

Wood & Tools

WEAR EYE PROTECTION

TOOLS

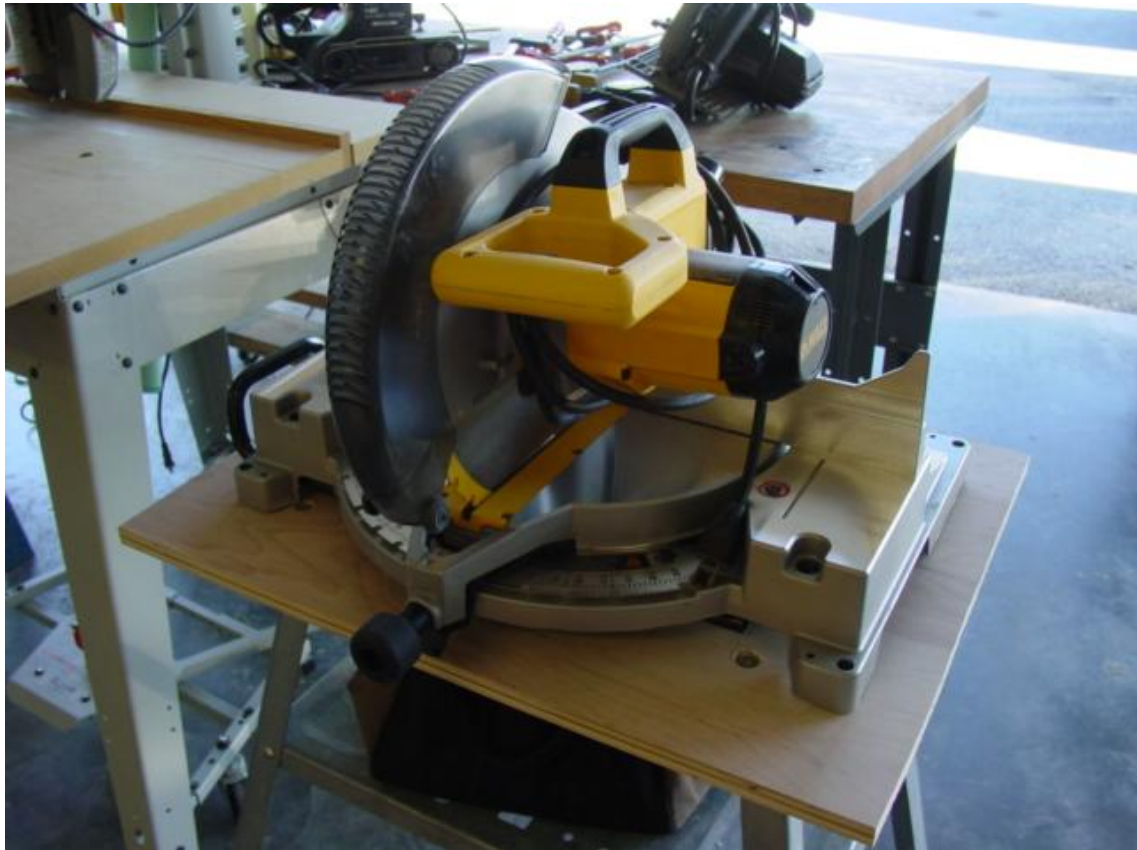


Above are the tools I used in the construction of my table. You can of course do without a few of these but since I have it I used it.

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A must have. 12" compound saw. Make sure the blade is good. Get a new one if you have to. A dull or bad blade can lead to wood burn and harder cuts. Check the blade for square before you start your work.

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Again a must have. Table saw. This one has a 8" blade. You really won't need more than that when doing this table. Check the blade for square before you start your work.

You have your hammer, palm sander, steel tape, joiner, drill, carpenter's square and a router. A belt sander is handy if you have it to remove dry glue.

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Circular saw is a must have again. Clamps, oh boy will you need clamps. 6" and 18" clamps will be needed. I would say you need about 14 to 20 clamps. You can do with less but it would mean waiting for glue to dry in some area's of the project before you move on to another part.

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Radial Arm Saw. This one you can do without. It would make life easier if you had one. The cuts I did with this you can also do with your table saw.

