



BENCHTOPPER™

Workbench Organizer

Thank you for purchasing the Great Planes® BenchTopper workbench organizer. In our busy workshop at Great Planes we find it necessary to keep our bench tops well organized and our tools readily accessible. Once we thought of the idea for the BenchTopper and made the first prototype, everybody in the shop wanted one! Now you can keep your work area neat and organized too – you may even find that you build your models a little faster since it'll be easier to find all of your tools!

We've provided assembly instructions for the BenchTopper and left the finishing up to you. You can build your BenchTopper with no protective finish or go all out and paint your BenchTopper your favorite color. If you choose to build your BenchTopper without a finish and leave it bare wood, then all you have to do is follow the instructions provided. If you choose to add a finish to your BenchTopper, you'll have to do a little planning ahead and think about parts that might be easier to sand and/or paint before they are glued together. In any case, we recommend sanding all the pieces before you do any gluing. If you choose to paint your BenchTopper, at least one coat of primer is recommended to fill the wood grain. Pactra® Prep or a similar brush-on primer yields good results.

Any kind of glue that works on wood will work for your BenchTopper. We built our prototypes with thin CA and CA accelerator by first "priming" the glue joint with CA accelerator, then applying a few drops of thin CA to the "pre-primed" joint. The CA will cure immediately before it has had a chance to soak too far into the wood away from the glue joint. Should you choose to use medium or thick CA, refrain from making large fillets that are unnecessary and will detract from the overall appearance of your BenchTopper.

Refer to the die-cut parts layout on page 4 to familiarize yourself with what each part looks like. As you separate the pieces from the sheets, lightly sand the edges. This will improve glue adhesion.

Please inspect all parts carefully before starting to build! If any parts are missing, broken or defective, or if you have any questions about building this workbench organizer, please call us at **(217) 398-8970**. If you are calling for replacement parts, please reference the part numbers (see the back cover) and the kit identification number (stamped on the end of the carton) and have them ready when calling.

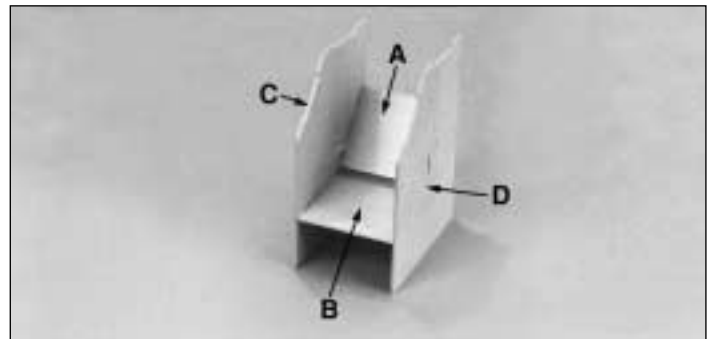
Tools & Supplies

- We recommend Great Planes Pro™ Thin CA (GPMR6002) and Accelerator (GPMR6035).
- Sanding block and assorted sandpaper.
- Razor saw.
- Hobby knife.

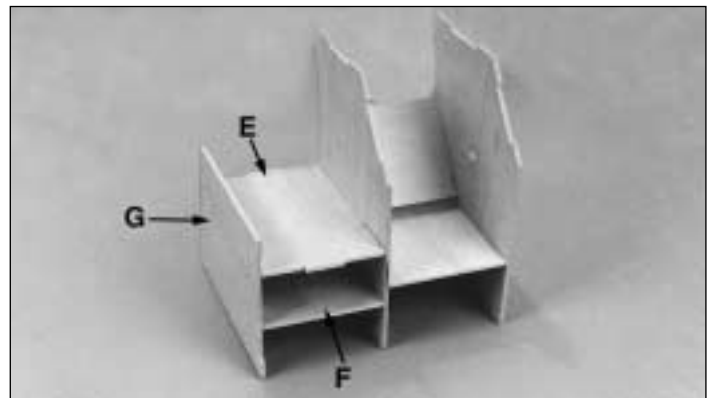
Optional Supplies

- Wood filler.
- Paint.

