

Aquarium Stand



A sturdy cabinet that could be used for just about anything... A TV Stand, console, or in this case an aquarium.

Materials needed:

- 3/4" plywood (1/2 Sheet)
- 1/4" plywood (1/4 Sheet)
- 1 - 2x10x8 Spruce
- 3 - 2x4x8 Spruce
- 2 - 2x2x8 Spruce
- 2 - 1x3x8 Spruce
- Cove moulding
- Crown moulding
- Base moulding
- 2 - sets of hinges
- 2 - knobs/ or pulls
- 2 1/2" pocket hole screws
- 1 1/4" pocket hole screws
- Brad nails
- Wood Glue
- Wood Putty

Step 1: Build the sides of the Cabinet

What makes this cabinet sturdy, is its frame made mostly of 2x4's. This cabinet ended up being 32" tall x 36" wide x 16 1/2" deep overall. If you wanted a deeper or taller, change these dimensions as you wish.

First step is to cut four 2x4's at 30 1/2" long and four pieces at 7" long. Then, I assembled two sides like shown using pocket holes and screws. I attached the bottom 2x4 an inch from the bottom



Before attaching the other 2x4 in the frame, I added a piece of 3/4" plywood to fit in the opening. It's best to measure and cut exactly to fit, but it should be 7" wide x 22 1/2" long.



Lastly, I attached the last 2x4 to complete the two side panels attached using pocket holes and screws.



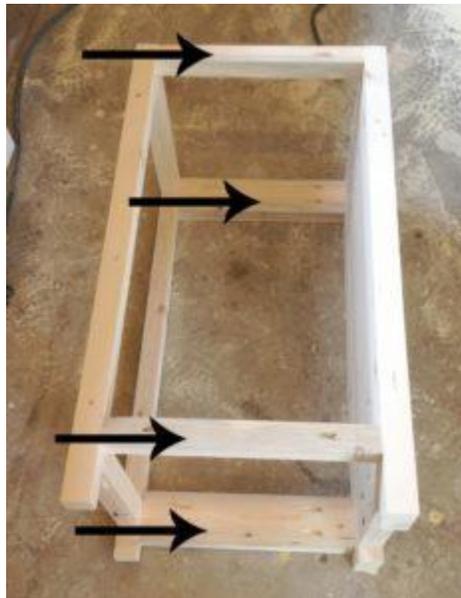
Step 2: Build Middle Support

To help hold the weight in the middle, I built another frame piece from 2x2s. The two legs should be 30 1/2" long and the two "stretchers" should be 11" long. I attached the bottom stretcher 2 1/4" from the bottom. Assemble this using pocket holes and screws.



Step 3: Assemble the Cabinet

Now, it was time to attach all three of these pieces together. I cut 4 pieces of 2x4 and 4 pieces of 2x2 all at 13" long and drilled pocket holes in both ends of each piece. I used 2x2's in the back and 2x4's in the front and assembled as shown.

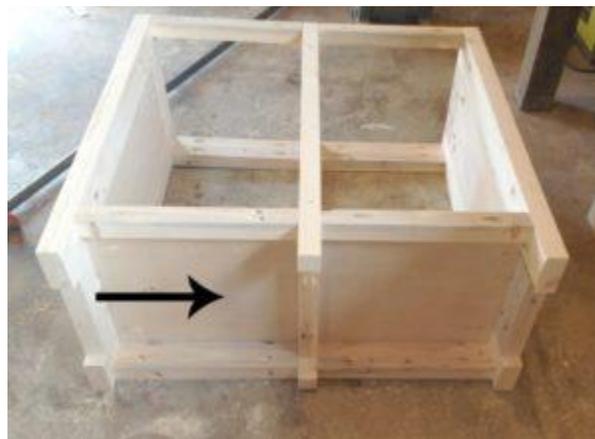


First I attached one side panel to the middle support, then attached the other side panel to that using pocket hole screws. I attached the bottom 2x4's in the front 1" from the bottom and the back bottom 2x2's 3" from the bottom. (Note: this view is looking from the back.)



Step 4: Add the bottom

I cut a piece of 3/4" plywood to fit in the bottom of the cabinet. This should be about 11" x 27 1/2". I drilled pocket holes in both ends and screwed it in place into the two side panels. It should sit right on the bottom piece of the middle support.



Step 5: Attach top

I used a 2x10 to build a top for the cabinet. I made it 36" long and 16 1/2" wide. You can use a circular saw or table saw to trim it down to size. Once the top was together, I screwed it in (making sure it was centered side to side) using 2 1/2" screws through the back top supports, the middle top support and "toe-nailed" (drove in at an angle) through the front top 2x4.



Step 6: Add the Doors

I made the doors 14" wide and 23 1/2" tall. You can see [my post here](#).



Step 7: Add trim and mouldings

Finally, I added crown molding around the top, base around the bottom, and cove to the insides of the side panels. (Note: I added the cove and base before the top...it doesn't matter whether you do it before or after except for the crown molding.)



Step 8: The finish

I puttied and sanded where needed then, I stained the cabinet in Minwax Golden Oak and polyed with Minwax Polycrylic. I attached the doors with simple overlay hinges and added [these pulls from D Lawless Hardware](#) to the doors to match the [black hinges](#) I used.

I didn't add a back, because I wanted to hide the extension cord and power strip in the cabinet, but if you wanted a back, just staple or nail some 1/4" plywood on the back side.