

# andrew harris woodwork

## Coffee Table Plans



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## Introduction

This plan makes a table which is 40 inches long at the widest point, 20.5 inches deep and 20.5 inches high.



I have tried to ensure all steps are covered in these plans but if you find any errors in the plans or have a question then please email me at [info@andrewharriswoodwork.com](mailto:info@andrewharriswoodwork.com) to let me know.

Note this plan involves using some 1 by 5 pieces and so make sure you can get that before commencing with the plan. If not then you will need to adjust the measurements and some other pieces to accommodate using 1 by 4 or 1 by 6 instead.

All my builds are made with pocket hole joinery. You will need a pocket hole jig tool such as a Kreg Jig in order to build them.

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## Shopping List

Size	Length	Quantity	Board Number
2 by 2	8 feet	1	1
1 by 2	6 feet	1	2
1 by 3	6 feet	1 or piece of 4 inch leftover	3
1 by 4	8 feet	3	4, 5, 6
1 by 5	4 feet	1	7
1 by 6	8 feet	3	8, 9, 10
1 by 6	6 feet	1	11

You will also need:

- Pocket Hole Tool such as a Kreg Pocket Hole Jig
- 1.25 inch pocket screws and
- 1.25 inch wood screws
- Miter saw
- Wood glue
- Two drawer pulls

**Estimated Material Cost: \$85**

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## Cut list

Please read all instructions before cutting wood as shown below. I suggest some pieces are cut as you go to ensure a tight fit.

To minimize the number of boards to use plan your cuts I have given details of which board I cut the piece from. If you find a more economical solution then please let me know.

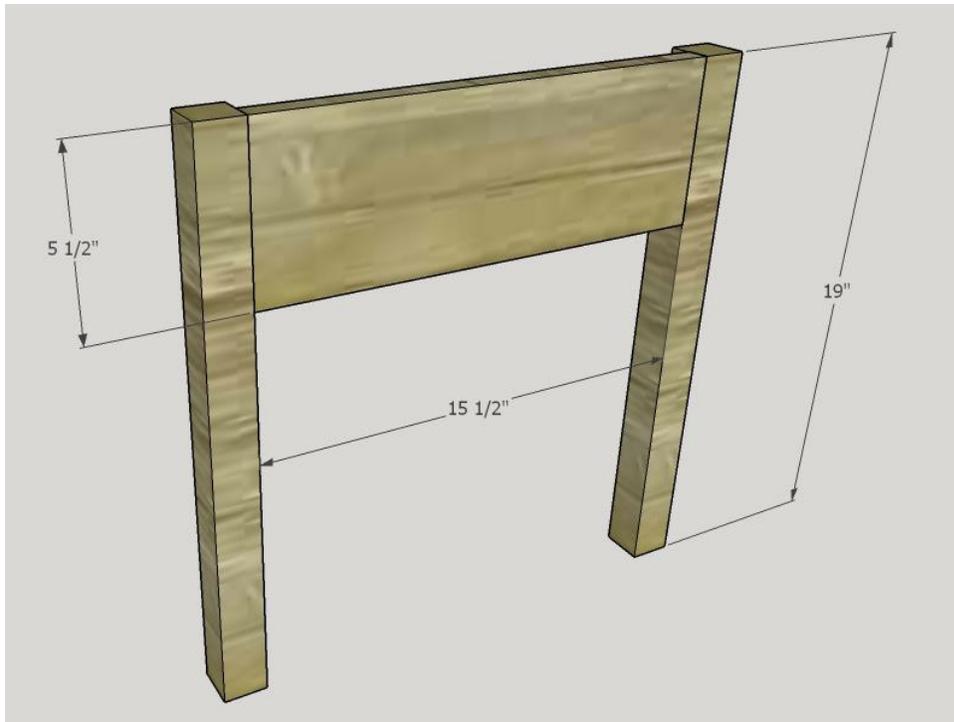
Size	Length (inches)	Quantity	Used For	Board Number
2 by 2	19	4	Legs	1
1 by 2	35	2	Front rails	2
1 by 3	3 ¾	1	Front vertical support	3
1 by 4	39	2	First Top Layer	1 from board 5 and 1 from board 6
1 by 4	19 ½	2	First Top Layer	6
1 by 4	15	4	Drawer sides	4
1 by 4	14 ½	4	Drawer front and backs	2 from board 4 and 2 from board 5
1 by 4	9 ½	2	Top inserts	5
1 by 5	17 ¼	2	Outer Drawer fronts	
1 by 6	20 ½	2	Top	10
1 by 6	9 ½	4	Top inserts	1 from board 8 ,1 from board 10 and 2 from board 11
1 by 6	40	2	Top	1 from board 9 and 1 from board 10
1 by 6	15 ½	2	Side rails	8
1 by 6	35	1	Back rail	8
1 by 6	16	4	Drawer supports/glides	1 from board 8 and 3 from board 9
¾ inch plywood			For drawer base. Size depends o whether inset or fixed to bottom. Please see instructions.	