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Ratchet Type Tie Down Straps. You will need three of these with at least 18' straps.

You need to have a good working area. A pair of saw horse's or if you have it a good size work bench let the one in my pictures. Keep your work space clean and have your beer at the end of the day. Power tools and beer don't mix.

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Lubber choice is really wide open. You have your Pine, your Maple, your Oak and so on and so on. My choice was Oak. A hard wood that was take just about any abuse you will throw at it.

Octagon Ring with Skirt

1x8 red oak finish stock ----- 24 feet Cut this in four 6' pieces.

1x6 red oak finish stock for the bull nose and skirt ----- 24 feet Cut this in four 6' pieces.

Sub platform and play area

Easy here guys. Two 4'x8'x3/4 sheets of Birch plywood. You can go for the oak plywood but what's the point, going to be covered anyway. You will also use the waste from this plywood to make your table interlocking box for connection to the pedestal.

Pedestal

Ok here is what is really fun. Building your own Octagon Pedestal. You will spend as much time if not more doing this then building the Octagon ring. This table size needs a wide foot print. Legs on this table are 48" tip to tip.

6/4x6 finish oak stock ----- 16 feet You can use 5/4 if you like. 5/4 stock marks out to a full inch.

1x 8 finish oak stock ----- 3 feet For Bottom of pedestal base and pedestal box top.

1x10 finish oak stock ----- 3 feet For Bottom of pedestal base and pedestal box top. you would need to glue the 1x8 and the 1x10 later for the pedestal base and box top.

1x6 finish oak stock ----- 7 feet For pedestal box top.

The legs are made with full 6/4" oak stock. You can glue 1 by stock together if you can't find the full stock. You will need 8 feet of 6/4x4" finish stock. You will also need to get 8

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1/2"x3-1/4" zinc lag bolts along with washers and lock washers to match to attach the legs.

That's all the lubber you need to get started and finished. While you are out getting your stuff let's not forget a few other things. Get a fast setting glue like Elmer's Pro Bond. You will need lots of this so get 2-3 bottles or just buy the jug. Pick up a 50 pack of #10 Wood biscuits. I used a 50 pack and only had 4 left when finished. 24 #10 1-1/4 wood screws for attaching the skirt to the bull nose. Rags and paper towels. No nails guys, don't you just love it, no nails.

Phase One

The Octagon Ring



Lets start this puppy. Lay out the 1x8 oak and cut the 6' pieces in half so you have eight 3' pieces. These are going to be made into your Octagon ring. We will be cutting a 22.5 angle on one end. But before you do that check the piece for any bow, crown or cupping. As you lay out the Octagon all your cupping if any should face down. Use your carpenter square to check for this. By the way, as you go along with this keep a short block with 120 sandpaper around so you can clean up your cuts. NOTICE!!! Do not make heavy pencil marks on your oak. Try to make all marks with the grain if you can. Pencil lead is hard to remove when apply hard to wood.

Phase One

The Octagon Ring (continued)

