

Aldo Leopold Bench (1998 Shaw Arboretum Version)

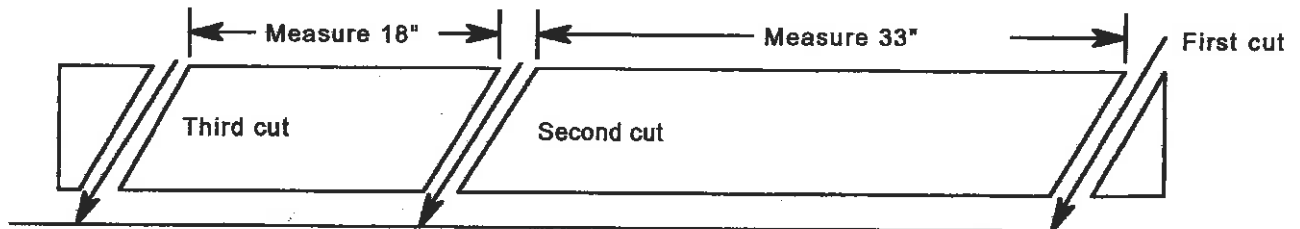
Materials required (for one 48" bench):

- 1 - 2 x 6 x 48" Back
- 1 - 2 x 10 x 45" Seat
- 2 - 2 x 8 x 55" Sides & legs
- 6 - 3/8" x 3-1/2" carriage bolts, with washer and nut
- 10 - 3-1/2" galvanized deck screws

Making the parts:

With radial arm saw set at 90°, cut 2x6 to 48" for back and 2x10 to 45" for seat.

With radial arm saw set at 60°, cut 2x8s to required lengths for sides & legs. Cut, measure, cut, measure, and cut from right to left, as shown below:



Lay a leg piece on top of a side piece as shown at right, aligning the "feet" with a straightedge. Use a scrap under the leg to make it lie flat.

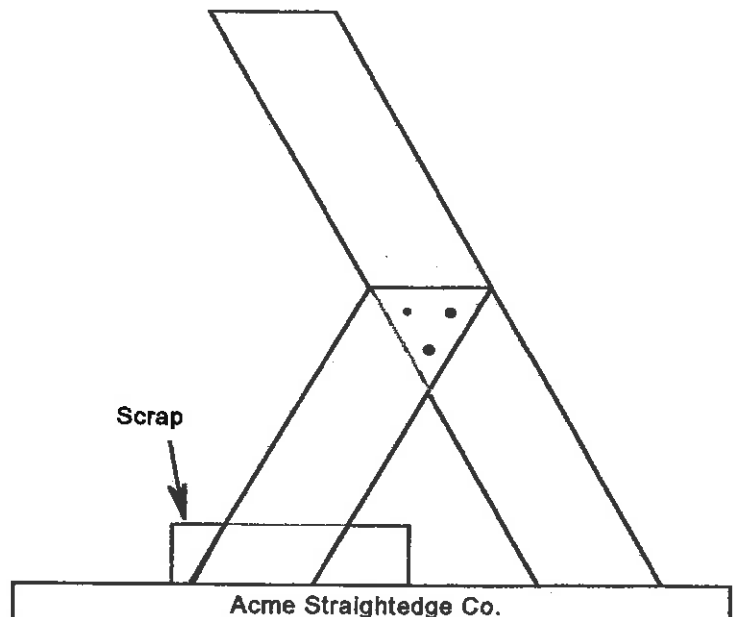
Mark the locations for the three carriage bolts on the leg piece only. Make a nice triangle.

Take the leg to the drill press and drill the three 3/8" holes for the bolts.

Lay the leg back over the side and, with the pieces carefully aligned, mark through the holes you just drilled for the three holes in the side piece.

Take the side piece to the drill press and drill the three 3/8" holes in it for the bolts.

The leg and side pieces are now ready to assemble. Remember to make one left and one right assembly.



Hammer the three carriage bolts through the corresponding holes in one side and leg, and put the washer and nut on each bolt (toward the inside of the leg), and tighten well. Do the same for the other leg.

Drill three 1/8" holes 3/4" from the ends of the seat, as shown at right. Hold the seat in place on the two leg/side assemblies you just made (teamwork helps) and drive 3-1/2" deck screws through the three predrilled holes in the seat, into the tops of the legs, using the power screwdriver.

Lay the bench down on its face and attach the back to the sides in a similar manner, predrilling two holes 3/4" from the ends of the back and screwing through the back into the sides.

Set the bench up, then stand back and admire your work!