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## Step 1 – Make the two Side frames

Join two of the legs together using the 15 ½ piece of 1 by 6.

Make two of these



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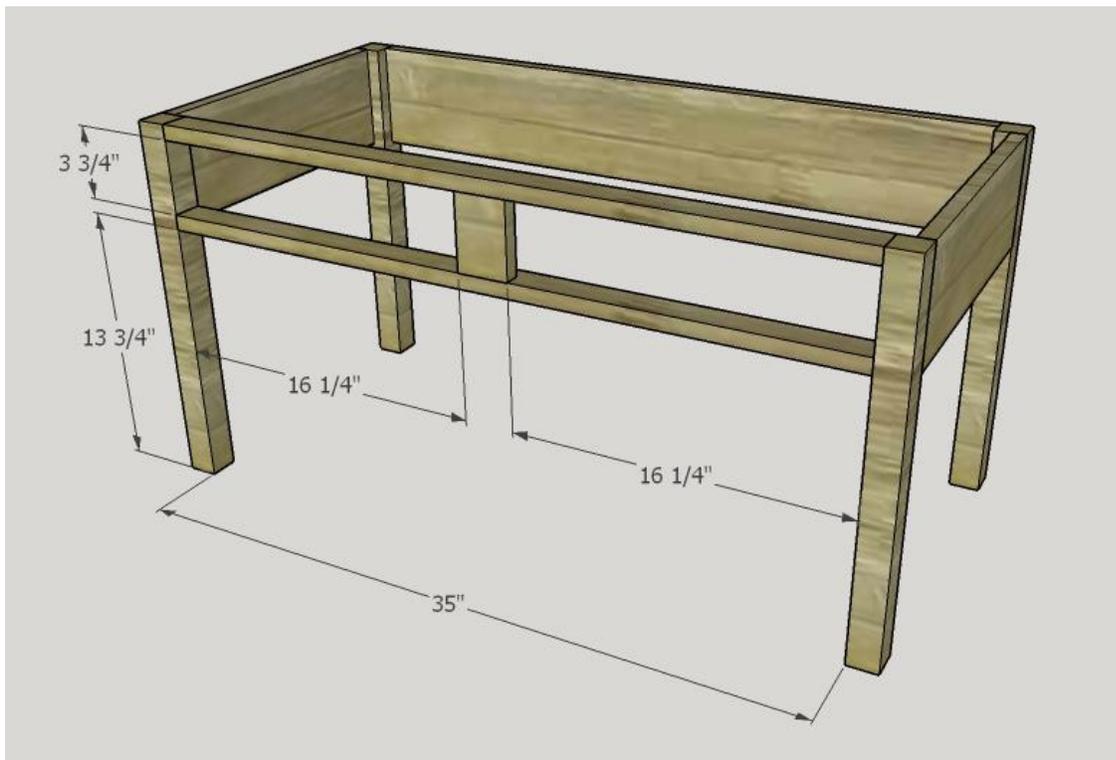
## Step 2 – Add the front rails and the back rail

Add the 1 by 6 back rail measuring 35 inches. Place the pocket holes on the inside of the piece.

Add the top 1 by 2 rail for the front first. Place the pocket holes on the top edge as they will then be hidden by the top.

