Step 1 – The Pedestal Base

The Rounders Table / base1

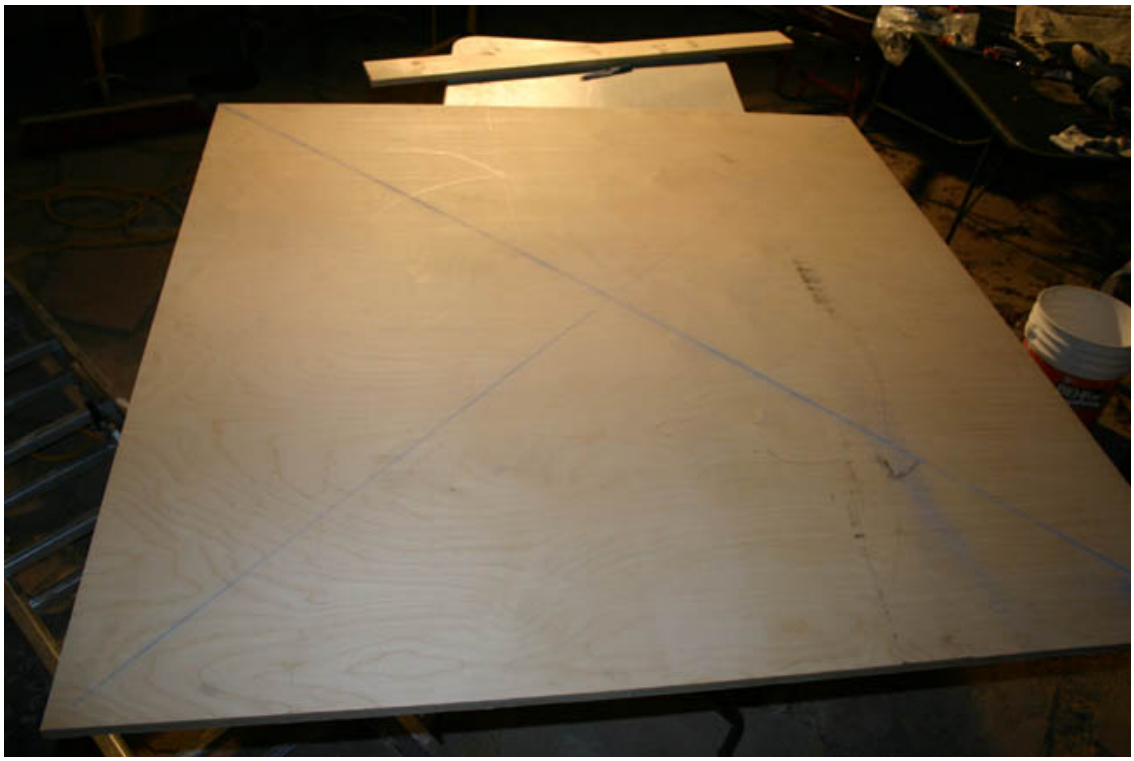
Purchasing this pedestal was the key to my table. The pedestal is 11.5 inches in diameter which gives it a hefty look when the table is completed and is needed to support the 60 inch diameter table. You will need to go to a store specializing in unfinished furniture and may have to special order. You will probably pay somewhere around $150 to $250 depending on the quality of wood. The one I found was only $70 but that is because the store owner had it for some time and wanted to get rid of it. I lucked out (warning don't play poker with me I am always lucky), but if you keep searching you just might luck out as well.

The Rounders Table / base2

This is the table with one coat of black stain and with the 24 inch support added. The base came with the hardware to support the base. The screws are actually attached to the top of the base and all I needed to do was drill wholes in the support and screw it in place. Of course this support was later stained black as well.

