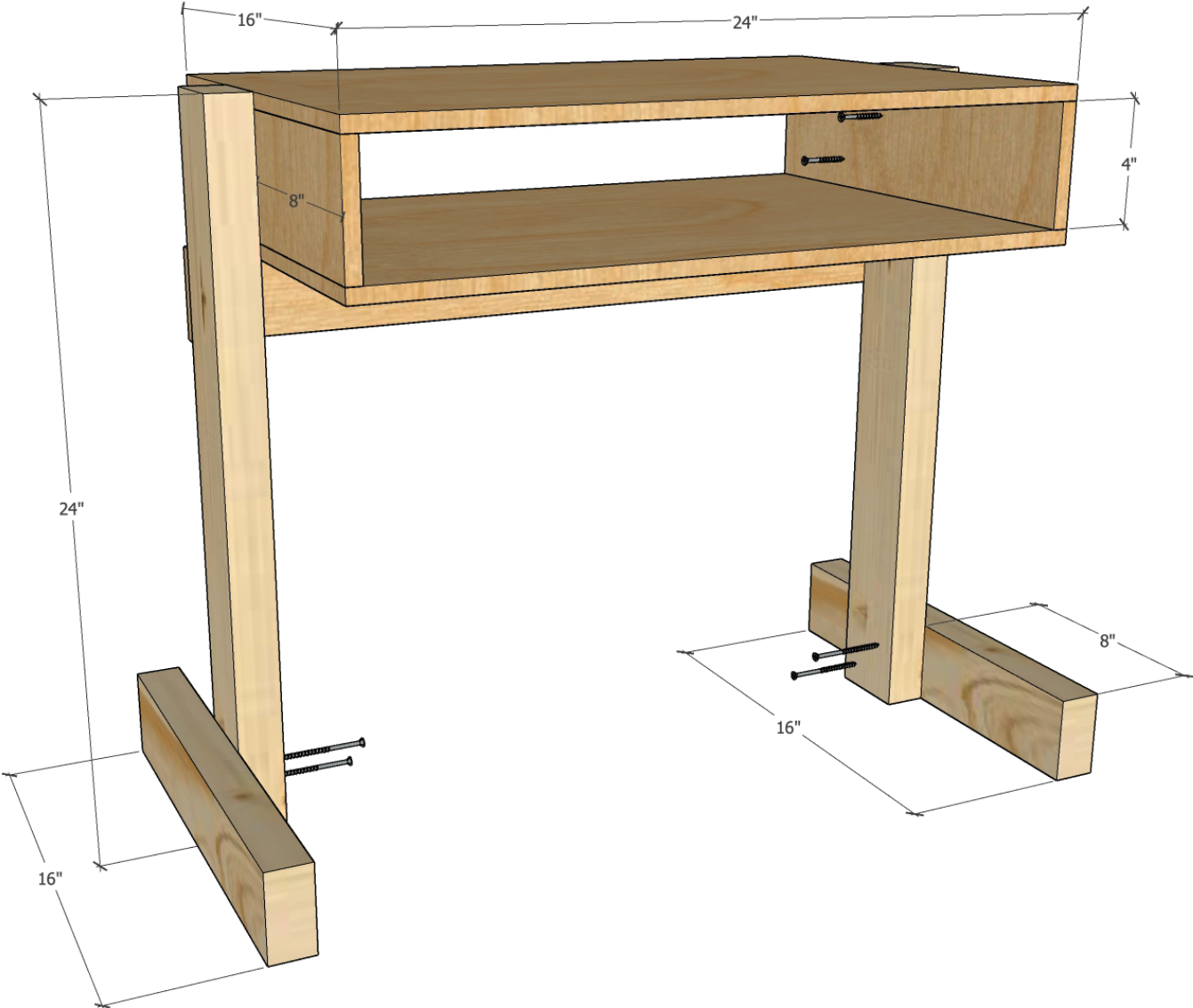


Simplified Kid's Desk

Plans for Building



Front View

Introduction

The simplified kid's desk was designed by Marc Spagnuolo, a.k.a. *The Wood Whisperer* (<https://thewoodwhisperer.com/>) and is copyrighted by him. A video showing its construction can be found on that website.