Add the bottom 1 by 2 rail for the front leaving a gap of  $3 \frac{3}{4}$  inches from the top rail. Place the pocket holes on the bottom edge of the rail.

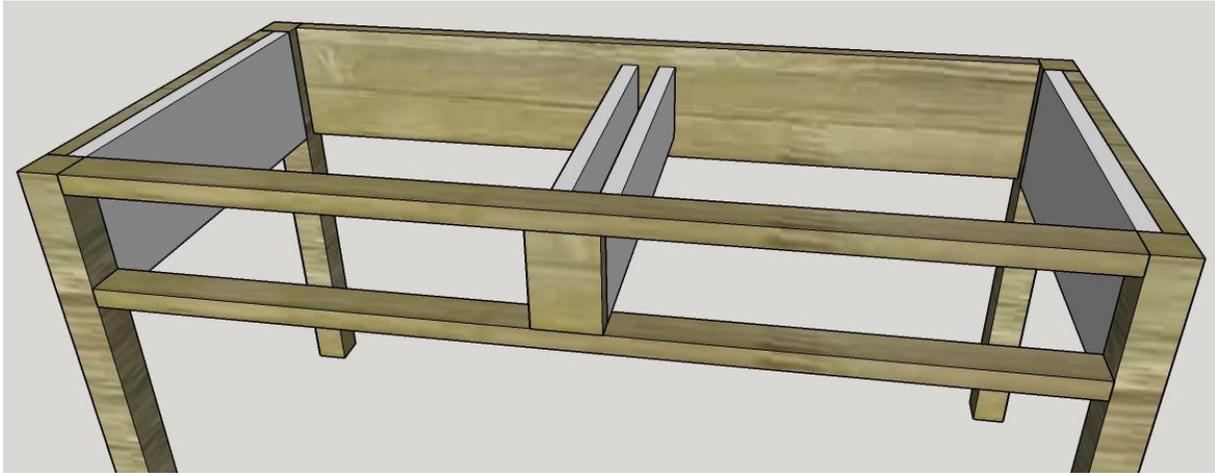
Add the 1 by 3 piece with the pocket holes on the rear side. Make sure equal distance either side of it.



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## Step 3 – Add Side guides for the drawers

The drawers are going to be fixed without slides and so I suggest you add guides for the sides so they glide in and out easily.



Add two pieces of 1 by 16 measuring 15 ½ inches to the inside of each outer edge.

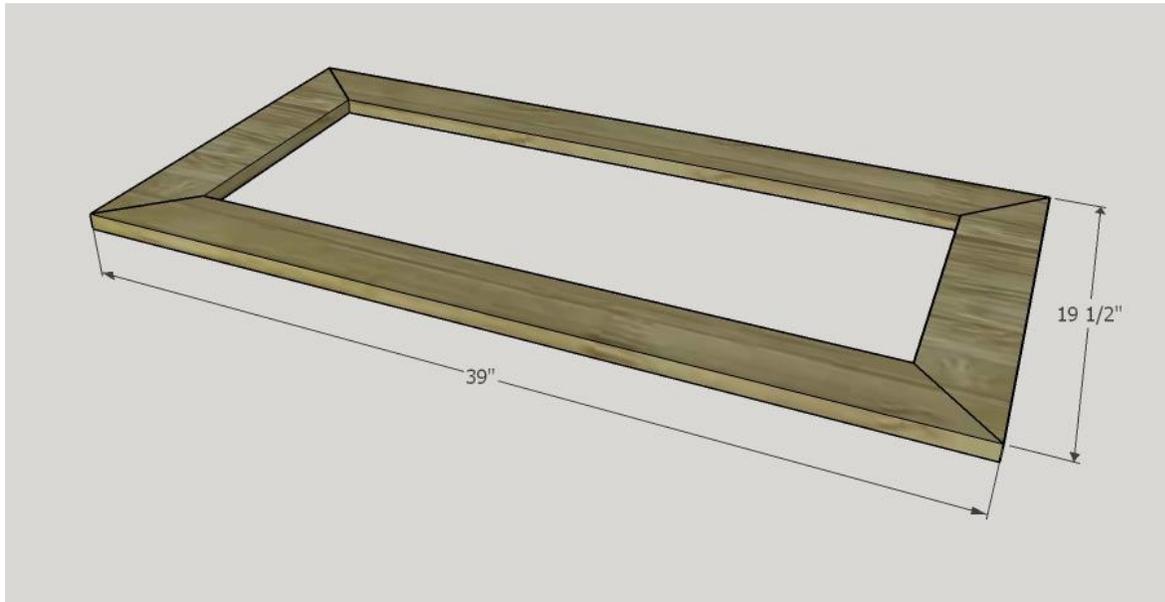
Add two pieces of 1 by 4 measuring 17 inches long to the middle so they are flush with the outside edges of the 1 by 3 vertical support piece.

