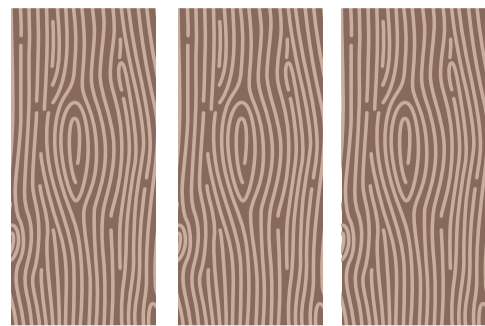


HOW TO BUILD A DISTRESSED WOOD COFFEE TABLE

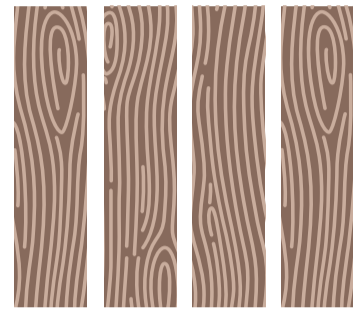
Coffee tables are meant to start conversations. Keep the conversation on you and your budding DIY skills by crafting this eye-popping yet rustic coffee table from distressed wood. By the time you're done, you won't be able to wait to enjoy your first cup of java on this living room showpiece.

MATERIALS

You'll need

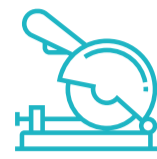


(3) 2"x10"x26" slats for the tabletop



(4) 4"x4"x16" planks for the legs

TOOLS



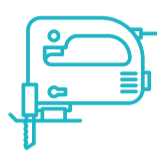
Miter Saw



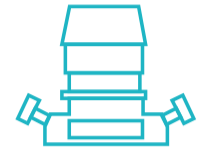
Track Saw



Pocket Screw Jig



Jigsaw



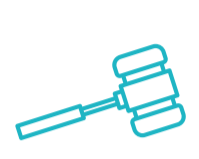
Router



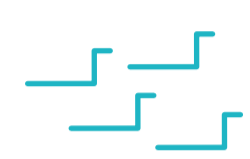
Roundover Bit



Spade Bit



Rubber Mallet



Tabletop Fasteners



Paintbrushes



Steel Wool



Sandpaper

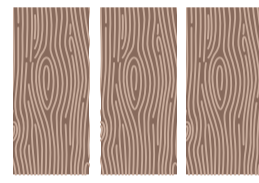


Wood Glue

MEASURE AND TRIM



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1. Measure the coffee table space you have and cut all three slats to desired length.



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2. Bond slats together side by side with wood glue. Clamp and let it dry for two hours.



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3. Shore up edges on the slats and trim to equal widths on a track saw.

4. Using a track saw, square both edges of the tabletop.

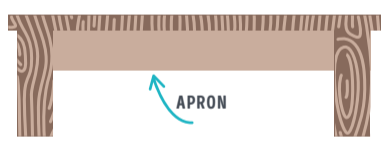
LEGS & APRON



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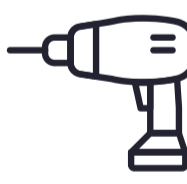


1. Measure space for your coffee table, and cut four legs to your desired height.

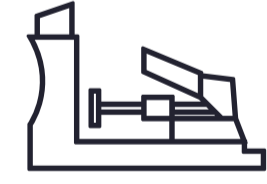


2. To measure for the proper apron length, place two leg pieces together at the edge of the tabletop. Next, lay out your apron piece and mark it where the excess hangs over the tabletop.

3. Repeat for the other three sides of the table, and cut excess apron pieces with a miter saw.



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4. Drill slots on both edges of all four apron pieces with a pocket screw jig.

5. Secure apron pieces and legs with a clamp, and use pocket screws to secure legs. Repeat this process for remaining legs and apron pieces.

TABLETOP

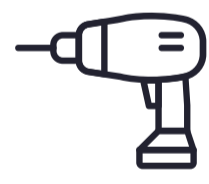


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1. Put the assembled apron and legs on the underside of the tabletop. Use a pencil to trace leg edges. Then, cut out the corners on the tabletop with a jigsaw.

2. Sand the tabletop with medium-grit sandpaper to remove bumps and gouges. Then, sand it again with high-grit sandpaper until smooth. Continue to smooth out the tabletop edges with a router and a roundover bit.



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3. Drill a 1/2 inch into each apron piece with a spade bit, attaching one side of tabletop fasteners to account for any wood expansion or contraction.

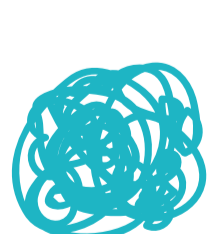
4. Place the apron and leg assembly on top of the tabletop (which should be upside down). Use a rubber mallet to tailor it to your tabletop.

5. Assemble remaining pieces with screws and tabletop fasteners.

FINISHING TOUCHES



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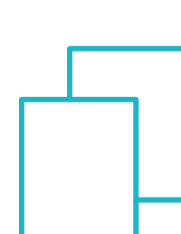
If the wood is already to your liking, just coat it in a clear sealant. And if you want to personalize your tabletop, use a paintbrush to cover the entire surface with water-based primer. After it's dry, sand the tabletop and legs with steel wool to achieve a super smooth finish.



Add a coat of white paint. Let it dry and repeat. Once the white paint is completely dry, cover the tabletop and legs in a colored flat paint (reds and blues look best). Again, let it dry.



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To create a rustic, distressed appearance, lightly sand the tabletop edges and the legs to reveal the white paint beneath.

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