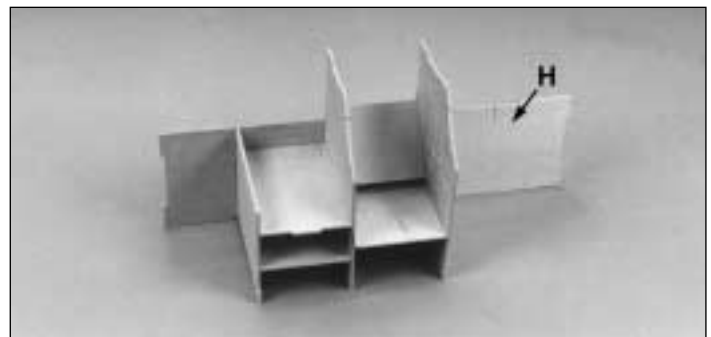
Main Assembly



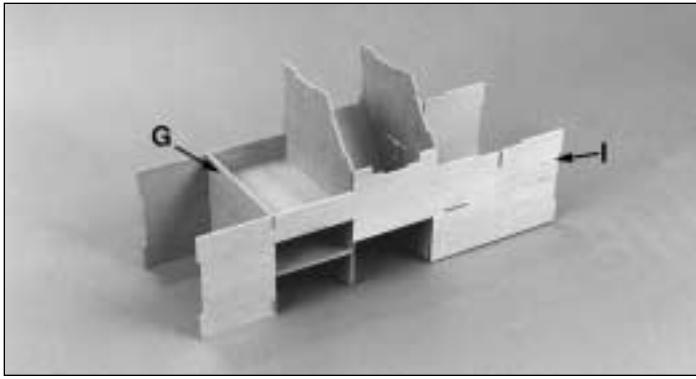
- Join **A** and **B** to **C**, then add **D**. Glue together.



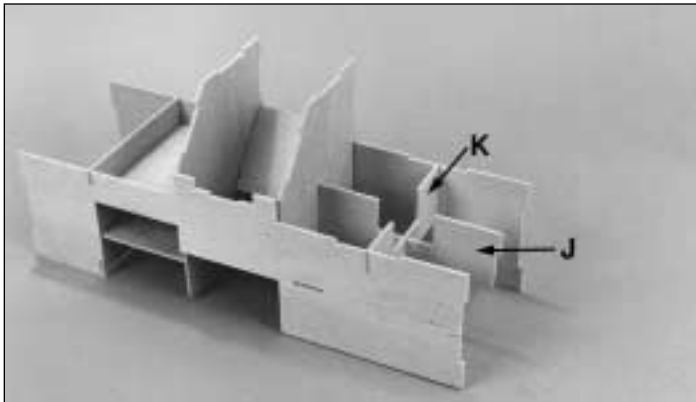
- Fit **E** and **F** to **G**, then join to **C**. **Note:** The notch in **F** goes toward the rear. Glue the assembly together.



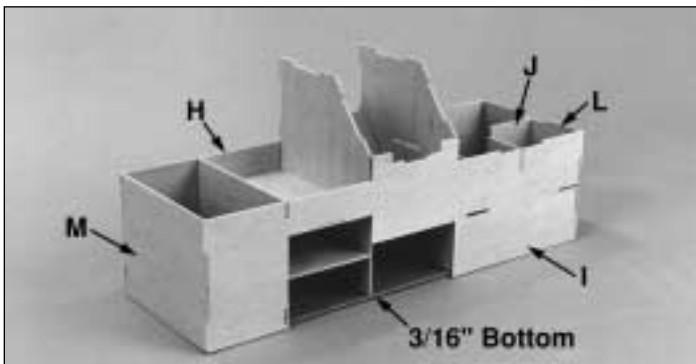
- Fit, then glue the back **H** to the assembly.