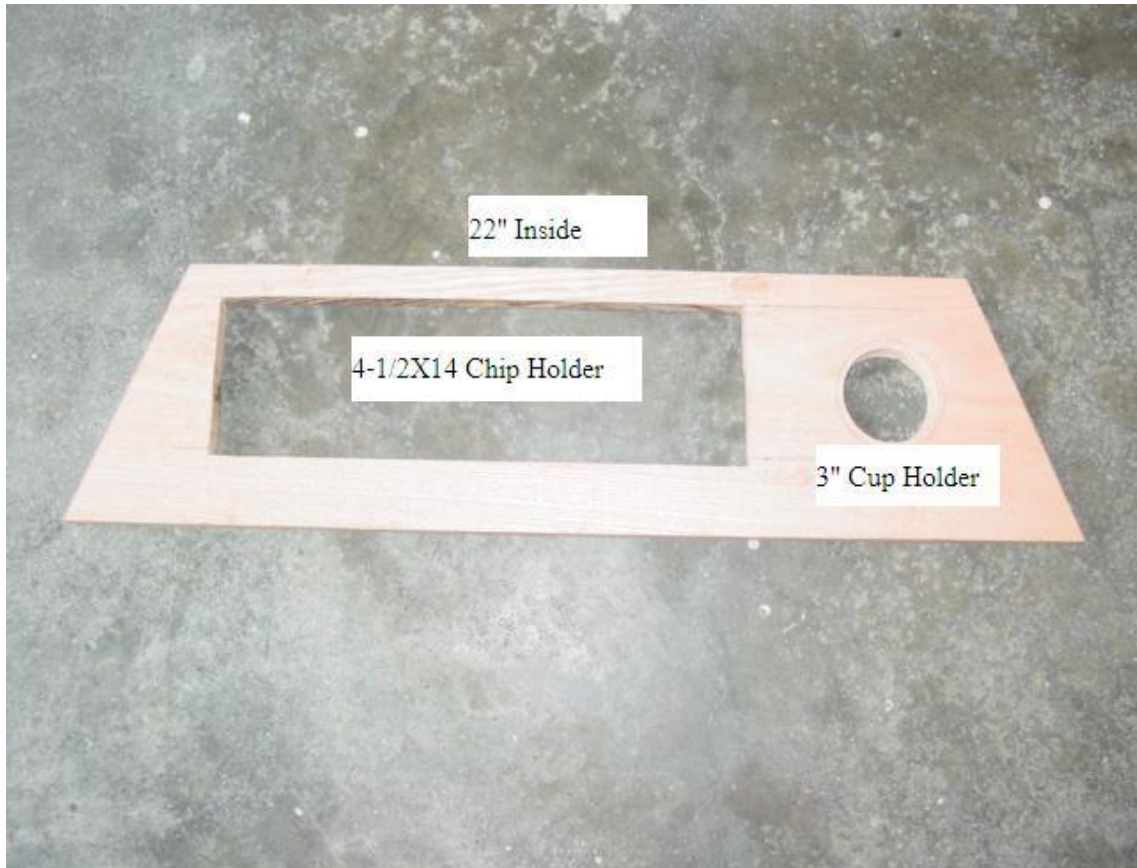


Cut your 22.5 angle and measure 22" on the inside (The Short Point) then cut 22.5 angle on the other side. Use the table saw to make your cuts for the chip holder. I lay the piece on the table saw and turn the blade up into the wood. Measure 1" up from the inside and 4-1/2" from cut to cut. Keep at least 1-1/2" from the end of the angle. Use a jig saw to do the other two cuts and clean up the opening. I made my opening 4-1/2"x14". You should have 1-3/4" on the outside (The Long Point) of the board.

Position for your cup holder. Using a 3" hole saw drill for your cup holder. If you don't have a 3" hole saw use what you have and open it up with your router. After you have done the first one use it as a template to make make all the other pieces and much care to get the 22" inside measurement right on.

Phase One

The Octagon Ring (continued)



Phase One

The Octagon Ring (continued)



Most home made Octagon tables on the web have a drop down skirt. What I did was a Bull Nose profile. Nice little detail and just a little more work..... Ok, ok a lot more work. Get out your 1x6 oak stock and cut eight 3' pieces. Go to the table saw and rip 1" off the board. The 1" rip will be your bull nose and the rest of the board will be your skirt. Put the skirt pieces aside as you rip all eight. Flip your Octagon side over so the cup holder is on your left and glue and clamp the 1" rip to the long end. Make sure you have the clean side of the rip facing out. Make all eight side to look the same.

Phase One

The Octagon Ring (continued)



Using the compound saw trim off the ends of the glued on bull nose. Oh yea, make sure the glue has dry over night. Do one and use it as a template for all the other's.

