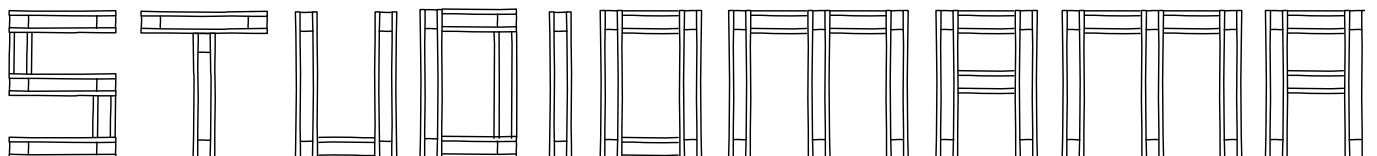
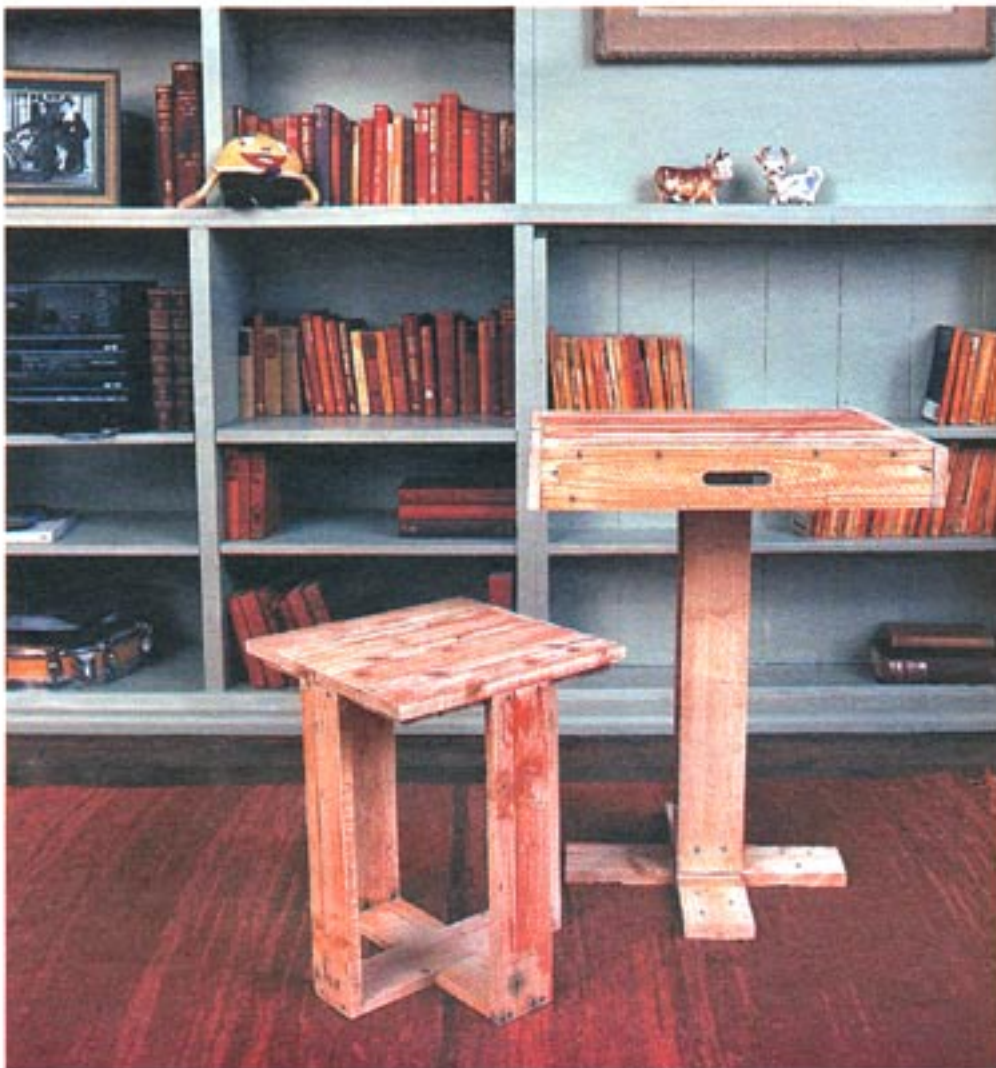


A clever little stool

Save a wooden pallet from becoming landfill by turning it into a chunky, rustic stool – the perfect project for craftsters more at ease with a crowbar than a pair of knitting needles. By **Nina Tolstrup**

Difficulty ★★ ★★

Time 1 day



Materials

- Wooden pallet
- Crowbar
- Hammer or mallet
- Bench table saw, jigsaw or old-fashioned table saw
- 1mm or 2mm drill
- Countersink (a drill attachment that creates a tapered hole to allow the head of a screw to sit flush with the surface of the surrounding material)
- Chisel
- Wood glue
- 36 number six 30mm twin-thread wood screws
- 6 x 50-60mm nails/screws

Preparation

The idea here is deconstruct to reconstruct. Take the pallet apart with your crowbar and hammer or mallet and cut the following components to length:

- 5 seat slats 350mm high x 87mm wide
- 5 under-seat slats 310mm high x 62mm wide
- 4 legs 430mm high x 87mm wide
- 2 base elements 310mm high by 87mm wide

How to

1 Firstly, pre-drill two holes about 2.5cm in from each end of the under-seat slats.



2 Carefully pre-drill and countersink two holes at either end of each of the legs. The holes need to be about half the measurement of the thickness of your wood from the edge (ie if your wood is 16mm thick, drill the holes 8mm from the edge of the leg).

