

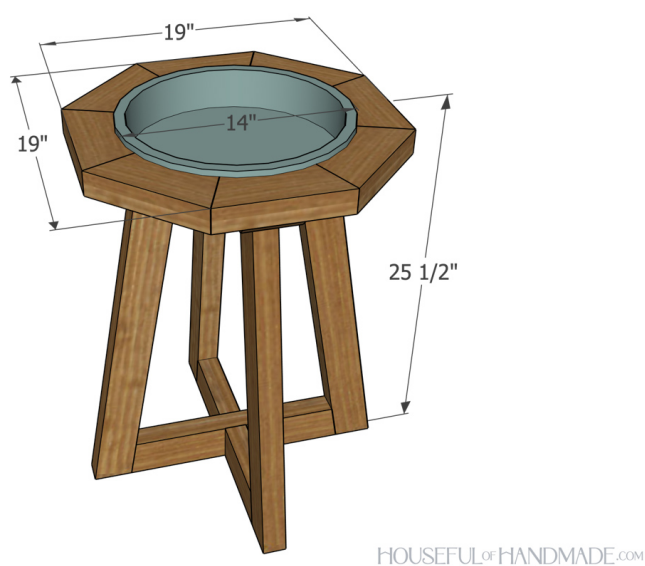
Freestanding Birdbath

By **Houseful of Handmade**

Difficulty

Moderate

Attract birds to your yard or garden with a beautiful wooden birdbath. This fun build holds a large plant saucer, perfect for backyard birds to bathe in.



Tools

Kreg Tools

- Kreg®
Pocket-
Hole Jig
320

[Kreg® Pocket-Hole Jig 320](#)
- Wood
Project
Clamp -
3

[Wood Project Clamp - 3"](#)
- Quick-
Flip

[Quick-Flip](#)

- VersaGrip
Clamp -
24

[VersaGrip Clamp - 24"](#)

Other Tools

- Miter saw
- Jig saw
- Brad nailer
- Drill

Materials

Wood Products

- 1

Board , 2x4 (1 1/2" X 3 1/2") , 5' Long
- 1

Board , 2x3 (1 1/2" X 2 1/2") , 8' Long
- 1

Board , 2x3 (1 1/2" X 2 1/2") , 3' Long
- 1

Board , 1x4 (3/4" X 3 1/2") , 3' Long
- 1

Board , 1x2 (3/4" X 1 1/2") , 5' Long

Hardware & Supplies

- 40

2 1/2" Blue-Kote™ Pocket Hole Screws
- 4

1 1/4" Blue-Kote™ Pocket Hole Screws
- 50

1 1/4" Brad Nails
- 1

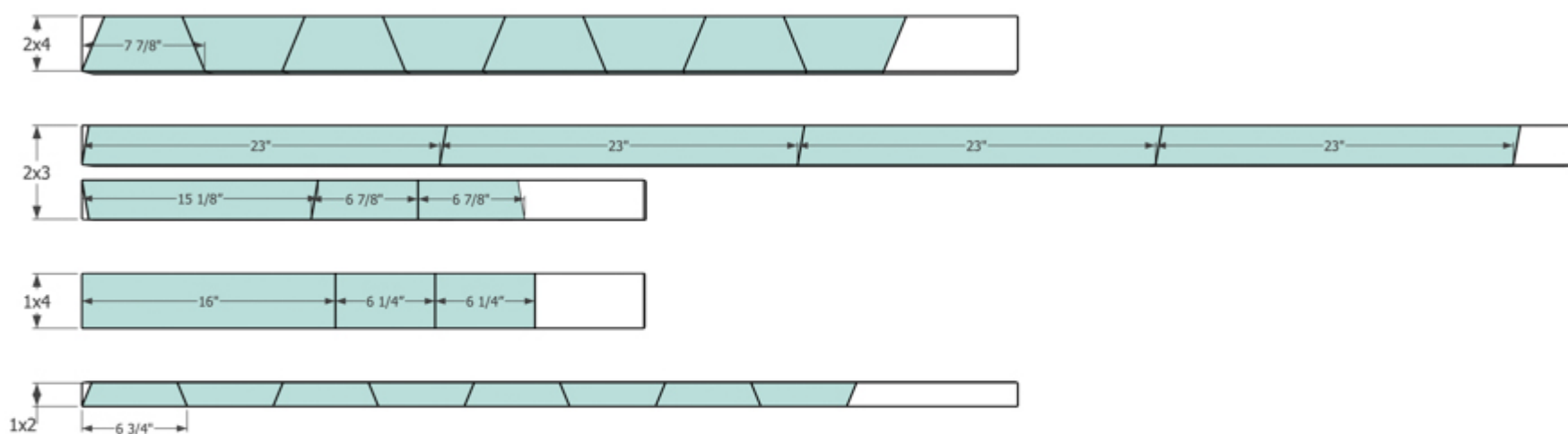
Outdoor Wood Glue
- 1

14" Plastic Plant Saucer (See Extras For Link)
- 1

Outdoor Wood Sealer

Cut List & Parts

- 8** Top Octagon, 2x4 , 1 1/2" X 3 1/2" X 7 7/8"
- 4** Leg, 2x3 , 1 1/2" X 2 1/2" X 23"
- 1** Bottom Center, 2x3 , 1 1/2" X 2 1/2" X 15 1/8"
- 2** Bottom Side, 2x3 , 1 1/2" X 2 1/2" X 6 7/8"
- 1** Top Support Center, 1x4 , 3/4" X 3 1/2" X 16"
- 2** Top Support Sides, 1x4 , 3/4" X 3 1/2" X 6 1/4"
- 8** Lower Top Octagon, 1x2 , 3/4" X 1 1/2" X 6 3/4"



HOUSEFULOFHANDMADE.COM

Directions

1**Cut the pieces**

Cut the pieces according to the cut list. Refer to the cut diagram for pictures of the angled cuts.