Phase One

The Octagon Ring (continued)



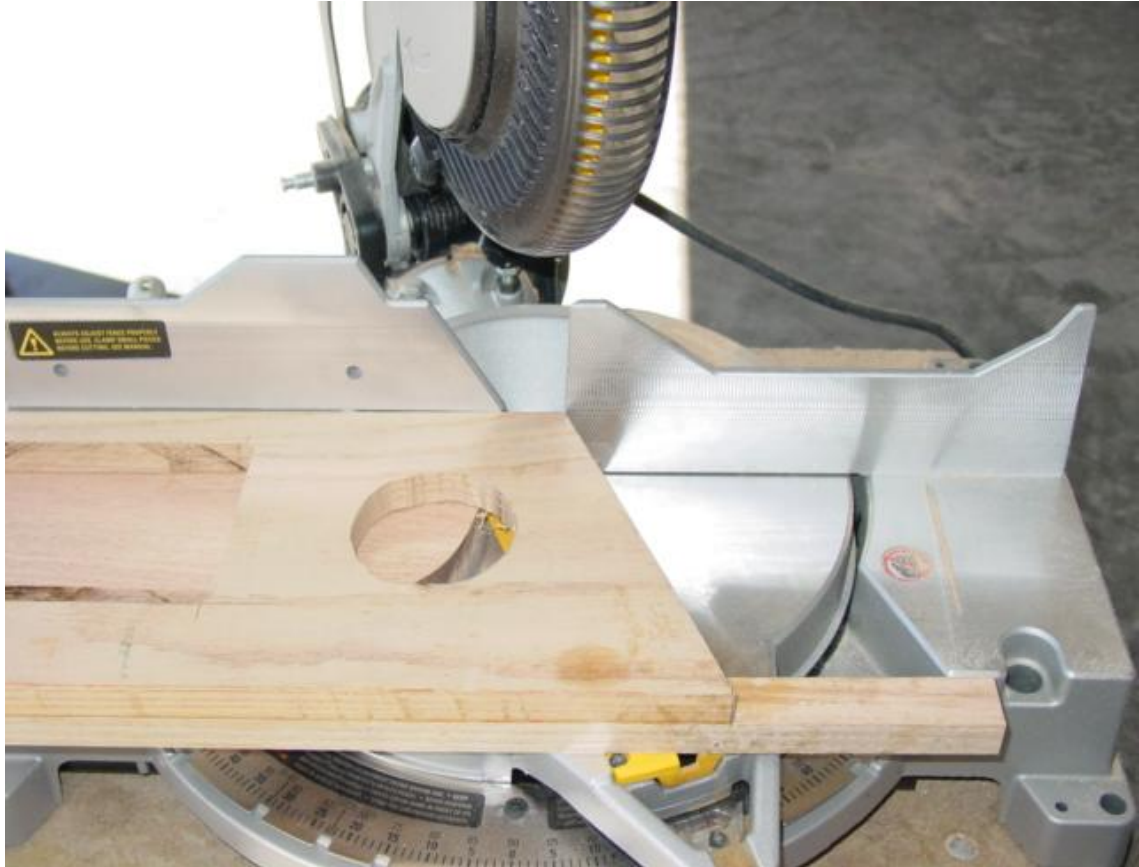
Phase One

The Octagon Ring (continued)



Phase One

The Octagon Ring (continued)



Phase One

The Octagon Ring (continued)



So by now you have all you eight sides ready to go. Time to break out the Joiner and your #10 biscuits. We will be adding two biscuits per joint. See the picture for biscuit placement. From front side mark it at 2-1/2" and 6" and make your cuts with your joiner on all ends. Lay out all the sides on the floor and check for fit. Get ready to glue the sides together.

