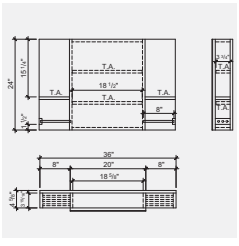
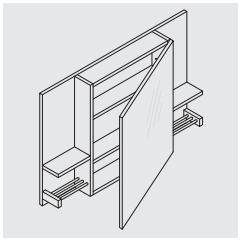
MEDICINE CABINET

CONSTRUCTION PLAN

Difficulty level: **MODERATE**

Completion time: **8 hours**





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Measuring 24" x 36", this elegantly proportioned medicine cabinet contains adjustable 3 3/4" shelves. We built ours from pine-finish plywood which we then stained, but if you prefer to paint your cabinet, you can just as easily make it from MDF.

Small metal tubes provide bars to hang facecloths and reflect the shine of the mirror, setting off the beauty of the knotty pine.

The bevelled mirror is fixed to the cabinet with silicone adhesive.

TOOLS AND MATERIALS NEEDED

TOOLS

- Table saw
- Pencil
- Iron
- Flat file
- Screwdriver-drill (electric or cordless)
- 3/16" brad point bit with depth stop
- 1/8" bit
- 1/2" flat boring bit
- Hammer or finishing nailer
- Nail set
- 120-grit sandpaper
- Measuring tape
- Bar clamp
- Square

MATERIALS

- 1 sheet knotty pine plywood, 4" x 8" x 11/16"
- White pine moulding, 1" x 2" x 72"
- Pine veneer edge banding
- Round metal tubing, 1/2" x 96"
- Magnetic latch
- Piano hinge, 1 1/4" x 36"
- 8 shelf supports
- Bevelled mirror, 20" x 24"
- 2" No. 6 screws
- 1/2" No. 6 screws
- 18-gauge finishing nails
- Wood glue
- Silicone adhesive
- Filler

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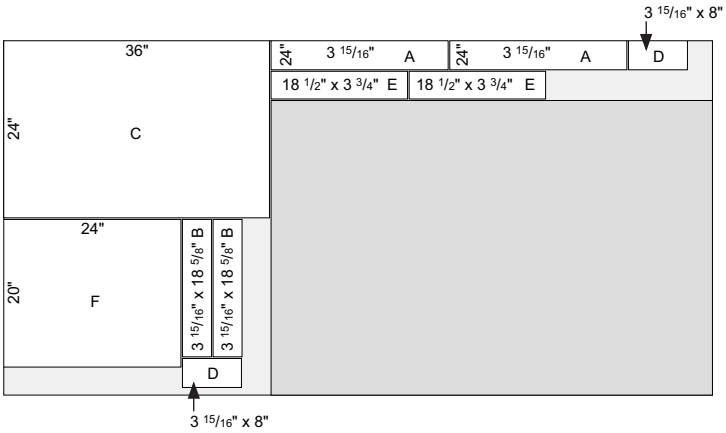
BEFORE ASSEMBLY

CUTTING LIST

Mark each piece clearly with the corresponding letter before assembling.
After cutting the pieces, sand the edges smooth as necessary.

1 sheet knotty pine plywood, 48" x 96" x 11/16"

PIECES		QUANTITY	WIDTH (")	LENGTH (")
A	SIDE	2	3 15/16	24
B	TOP / BOTTOM	2	18 5/8	3 15/16
C	BACK PANEL	1	36	24
D	SHELF	2	8	3 15/16
E	ADJUSTABLE SHELF	2	18 1/2	3 3/4
F	DOOR	1	20	24



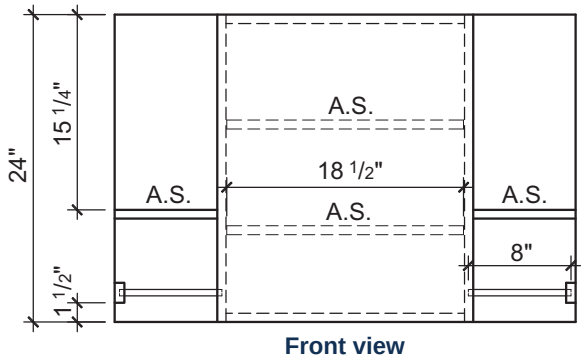
White pine moulding, 1" x 2" x 72"

PIECES		QUANTITY	LENGTH (")
G	BRACKET	2	3 15/16

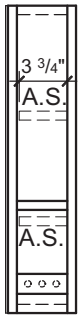
Round metal tubing, 1/2" x 96"