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## Step 4 – Make the first layer of the top

Make the first layer of the top using two of the 39 inch pieces of 1 by 4 and two 19 ½ pieces. Miter the corners as shown.

This first layer of the top should then over hang each edge of the table by ½ inch.

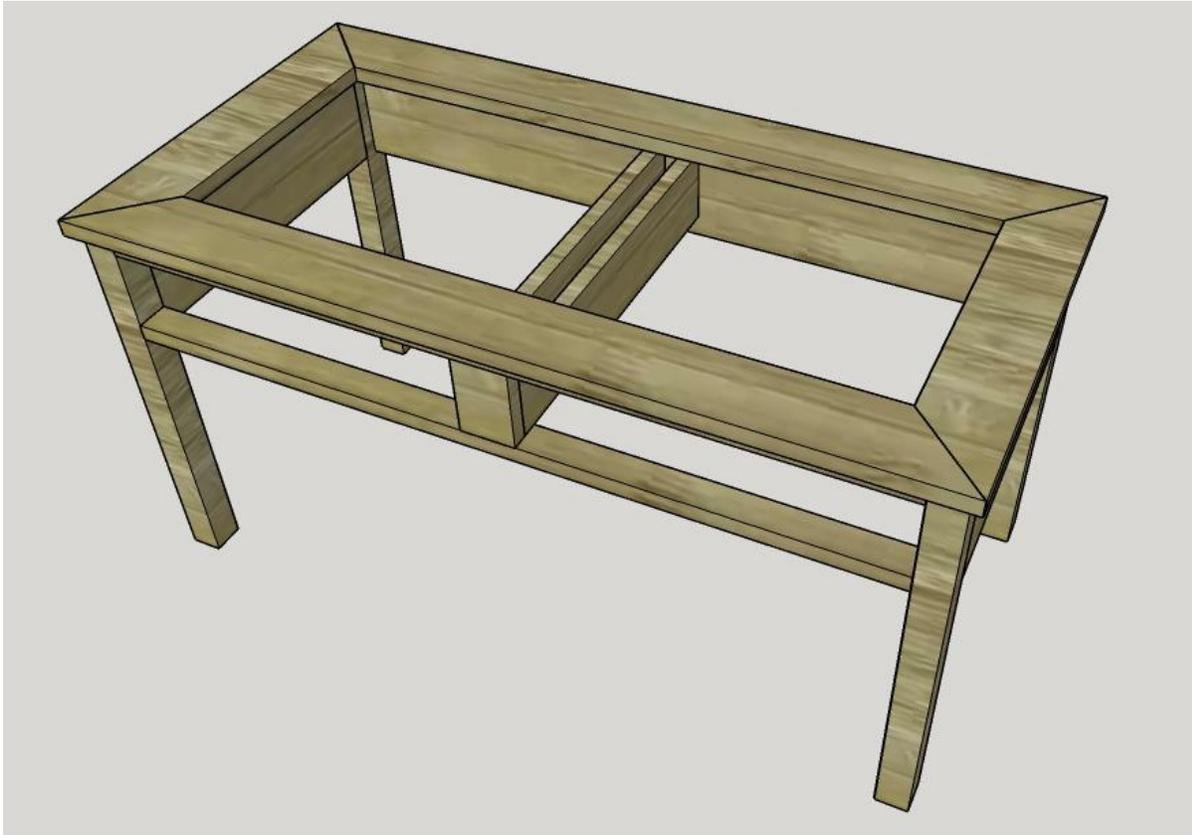


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## Step 5 – Fix the first layer to the table

Drill pocket holes on the side and back panels facing upward for screwing the first top layer to with 1 ¼ inch pocket hole screws.

