

Furniture Making SIG

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Box Making Presentation and Discussion

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Box Making and All the Options

- Function = simple, pencil, storage, treasure, artistic, jewelry
- Small parts = more safety, sacrificial parts, use hold-downs, push sticks, jigs to hold parts for repetition
- “Design is a key aspect of box making” (often the hardest part)
- Get inspired by anything and everything
- Most importantly: have fun

BOX MAKING OPTIONS CHART

		EASY				HARD
	OPTIONS	1	2	3	4	5
1	joinery	butt	rabbet	Box joint	miter	dovetails
2	Stabilized joints	none	biscuits	Hidden spline	Exposed spline	Dovetail keys
3	Feet/legs	none	Simple (add on)	Integral (sides)	bracket	carved
4	lid	None	Lift-off	Sliding	Pinned hinge	hinged
5	hinges	None	Butt	Stop	Quadrant	wood
6	sides	Plywood	Solid	Resawn	Veneered	curved
7	decorations	None	Paint/surface	Inlay/veneer	combination	carving
8	style	Simple	Curved	1-drawer	Mult. drawer	combine

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Simple box

Can you add up the options score for this box?



Simple Box

The options score for
this box =

$$4,1,1,2,1,2,3,1 =$$

15



Simple box

Can you add up the options score for this box?



Simple Box

The options score for
this box =

4,4,2,2,1,2,3,1 =

19



Simple box

Can you add up the options score for this box?



Simple Box

The options score for
this box =

4,2,2,5,3,2,3,1 =

22



Simple Box

The options score for
this box =

$$4,3,4,5,4,2,3,3 = 28$$



Boxes for Personal & Business Use



Design considerations

- Attractiveness / Unique / “Special”
- Audience
- Ease of build
- Profitability
- Shipping ability

Keepsake
boxes (with
removable lids)

The options score for
this box:

$4,1,2,2,1,3,1,1 = 15$



Design Options



Curved Box (with pinned hinge)

The options score for
this box:

$$4,4,1,4,1,2,1,3 = 20$$



Design Options



Jewelry Box (two drawers & top shelf)

The options score for
this box:

$$2,1,2,5,2,2,1,4 = 19$$



Jewelry Box (3 drawers)

The options score for this box:

$$2,1,2,1,1,2,2,4 = 15$$



Hinged Lid Box

The options score for
this box:

$$1,1,2,5,2,2,2,1 = 17$$



Box Making Challenge:

- 1. Use the chart to narrow and identify your options, try new things!!
- 2. Next, choose the wood for side, lid, etc.
- 3. Build the box, ask questions, seek help if needed, work safely,
have FUN!!
- 4. At the next meeting, we will see how progress is coming along, answer questions, comments, discussion

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6	sides	Plywood	Solid	Resawn	<u><i>Veneered</i></u>	curved
7	decorations	None	Paint/surface	<u><i>Inlay/veneer</i></u>	combination	carving
8	style	<u><i>Simple</i></u>	Curved	1-drawer	Mult. drawer	combine

References

- Books = anything by Doug Stowe
 - “52 Boxes in 52 Weeks” by Matt Kenney

Magazine articles =

Simple Box

The difficulty score for
this box =

$$4,1,3,5,5,4,3,1 = 26$$



Simple Box

The options score for
this box =

$$4,4,2,2,1,2,4,1 = 20$$