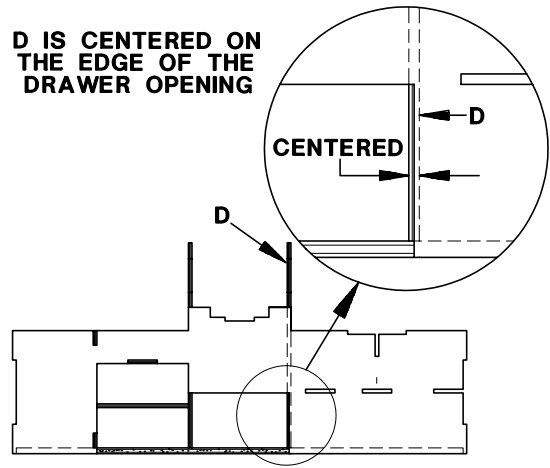
☐ Fit the front **I** to the assembly. Glue **I** only to **G** at this time.



☐ Fit **J** and **K** together, then install but **do not glue** them to the assembly. Glue the left side **L** (see the following photo), to **J**, **H** and **I** and then the right side **M** to **H** and **I**.

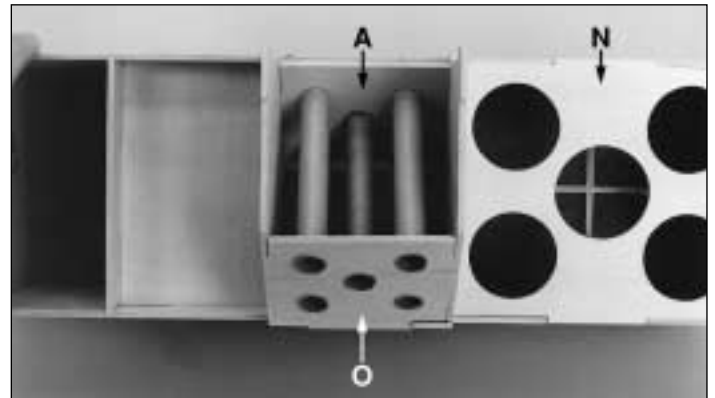


☐ Fit the 3/16" bottom to the assembly, then glue it only to **H**, **I**, **L** and **M** (back, front and sides).

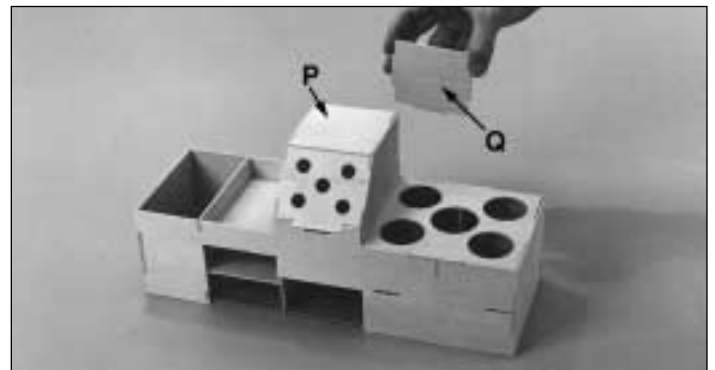


☐ Adjust **D** so it is centered on the edge of the opening for the large drawer. Glue **D** to **I** in this position. Glue all other joints not previously glued.

Note: Some modelers have the need for additional storage for tools like hex wrenches, screwdrivers, etc. Glue 2 or more of the circular pop-outs of the epoxy storage area in place. Then drill 1/8" or larger holes through part "N" to allow the tools to be inserted.