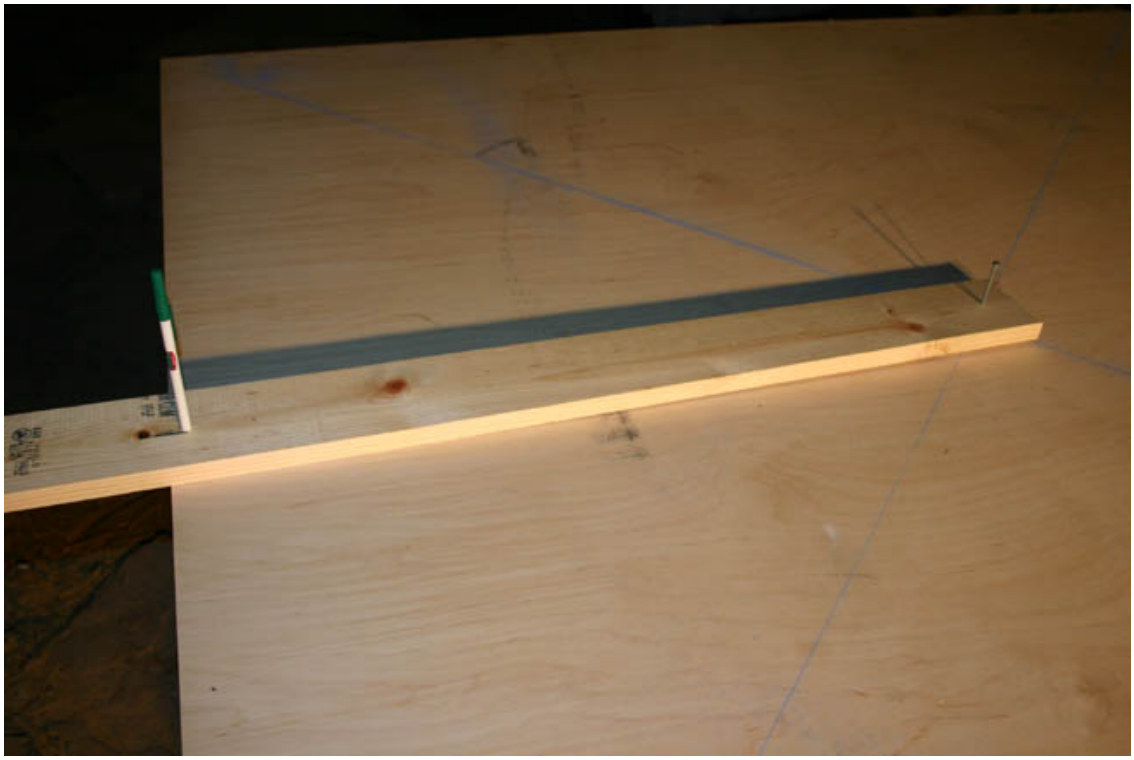
The Rounders Table / base3 - making the base for the table top

Finding the wood to make a 60in. table will again require a specialty hardwood store (sorry no Home Depot). You need two 5 ft. x 5 ft. pieces of plywood; one piece 3/4" thick and one 1/2" thick. Start with the 3/4 in piece and snap lines from corner to corner in order to find the center of the wood.



The Rounders Table / base4 - Cutting the rounds

Cutting the various round playing tops we need for the table is simple. Drive a nail through a 1" by 4" piece of scrap wood. Measure the distance of the tables radius from the nail (in this case 30in) and drill a whole just large enough for a pen to fit through. Remember the tighter the fit for the pen the more accurate the line you will draw. Now, continue to nail the board into the table. You do not need to nail it in very far. Just deep enough to hold the board down. Now turn the board around the table top and you should have a perfect circle to cut away.



The Rounders Table / base5 - The finished rounds

These are the finished cuts on the 3/4" piece of wood which will become the underside of the table. The outer ring is 60" and the center part is 58". If you do the math the outer part is about 1" wide. Put aside this outer part for now. It will be used later to attach to the bottom of the padded rail. The center part is going to be mounted on the table pedestal next.