PIECES		QUANTITY	LENGTH (")
H	TUBE	6	8

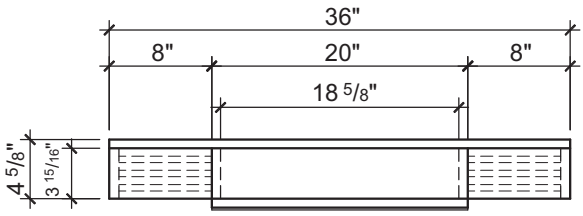
ELEVATIONS



Front view

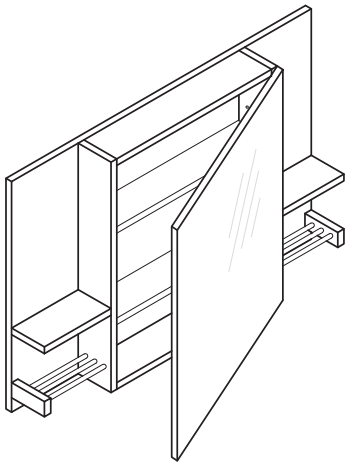


Side view



Top view

FULL VIEW



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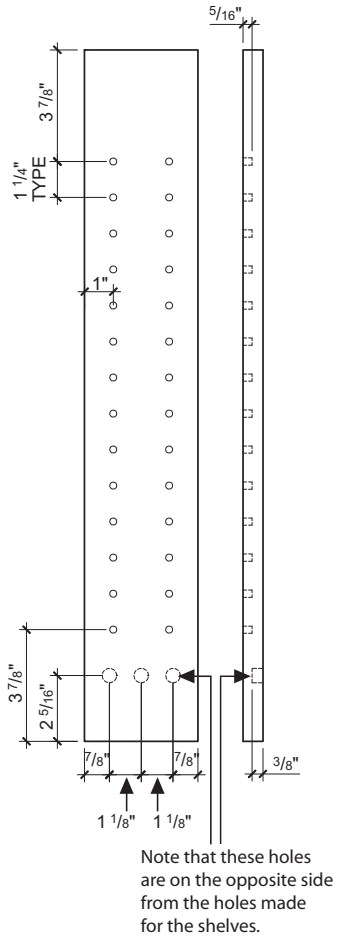
PREPARING THE PARTS

DRILLING THE HOLES FOR THE SHELF SUPPORTS

1. Using a square as a guide and following the measurements shown in the illustration, mark, on both parts A (one side only), the position of the holes for the adjustable shelf supports.

   The holes should be 1" from the edge and spaced 1 1/4" apart vertically.

2. Drill the holes for the shelf supports using a 3/16" brad point bit with a depth stop set to 5/16". The pointed end of the bit helps ensure greater accuracy and prevents it from slipping. The depth stop prevents the bit from drilling deeper than required. Hold the drill at right angles to the surface of the wood as you work.



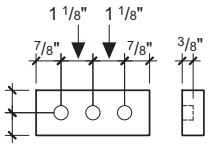
DRILLING THE HOLES FOR THE TUBES

Holes of 1/2" in diameter, where the tubes will be inserted, need to be drilled in sides A as well as in brackets G. The holes made in sides A for the tubes are on the other side from the holes made for the shelf supports.

3. Following the exact measurements shown in the illustrations, mark, on sides A and brackets G (one side only), the holes where the metal tubes will be inserted.

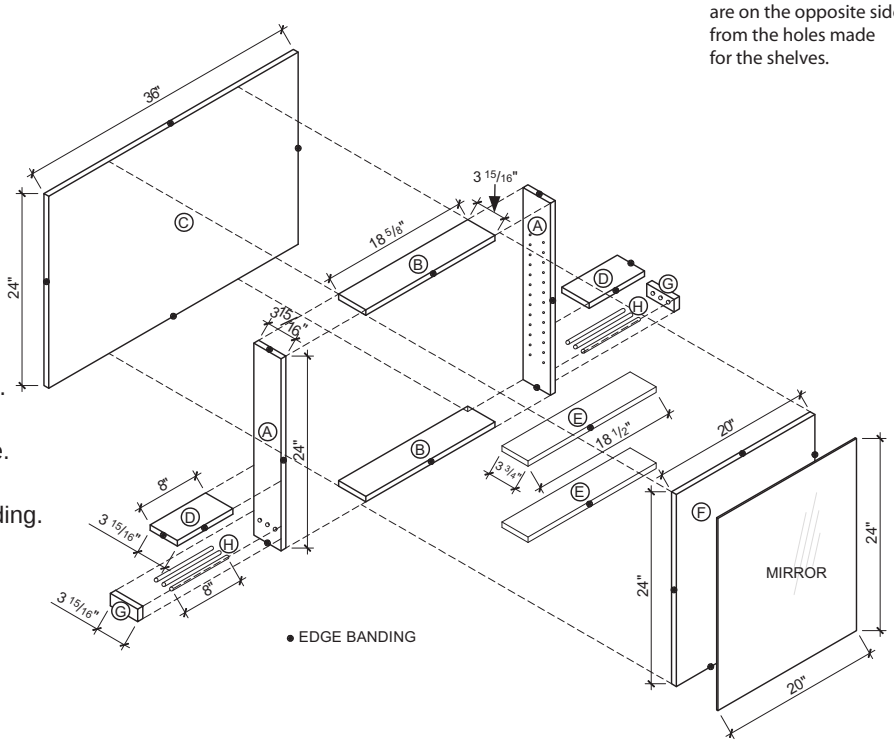
   Note: Distances between holes are always calculated centre to centre.

