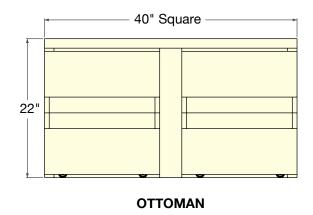
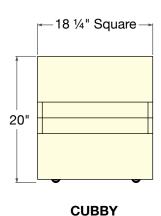


# Four Cubby Ottoman

eed a place to set your cup 'o joe while you check up on Pinterest? Friends stopping by suddenly and you have to clean up the kids board games? Then this ottoman has to be your next DIY project. With plenty of options to customize the look because of an intentional construction that patterns the planks of wood and four neat and tidy cubbies on wheels... what isn't there to love? What are you waiting for? Let's get started! Your living room will thank you.



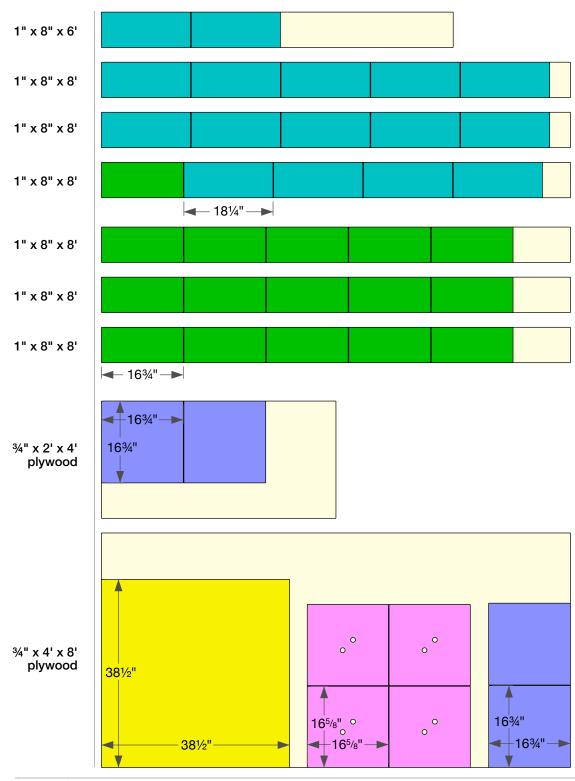


Make sure you read through the instructions carefully and take notice of any special construction notes prior to making any cuts. And always practice safe DIY'ing. Have fun!

PLEASE NOTE - many pieces may require you to cut them to fit a certain size while you are building it. Its best not to cut pieces until you need them.

Take your time and study all the diagrams.

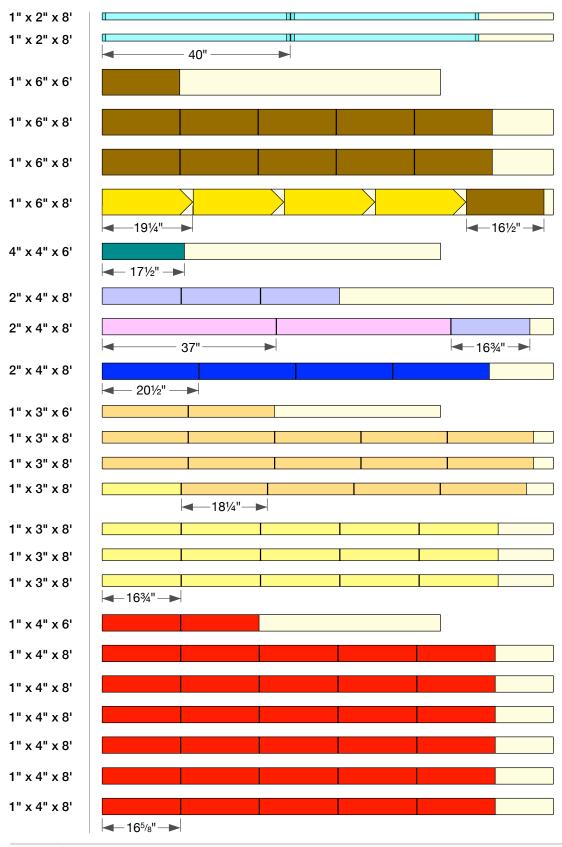
#### **CUT LIST**



Make sure you read through the instructions carefully and take notice of any special construction notes prior to making any cuts. And always practice safe DIY'ing. Have fun!

