

A Few Remarks about the Beefy Storage Shelves Project

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A WARNING - PLEASE READ

Woodworking can be dangerous! It's up to you to determine if you can safely use the tools and perform the tasks needed to complete this and any other woodworking project. If you are unsure, STOP! Get advice from someone knowledgeable or do some careful studying on your own. Be safe!

Always wear at least an appropriate N95 dust mask or respirator when sanding or spraying paint. For advice about dust masks and respirators, visit this link:

<https://woodworkingtoolkit.com/best-dust-masks-respirators/>

**READ, UNDERSTAND, AND FOLLOW ALL OF THE
INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS THAT CAME
WITH YOUR TOOLS. BE CAREFUL!**

The Shelves

This is a medium size set of utility shelves. I built it for use in a garage that doubles as my woodshop. I applied no finish but you might want to. All of the dimensions given here are for the shelves in this project. Since the project is so simple, you can easily change the dimensions to suit your needs.

- Legs: 2x4s cut 40" long
- Rails (horizontal parts of the frame): 2x4s. You must determine the needed lengths based on the widths of the legs, the depth of the mortises and the desired dimensions of the shelves
- Shelves: 3/4" plywood 24" by 48"
- Footprint: 24" deep by 48" wide, approximately
- All rails (horizontal parts of the frame) are set into 1/4" deep mortises cut into the legs. A better choice might be mortises that are cut 3/8" deep. **The mortises give the shelves strength. Don't build the shelves without these mortises.**
- Each rail is attached to the leg using two Kreg Heavy-Duty pocket screws with the pockets cut into the end of the rail

- Be sure the rails are resting firmly on the bottoms of the mortises when the Kreg screws are installed. This way, the mortises will bear most of the load stress.
- Notches are cut into the corners of all shelves except the top shelf to make room for the legs. Cut the notches with a little extra space for the legs.
- The rails for the bottom shelf are set above the floor to help limit rocking on an uneven floor
- It is recommended that the side frames be constructed first, and then the back rails and shelves can be attached to the side frames. The shelves might not fit inside the frame if the frame is completed before the shelves are included, so think ahead.
- No finish was applied but you might want to use a finish
- No glue was used