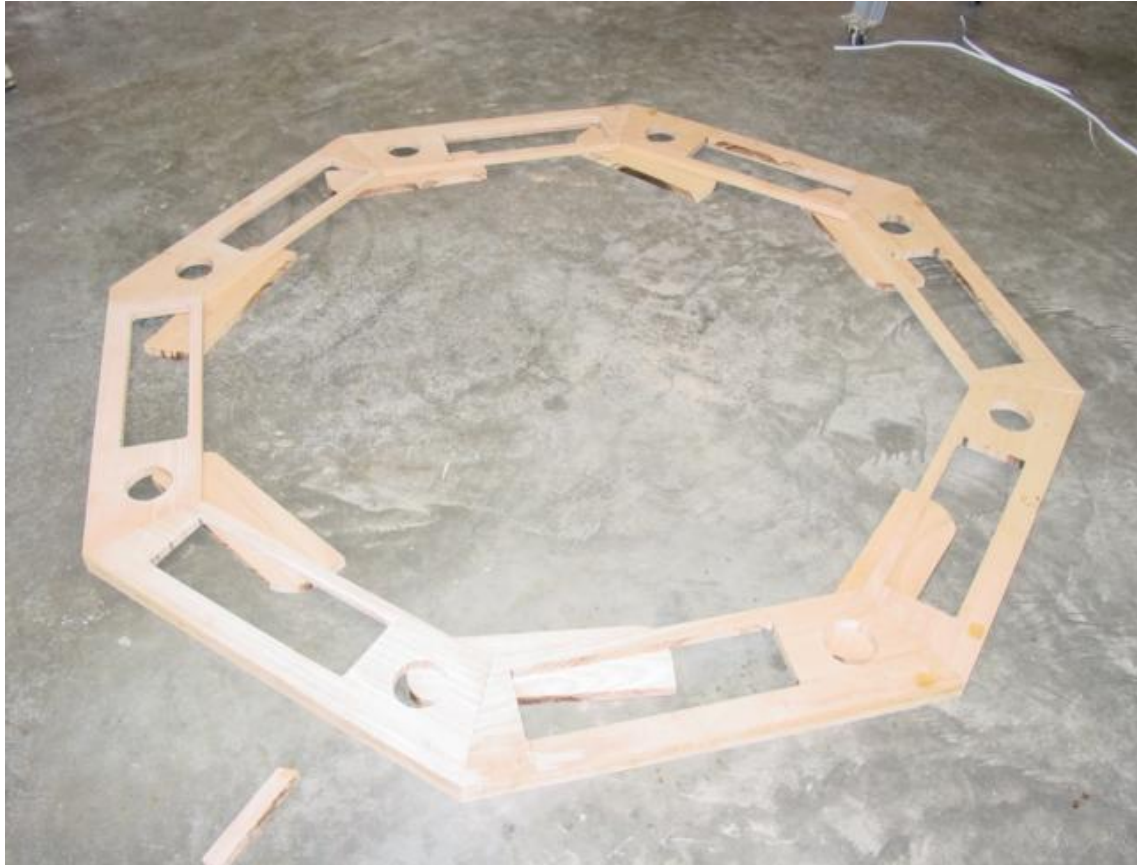
Phase One

The Octagon Ring (continued)



Phase One

The Octagon Ring (continued)



You should have a nice clean surface where to clamp your sides. See the picture for clamping position and layout. Notice that I have add a piece of paper towel under the joint so that the side would not get glued to the bench. Lot's of glue here guys and do not bang in the biscuits. You should only have to press it in with your thumb. Do four sets to start and let dry over night. If you are short on clamps this will take a few night to complete. Wipe off any glue that is press out the joints as you go along.

Phase One

The Octagon Ring (continued)



