# Upholstered Bench

Build a 48" x 16" upholstered bench with a simple poplar frame and four wood legs. I found my legs at an architectural salvage shop and picked a coastal fabric to match our bedroom, but any legs and fabric work.



## Tools

- [ ] Miter saw or circular saw
- [ ] Tape measure
- [ ] Kreg Jig with drill bit
- [ ] Cordless drill
- [ ] Hand sander, sanding block and sandpaper
- [ ] Hand stapler
- [ ] Scissors
- [ ] Stain and poly brush

## Supplies

- [ ] 1 1/4" pocket screws
- [ ] 1 1/2" screws
- [ ] Wood glue
- [ ] Spray adhesive
- [ ] 2" upholstery foam
- [ ] Crib size batting (45" x 60")
- [ ] Upholstery fabric
- [ ] 3/8" heavy duty staples
- [ ] Stain: Natural, Varathane
- [ ] Oil-based polyurethane (satin)

## Lumber list

| Qty | Material | Used for |
|---|---|---|
| 2 | 3/4" x 1 1/2" x 6' poplar trim | Frame pieces |
| 1 | 1/2" x 2' x 4' project panel plywood | Bench seat |
| 4 | 3" x 3" legs | Legs (salvage, online or Home Depot) |

## Cut list

| Qty | Material | Length | Used for |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 3/4" x 1 1/2" | 42" | Long frame pieces |
| 2 | 3/4" x 1 1/2" | 10" | Short frame pieces |
| 1 | 1/2" plywood | 48" x 16" | Bench seat |

*Sized for a 48" x 16" bench. Home Depot will cut the boards and plywood for you if you bring your measurements. This plan contains affiliate links. If you buy through one, I earn a small commission at no extra cost to you.*

## Step 1: Cut the materials

Cut the frame pieces and plywood seat using the cut list above.





## Step 2: Drill pocket holes and sand

Set your Kreg Jig for 3/4" material. Drill 2 pocket holes in each end of every frame piece, plus 2 to 3 pocket holes along the top edge. The holes on top let you screw the frame into the seat later.

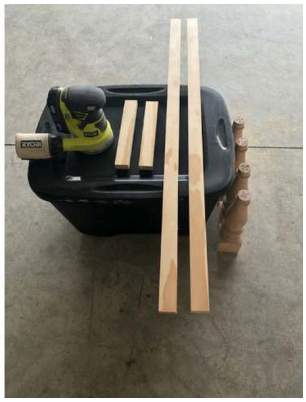
Sand all the frame pieces with a hand sander and the legs with a sanding block.





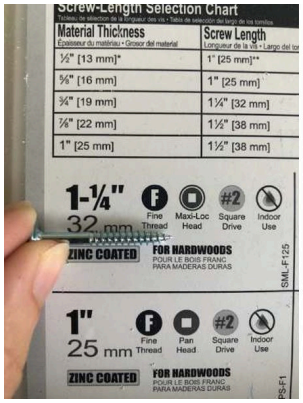


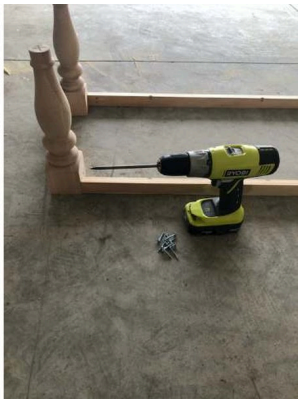




## Step 3: Assemble the base

Lay out the 4 frame pieces and screw them into the legs with 1 1/4" pocket screws, keeping the top pocket holes facing up. Pushing the base against a wall helps hold it steady while you screw.



## Step 4: Stain the base

Stain the frame and legs (I used Varathane Natural), then seal them with satin polyurethane. Let the base dry completely.

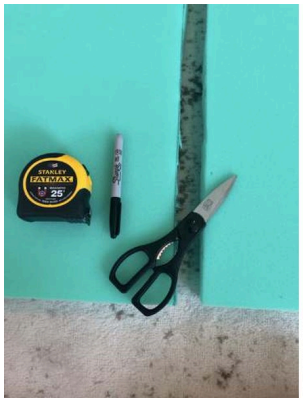






## Step 5: Glue the foam to the seat

Cut the 2" foam with scissors to fit the 48" x 16" plywood, then glue it down with spray adhesive.








## Step 6: Staple the batting

Lay the batting flat on the floor and set the seat on it, foam side down. Cut the corners as shown, fold the batting over the back, and staple it to the plywood, keeping it tight. Trim off the extra.





## Step 7: Staple the fabric

Lay the fabric flat with no wrinkles and set the seat on it, face down. Cut the corners the same way as the batting. Staple one side, then the opposite side, pulling the fabric as tight as you can and stapling every inch or so. Fold the corners neatly and staple them last.

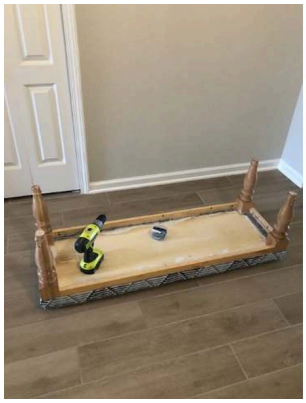


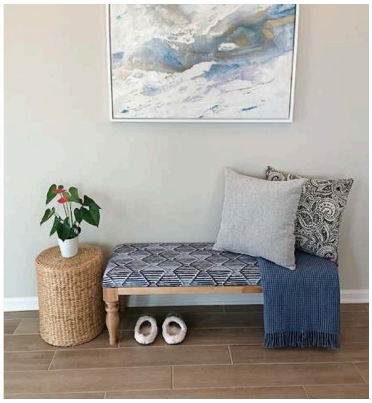





## Step 8: Attach the seat

Once the base is completely dry, flip the bench upside down and screw up through the top pocket holes into the plywood with 1 1/2" screws.





## More from this project

- Watch the full YouTube tutorial
- DIY Upholstered Headboard
- More DIY projects