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CHILD'S EASEL

Here's a project guaranteed to provide hours of fun for your children: a lightweight, collapsible easel with a dent-free surface made from 1/4" hardboard. 1. Cut all of the pieces to size according to the dimensions pro-

vided. Cut a dado 3/8" deep and 2-1/2" wide approximately 12-1/2" from the bottom of each leg (A). 2. Rabbet the ends of the crosspieces (B) and the tops of the legs to the same dimensions as the dado cuts made in the previous step.

3. Glue and clamp the legs and crosspieces together.

4. Cut one end of each tray side (D) at a 10° angle; the other end is mitered 45° as shown. The tray fronts (C) are mitered 45° on each end.

5. Cut a groove 3/8" deep and 1/4" wide 3/8" above the bottom of the tray fronts and sides.

6. With the tray bottoms (E) in place, construct the trays using glue and 1-1/4" brads. Attach two glue blocks (F) to each tray with a slight setback to hold the trays snug when screwed to the frame.

7. Connect the two easel frames with a piano hinge and folding leg braces. Position the braces to allow the easel to open wide enough to prevent it from tipping over.

8. Fasten the faces (G) to the easel frames using glue and #8 flathead wood screws, making their top edges flush. Drill three evenly spaced 1/4"-diameter holes through each face and into the top crosspiece on each side. In each hole, glue a 1/4"-diameter dowel that has been tapered to a dull point.

9. Fasten the trays to the easel faces using glue and #10 flathead wood screws. Center the trays across the width of the faces and make their lower edges flush.

10. To complete the easel, fill all screw holes with putty, and finish as desired.

LIST OF MATERIALS

(finished dimensions in inches)

A	Legs (4)	3/4 × 2-1/2 × 60
B	Crosspieces (4)	3/4 × 2-1/2 × 30
C	Tray fronts (2)	3/4 × 2-1/2 × 22
D	Tray sides (4)	3/4 × 2-1/2 × 5
E	Tray bottoms (2)	1/4 × 4-1/2 × 21-1/4
F	Glue blocks (4)	3/4 × 3/4 × 2
G	Faces (2)	1/4 × 30 × 47-1/2
	Flathead wood screws	#8 × 1
	Flathead wood screws	#10 × 1-1/4
	Dowels	1/4 dia. × 2-1/2
	Brads	
	Piano hinge	
	Folding leg braces (2)	
	Wood glue	

