

**Thank you for helping to build book boxes for the kids in the program.**

Kits consists of 5 pieces of plywood. Three pieces of 1/2-inch plywood measuring approximately 12 x 16 inches for the bottom and 2 sides. The bottom piece is rabbeted on its two ends. The two side pieces are rabbeted on their two ends and one (the bottom) edge. There are two pieces of 5/8-inch plywood measuring approximately 11 x 12 inches for the 2 ends.

**Steps to making the book box:**

1. Dry fit pieces to determine if any rework needs to be done to achieve a tight fit.
2. Sand the edges of the bottom and side pieces with 120/150 grit paper prior to assembly.
3. Drill holes for the handles in each of the 5/8-inch end pieces in the areas drawn. Use a 1-inch Forstner or paddle bit. Be sure to use a backer board to avoid excessive breakout on the backside of the hole.
4. Remove the material between the two holes with a jigsaw or router. You may need to redraw the lines between the holes you drilled to achieve a symmetrically shaped handle.
5. Avoid using a saw blade or router bit with too aggressive of a cut or you will have excessive tear out of the wood and finish.
6. Use a 1/8-inch or 1/4-inch round over bit or 120/150 grit sand paper to contour the handle edges. Use 120/150 grit sand paper on the inside of the handles to smooth.
7. Start assembly by gluing and nailing the bottom piece to one of the 5/8-inch end boards. Use 3 nails per edge. Nails should be no longer than a 1 1/2-inch finish nail. Do not use staples as they may cause excessive splintering of the wood and finish surface.
8. Next, attach the bottom board to the second end board by gluing and nailing it together.
9. Then glue and nail the side pieces to the end pieces. Note: to avoid the possibility of splinters do not attempt to nail into the 1/2-inch bottom piece. Only glue the 1/2-inch plywood bottom edges of the two side pieces.
10. Clamp the two sides at the bottom edges to the bottom piece. One F clamp in the middle should be sufficient to hold the sides and bottom together while the glue dries.
11. Allow the glue to dry per glue manufacturer's directions.
12. Inspect the box for excess glue and nail blowouts. If necessary, trim the top edges of the box on a table saw to achieve one even surface around the top of the box.
13. Soften (slight radius) all corners and edges with hand block sander and 120/150 grit sandpaper. Do not over sand. Be careful to not scratch the plywood finish.

**Your time and labor are sincerely appreciated by BMABStL and the children who benefit from the program.**