

BUY *or* DIY

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watch the
Buy or DIY
episode!



Island of Convenience

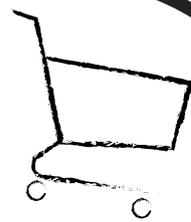
materials

Thrifted Kitchen Island
2 Stools
Drill
Robertson Drill Bit
Orbit Sander
120, 220, 300 Grit Sandpaper
Tack Cloth
8 - #8 5/8 inch screws
2 mending plates
2 sets of Folding Shelf Brackets

Wood Glue
Wood Conditioner Pre-Stain
Wood Stain
Staining Rags
Rubber Gloves
Water-based Finish
Synthetic Brush (with tapered end)
2 X 24" clamps
2 - 12x 36 Pine Shop Shelving
2 - 20x36 Pine Shop Shelving

wood cuts

2 - 12x36 into two 10.5"x36
2 - 20x36 into two 17"x36



Everything you
need only one
click away!

STEP 1

Source your thrifted Kitchen Island! The design is completely up to you. I opted to search for Ikea's STENSTORP kitchen island. I shopped all over Kijiji, a canadian online buy and sell site and finally found the perfect seller who was selling his used island at a steal of a price - \$100.00 - CHA-CHING!

What I love about this piece is that it has wheels, so it's easy to move. It has storage underneath for all his health and nutrition elements and it matches his style/home perfectly.

Now, it had a few bumps and bruises, but that's what comes with thrifted items. I'm willing to sacrifice a little scuff to save on time, energy and cost.



materials

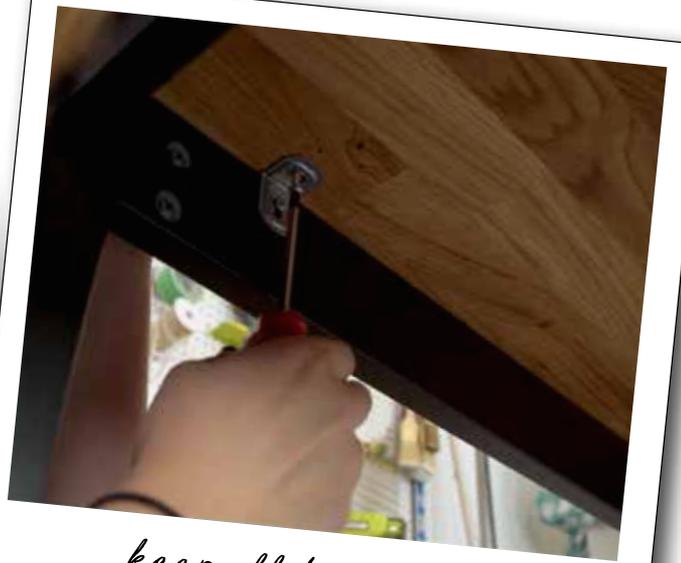
STEP 2

Next comes the surgery part. Yes yes, I know what you're thinking... why didn't you just keep the table top that was already on the piece? First off, I bought it used - so the top had some wear and tear to begin with. Second, if I want to make the murphy sides, I would prefer the whole piece to feel like one cohesive piece of wood. So, I'm removing the top (hopefully selling it for a buck) and creating my own custom wood top.

Make sure you keep all the hardware, it's still plenty good!



kitchen island "surgery"



keep all hardware

STEP 3

Take your 4 pine shop shelving boards and have them cut into the following sizes:

2 - 12X36 into two 10.5" cuts

2 - 20 x 36 into two 17" cuts

*Note: Most hardware stores will cut this for you. That way, you can take the boards home ready to assemble!

You can certainly source more expensive wood types like oak, cherry, walnut or maple OR source an actual prepared butcher block top, but the price to do so was far more than I could afford to make the project worth it. So I opted for pine, that I'll complete with a nice stain and finish.



wood cuts

I couldn't source a pine board that was wide enough for my purposes, so I opted for pine shop shelving slabs that I easily cut to size in my hardware store. They are prepared boards that come sanded and glued, ready for use. If I had more time, I would totally buy cheaper boards and sand/prepare a full glue up, but the pine shop shelving made it so easy for me, it was hard to pass up! I went for convenience this time around, and now all I'll need to do is ONE glue up vs many. What's a glue up? See Step 4!

You'll need to create something called a "glue up" on your two 10 1/2" boards. To do this, place a decent amount of wood glue on the edge of one board and simply line it up with your other 10 1/2" board and clamp together. You'll get a little bit of glue squeeze out from the tight clamp, but simply wipe it away with a damp cloth and let it dry.



wipe away excess glue

STEP 4



2

STEP 5

Once your glue up is dry, take your 120-grit sand paper and give your board a quick sand to remove any wood glue that was left over. Once ready, it's time to prep for staining! Wipe down all your board with a tack cloth then apply your wood conditioner using a cotton rag. The pre-stain will help ensure your wood stain color is applied evenly and blotch free.

After the pre-stain is dry, stain your wood using a cotton rag. Let dry and apply a second coat if you want it to be darker. Let the stain dry between coats!

STEP 6

Once your stain is to your liking, and dry - it's time to add a finish. Apply a nice gloss finish to the board using a tapered synthetic brush. Let dry and provide a light sanding using a 120 grit sandpaper. Apply a second coat of finish and let dry. On the second round, use a lighter grit sand paper such as a 220. Essentially, you can keep doing as many coats of finish as you like, increasing your sanding grit between coats.

STEP 7

Let's put this together! Take your finished 21" top board and fasten it onto your kitchen island leaving 1" of room on each side. Attach using a 8-5/8" wood screw.

STEP 8

Take your hinge brackets and attach each hinge to the legs of your kitchen table. You'll want the 1" top of your brace to bunt up to the underbelly of your 1" overhang.

STEP 9

Take your two 17" boards and attach to your hinges. I find it best to extend the bracket and make sure your table top is flush with your middle top board. Attach using your 8-5/8" wood screw.

VOILA! You have your very own DIY Custom Kitchen Murphy Island!



STEP 10

As a fun final piece, I sourced two thrifted stools and painted the tops black to match the island.

AND YOU'RE DONE!

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