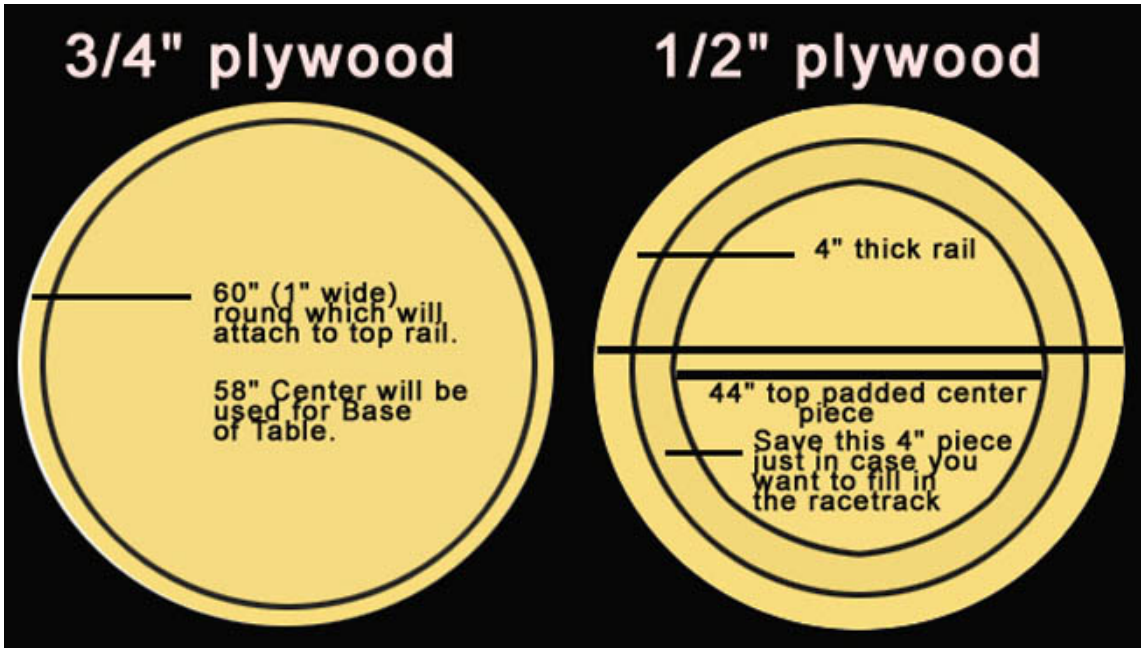
Step 2 – The Rail

The Rounders Table / rail_1

This picture shows more than just the rail but all of the cuts.

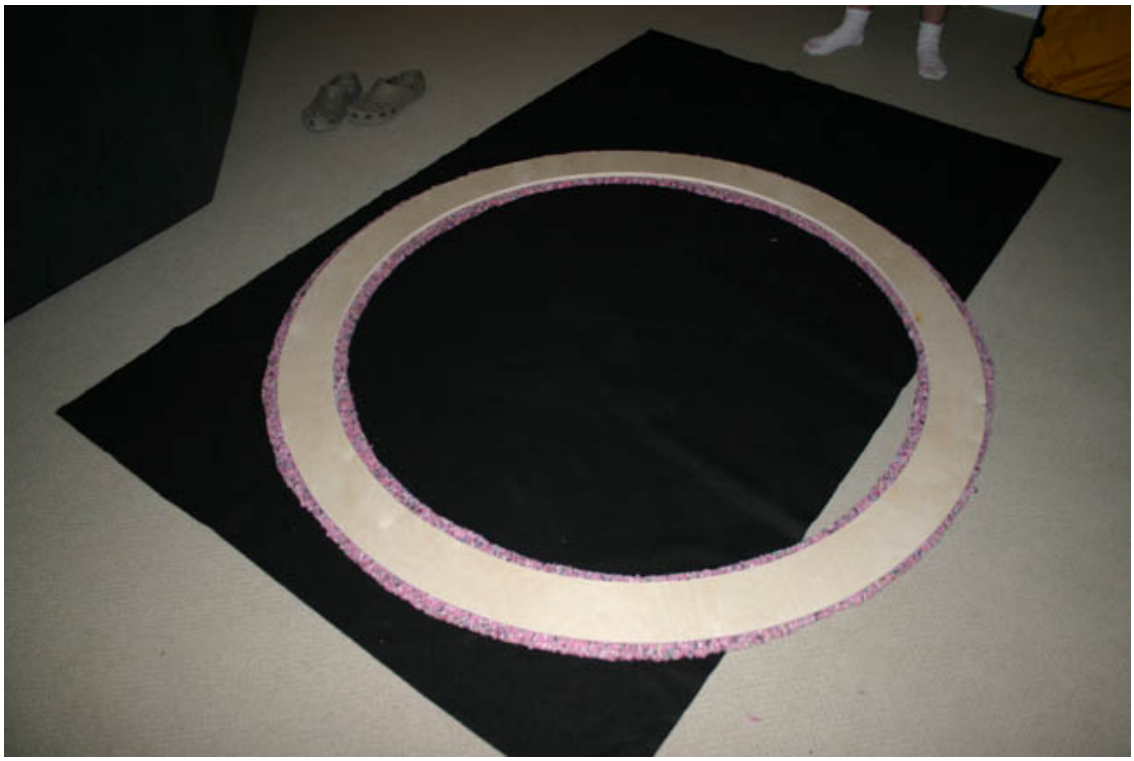
The 3/4" Plywood: This is the bottom of the table. The 1" outer piece will be screwed to the rail when it is completed and will then be placed just as it is shown here round the center piece from which is was cut. Use a jig saw and lightly sand when complete. The less messing you do with these two sections the tighter they will fit together when you are all done.