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Take your time and study all the diagrams.



### **MATERIALS LIST**

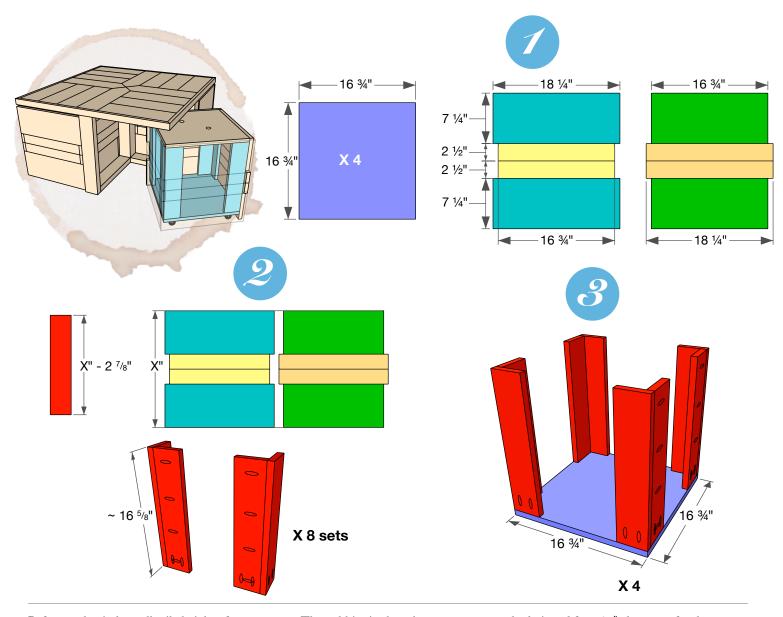
Material	Qty
34" X 4' X 8' plywood	1
34" X 2' X 4' plywood	1
1" x 8" x 8' pine board	6
1" x 8" x 6' pine board	1
1" x 4" x 8' pine board	6
1" x 4" x 6' pine board	1
1" x 3" x 8' pine board	6
1" x 3" x 6' pine board	1
2" x 4" x 8' pine board	3
4" x 4" x 6' pine board	1
1" x 6" x 8' pine board	3
1" x 6" x 6' pine board	1
1" x 2" x 8' pine board	2

Material	Qty
1-1/4" pocket screws	
2-1/2" pocket screws	
2-1/4" wood or spax screws	
2" wood or spax screws	
1-1/4" brad nails	
wood glue	
1" spade or forstner bit •	
1-1/2" soft rubber swivel caster	16
#8 or #10 x ¾" screws to attach casters to cubbies	64

 This bit will be for the finger holes to remove the lid of your cubbies.
 Make sure a 1" is proper size for your fingers.

#### **NOTES**





Before we begin lets talk pile height of your carpet. The cubbies in these how-to are currently designed for a ½" clearance for the casters between the bottom of the cubby and the floor. This is great for wood floors or a low pile rug like sisal. If, however, you have a taller pile, like shag, you may want to give yourself a little more room. All you have to do is ADD however much MORE clearance you need to the length of the RED boards you cut in Step 2. Then SUBTRACT that same amount from the 1-3/8" offset spacing in Step 4.

That's it. All of the other calculations, boards and spacing will stay the same.



First, cut your four 16-3/4" square bases for the cubbies.