On the front edge drill holes through the first layer of top and then screw through the first top layer into the rail with 1 ¼ inch wood screws through the top. The screws will be hidden by the top layer of the top.



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## Step 6 – Drawers

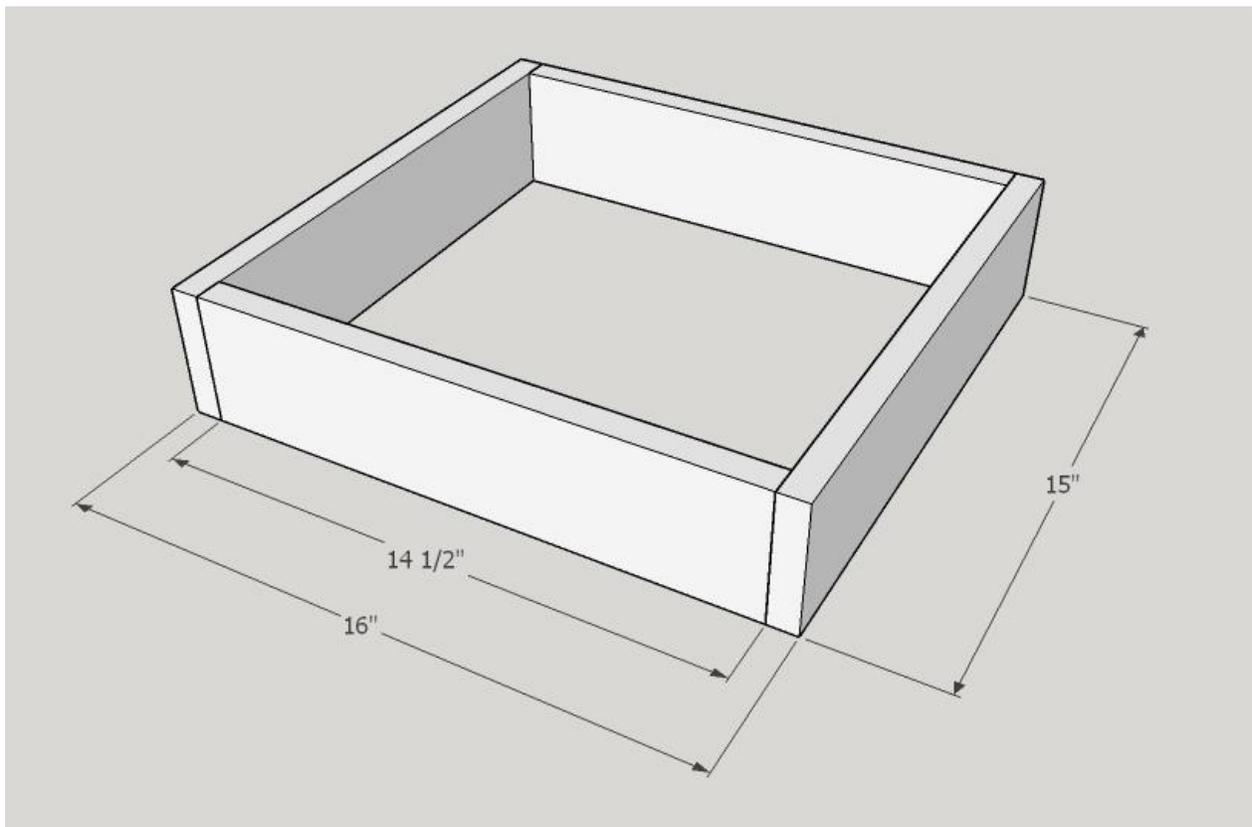
**Important note** – Using 1 by 4s for the drawers also assumes the bottom will be recessed in using a router. If you are not using a router then substitute the 1 by 4s for 1 by 3s so you can fit the drawer base to the bottom.

Drill pocket holes in the both ends of the 14 ½ inch length drawer pieces.

Join the 14 ½ pieces to the 15 inch lengths to form the drawers.