The 1/2" Plywood: This is the top of the table and for that reason only needs to be1/2" thick. After you cut the 60" round, measure in 4" and cut the rail. Then measure in another 4" and cut out the race track. You will left with a 44" diameter center piece which will become the table's padded "felt" center.



The Rounders Table / rail_2

To cover the rail you will need either marine vinyl or leather. I purchased a mock furniture leather at my furniture store which was about $15/yard. Marine vinyl can be purchased at JoAnn's for about $9/yard and will look great. In either case the material will come in 54" lengths, so you will need about 3 yards. This part is a bit tricky. You need to cut two half-circles out of the material which will then need to be sewed together. I apologize for not taking a picture of my cuts, but I became preoccupied with doing it correctly and lost track of my picture taking.



The Rounders Table / rail_3

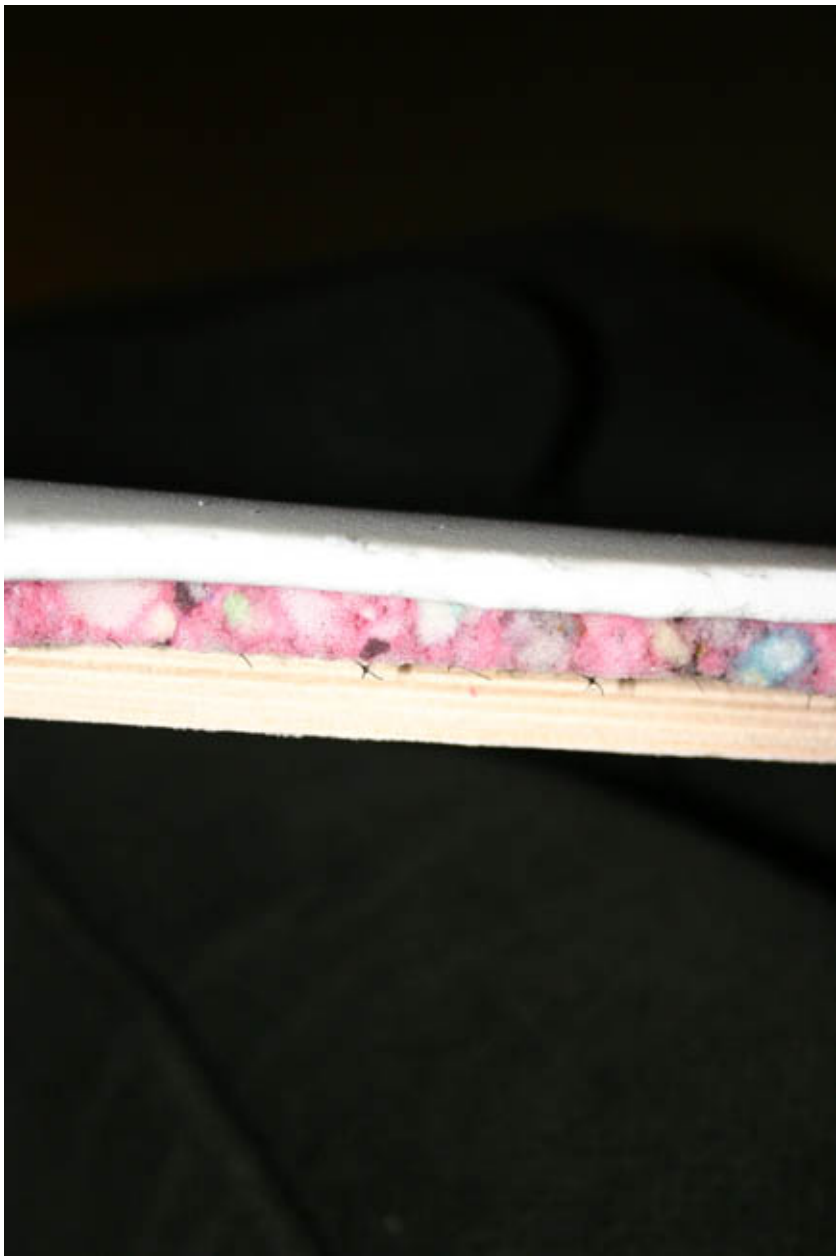
Thank goodness for MOMS! If you do not have a mother who sews, you will probably have to spend about $40+ to have a seamstress sew the two pieces together.

