



Woodsmith **PLANS**

PORTABLE SANDPAPER STORAGE



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This handy dispenser keeps all your most commonly used grits of sandpaper within easy reach.



Nothing dampens my enthusiasm for sanding more than having to look high and low for the right sandpaper. That's why I decided to build the portable sandpaper storage box you see in the photos.

The box has three small compartments, sized to hold three rolls of self-adhesive sandpaper. (I like 4½"-wide rolls.) As you can see in the photo at right, the rolls simply drop inside

with the loose end facing up. Finger cutouts in the front make it easy to lift the lid and get to the sandpaper.

But there's no reason to remove the sandpaper to tear off a piece. A recessed hacksaw blade attached to the underside of the hinged lid makes this a snap.

Best of all, a pair of cleats make it easy to hang the box anywhere, or take it right to the job at hand.



▲ **Easy-Access Compartments.** Just the right size for a 4½" roll of abrasive, the storage box holds the sandpaper you use most often.

This sandpaper storage box is a great accessory to have on hand in the shop, and it's a pretty quick project. The box is made entirely out of 1/2" plywood and assembled with simple glued butt joints.

CONSTRUCTION. Start by cutting the front, back, sides, and dividers to size. As you see in Figure 1, the front and dividers are recessed to support the lid when it's closed. In a minute you'll see why I did this. But, before you glue it all together, make the finger cutouts on the front (Figure 1). I used the drill press and a Forstner bit to drill a hole at the bottom of each cutout and then removed the waste with a jig saw. Once all these pieces are cut to size, go ahead and glue the pieces together to make the box.

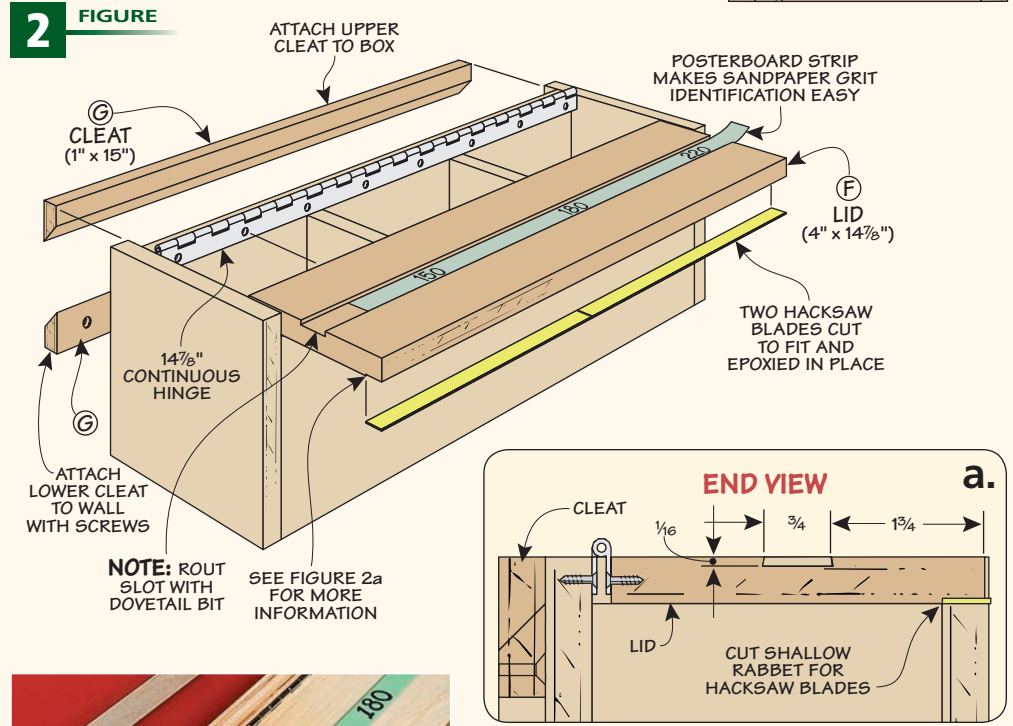
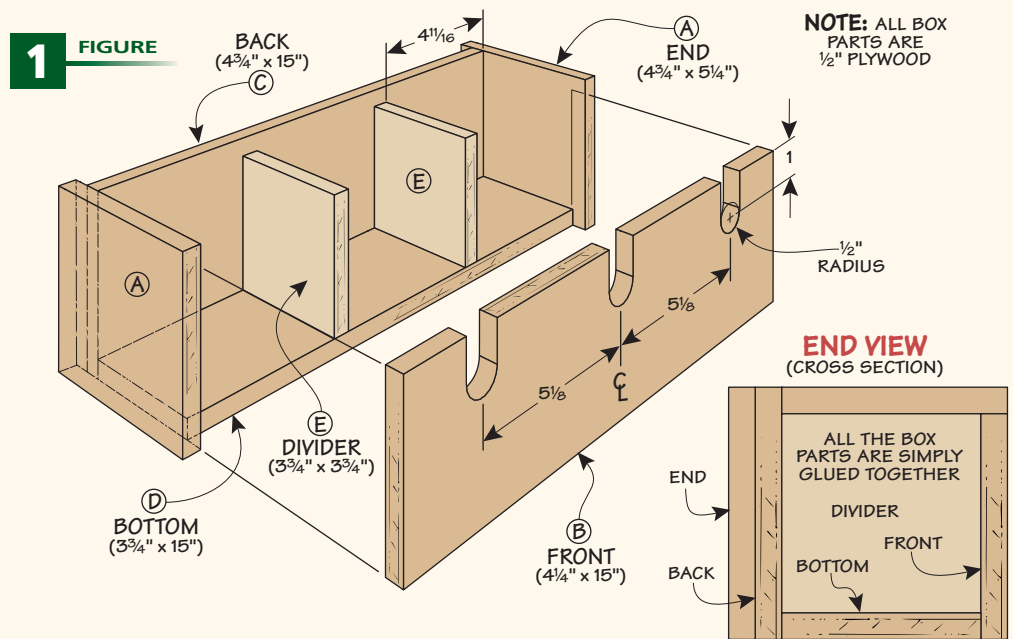
LID. Now you can cut the lid to size. But before you attach it to the box, there are couple of other things you'll want to do.

