

# 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.

## Pussycat Napkin Holder



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# *Pussycat* Napkin Holder

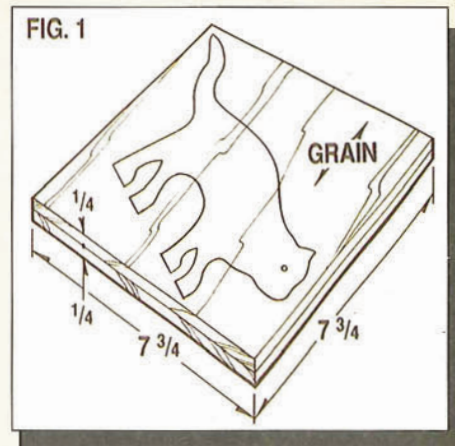
A few hours in the woodshop are all you'll need to make this cute project. Our thanks to Gunther Keil of Trumansburg, New York, for providing us with the design.

Walnut is used for the cats, while the base is oak, but any number of wood species will work well here. You'll need thin stock for this project;  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. thick for the cats,  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. thick for the base. But, don't despair if your shop equipment doesn't include a thickness planer. Since there isn't much stock required for this project, some work with a sharp hand plane should quickly yield all you'll need.

To cut the cats, you'll need two pieces

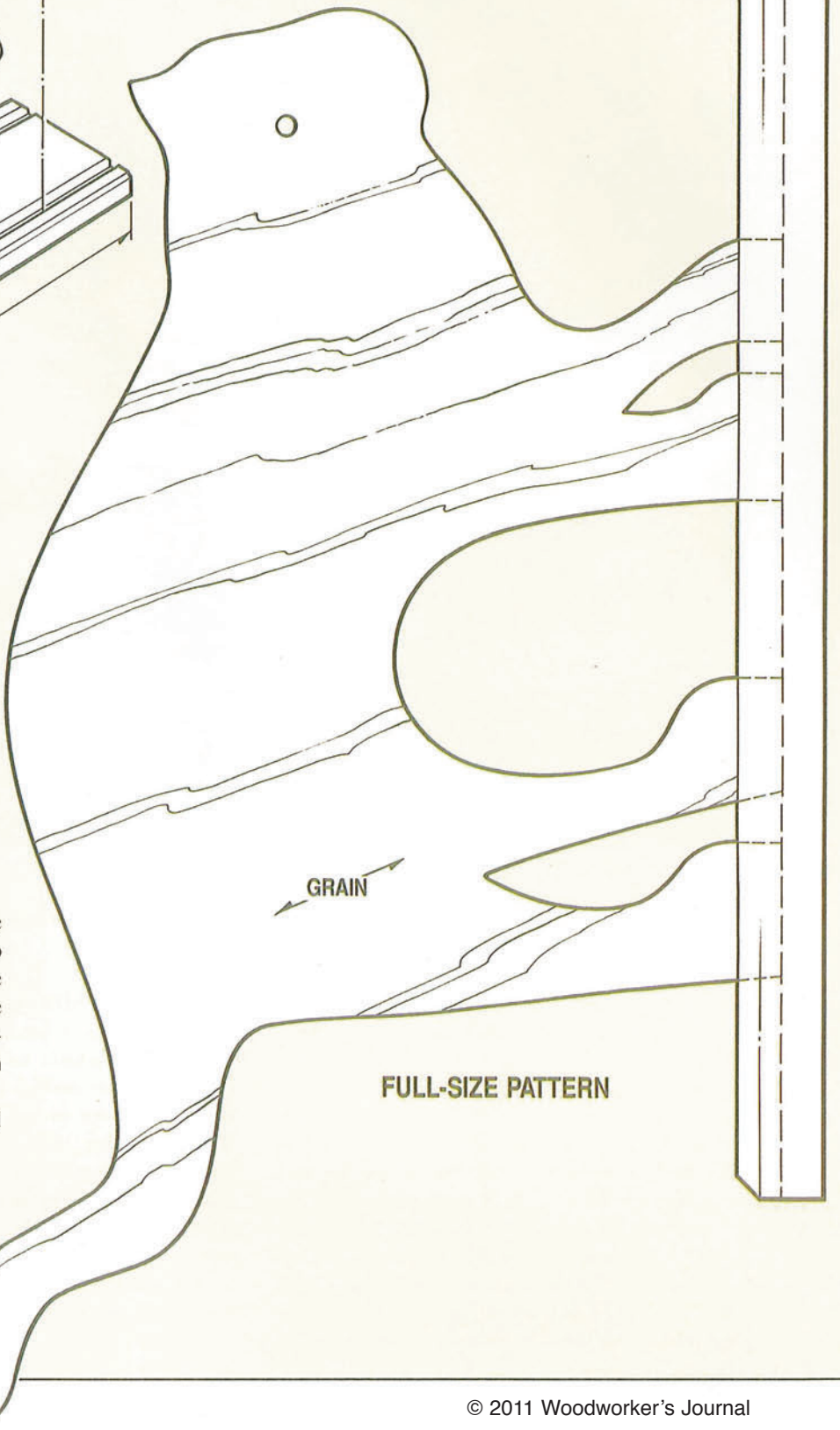
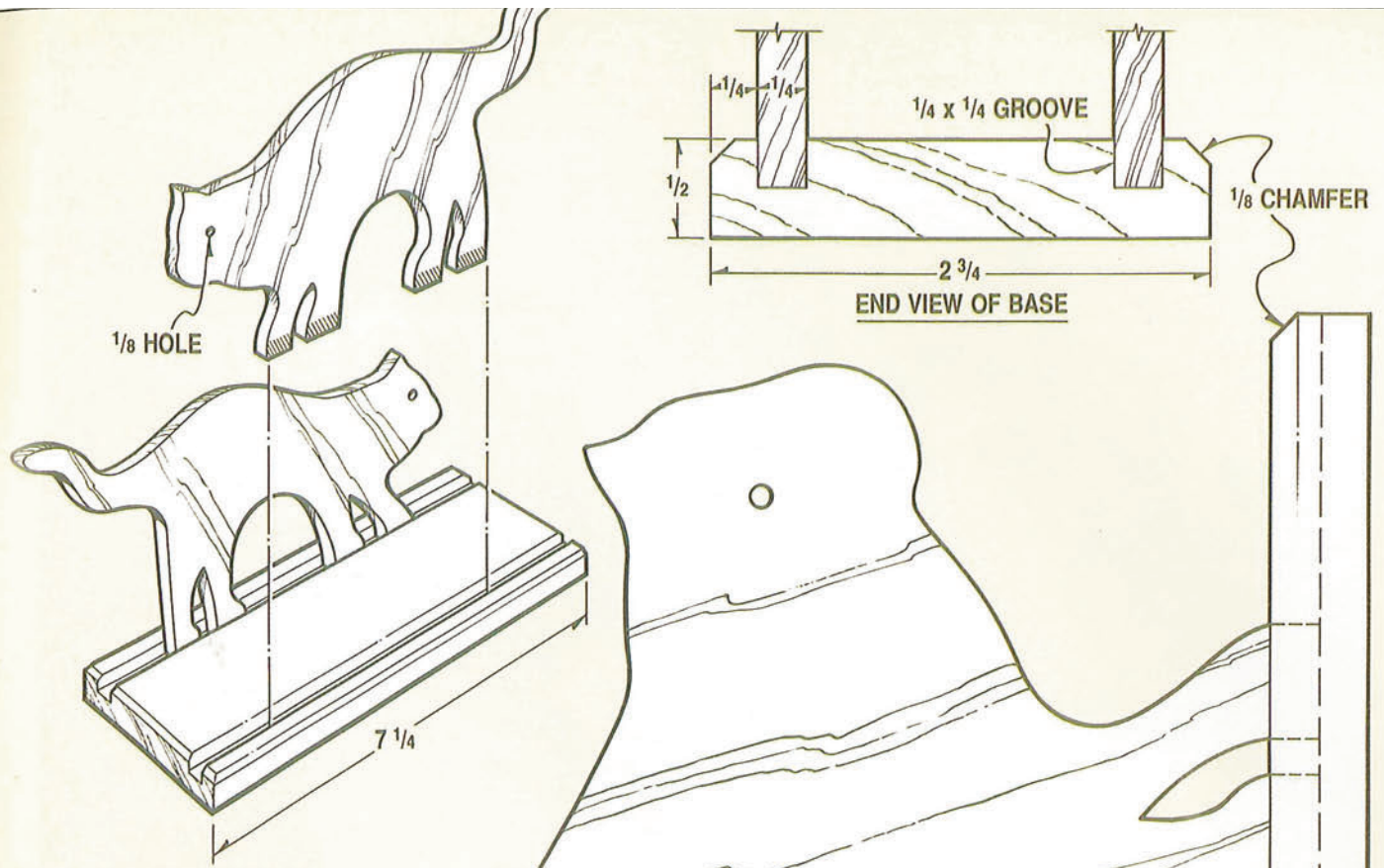
of  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. thick stock measuring  $7\frac{3}{4}$  in. square. Transfer the full-size pattern to one of the pieces, then use doublestick (carpet) tape to temporarily join the two parts together (Fig. 1). When transferring the pattern, you'll want the grain to run in the direction shown in the full-size pattern. The grain direction shown keeps "short-grain" to a minimum, so narrow parts like the tail or legs will be less likely to break should the project be dropped or bumped.

With the two pieces taped together, use a scroll saw or a hand-held jig saw to cut both parts at the same time, then bore the eye holes with a  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. diameter drill bit. If your saw has made a fine cut, the




edges of the cat profile may not even need sanding. But, if the edges look rough, you'll want to sand them a bit





before separating the two parts.

Cut the base to size, then use the table saw or router table to cut the two 1/4 in. wide by 1/4 in. deep grooves. The 1/8 in. chamfer can be cut using the router table and a 45-degree chamfering bit, or it can be done by hand with a file and sandpaper.

Give the two cats and the base a final sanding through 220 grit. Once sanded, apply a thin coat of glue to the feet of each cat and fit them into the grooves as shown. Allow to dry, then apply a couple of coats of a clear final finish to complete the project. 

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