Phase One

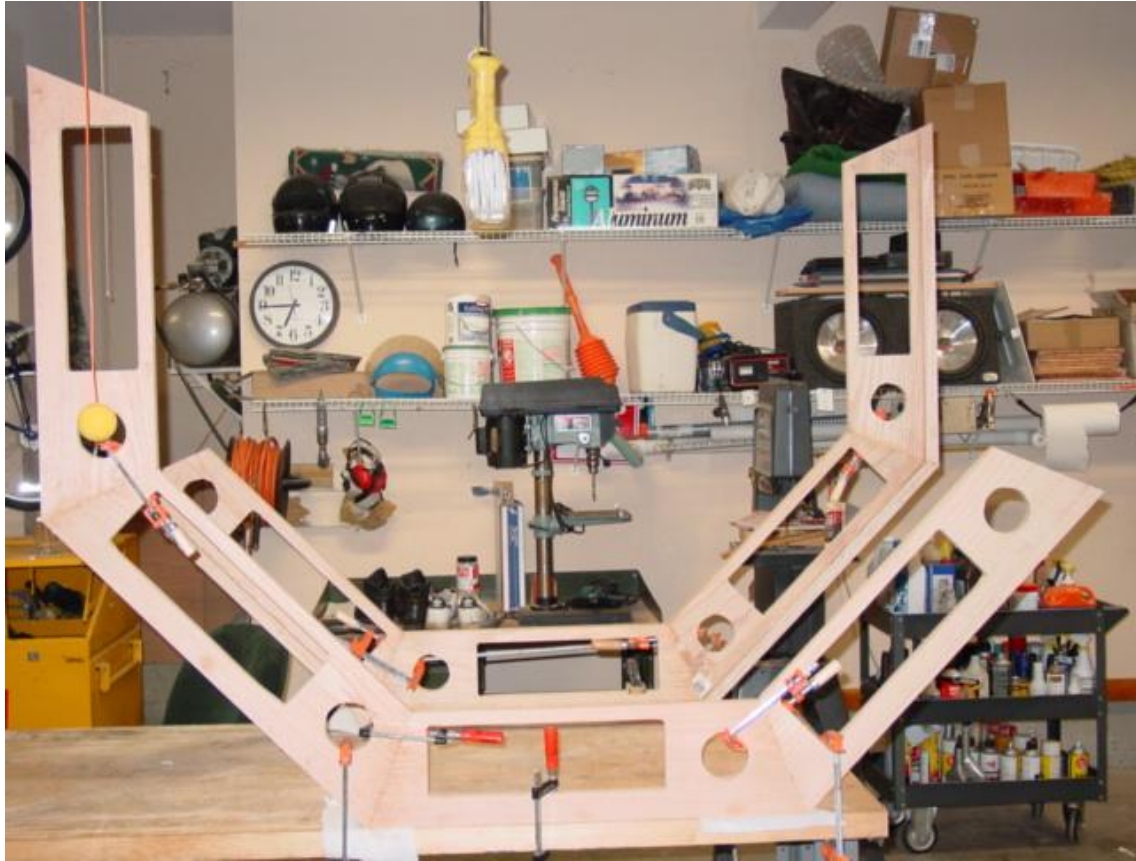
The Octagon Ring (continued)



From four we go to two. Just a flip and glue and a set and let dry over night again.

Phase One

The Octagon Ring (continued)



At long last we get to joining the full Octagon together. You would need to do this on your work bench or the floor . Bench is better. Once this has dry you will be able to move it around but always treat it like a new born baby. Use a short block like in the picture to stop the slide of the joint. Join the two ends the same way. Keep a clamp on all the joints over night. Took me 3 days to get to this point so if you are with me you are doing well.

Phase One

The Octagon Ring (continued)



Phase One

The Octagon Ring (continued)



Phase One

The Octagon Ring (continued)



Next step we bring out the router and palm sander with 120 sandpaper. I used a 3/8 quarter round router bit to round off the top and bottom of the bull nose. You can also go with a 3/4 round bit for a thinner looking bull nose. You also need to sand the bottom side of the bull nose before we attach the skirt. Notice how I added some blocking to keep the router level as I go along. Sand the edge of the bull nose and flip over and do the top bull nose. As you sand you could see where some joints have cracks or openings. Push some glue into the space with your finger and sand over the space. Dust will fill the joint and it will look great.

Phase One

The Octagon Ring (continued)



Phase One

The Octagon Ring (continued)



That's it with the Octagon ring folks. Next we are doing the Skirt, Table platform and Play Area.

Phase Two

The Skirt, Play Area and Sub Table



Like stated before most tables you see online have a drop down skirt right off the table edge. Since I have my little bull nose on this I can't do that. Get out your eight pieces of 1x6 that you ripped for your bull nose. If you have a radial arm saw make a 3/4" notch on the end of all eight pieces. Only remove 1/4" of the board. Those without the radial can use your table saw by making two rip's to get the same notch. Make the cut on the already ripped side of the board so the you will have a finish side on the bottom of the skirt.

Phase Two

The Skirt, Play Area and Sub Table (continued)



Phase Two

The Skirt, Play Area and Sub Table (continued)



Time to fit all the skirt pieces to the octagon ring. Pick a side, any side and using your compound saw cut a 22.5 angle on one end. Cut two test pieces for both the left and right side of the skirt. Using the test piece fit a skirt onto the back of the bull nose. Use a square to fit the opposite end and cut it with a 22.5 angle. Go around the ring and cut all the skirts in place. Mark each side to each skirt.

Phase Two

The Skirt, Play Area and Sub Table (continued)