The Rounders Table / rail_4

Here is a picture of 1st layer of padding for the rail. Yes it is carpet padding and is extremely cheap. Go to carpeteria and tell them you want scraps and they will give you all you want.

The Rounders Table / rail_5

Here is a cross section of the rail showing the bottom 1/2" plywood, the middle layer of 5/8" carpet padding, and the 1/2" closed cell foam. When you see the finished table you will notice that the rail is very thin and it LOOKS GREAT. The key is using dense padding combo of carpet padding and closed cell foam. If you use open cell foam you will need a 2"+ thick foam and in my opinion makes the rail too big. See the finished table and trust me on this one.

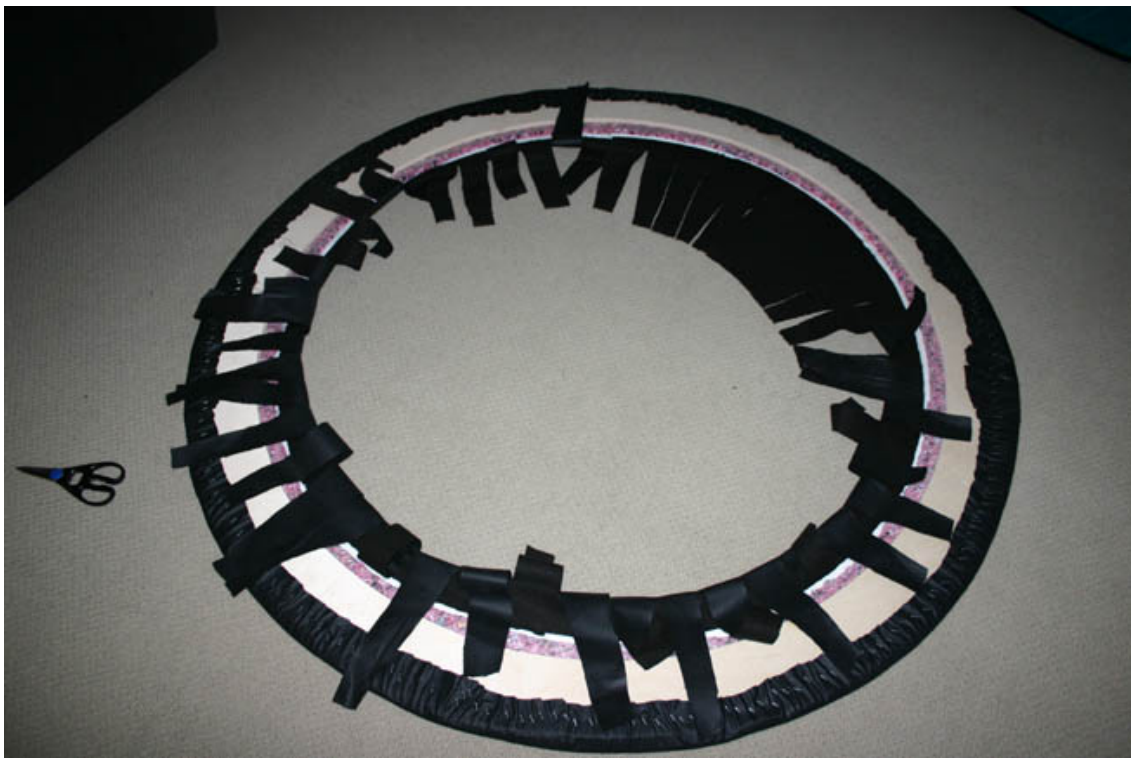


The Rounders Table / rail_6

Start attaching the leather / marine vinyl on the outside of the ring. Two notes here: (1) Trim the padding so that it just covers the side of the plywood but does not curl under the bottom. This rail will be screwed to the outer ring of the bottom and you want it to fit as tightly as possible. (2) Use as many staples as you need to hold the vinyl tight. I literally used hundreds. Hammer them down well so they do not stick out.

The Rounders Table / rail_7

This is the tricky part of attaching the vinyl. The center must be cut in strips about 1" from the outside of the padding. Leave the strips long so you can pull them and stretch over the rail. See the next picture for more details...



The Rounders Table / rail_8

OK dudes this is where you sneak you wife's hairdryer into the garage and heat up the vinyl to stretch it over the rail. Get it nice and warm and it will pull easily over the rail. When it cools the material will contract and form a nice, tight fit over the rail. It will look like a pro did it!

The Rounders Table / rail_9

This is the rail fit snugly over the table. Remember the 1" outer ring of the table bottom has been screwed to the bottom of the rail so the solid piece fits snugly on the table. If you do this right you will not need to permanently attach the rail to the table. Crap you still have a long way to go to finish the table.

