

MITREPLAN PROJECT PLANNER

Home storage options



- **An easy-to-follow guide to achieving a perfect result.**
- **Outlines all the tools you will need for the job.**
- **Includes a materials checklist.**

PLEASE NOTE:

Before starting this project or buying any materials, it is worth your time to read all steps thoroughly first to be sure you understand what is required.

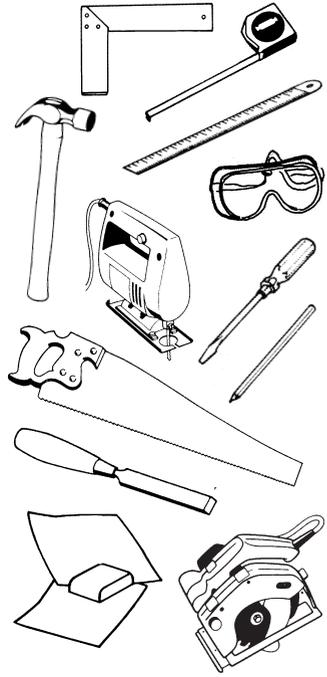
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MIGHTY HELPFUL™ MITRE 10

MIGHTY TOOLS FOR YOUR MITREPLAN



Hammer
Hand saw or power saw
Jig saw or coping saw
Screwdriver
Chisel
Pencil
Ruler
Empty one litre paint can
Dust mask
Safety goggles
Sandpaper and sanding block

✓ MIGHTY HELPFUL CHECKLIST

	ORDER
Basket Case	
3 x 1200mm x 900mm sheet of 18mm MDF	
1 x 1200mm x 450mm sheet of 18mm MDF	
1 x 1200mm x 1200mm sheet of 4mm MDF	
4 x Fence capitals for feet	
Decorative trims/mouldings (as required)	
Selected paint finish	
CD Storage Unit	
1 x 1200 mm x 900 mm sheet of 12 mm MDF	
1 x 1200 mm x 450 mm sheet of 12 mm MDF	
7 x 35mm counter sunk, Phillips head, self tapping wood screws (as required)	
Selected paint finish	
Other materials	
Wood glue	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some Mitre 10 stores do have a cutting service. However, if your local store does not have a cutting service, they may be able to order the material cut to size. In some instances this may not be possible, so check with your Mitre 10 store. 	

Verbal quotes are indicative only. Written quotes on materials are available upon request from your Mitre 10 store.

Storage options in your home – with a little help from Mitre 10.

We have all seen those lifestyle programs on TV where they make great projects but also have a fully stocked workshop with all the latest, expensive tools. We realise not everyone has the latest equipment so here we have a couple of simple projects you can make with just a handsaw, a hammer and chisel.

Step 1: Planning your storage unit

First you will need to work out what size you need to make your shelves. So to make it easy make all the openings to suit the largest object that will be stored in the shelving unit. If your largest object is 350mm wide x 230mm high x 440mm deep, add 10mm so the object will fit easily. Make the shelf to accommodate 12 openings (three wide x four high) but you could make it to suit whatever your requirements.

Step 2: Measure and cut the pieces

To work out your overall measurements multiply your opening height (240mm x 4 = 960mm) and add to this five times the thickness of your timber (three for the shelves and once each for the top and bottom) to give you a height of (960mm + 5 x 18mm) 1050mm.

To multiply your width is 360mm x 3 = 1080mm, plus 2 x 18mm for the vertical dividers for a shelf of 1116 mm (Fig. 2)

As our depth is 450mm you will need to cut:

5 x 1116mm x 450mm – 3 shelves, top and bottom
 2 x 1050mm x 450mm – 2 sides
 2 x 1014mm x 450mm – 2 vertical dividers

For inbuilt strength assemble your shelf unit by interlocking the shelves and dividers. This is where marking out and cutting needs to be accurate. First off take one shelf and mark out the 360mm opening sizes with an 18mm cutout between each opening. With your handsaw (or circular saw if you have one) carefully cut along the cutout marks, slightly over half your depth of 450mm, chisel out the waste, repeat this for the other two shelves. On the dividers, mark out three 240mm openings also with a 18mm cutouts between openings and cut these as per the shelves. By now you should have three shelves and two dividers, which resemble Fig 1 and 2.