4. Using a 1/2" flat boring bit, drill to a depth of 3/8" (put an elastic band around the bit to act as a depth stop). Hold the drill at right angles to the surface of the wood as you work.



APPLYING THE EDGE BANDING

5. Apply the veneer banding to every edge marked with a black spot in the illustration, then remove the excess with a flat file, according to the manufacturer's instructions. Generally, veneer banding is stuck on by ironing it along the outside, finished edge. Brackets G do not need any edge banding because they are made from the pine moulding.



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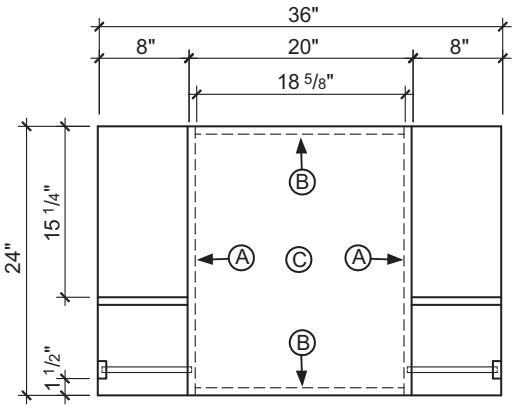
ASSEMBLY



6 Make the cabinet frame by gluing top and bottom parts B between sides A. Parts B must be flush with the ends of A. Check that the angles of the frame are square and then hold the structure in place with the bar clamps. Leave the glue to dry, then drive in a few finishing nails to solidify the frame.

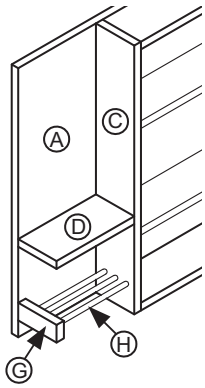
7 Using the measurements shown opposite and the square as a guide, mark the exact position of the frame, the outer shelves D and brackets G onto both sides of panel C. The marks you make on the back will be your guide for inserting the nails and screws later.

8 Place the frame and parts D and G onto panel C to check they are properly aligned with the marks you made. Also insert the tubes into the holes. Adjust the marks if necessary, then remove all the parts from the panel.

9 Run a line of glue around the edge of the frame and lay it onto panel C. Clamp these parts together and leave to dry.

10 Screw the panel to the frame with the 2" nails, drilling pilot holes with a 1/8" bit first, and using the marks on the back of the panel to guide you so that the screws enter the centre of the plywood.

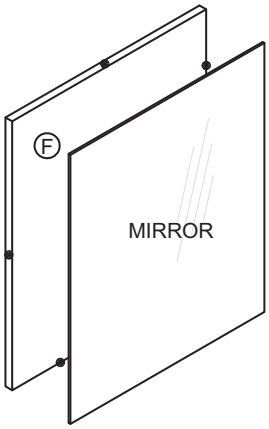
11 Run glue along the unfinished edges of the outer shelves D, position these and press down firmly. Leave the glue to dry, then nail the shelves from the inside of the frame and back of panel C.



12 Insert one end of the tubes into the holes in the frame, then dab glue onto brackets G, insert the other end of the tubes into the holes in the brackets and position the brackets onto panel C, checking that the tubes are parallel with the bottom of panel C before pressing G firmly into place. Leave the glue to dry, then nail through the back of panel C, using the marks made earlier as a guide.

13 Dot silicone adhesive all over the back of the mirror and stick the mirror onto door F. Leave the adhesive to dry, according to the manufacturer's instructions.

14 Decide which way you want the door to open. Using the 1/2" screws, fasten the hinge to the door and then the door to the frame.



15 Attach the magnetic latch, the shelf supports and the inner shelves.

16 Drive in the nail heads using a nail set and conceal the holes with a filler of the same colour as the wood. Sand, then stain or varnish.

17 Fasten the cabinet to the wall with 2" screws, preferably into the wall studs, otherwise use anchors or wall plugs.