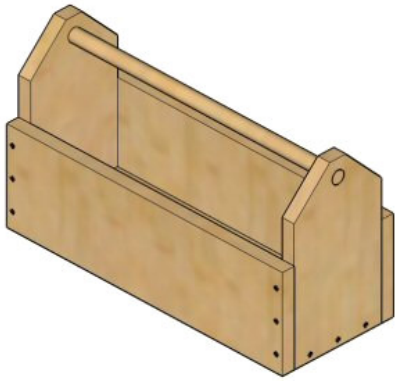


Kids Toolbox

This kid's toolbox is a great first project to put together with your child. Not only does it teach them some basic woodworking fundamentals, but it will be useful by giving them a place to store their tools. One of the best things to teach them at this stage is to put their tools in the proper place when they are not using them. Tools are not toys and they need to be cared for properly.

Safety

Safety is always a concern in the workshop, and even more so when you are dealing with children. It is up to you to understand the safety procedures for the tools you use when making this project. If at any time you feel you or your child are not being safe, then back away and rethink what you are doing. Ultimately, **you** are responsible for the safety of yourself and your child.

Material List

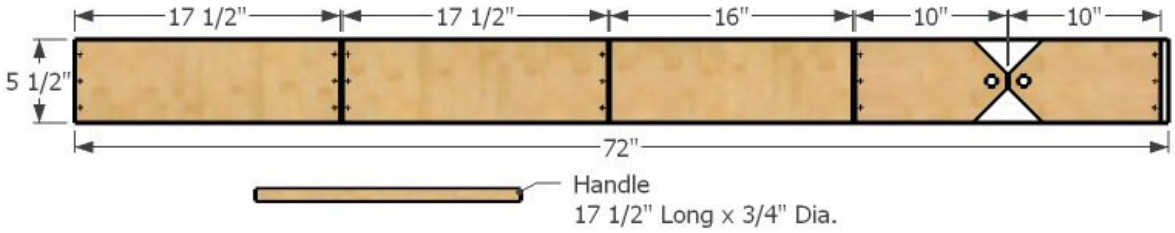
With the exception of the Handle, all pieces can be cut from a single 6ft piece of 1x6. This can be found at any lumber facility.

	Finished Size				
Part Name	**Thickness**	**Width**	**Length**	**Material**	**Quantity**
End	¾"	5 ½"	10"	Pine	2
Side	¾"	5 ½"	17 ½"	Pine	2
Bottom	¾"	5 ½"	16"	Pine	1
Handle	¾" Dia.		17 ½"	Pine	1

You will also need six #8 x 1 ½" long wood screws and twelve 6d finish nails.

Cutting Diagram

I would recommend that an adult pre-cuts all the pieces to length and then pre-drills all of the nail holes and screw holes. Let the child cut the angled pieces on the two end pieces.



Tools & Supplies

Tape Measure –

Saw – Handsaw for the child, and a power miter saw (optional) for the adult.

Clamps – You will need at least 2 clamps to hold the end pieces down to a bench while the child is sawing and drilling.

Drill – I would use an old fashioned hand drill sometimes called a "Brace and Bit" for the child, and a cordless drill or drill press for the adult. The Brace and Bit will need a ¾" drill bit. The adult will need a 1/16", a 3/32", a 5/32" drill bit, and a countersink bit.

Hammer – I recommend using a kid-sized hammer, although the extra weight of an adult sized hammer sometimes works better even though the child may have to use both hands to swing it.

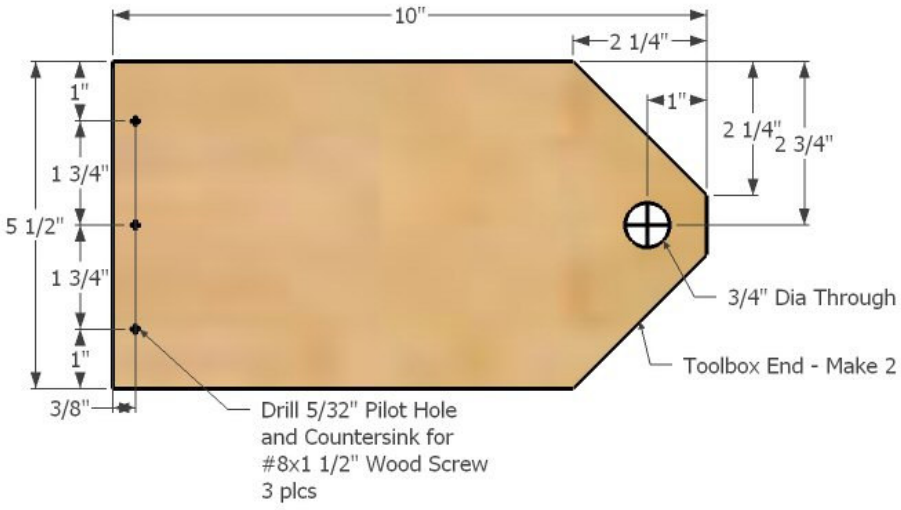
Screwdriver – Use a Phillips head screwdriver, preferably one with a rubber grip for the child to be better able to hold onto it.

Sandpaper – 120 grit

Wood Glue – You don't really need very much for this project. It will just be to hold the handle in place.

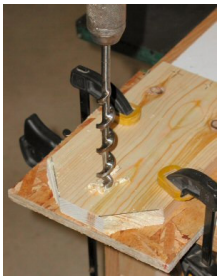
Procedure

1. The adult should start by pre-cutting all the pieces to the lengths shown in the cutting diagram above using a miter saw. You will need to mark the first piece then cut it using the miter saw, then mark the next and cut it and so on. You don't want to mark all the pieces at once and then cut them all at once because the blade of the saw has a thickness of about 1/8" and your pieces will come up short when you are done.



2. Pre-drill all of the screw holes and nail holes in the locations shown in each of the detail views above. Don't drill the ¾" hole for the handle. Leave this for the child to do with the Brace and Bit. Mark where this hole needs to be and also draw a line where the corners need to be cut off of the end pieces.

3. Now the fun begins. It is time to let the child go to work. Clamp one end piece down to a workbench. Have them start by cutting the corners off of the end pieces using a hand saw. You may have to get the cut started for them, but that's all right. Make sure they are not pushing down too hard on the saw. The harder they push the harder it will be to push the saw through the wood. Cut two corners off of each end piece.



4. Next, put a piece of scrap wood under the end piece and clamp it to a workbench. Let the child use the Brace and Bit and drill the ¾" hole. These types of drills are usually pretty aggressive, so it won't take long to drill through. The scrap piece will stop them from drilling into the workbench.

5. Now, take one end piece and the bottom and let the child screw the two pieces together. You may want to line the two pieces up and, using the holes in the end piece as a guide, pre-drill the holes into the ends of the bottom using a 3/32" drill bit. This will make it much easier for them to put the screws in. Repeat the process for the other end piece.

6. Once both ends are screwed onto the bottom, lay the assembly on its side and then place one of the side pieces onto it. Using a hammer let the child start the 6d finish nails into the pre-drilled

nail holes. You will need to hold the side piece in place while they put the nails in. Repeat the process for the other side.

7. At this point you can slide the handle into the holes. If it is a loose fit you may want to add a dab of glue to hold it in place.

8. Once the glue is dry, let the child use some sandpaper to soften the edges. Have them wrap a piece of sandpaper around a piece of scrap wood to make it easier to hold onto. Teach them to sand with the grain and not against it.

At this point, the box is done. Feel free to let the child personalize it by painting it or decorating it with stickers.