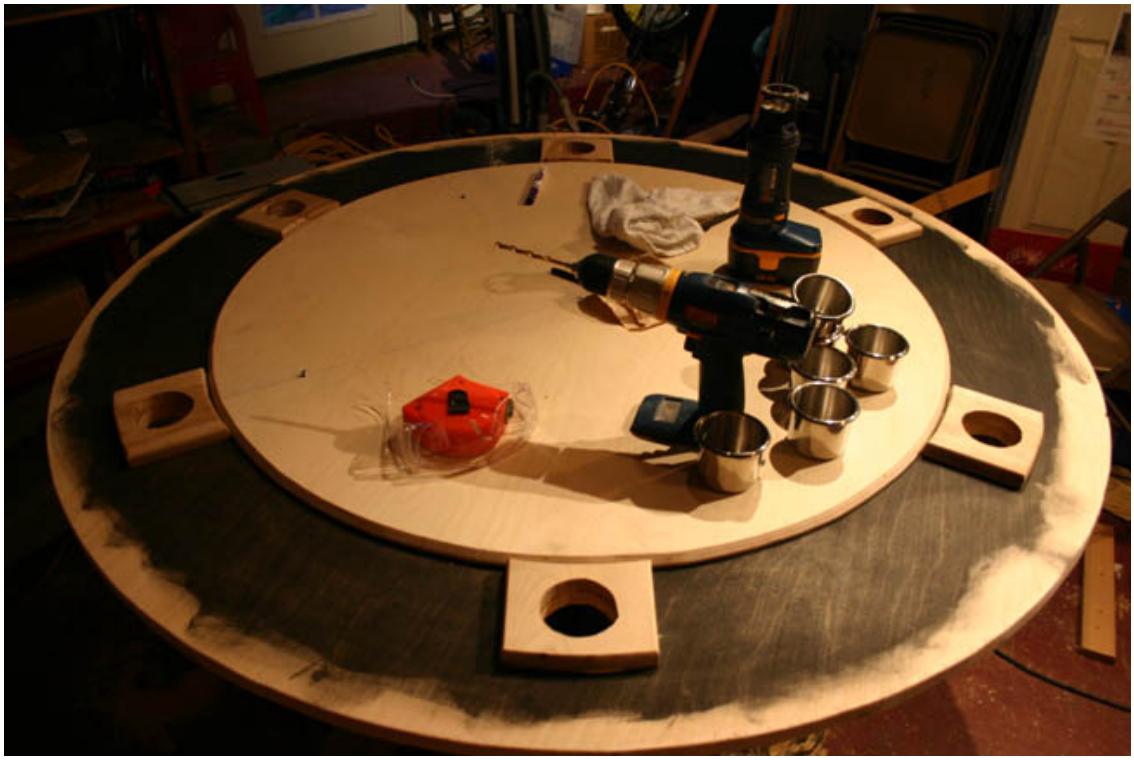
Step 3 – The Table Top

The Rounders Table / tabletop_1

This is a picture of the finished rail placed on the tabletop. The intent is to show how it will fit over the table top when complete. It is not screwed into the table because the 1" outer ring which is attached to the rail helps it stay in place. Shown in the center is the 58" piece from the 3/4" plywood. I admit that I have not given detailed instructions on attaching the tabletop to the base, but if you purchase a pedestal, I can almost guarantee that it will come with detailed instructions for attaching the table top and in most cases will even come with hardware. Some of the instructions will suggest using T-nuts. I did not use T-nuts because this is not a visible section of the table and I simply counter sank some screws and tightened it down.

The Rounders Table / tabletop_2

This is the centerpiece and the cup holder risers being installed. The only key here is ensuring the centerpiece is exactly centered and screwed in place. I would then place the completed padded rail (not shown) on the table and cut the drink holder risers to fit in place. Note that the only way to cut the holes for the stainless steel drink holders is to use a roto zip. Jig saws or other saws will not do the trick. When the risers are finished they can simply be glued in place with wood glue and stained.



The Rounders Table / tabletop_3

A close up of the drink holder riser.

Step 4 – The Centre Felt

The Rounders Table / center_1

As you will recall from the instructions for cutting the rail, there should be a 44" circle of 1/2" thick plywood. This will soon be covered with foam padding and made into the center of the table. But first, there is a small detail which will help the center piece have a nice soft look. Simply get out a router and cut away a 45 degree angle around the outside. If you don't have a router, and want to do this you can use a wood file or any number of tools to at least round out the edge.

The Rounders Table / center_2

This is the bottom of the center piece which will be attached to the table. Because the top of the center will be covered with Fabric we must use T-nuts. This is the first step of nailing in the T-nut. I simply used a router to cut a 1/4" diameter hole about 1/8" deep.

The Rounders Table / center_3

This is the T-nut just in case you have never seen one. All you need to do is hammer it into the 1/8" deep hole.

The Rounders Table / center_4

This is the 1/2" open cell foam which I have already attached to the top of the center using 3M spray adhesive. If you have a seam in the foam make sure to push it together firmly and then attach if together with the spray adhesive.

The Rounders Table / center_5

Next, cut the fabric and give about 5" of extra material on each side so that you can put it tight and staple.

The Rounders Table / center_6

Here is the bottom of the table with the fabric stapled on. I cannot begin to tell you how tired my hands were after pulling this tight. This is key because it avoids wrinkles on the top and also makes the foam firmer. Again, Just like when we were completing the rail, use lots of staples.

The Rounders Table / center_7

The finished center piece. All you need to do now is screw it in using the T-nuts.