If using 1 by 4s then cut your base to fit the width required based on the depth of your recess.

If using 1 by 3s then cut two 16 by 15 pieces of ¼ inch plywood for the bases. Fix the plywood base to the bottom with ¾ inch finishing nails and glue.



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## Step 7 – Drawer Supports

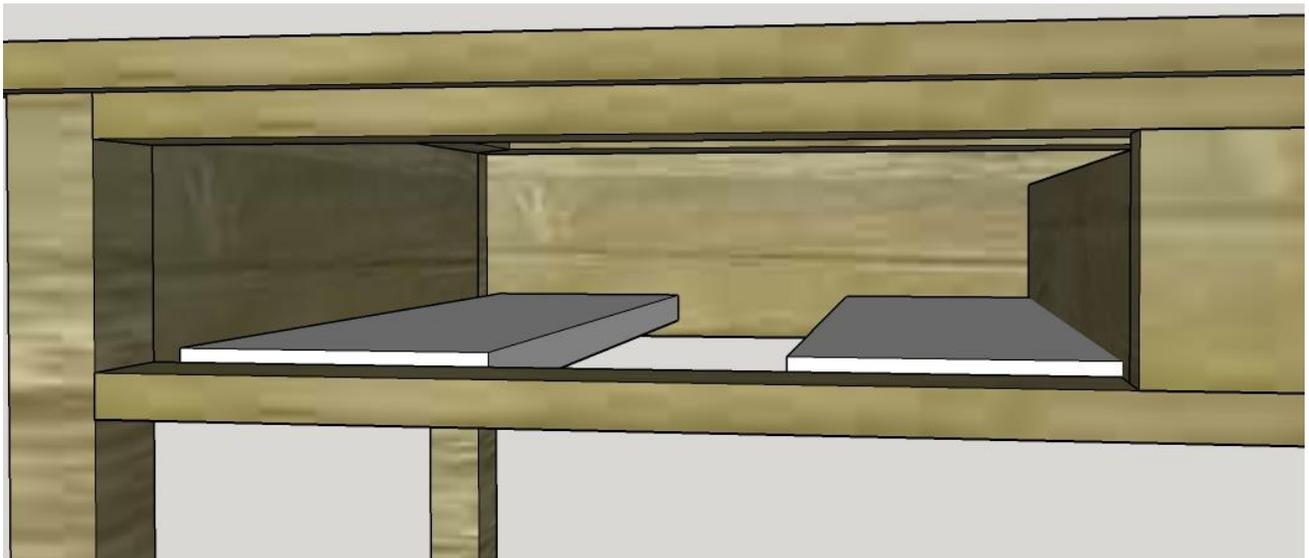
These drawers are being fitted without drawer slides and so supports for the drawer to slide in and out on are required.

Use some 1 by 4 or 1 by 6 to make two supports for each draw as shown. It will need to be 16 inches long.

Drill two pocket holes on the end of each piece. Fit the piece so that it protrudes a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch above the top of the bottom rail as shown. Fix the front screws first and then use a square to make sure perfectly square before fixing to the back rail.

If you are using 1 by 3s for the drawers then you could make the supports  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch above the top rail.

Do this for both drawers.