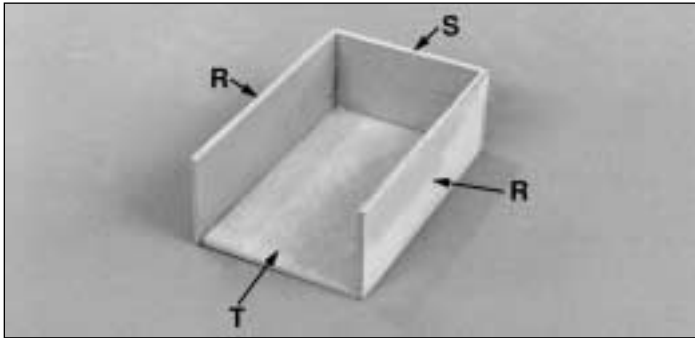


☐ Test fit, then glue **N** in position. Accurately cut the paper tubes in half. Fit but do not glue the paper tubes through the holes in **O** so the "square end" (the end cut by the factory), will be at the bottom and contact **A**. Adjust the paper tubes so they are perpendicular to **O** and **A** and are parallel to each other. Glue the paper tubes to **O** and **A** and then Glue **O** into position.



☐ Glue **P**, then **Q** in position.

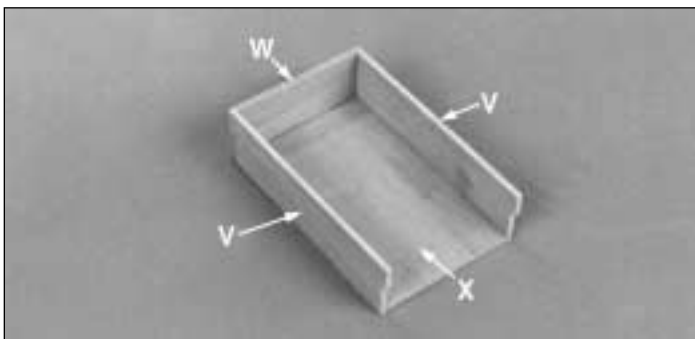
Build the Drawers



□ Glue the sides **R** and back **S** to the bottom **T**. Test fit the partially assembled drawer in the BenchTopper. Make adjustments, if necessary, so the drawer will easily slide in and out. **Caution:** The tabs on **R** are offset and will fit **T** properly only one way.



□ Glue the drawer front **U** to the front edges of **R** and **T** while the drawer is in the BenchTopper. **Hint:** Place a piece of 1/16" scrap balsa or similar behind the drawer so you do not inadvertently glue the drawer front to the BenchTopper.



□ Make two drawers from the sides **V**, back **W**, and bottom **X**. Glue all of the pieces together. Glue the front **Y** to one drawer and the front **Z** to the other drawer. The drawer with the front **Y** is the top drawer and the drawer with the front **Z** is the bottom drawer. Test fit the drawers and make any adjustments if necessary. **Caution:** The tabs on **V** are offset and will fit **X** properly only one way.

Cut three 2" handles from the 1/4" x 1/4" x 6" basswood stick

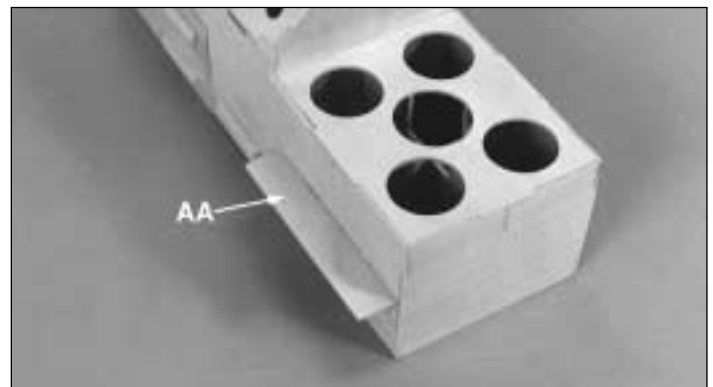


□ Sand the fronts of the drawers so they are flat and smooth. Cut the 1/4" x 1/4" x 6" basswood stick into three 2" pieces, then glue one "handle" to the front of each drawer.

Finishing

□ Use a sanding block and 220-grit sandpaper to sand the fronts of the paper tubes and any protruding tabs and edges so all the corners are flush.

