

SEEN ON BHG TV
FRIDAYS 7.00

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and Gardens

There's the big pineapple and the big banana, so why not jump on the bandwagon with your very own big thing?



GET pegged



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Build garden furniture that's a work of art

don't be hung out to dry when you're looking for a spot to enjoy your garden - build a bench that wouldn't look out of place in an art gallery. Built in the shape of a humble clothes peg, it's made using basic treated pine sleepers. It looks so good that you'll be torn between taking a seat or just standing back and admiring it! ▶

PEG BENCH

Gather your supplies

- **Bench segments** 200 x 100mm x 2.4m treated pine sleepers (8)
- **Spacing plate** 600 x 320 x 18mm marine plywood
- **Spring** 20mm flexible PVC conduit
- **Spring stiffener** 12mm pine dowel

You'll also need

Pencil; tape measure; spirit level; square; circular saw; handsaw; clamps; power drill and bits; 150mm hole saw; hammer; chisel; long 5mm drill bit; polyurethane glue; 175mm batten screws; belt sander; 40mm screws; ebony decking stain; painting equipment; 30mm galvanised button head screws; 250mm batten screws

FOR YOU TO NOTE

When using power tools, wear all safety gear required and refer to your product instructions.

Here's how

STEP 1 As a pair of sleepers will be marked and cut simultaneously, set them up on your workbench. Measure out and mark along long edge for cut outs. Working from 1 end, points to mark are at 250, 400, 600 and 1360mm.

STEP 2 At the corner you measured from in Step 1, measure 125mm across the end and mark. Use a spirit level to join this point and the first point marked along the edge in Step 1.

STEP 3 Where the drawn line meets the edges, use a square to transfer the line down that edge. Turn the sleeper over then draw another line across the face joining these points.

STEP 4 Set your circular saw to cut slightly more than halfway through the sleeper then run along the line. Turn sleeper over to cut along the line on the other side.

STEP 5 At the second and third points marked in Step 1, use ▶



STEPS



STEP 2



STEP 3



STEP 4



STEP 5

STEPS



STEP 6



STEP 7



STEP 8



STEP 9



STEP 10



STEP 11

square to draw lines at 45° so they intersect. Also transfer the lines down the edge then to the opposite face of the sleeper.

STEP 6 Use saw to cut along marked lines. On face of sleeper that will be on outside of bench when complete, stop saw where lines intersect. On other face, continue slightly past this point so the saw cuts to its complete depth along the extent of the line. Use handsaw to complete cut.

STEP 7 With end of sleepers aligned, place an offcut of the plywood for the spacing plate between the 2 sleepers at the fourth mark made in Step 1. Clamp sleepers together.

STEP 8 With hole saw in drill, place drill bit in centre of saw on centre of plywood offcut at the marked point. Drill hole in both sleepers until hole saw reaches the limit of its depth.

STEP 9 Use the hammer and chisel to quickly remove about 20mm of the waste timber from the centre of the cut.

Continue cutting with the hole saw.

STEP 10 Use long drill bit to drill through central hole in the cut through to the other side. This will help you locate the centre of the hole when cutting from the other side.

STEP 11 Turn sleepers over then use hole saw to drill through from the other side until the circle is removed.

STEP 12 At uncut end of sleepers, mark a point 150mm from the corner at the end of the edge with the holes. Draw a line from this point to the ►

STEPS



STEP 12



STEP 13



STEP 15



STEP 16



STEP 19



STEP 21

centre of the hole where the opposite edge was. Also transfer this line to the opposite face of the sleeper.

STEP 13 Cut through drawn lines on both sides of the sleeper to shape this end.

STEP 14 Use one sleeper as a template to mark out and cut another 6. Don't cut the hole on 4 of those as they'll be in the centre of the bench and the hole won't be visible.

STEP 15 Spread glue along face of a sleeper with hole, lift another

on top (without hole) and align them. Predrill along sleepers using a long 5mm drill bit then join using 175mm batten screws.

STEP 16 Continue gluing and screwing another 2 sleepers to the first pair. Ensure you end up with the visible faces of the sleepers with holes on the outside of this assembly. Leave glue to set.

STEP 17 Repeat Steps 15 and 16 to create a second assembly of 4 peg segments.

STEP 18 Use belt sander to remove cut marks from pegs and smooth out any variations between them.

STEP 19 Put spacing plate on the largest flat edge of 1 peg assembly. Screw in place using 40mm screws.

STEP 20 Cut 300 long x 50mm thick feet out of offcuts of sleepers. Turn this half of the bench over and screw feet to the bottom about 400mm from each end.

STEP 21 On second peg assembly, which will be the top half of the ►

STEPS



STEP 22



STEP 23



STEP 24



STEP 25



STEP 26



STEP 27

bench, mark out for a 25mm-wide channel that is 700mm from the bottom end of the peg. Set your saw to cut 25mm deep then make multiple runs across the peg between the channels.

STEP 22 Use hammer to knock out waste from channel then a sharp chisel to make the bottom smooth.

STEP 23 Apply 2 coats of ebony stain to both peg assemblies allowing the sections to dry after each coat.

STEP 24 With a helper, lift the halves

of the peg to their final position. Cut a length of flexible conduit about 3.5m long. Coil the conduit around the hole in the bench starting from the inside and working your way out.

STEP 25 Cut a 670mm long length of dowel and slide it in the open end of the conduit. Move it down until it gets to where it meets the coil of the spring housing. Pre-drill then screw the conduit to bench using 30mm button head screws. Run the conduit up to the channel

cut in the top then screw it to the side of the bench here.

STEP 26 Pre-drill through channel in top of bench then screw the 2 halves together using 250mm batten screws. On the back of the bench, screw on an angle through the top half into the bottom at the other end of the spacing plate.

STEP 27 Insert a 380mm long length of dowel into the end of the conduit and slide down until it meets where the conduit bends into the channel. Pre-drill and screw the conduit into the channel at both ends. Use handsaw to cut off overhanging end of conduit. ■

STOCKIST

Bunnings bunnings.com.au 200 x 100mm treated pine sleeper, \$26.78. 20mm corrugated conduit, \$9.50/10m. 1220 x 610 x 18mm marine plywood, \$57.30. 175mm galvanised batten screws, \$20/pk25. 250mm landscaping screws. 12mm dowel, \$3.68/1.2m. Intergrain Ultradeck decking stain, \$100/4L.