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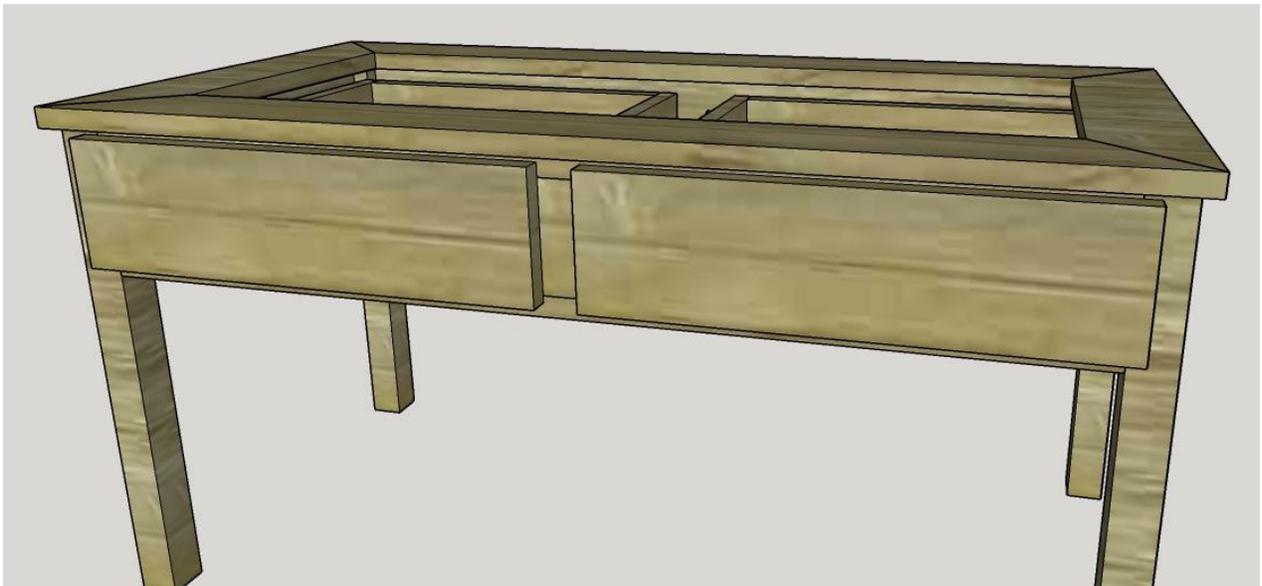
## Step 8 – Fit Drawer Fronts

The drawer fronts are the 1 by 5 pieces measuring 17 ¼ inches long.

Fit the drawer fronts ensuring equal gap at top and outer edge for both.

Drill two holes through the inner drawer front and then fix the outer drawer front by screwing through the inner drawer front into the outer drawer front using 1 ¼ inch screws.

Tip clamp the drawer front in position when happy with the spacing and then screw it in place.



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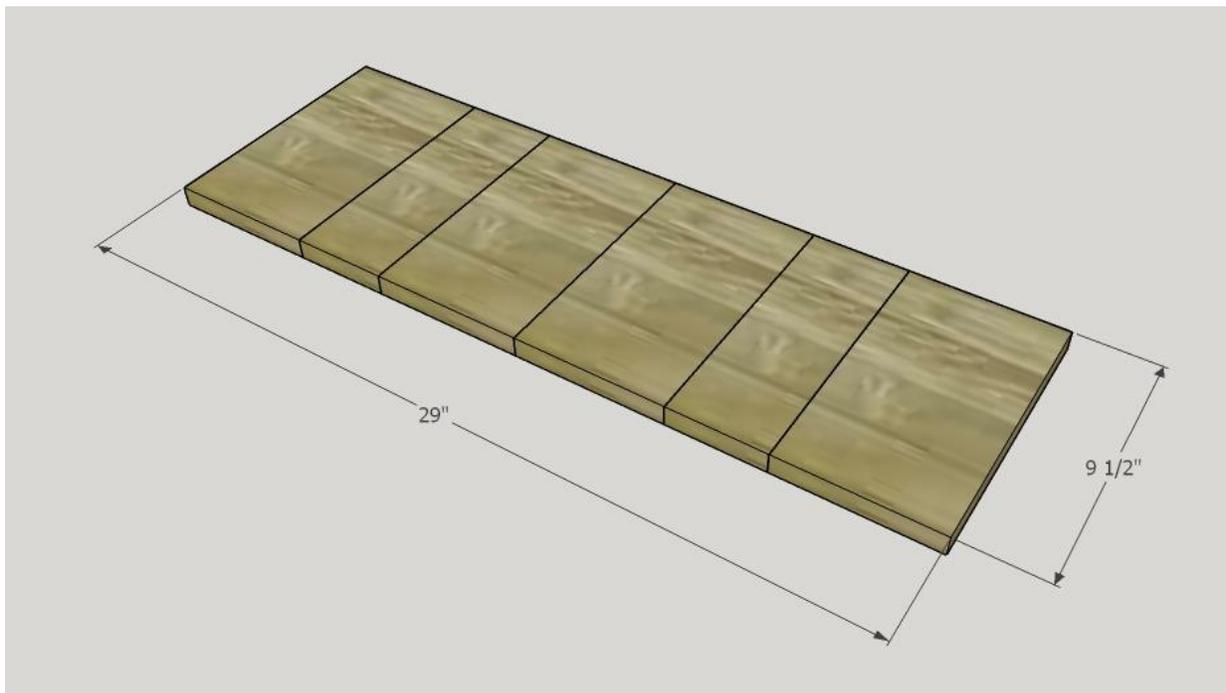
## Step 9 – Making the Top

Make the insert part of the top first.