□ Sand **all** outside surfaces with 320-grit sandpaper. If you plan to add a finish to your BenchTopper, use compressed air, a vacuum, or a tack cloth to remove all of the dust before painting.



□ (This step is optional): Glue the pin cushion support **AA** in position. After finishing, glue the foam pin cushion to the support with spray adhesive or rubber cement.



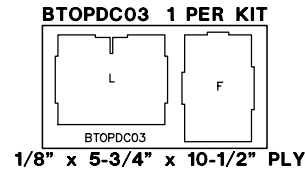
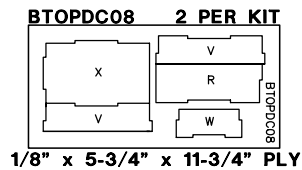
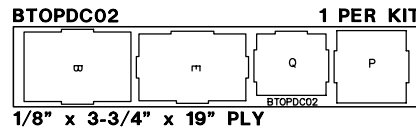
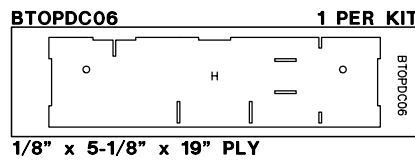
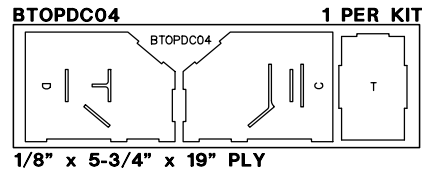
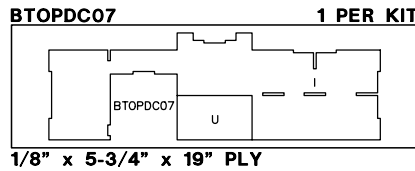
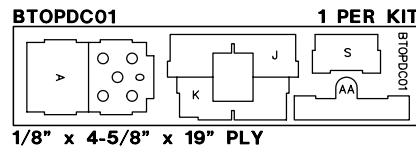
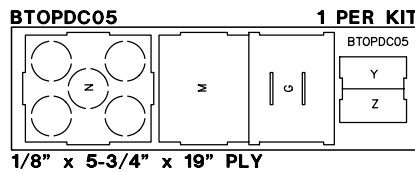
Use your favorite paint and finishing techniques to put the finishing touches on your BenchTopper. Fill your BenchTopper with the tools you most often use.

Suggested Tools & Supplies

Here's what we keep on hand in our BenchTopper:

- Denatured alcohol for wiping away uncured epoxy.
- Thin, medium and thick CA.
- CA debonder.
- Drafting triangle.
- Hobby knives, ballpoint pen, pin vise.
- Paper towel scraps for wiping away epoxy or CA.
- 30-minute and 6-minute epoxy.
- #11 blades.
- Three sizes of T-pins (make optional partitions from scrap plywood).
- Single edge razor blades.
- Screwdrivers.
- Pliers.
- Short ruler.
- Razor saw.
- Epoxy brushes and mixing sticks.
- Epoxy mixing cups.

DIE-CUT DRAWINGS



Part #	Qty	Description
BTOPD01	1	Decal
BTOPB01	1	3/16" Ply Base
BTOPF01	1	Foam Pin Cushion
BTOPH01	1	1/4" x 1/4" x 6" Drawer Handle
PTUBE001	3	Paper Tube
BTOPDC01	1	1/8" Die-Cut Ply A, K, J, S, AA

Parts List

Part #	Qty	Description
BTOPDC02	1	1/8" Die-Cut Ply B, E, Q, P
BTOPDC03	1	1/8" Die-Cut Ply L, F
BTOPDC04	1	1/8" Die-Cut Ply D, C, T
BTOPDC05	1	1/8" Die-Cut Ply N, M, G, Y, Z
BTOPDC06	1	1/8" Die-Cut Ply H
BTOPDC07	1	1/8" Die-Cut Ply U, I
BTOPDC08	1	1/8" Die-Cut Ply W, R, V, X