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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.



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Quilt Crane



Quilt Crane

Swing-arm design shows off your favorite quilt

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WEEKEND WOODSHOP

EASY-TO-MAKE
GIFTS, TOYS &
ACCESSORIES

Beautiful quilts deserve to be prominently displayed so that they can be enjoyed and appreciated by all. Most often, we see them hung on walls or folded and placed on freestanding racks, but this project suggests another way to show them off. Reminiscent of an old-fashioned fireplace crane, this design swings away from the wall, making it easy to add or change a quilt. And the crane can be mounted at any wall height to accommodate quilts of various sizes.

Begin by making the brace (A). We use oak, but any hardwood can be used. For maximum strength, the grain must run in the direction shown in the drawing, so start by cutting a piece of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick stock to at least 8 wide and 15 in. long.

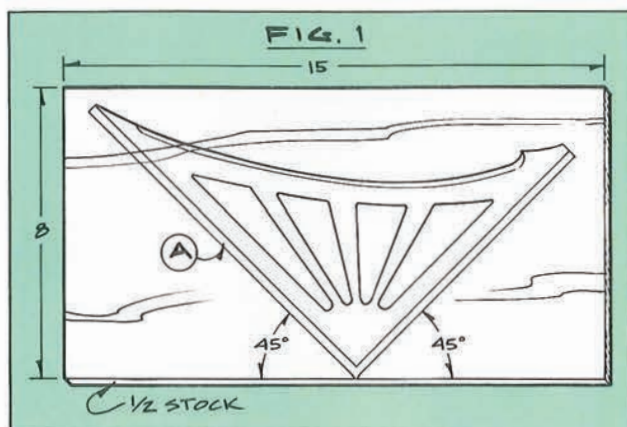
various brace curves. As shown, bore a $\frac{5}{16}$ in. diameter hole to create the tight curve in each interior cutout.

Cut the support (B) and arm (C) to size, then rout the $\frac{1}{4}$ in. by $\frac{1}{4}$ in. grooves in each one. Also, cut the $\frac{1}{4}$ in. by $\frac{1}{4}$ in. tenon on the upper end of the support.

Referring to the drawing, note that the lower edge of the arm tapers to $\frac{3}{4}$ in. at the end. The taper starts about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. past the groove. Layout and mark the taper, then cut it out using the band saw. When cutting, stay slightly on the waste side of the marked line, then use a hand plane to smooth it exactly to the line. With a 45 degree chamfering bit in the router table, apply a $\frac{3}{16}$ in. chamfer to the arm as shown. Also chamfer the brace

curve. Final sand, then glue and clamp the brace, support and arm as shown. Now, cut the back (D) to size and use the router table to make the two $\frac{1}{4}$ in. deep by $\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide dados. Transfer the curved patterns to each end and cut them out with the scroll saw. Also, apply a chamfer to the front edges.

Quilts are often heavy, so it's important that the crane be solidly mounted to your wall. Ours is secured with a pair of keyhole plates.



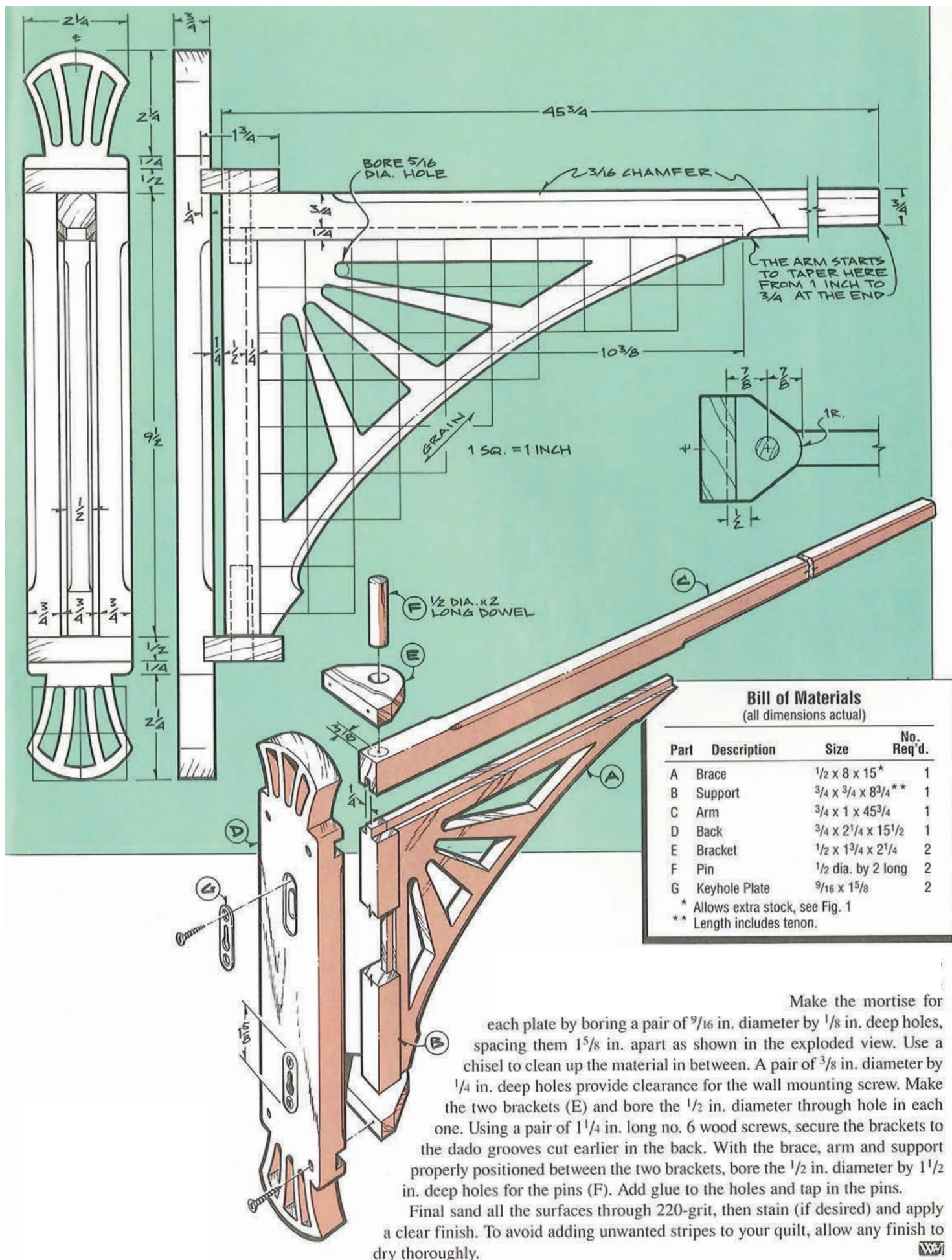
Transfer the grid pattern (be sure to include the $\frac{1}{4}$ in. long tenons) from the drawing to a piece of tracing paper, then transfer the pattern to the stock (Fig. 1). With the table saw miter gauge set to 45 degrees, make the two angled cuts as shown. Then, using the router table equipped with a straight bit, cut the $\frac{1}{4}$ in. by $\frac{1}{4}$ in. tenons.

Use a scroll saw to cut the

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Matt Becker
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