A single quarter-sheet of ½-inch 2x4 feet sanded plywood and one 96-inch 2x4 stud are all that is needed to construct a single desk.

The desk is assembled using glue, brad nails for the top, and 1-½-inch and 2-½-inch wood screws. You could also use 1-inch screws for the top in place of brad nails. Pre-drill all screw holes to prevent the wood from splitting.

The purpose of the design was to be relatively inexpensive, placing function over looks. Do not fret if you are not a fine-furniture builder.

Tools

This desk can be made using nothing but a circular saw for all cuts, and a drill, screwdriver, and hammer. A straight edge will help for cutting out the top pieces.

Any interior wood glue will suffice for all the joints.

Optionally, a clamp that opens to 25 inches wide for the final leg attachment would be useful to have. Clamps are also useful for holding the chair parts in place while glueing and screwing.

Desk Construction Steps

1. Begin by cutting out the plywood pieces needed to make the box top. (See *cut list* illustration.) First, rip the 3-inch wide strip from which the stretcher will be cut. Next, cut the 4-inch wide strip that will be used for the desk top sides. Lastly, cut the 16-inch wide strips that will be used to cut out the desk top pieces. Cut that 16-inch strip in half to get two 24x16 inch top pieces.
2. Cut the 3-inch wide stretcher to 27 inches in length. Cut the side pieces to 16-inch lengths, matching the width of the top pieces.
3. Construct the desk top box by applying glue to the side piece edges and aligning the top pieces as shown in the illustrations. Use 1-inch brad nails to hold the pieces firmly in place. Wipe off excess glue and set aside for the glue to dry, at least 6 hours.
4. Cut the leg and foot pieces from the 2x4 board to the dimensions shown, 24 and 16 inches.
5. Construct the left and right leg assemblies. Apply glue to each surface, clamp the pieces in place and make sure they are square. Drive in two 2-½-inch screws as shown in the illustration.
6. After the top assemblies have dried, sand them with 120-grit paper, making sure side edges are flush at each joint. Sand to round over all edges to prevent sharp edges and remove splinters.
7. Sand all the leg assemblies to smooth out joints and to round over all the edges.
8. Attach the legs to the desktops using glue and two 1-½-inch wood screws drilled in

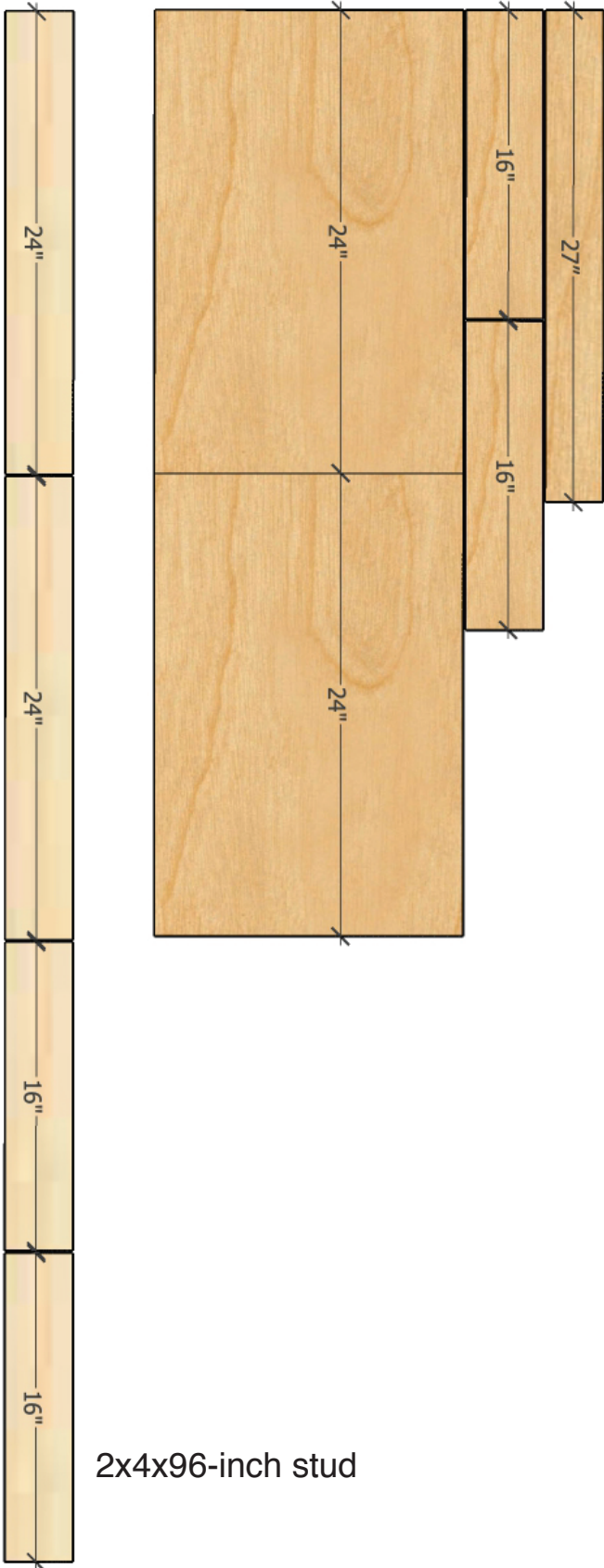
from the inside of the desktop, as shown. Make sure the legs are set back 8 inches from the front edge, to match the 8 inch offset of the feet.