Now, lay a few of the 1x8 and 1x3 boards together so that you get a similar arrangement as the illustration above in Step 1. These illustrations are mock-ups of the sides of the cubbies. Don't cut those boards to length yet, these mock-ups are to get the 'X' measurement needed in Step 2. This will help your construction take into account the subtle variances in commercially sold boards.



Now use that measurement to determine how tall to cut your **RED** support columns of the cubbies.

Remember, if you need to add any more clearance for your casters then ADD to the length of the **RED** boards AFTER the calculation.

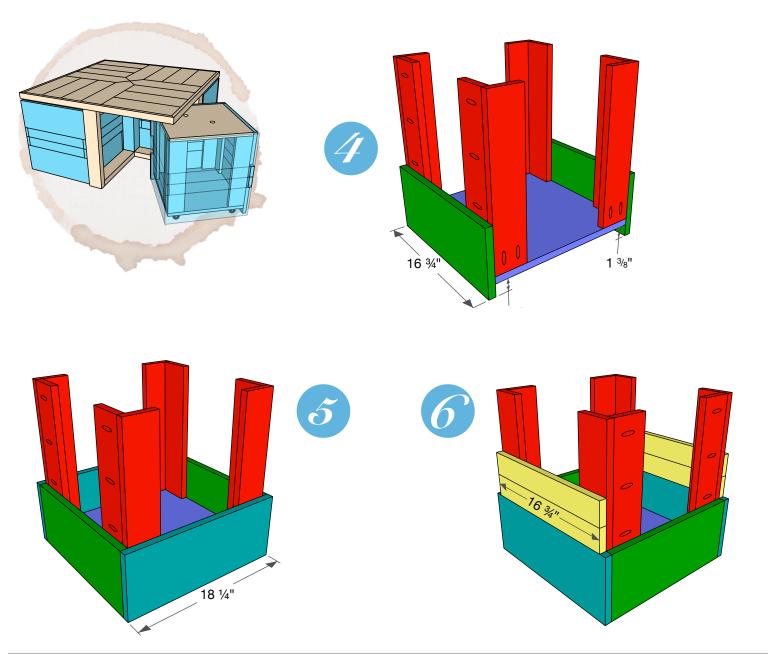
I.E., if you need ½" MORE clearance then your **RED** board length would be 17-1/8"

Now, drill ¾" pocket holes as shown. Don't forget to drill the pocket holes facing downward prior to assembly. Attach with wood glue

and 1-1/2" pocket screws as shown to make 1 set. Repeat until you have 8 sets total.



Attach 2 sets to each of the 4 bases you cut out in Step 1 with wood glue and  $1-\frac{1}{2}$ " pocket screws as shown. Make sure they are as flush and square as possible with the outside edges of the base. You may want to use a speed square here.





Now you will begin wrapping the cubbies with the 1x8 and 1x3 boards.

#### First a layer of 1x8s.

Cut to fit two 1x8 pieces so that they are flush with the outside edges of the red columns as shown. Using a speed square to make sure the columns stay square to the base, attach with wood glue and 1-1/4" brad nails. Make sure you leave the 1-3/8" offset spacing at the bottom. This is for your casters later on. Add the same piece to the opposite side.

