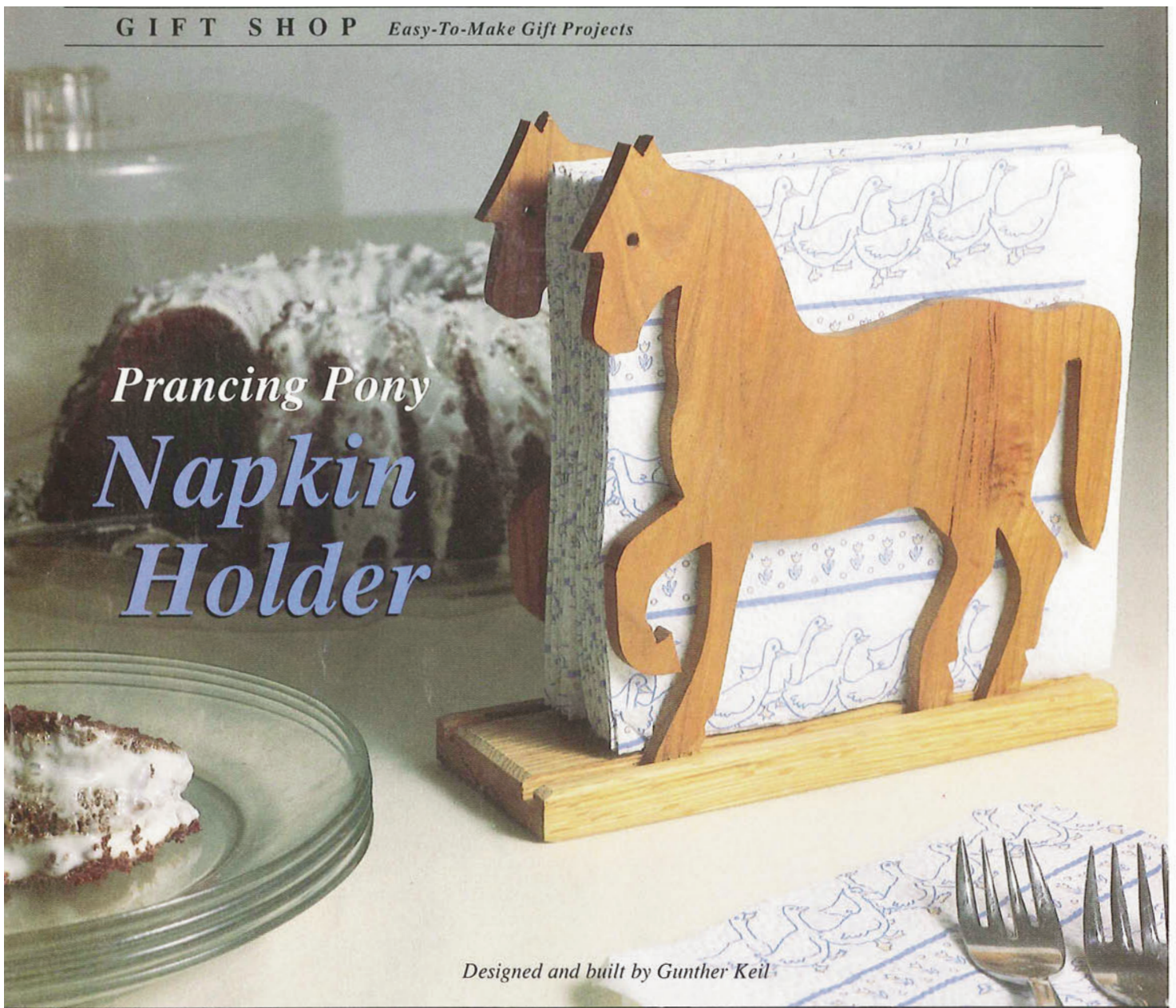
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Published in *Woodworker's Journal* July/August 1991

www.woodworkersjournal.com

\$1.00
WJC086



Designed and built by Gunther Keil

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The two horses are made from $\frac{1}{4}$ in. thick stock. If you don't have a thickness planer, check with your local lumberyard or millwork shop as they will often plane down thicker stock for a nominal charge. Usually, we can suggest resawing as another option, but in this case the 7 in. wide stock is a bit too wide for most band saws. However, you could resaw $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide stock, then edge-glue it to


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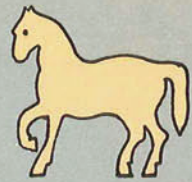
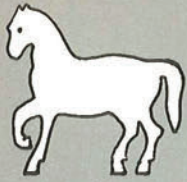
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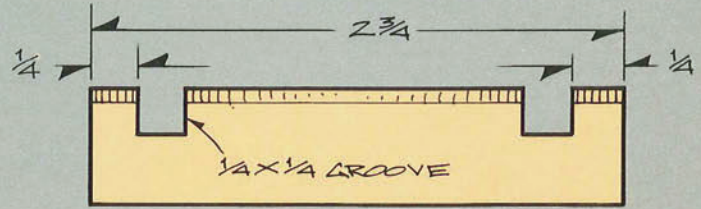
sandpaper to smooth the edges. Areas of short grain can easily break, so use care here. After the edges have been smoothed, you can separate the two pieces and remove the tape.

Cut the $\frac{5}{8}$ in. thick base to $2\frac{3}{4}$ in. wide and $7\frac{1}{4}$ in. long. The chamfer can be added with a file or block plane. Use the table saw and rip fence to cut the two grooves as shown in the drawing. The grooves should be just wide enough to create a snug fit for the feet of each horse.

Glue the horses in the grooves as shown, then set aside to dry. Once dry, use a chisel to remove any glue squeeze-out before adding a clear finish. We used a penetrating oil, but a varnish or shellac will also work fine. 



BASE - SIDE VIEW



FULL-SIZE PATTERN

GRAIN

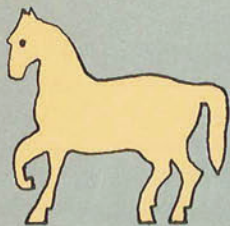
1/4 STOCK

BASE

1/8 CHAMFER ALL AROUND

5/8

7 1/4



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Thank you again for your purchase, and happy woodworking!

Matt Becker
Internet Production Coordinator