3 The two slats at the base of the stool have to be chiselled out to form a flush cross. Use a saw to make five cuts halfway through the thickness of the wood. This makes



it easier to chisel the wood out (see figure 1).

4 Now you have all your elements prepared and cut to size, glue the sides of the upper seat planks together and leave them to dry.

5 Once the glue has set, screw the under-seat planks on to the centre of the top seat. To give the structure strength, fix the two rows of slats in opposing directions (see figure 2).

6 Glue the bottom cross of the stool together. This fits together like a Christmas tree foot (see figure 3).

7 The legs are secured between the top seat and the under seat planks, so they are flush with the main seat of the stool. Use wood glue on the end of the legs to help fix them to the seat, then drill the screws through the pre-drilled holes (see figure 4).



8 Fix the base to the legs by gluing and screwing the end of the planks. It is easier to do this with the stool turned upside down (see figure 5).

9 Prevent splinters by giving the stool a gentle sand.

Tip

When picking your pallet, choose the one with the fewest nails. And remember: the sharper your chisel, the less wobbly your stool.

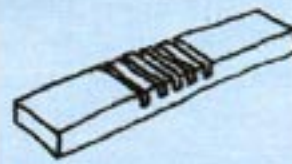


Figure 1

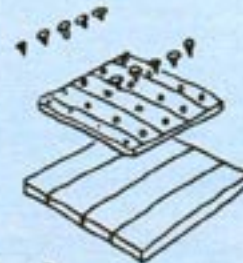


Figure 2

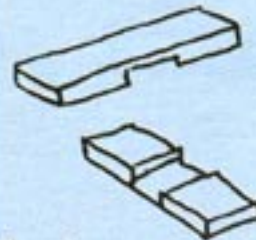


Figure 3

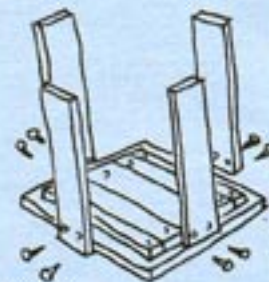


Figure 4

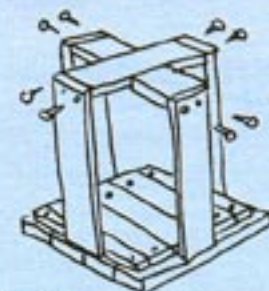


Figure 5

PALLET STOOL

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

Materials:

- wooden pallet
- crowbar
- hammer or mallet
- bench table saw, jigsaw or old fashioned table saw
- 1mm or 2mm drill
- countersink (a drill attachment that creates a tapered hole)
- chisel
- wood glue
- 36 number six 30mm twin-thread wood screws
- 6 x 50-60mm nail/screws

Preparation:

The idea here is deconstruct to reconstruct. Take the pallet apart with your crowbar and hammer or mallet and cut the following components to length:

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350mm high x 87mm wide
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310mm high x 62mm wide
- 4 legs
430mm high x 87 mm wide
- 2 base elements
310mm high by 87mm wide.

How to:

1. Firstly, pre-drill two holes about 2.5cm in from each end of the under seat slats.

2. Carefully pre-drill and countersink two holes at either end of each of the legs.

The holes need to be about half the measurement of the thickness of your wood from the edge (ie if your wood is 16mm thick, drill the holes 8mm from the edge of the leg).

3. The two slats at the base of the stool have to be chisel cut to form a flush cross. Use a saw to make five cuts halfway through the thickness of the wood. This makes it easier to chisel the wood out - see illustration.

4. Now you have all your elements prepared and cut to size, glue the sides of the upper seat planks together and leave them to dry.

5 Once the glue has set, screw the under-seat planks on to the centre of the top seat. To give the structure strength. Fix the two rows of slats in opposing directions - see illustration.

6. Glue the bottom cross of the stool together. This fits together like a christmas tree foot.

7. The legs are secured between the top seat and the under seat planks, so they are flush with the main seat of the stool. Use wood glue on the end of the legs to help fix them to the seat, then drill the screw through the pre-drilled holes.

8. Fix the base to the legs by gluing the screwing the end of the planks. It is easier to do this with the stool turned upside down.

9. Prevent splinters by giving the stool a gentle sand.