If the cutting has been accurate you should now be able to easily interlock shelves and dividers. (If fitting is extremely tight is wise to cut your cutouts slightly larger rather than forcing them together.) This should give you a cube resembling a large tic-tac-toe board, albeit with 12 squares instead of nine (Fig. 3).

Step 3: Put it together

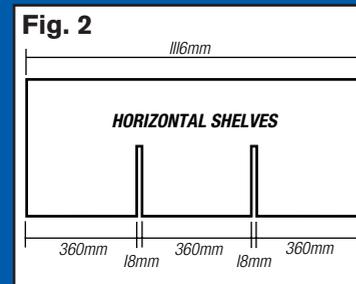
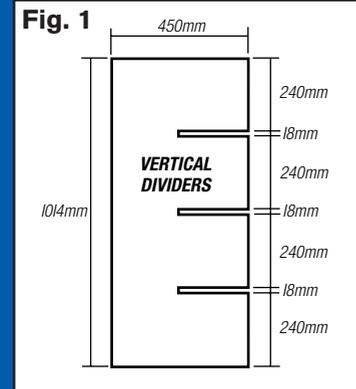
To finish off construction of the main body, assemble your sides, top and bottom into a box around the outside of your cube, remembering that the top and bottom are cut to fit inside the side pieces (Fig. 4.)

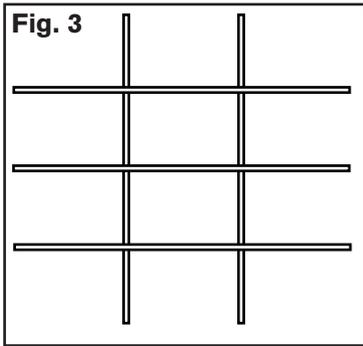
Glue and nail the sides to the top and bottom and, in turn, to the inner cube making sure that all front edges of your unit are flush. (Fig. 5)

To fit a backing sheet to your unit, measure the overall dimensions, which in our case were 1050mm high x 1152mm wide. Cut this out of a piece of 4mm MDF, glue and nail this to the back of your unit making sure that the unit is square.

Step 4: Finishing off

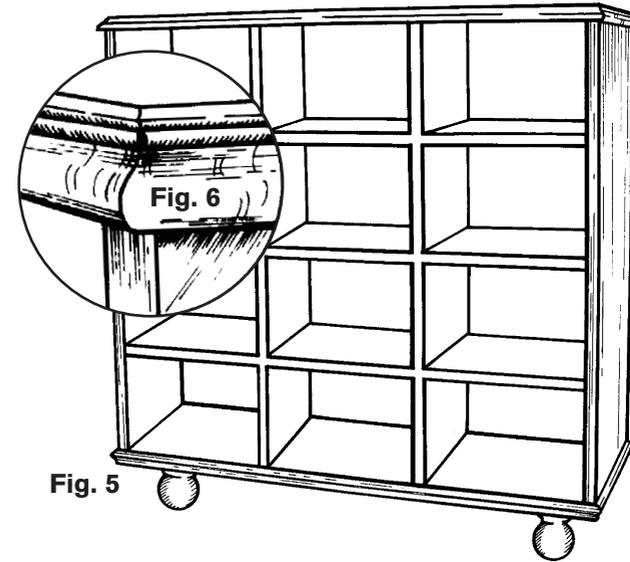
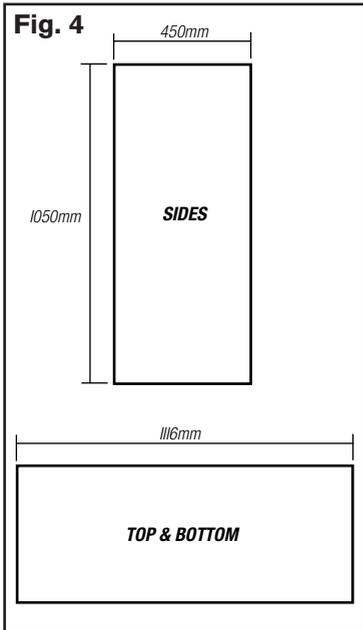
To give our storage unit a finishing touch, we added an insert mould to the top (Fig. 6) and bottom (Fig. 7) and for feet we used fence capitals which we nailed to a 100 mm x 100 mm square block of MDF off-cut, which in turn we nailed to the underside of our unit.