Step 5 – The Optional Race Track Insert

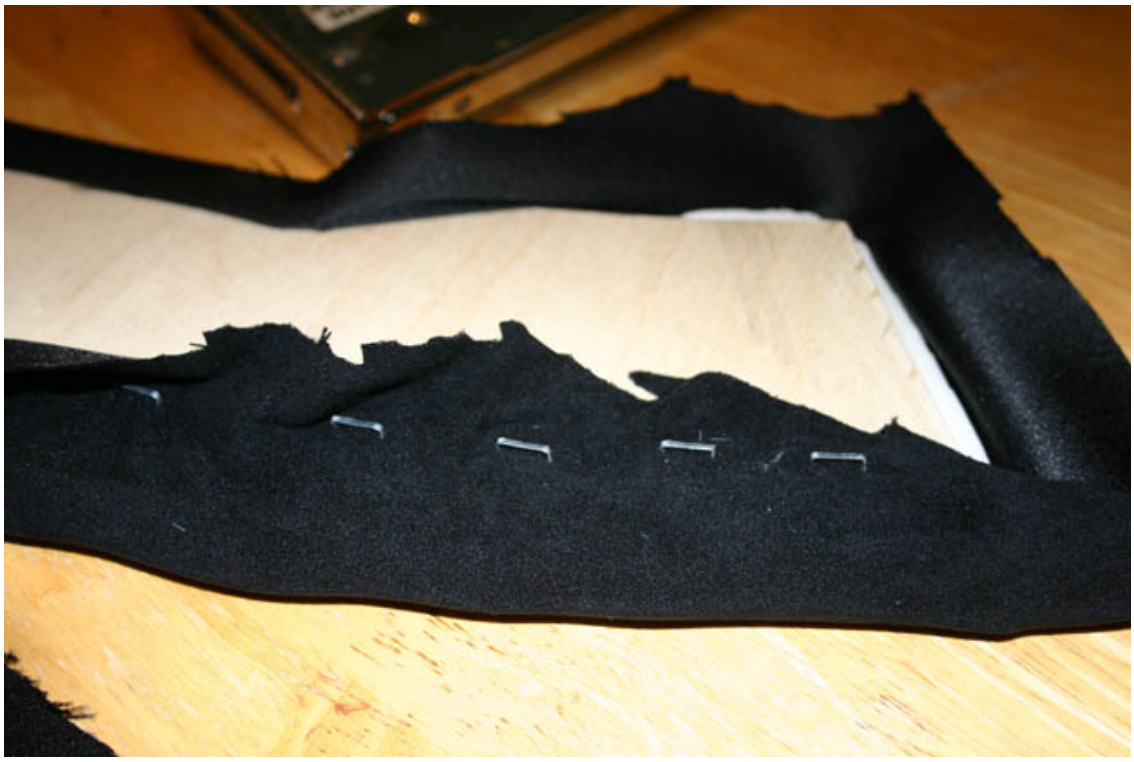
The Race Track Insert / cover1

This section explains how to build a padded race track insert which will cover the wood race track on the table. This is purely an optional add on to the table. I have had many people say that they hate race tracks so this effectively removes the grooved race track and at the same time adds a very distinguished betting line on the table.

As you will notice you have a 4" wide ring which was cut out from the top 1/2" piece of plywood. Making the insert simply entails cutting this ring into sections and covering with padding and fabric to insert into the groove that is the current race track. When you cut these parts, you can cut very rough parts which can be laid over the race track and traced to fit perfectly in between the cup holders.

The Race Track Insert / cover2

All you need to do is cut the padding, material (I used moleskin), and then staple it onto the bottom of the insert. For the padding I used the 1/4" CLOSED cell foam. This is fairly firm and makes a firm surface for your chip stacks.



The Race Track Insert / cover3

This is the insert placed into the race track. No need to permanently attach with nails or screws. I found if you leave about 1/8" gap between the uncovered insert and the padded rail and center playing area then when you pad the insert it will fit snugly into place and you will need to insert a butter knife, etc., to pull it out of place.

Again, this makes for a nice betting line. You can count your chips all day on the black area but once you push them into the red playing circle you have bet!!

The Race Track Insert / cover4

So here is the finished table with inserts. I call these inserts an "option" but realistically I polled my poker friends and they all said they would rather play with the inserts. Some like the idea of pushing all of their chip stacks onto the center which this allows. I personally like the fact that you can deal the cards hard and they float all the way to the padded rail which still sits up about a 1/4". Without the inserts you do not want to deal off the red center because the card can flip up just slightly and other players may see the edge of the card's bottom.