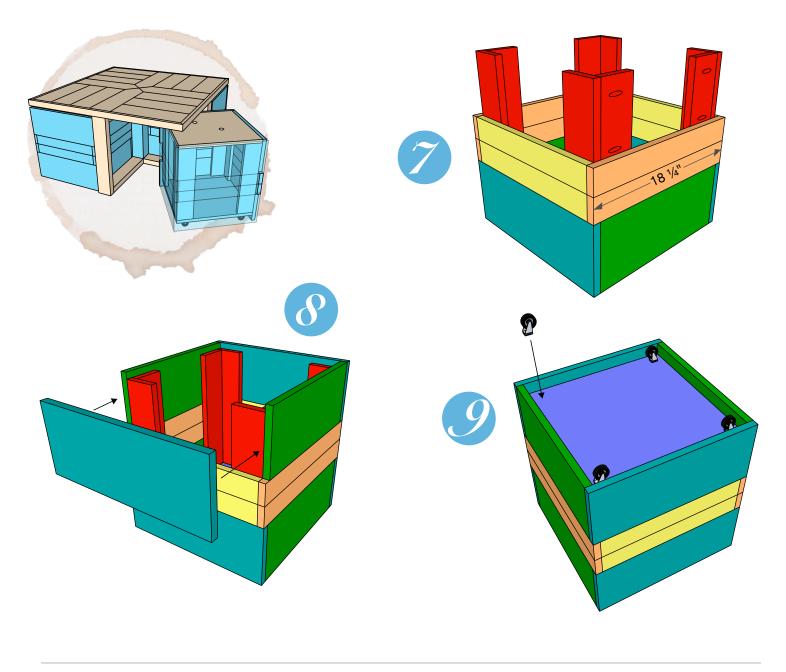
Remember, if you need to add any MORE clearance for your casters then SUBTRACT that additional clearance needed from the 1-3/8" offset. I.E., if you are needing 1/2" MORE clearance then your offset would only be 7/8" total.



Cut 2 more 1x8s to fit so that they are flush with the outside edges of the 1x8s from Step 5. Using the same offset spacing and a speed square attach with wood glue and 1-1/4" brad nails. Attach the other 1x8 on the opposite side.



Now for 2 layers of 1x3s. Cut the 1x3s to fit so that they are flush with the outside edges of the red columns. Pay attention to which side you attach the 1x3s. To get the woven look at the corners make sure these first 1x3s are on the upper edge of the longer 1x8s as shown. Attach with wood glue and  $1-\frac{1}{4}$ " brad nails. Don't forget to attach the same two 1x3s to the opposite side.





Cut the longer 1x3s to be flush with the outside edges of the 1x3s from Step 6. Attach with wood glue and 1-1/4" brad nails. Attach the final 2 longer 1x3s to the opposite side.

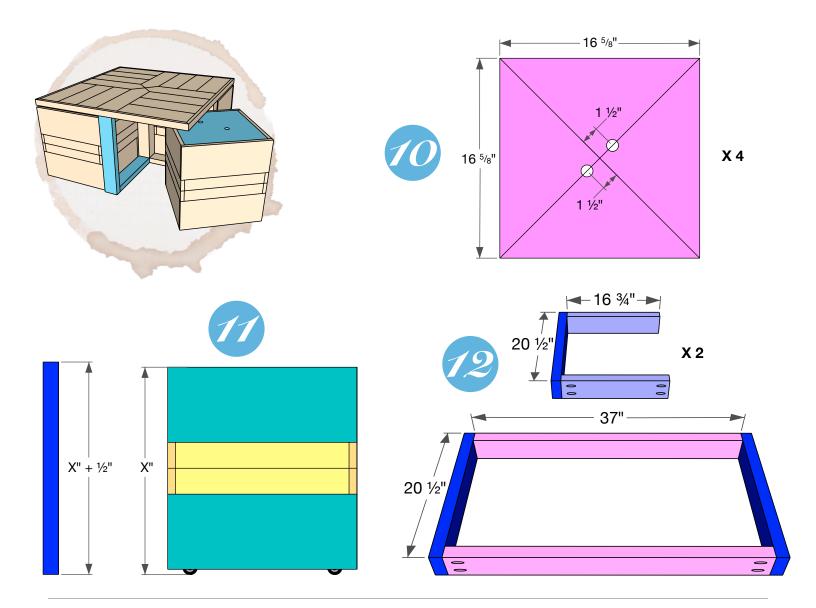


And finally the top layer of 1x8s. Cut and attach the shorter ones first. Again, pay attention to which side you attach them to. The shorter boards will attach on the upper edges of the longer 1x3s. Attach with wood glue and 1-1/4" brad nails. Repeat with the shorter piece on the opposite side. Repeat process with longer 1x8s.