With a good sanding and a coat of paint your unit will be ready to store away all your treasures. You can either build this unit as a bookcase to display your books, object art, videos or whatever you like. With the addition of baskets the unit becomes terrific storage solution for small items, puzzles, toys or whatever you choose. Baskets are particularly good for storing linen and clothes as the air can circulate through the baskets so you won't get any musty smells as you would if your clothes or linen were stored in closed cupboards.

This is a fantastic addition to any room and as you can see, with a bit of care and patience you don't need a lot of expensive tools to achieve a satisfying result. As your confidence and skills grow, you should have no problems approaching other projects around your home and maybe consider acquiring a few power tools to make the job a lot easier for yourself.



Compact Storage

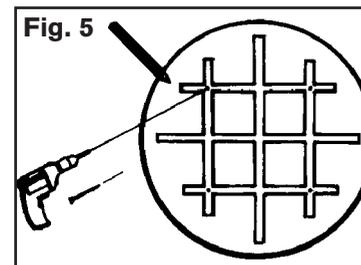
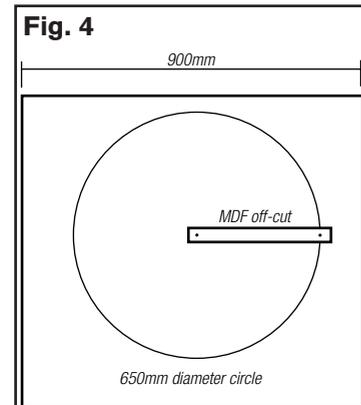
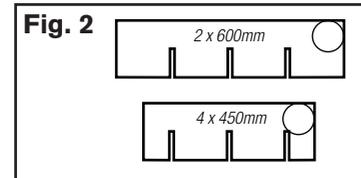
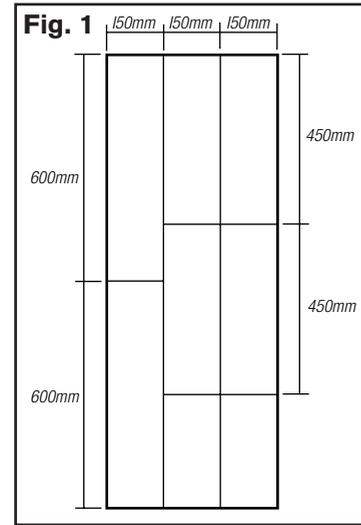
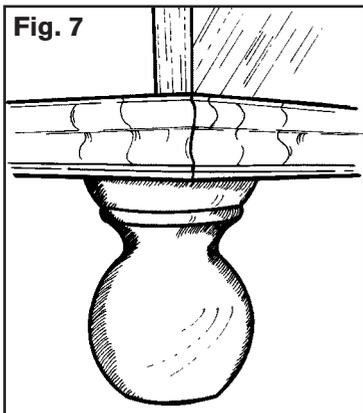
You may like to use some dead wall space at the same time as removing the temptation of knocking over a CD tower. If so this could be the perfect solution for you. As with all MitrePlans, you can adapt this one to suit your own needs. You may choose to keep the dividers oblong and not round the edges. You may prefer square backing board or none at all. Or you may wish to alter the dimensions and turn it into a bookshelf. The choice is yours.

