



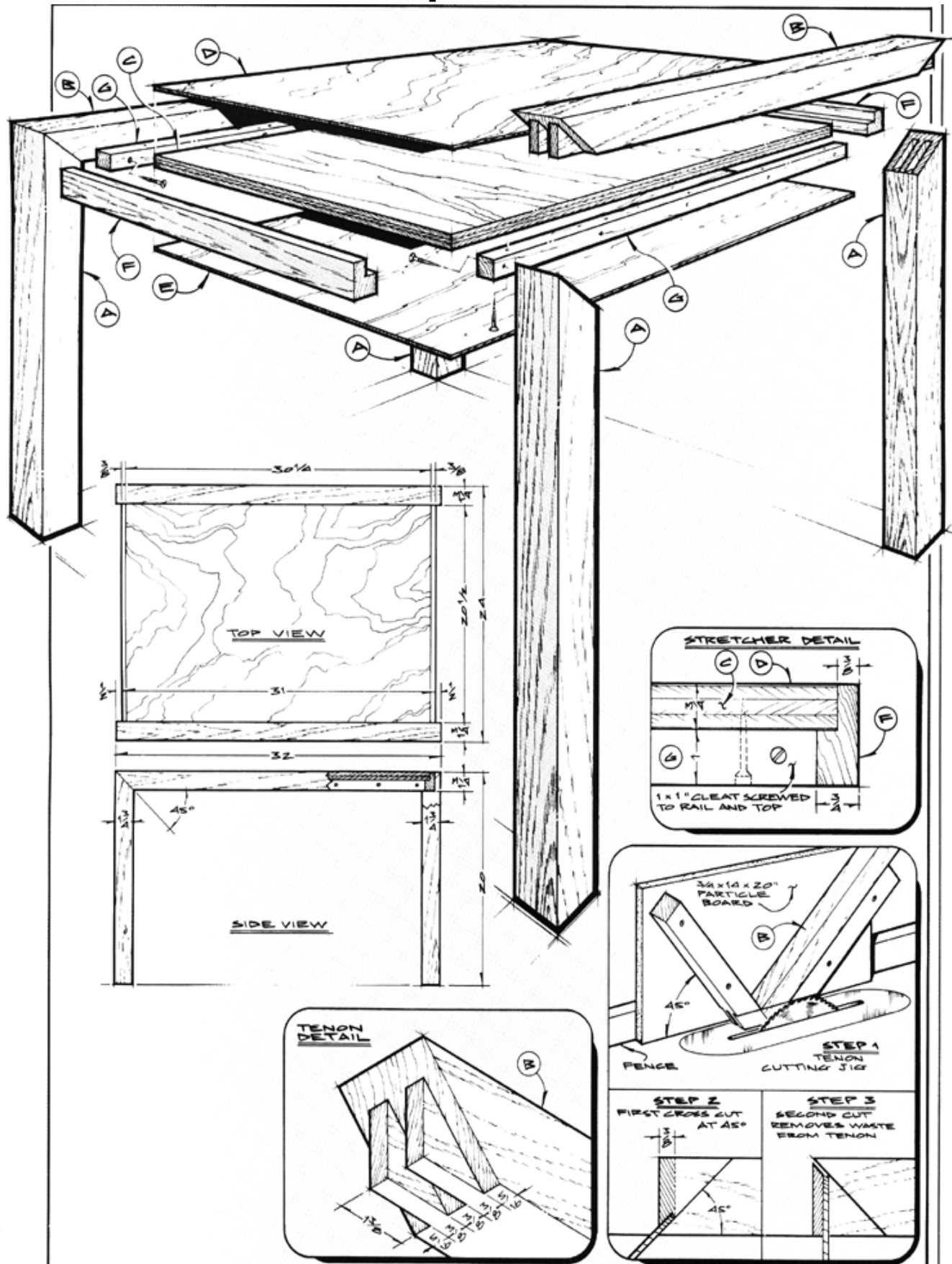
Project 18173EZ: Parsons Table

The term “Parsons table” refers to the simple, clean, unadorned table design that originated during the 1930s at the renowned Parsons School of Design in New York City. The tables, which can be built from various materials and in many sizes, are both versatile and elegant. Our table, crafted in whit oak and featuring an olive ash burl veneer top, is very much in the classic Parsons style.

Parsons Table Materials List

Part	Description	Size	No. Req'd
A	Leg	1-3/4" x 1-3/4" x 20"	4
B	Rail	1-3/4" x 1-3/4" x 32"	2
C	Top	3/4" x 20-1/2" x 30-1/4"	1
D	Face Veneer	as needed	1
E	Reverse Veneer	as needed	1
F	Stretcher	3/4" x 1-3/4" x 20-1/2"	2
G	Cleat	1" x 1" x 29-1/2"	2

Parsons Table Complete Schematic



Parsons Table Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Cut the leg (A) and rail (B) stock.
2. Construct a simple tenon cutting jig from particleboard and 1-3/4" square hardwood for cutting the rail tenons (see tenon detail. **NOTE: Make the jig so the rail ends just touch the table saw surface when positioned in the jig.**
3. Clamp the rails securely to the jig for safety.
4. Set the table saw blade height to be about 1-1/4".
5. Use three sets of cuts to establish the two tenons (see detail).
6. Set the table saw blade at 45 degrees.
7. Crosscut to a depth of 3/8" as shown in the detail.
8. Reset the table saw blade at 90 degrees.
9. Raise the blade to about 1-3/8".
10. Take care to insure that **ONLY** the waste is removed and crosscut to remove it (see detail).
11. Miter the leg ends at 45 degrees.
12. Chisel the mortises to accept the rail tenons.
13. Glue and clamp the two leg/rail assemblies.
14. Allow the glue to dry.
15. Choose an attractive face veneer for visual impact, and any veneer for the reverse side.
16. Lay up the face and reverse veneers (D and E) on both sides of the plywood top (C). **NOTE: If you start with a slightly oversized top and veneers, you can use the table saw to conveniently trim the laid-up assembly to its final dimensions.**
17. Use a 3" wide painter's trim roller to spread glue to assemble the veneer to the top.
18. Choose the same material from which you made the legs and rails to make the stretchers.
19. Cut and rabbet the stretchers (F).
20. Glue the stretchers to either side of the top (see stretcher detail).
21. Use the two cleats (G), glue, and countersunk screws to mount the top/stretcher assembly to the leg/rail assemblies.
22. Final sand with 220-grit sandpaper.
23. Finish with two coats of lacquer.

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