The red columns should be 3/4" from the top edge of the 1x8s. This will serve as the lip the lid will sit on.



Now flip your cubbies over to attach the casters. Hold the casters in place to mark the holes for the screws. Inset your casters about 1" from the corner so that your casters can swivel all the way around without hitting the sides. Drill pilot holes for the screws making sure not to drill through the bottom of the cubby. To help, wrap a piece of tape around your bit just shy of the height of your screw. Stop drilling when that tape reaches the surface of the plywood. Attach all the casters with either #8 or #10 x <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" screws.



Cut the lids for your cubbies about 1/8-1/4" smaller than the top of your cubbies.

This will allow your lid to swell and shrink with the change of moisture in the seasons with out binding.

Once cut it is time to drill finger holes using the above illustration for reference. To find the center draw a diagonal from corner to corner. Measure out from the center on one of the lines 1-1/2" in both directions. Mark the center of the circle and drill a 1" hole with a spade bit or forstner bit. To prevent tear-out on the opposite side make sure you are drilling onto a scrap piece of wood that completely covers the hole you will be drilling out. You can also place a piece of tape on the top side where you will be drilling to prevent any unnecessary chip out.

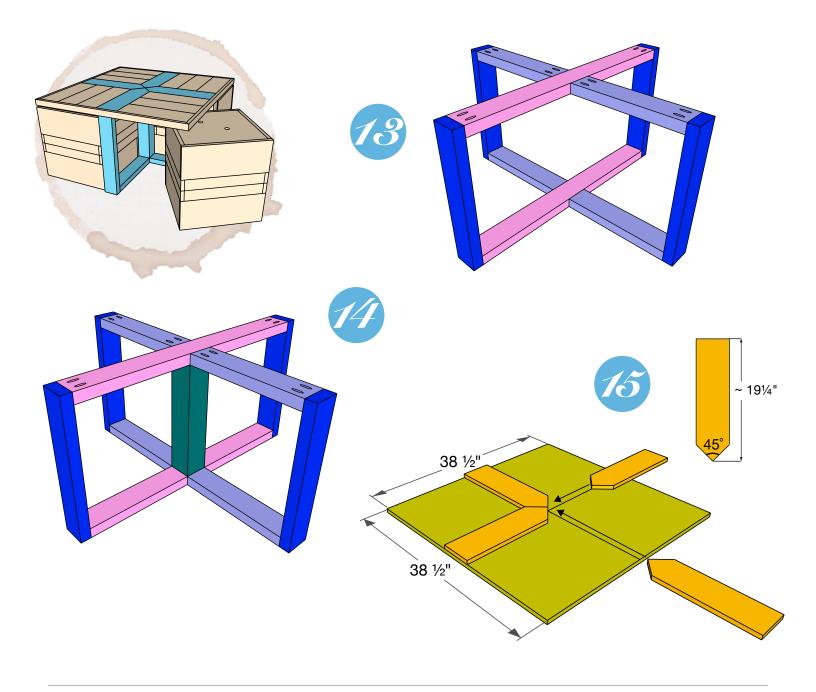
> A word of advice, prior to drilling measure on your hands a comfortable distance for your holes. These directions are for a 3" spacing between.

We will now use the height of the cubbies (with casters attached) to determine the height of the ottoman so that the cubbies fit properly. Measure the full height and ADD 1/2". This will be the length to cut your **BLUE** 2x4s for the inner support of your ottoman in Step 12.

12. Using the measurement from Step 11 cut four (**BLUE**) 2x4s to length.

Cut the four 16-3/4" and two 37" 2x4s to length. Drill 1-1/2" pocket holes into the ends of these. Note that you will drill pocket holes into both ends of the 16-3/4" 2x4s. Attach with wood glue and 2-1/2" pocket screws so that the pocket screws face up and down as shown above. Don't worry, they will either be covered by the top later on or be on the bottom and never show.

