

FRAME TABLE 43x96 frame table

I will show you a lot of projects on this site in the next few years, but none will be more important than this one.



These frame tables are easy to build and cost very little, about \$12 each (there is two sections above). I have seen hundreds of carpenters work all day long cutting lumber on the ground. It's dangerous, tiring and cost a lot of extra pain and labor to have your people bending over and working lumber and material in the dirt.

These frame tables I build are 21½" wide and 96" long. They have a 2x4 then a 2x6 then two more 2x4's all spaced 1¾" apart. I rip ¾" plywood 3" wide and cut 7 pieces 21½" long. I put one at each end, one in the center, then one 22½" from the end.



Then I put one 8" from this one towards the end to cradle my 7¼" wide sawhorse tops as shown in the next picture. I use two of these on a pair of horses. I apply Poly caulk on all joints of the cleats and 5-1¼" staples. I clamp each joint before stapling. This will give you a good solid joint. Keep everything square and even.



You can build a tee on these tables as I am doing here. The 2x6 on the table is for building a 6" tee. You can build your table with just one 2x6 or two.



Or you can use a 1½"x1½"x12" wedge (building tees) and clamp a 1x in the table as I have done and sand, plane or work the piece of wood.

In tips and techniques this week I am showing you how to attach a hanger onto your circular saw so as you can hang it on a 16p finish nail that you have driven into the corner of your frame table, and bent the end of the 16p to make a V to hang your saw on.



This is a lot better and safer way than throwing your saw the dirt or dropping it on the concrete every time you make a cut and damaging **the most abused tool in the construction trade, the circular saw, and its offspring, the notorious blade guard.**

The first time you depend on a blade guard to keep you from getting injured using a saw may be the last thing you ever do in your life. (Quote from "Circular Saw Safety").

I can't count the times I have seen carpenters cut themselves because of improper saw procedures. There is no excuse for it, not taking the time to make a safe and proper cut instead of getting in a hurry and cutting off a million dollar hand or finger. No excuse. If you are a veteran carpenter and absolutely set in your ways to use a saw, I'll leave you out of this one, but for you others that will listen, read **"Circular Saw Safety and Procedure"** in Carpenters Corner. Your chances of getting injured with a saw, if you follow the procedures to the letter, drop about 99%. For you that are set in ways, and know it all, your chances of getting injured with a saw are still up there at about 100%. Because I know very well that every time you make a cut you pull a running saw out of the cut, and one day, when you least expect it, the blade guard will hang up, and the running saw blade will cut anything that gets in front or comes in contact with it.

You can set your saw for the material depth plus 1/8" and cut on these tables. I always use bowed 2x"s (about a 1/8" bow) to build frame tables (crown of the bow up). This is so that when I put a piece of lumber on the

table to be cut I have a crowned table to cut on, and not one that is bowed down (sags in the center), and lets the cut close, binding and bucking the saw. A crowned cutting table will naturally open the cut up as you cut through the board. This frame table is a good scaffold to walk on, a mason's table, a miter saw table, a runoff table for your table saw, and many other uses around the job site and shop. I have about 10 of these and every time I go to a job the builder usually ask if they can keep a couple and a pair of horses. You'll have the same problem with yours.

This article is one of many I will give you to make yours and your fellow carpenters jobs easier and a lot safer.

If you know of someone that needs to read these articles and does not have a computer you have my permission to print them out and give it to them. You and I will never know when you do this you might save someone's arm, hand or their life.

<http://carpenterbooks.com>

Bob Johnston, carpenter