Use 4 of the 1 by 6 pieces 9 ½ inches long and the two 1 by 4 pieces 9 ½ inches long.

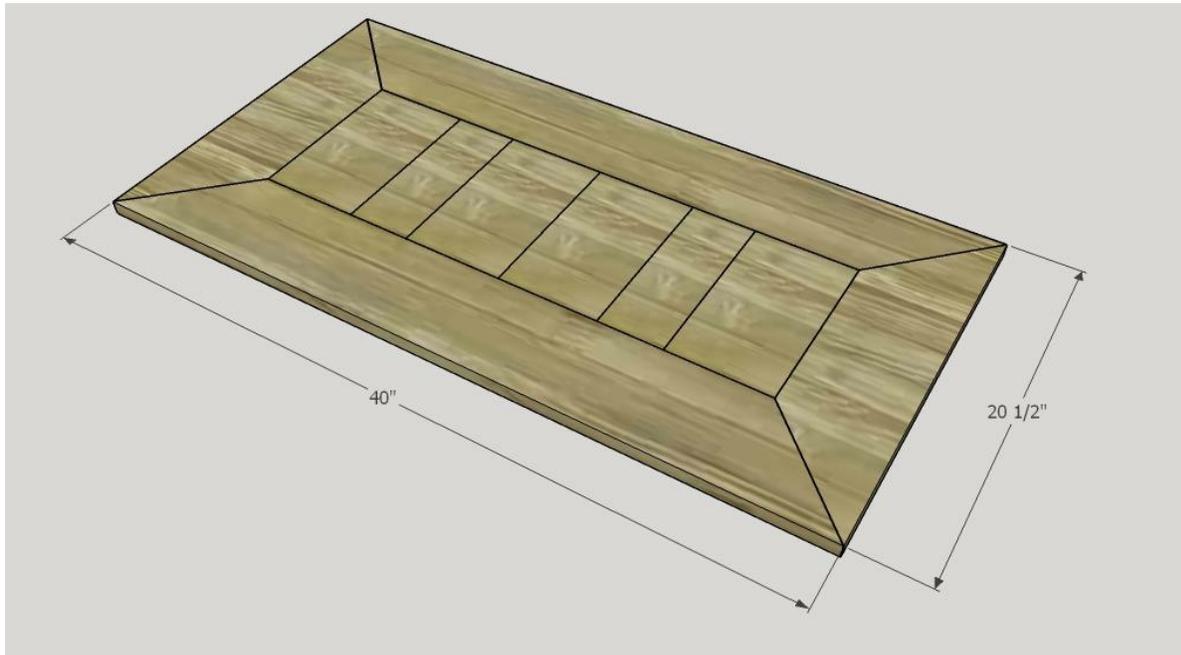
Before fixing I roughly sanded all edges of each piece so that when joined together you would see the join to add some interest to the top.

Make sure the edges are flush. I find it useful to clamp them against a guide to make sure absolutely flush.



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Then cut the outer pieces to fit tightly to the insert with the corners mitered at 45 degrees.



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## Step 10 – Fitting the Top

Drill holes through the lower part of the top so you can screw back through it to fix the top.

Place the top with the good side down and then place the upturned cabinet on top. Make sure you have equal gap all around and then fix 1 ¼ inch wood screws by screwing through the first layer of top in to the actual top.



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## **Step 11 – Finish**

Sand well to smooth our joints and remove any wood glue residue.

Apply Pre stain and your choice of color or paint as desired.

## **Step 12– Hardware**

Add hardware of your choice to the drawers (you will need to temporarily remove the front drawer parts).