Take your time with these pocket screw joints. You want them to be as square and flush as possible. Use as speed square if necessary.



## 13.

Now attach the two side wing supports to the center of the main support with wood glue and 2-1/2" pocket screws. Make sure your pieces are flush and square. Again, take your time with these joints. Use a speed square where necessary. Make sure your wings are attached at center as the negative space is where the cubbies will go when you are done.

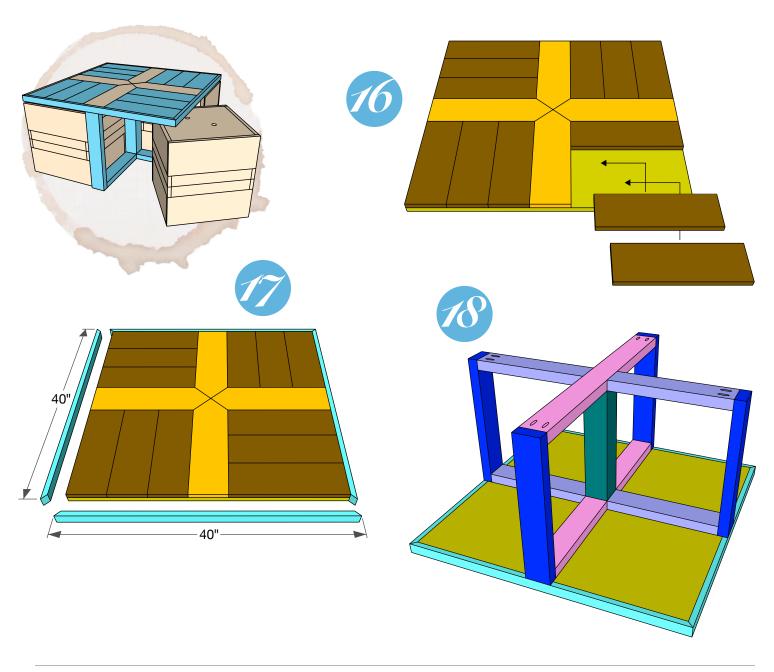


Cut your 4x4 vertical beam to fit so that the top is level. Insert into the middle and attach with 2-1/4" spax screws. Make sure the vertical beam is square to the bottom and top 2x4s. Make sure the outside joints of the wing supports and main support are still square prior to attaching beam.

15.

Now lets work on the top. Cut the top plywood to size. Draw a cross on the plywood that delineates the middle of each side and locates the center. Cut four 1x6s slightly longer than 19-1/4". Cut 45° miters on the ends so that there is a point in the middle. Now trim a square cut at the opposite end to length so that the board reaches from the outside edge to the center, approximately 19-1/4".

Using wood glue and 1-1/4" brad nails attach these four pieces centered so that their tips meet in the center.



16.

Now cut and attach the remaining 1x6s to fit as shown in the illustration above. Attach with wood glue and 1-1/4" brad nails.



To give the top a clean, crisp edge cut to fit with mitered corners the 1x2 boards as shown. Attach with wood glue and 1" brad nails. Make sure the top edges are flush and take your time with the miter cuts. You will appreciate the finesse of tight, crisp corners later.



Finally attach the top to the base support. You will find it easier to flip the assembly upside down to do this.

First lay the top upside down on a clean flat surface. Position the support assembly onto the top so that the outside edges of the 2x4s are flush with the outside edges of the top and centered. Take your time, measure twice... three times... or more. You want all four corner openings as even as possible so that the cubbies will fit properly. Clamp one section at a time until it is all secured. Check for square again. Attach with 2" spax screws through the 2x4s into the bottom of the top.

Use a finish to your liking, slide the cubbies in place, kick back and enjoy.