9. Glue the stretcher into place and drive in two 1-½-inch screws on each side to hold in place. The stretcher should butt up against the desktop for extra support. Wipe off excess glue.

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Desk cut list

1/2-inch 2x4 ft. sanded plywood

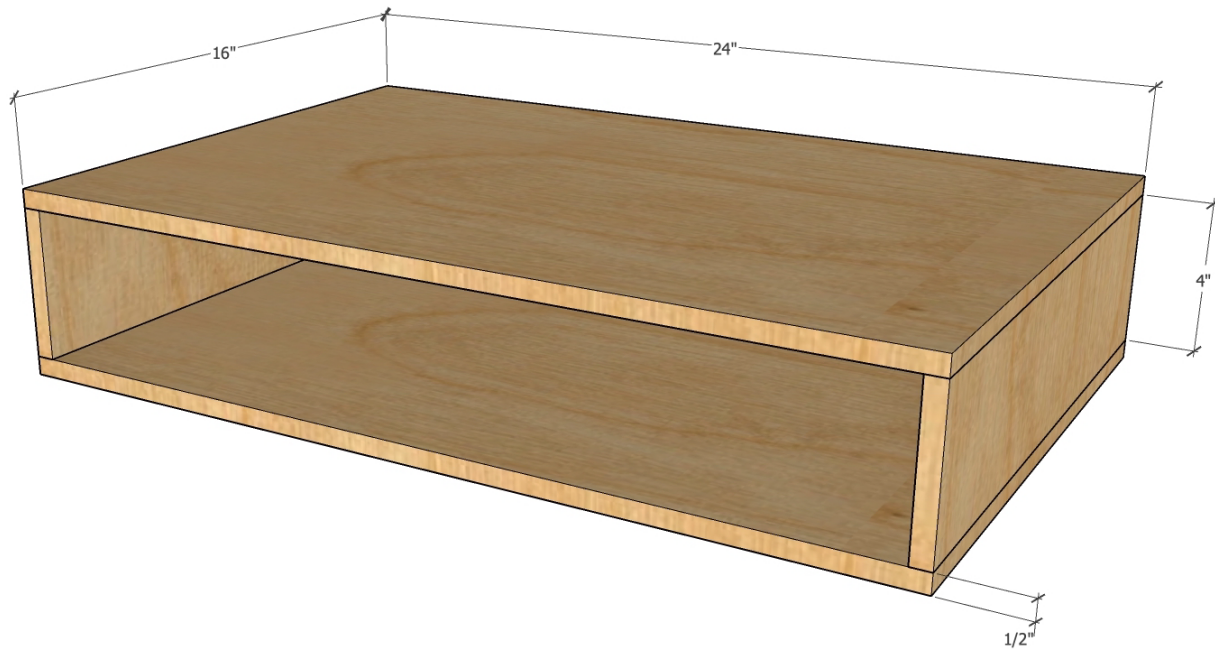


2x4x96-inch stud

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Desk Top

1/2-inch plywood, end-glued and brad nailed.



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Rear View