Step 1: Measure and cut the pieces

From the 1200mm x 450mm sheet of 12mm MDF, cut three 150mm strips at 1200mm long.

From the first strip cut two pieces 600mm long. From the two remaining strips, cut four 450mm long pieces (Fig. 1).

As we are using the interlocking method of joining these shelves, you will need to cut three 12mm wide slots 75mm deep, at 140mm spacings on each shelf (Fig. 2).



Step 2: Put it together

Prior to actually cutting, carefully measure and mark all cut outs to ensure they will fit exactly when assembled.

Once you have completed your cut outs with a jig saw or coping saw, you will have six shelves, each with three 12mm cut outs (Fig. 2). Assemble your shelves to ensure they fit together. You may need to trim your cut outs a little at this stage if assembly is too tight. Keep in mind that the components should be painted before assembly.

Take them apart and round two corners on each piece. We used an empty one litre paint can as a template for this. By following Fig. 3 determine which corners are to be rounded and mark your corners using your template. Again using a jig saw or coping saw cut these edges in an even, round movement. You will need to sand the edges to ensure a smooth finish.

Step 3: Backing board

From your 900mm piece of MDF, you will need to cut your 650mm round backing board onto which you will mount your shelves.

To make this circle, take an off cut of MDF that measures about 25mm wide and 350mm long. Drill two holes in the piece of timber 325mm apart and this will become your compass. Anchor one end of this piece of timber in the centre of your 900mm sheet of MDF using a nail or screw. Place a pencil through another hole and move it around until you have drawn a complete circle (Fig. 4).

Cut the circle out using your jig saw or coping saw. Give the edges a good sand afterwards. It is easier to paint the components prior to the assembly of the unit. Again after applying an undercoat and two coats of your chosen paint colour – sanding between each coat – you may have to trim or sand your cut outs slightly to ensure they fit in together after the paint has been applied.

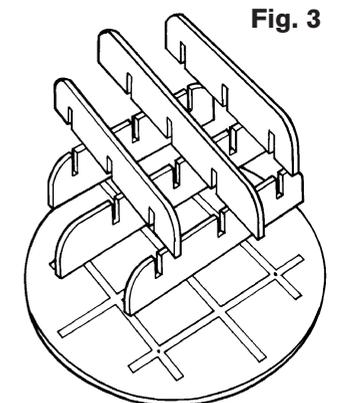
Step 4: Assemble the unit

Assemble your dividers first. The centre of the dividers will fit over the nail or screw hole in the backing board.

Measure and mark where your shelves will sit on your backing board. These should be no more than 25mm from the edge of your longest middle shelf to the edge of your backing board.

Mark these with a pencil and pre-drill six holes at the point where the shelf will attach to the backing board. Place your dividers onto the backing board and screw in place (Fig 5).

Using a small brush, touch up any areas that may require painting.



MIGHTY HELPFUL HINTS TO MAKE THE JOB EASIER

- Measuring is easy, materials are expensive. Double check all measurement and markings before you cut any piece of timber.
- When sawing, the waste must be supported and kept level with the rest of the board with your free hand. On long pieces, get a helper to take the weight but make sure they don't lift it or the saw will jam.
- Match the size of the screwdriver to the size of the screw – the width of the blade should be the same as the screw slot. It's also easier if you use the longest screwdriver possible – you get more leverage that way.
- Remember, if you're using power tools, always protect your eyes with suitable goggles.

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IMPORTANT: This project planner has been produced to provide basic information and our experienced staff are available to answer any questions you may have. However, this information is provided for use on the understanding that Mitre 10 is not liable for any loss or damage which is suffered or incurred (including but not limited to indirect or consequential loss), for any personal injury or damage to property suffered or sustained as a result of using the information contained in this MitrePlan Project Planner. Mitre 10 advises you to call in a qualified tradesperson, such as an electrician or plumber, where expert services are required, and to independently assess any safety precautions that will need to be followed prior to using the information in this MitrePlan Project Planner.

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