First, rout a centered dovetail-shaped groove in the top of the lid (Figure 2a). This groove holds a posterboard label strip. This way, you'll know exactly what grit sandpaper you're using. A dovetail bit mounted in a router table does a good job of routing the groove.

Switch to a straight bit to rout a shallow rabbet in the front, bottom edge of the lid. This rabbet holds a couple sections of hacksaw blade. Before gluing the blades in place with epoxy, cut off the rounded ends and file them square (Figures 2 and 2a). Now, when you hold the lid down, the serrated blade makes it easy to tear off a piece of sandpaper just the length you need.

Once you've added the blades, attach the lid using a short section of continuous hinge.

CLEATS. Finally, mount the box with a couple of plywood cleats. The cleats have beveled edges and are ripped from a single workpiece (Figure 2 and the photo at right). One cleat attaches to the back of the box and the other is screwed in place wherever you need to have sandpaper close at hand.



▲ A simple cleat allows you to hang the box in a convenient location, keeping sanding supplies close at hand.

MATERIALS		
A	Ends (2)	4 3/4 x 5 1/4 - 1/2 Ply.
B	Front (1)	4 1/4 x 15 - 1/2 Ply.
C	Back (1)	4 3/4 x 15 - 1/2 Ply.
D	Bottom (1)	3 3/4 x 15 - 1/2 Ply.
E	Dividers (2)	3 3/4 x 3 3/4 - 1/2 Ply.
F	Lid (1)	4 x 14 7/8 - 1/2 Ply.
G	Top/Bottom Cleat (2)	1 x 15 - 1/2 Ply.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (2) Hacksaw Blades • (1) 1/2" x 14 7/8" Continuous Hinge w/Screws • (2) #6 x 1 1/4" Fh Woodscrews 		