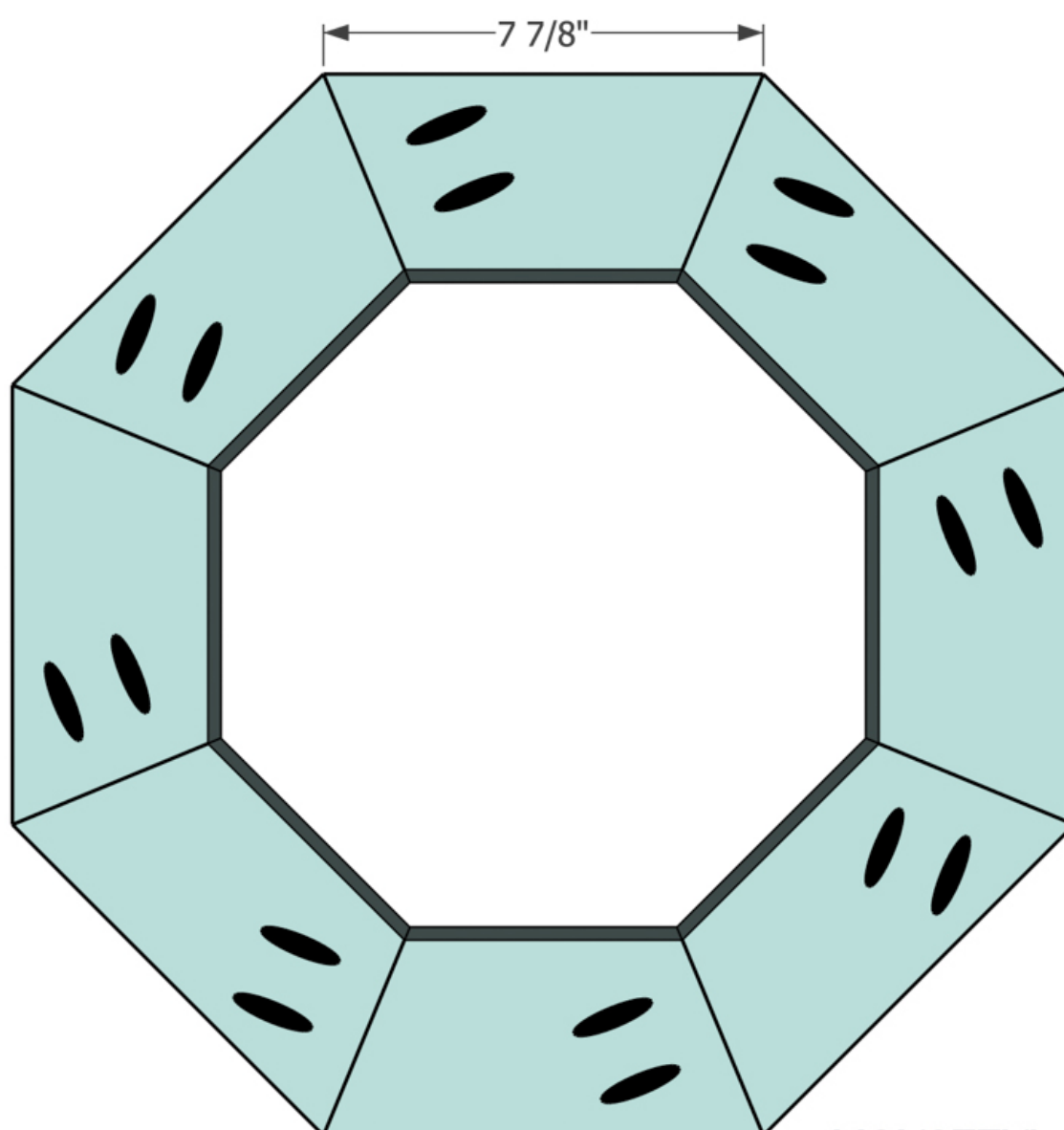
- Top octagon and lower octagon pieces: both ends cut at a 22.5 degree angle so they angle toward each other.
- Leg pieces: both ends cut at a 10 degree angle so they are parallel.
- Bottom center piece: both ends cut at a 10 degree angle so they are angled towards each other.
- Bottom side pieces: one end cut at a 10 degree angle.

For the top support pieces, you can rip the outer ends at a 45 degree angle to give it a slope (see step 5 image for details). Or you can sand a slope in the ends once assembled.

2**Assemble the top octagon**

Set your pocket hole jig to drill holes in 1 1/2" thick material. Drill 2 pocket holes on one side of each top octagon board. Make sure it is the same side on all the boards.

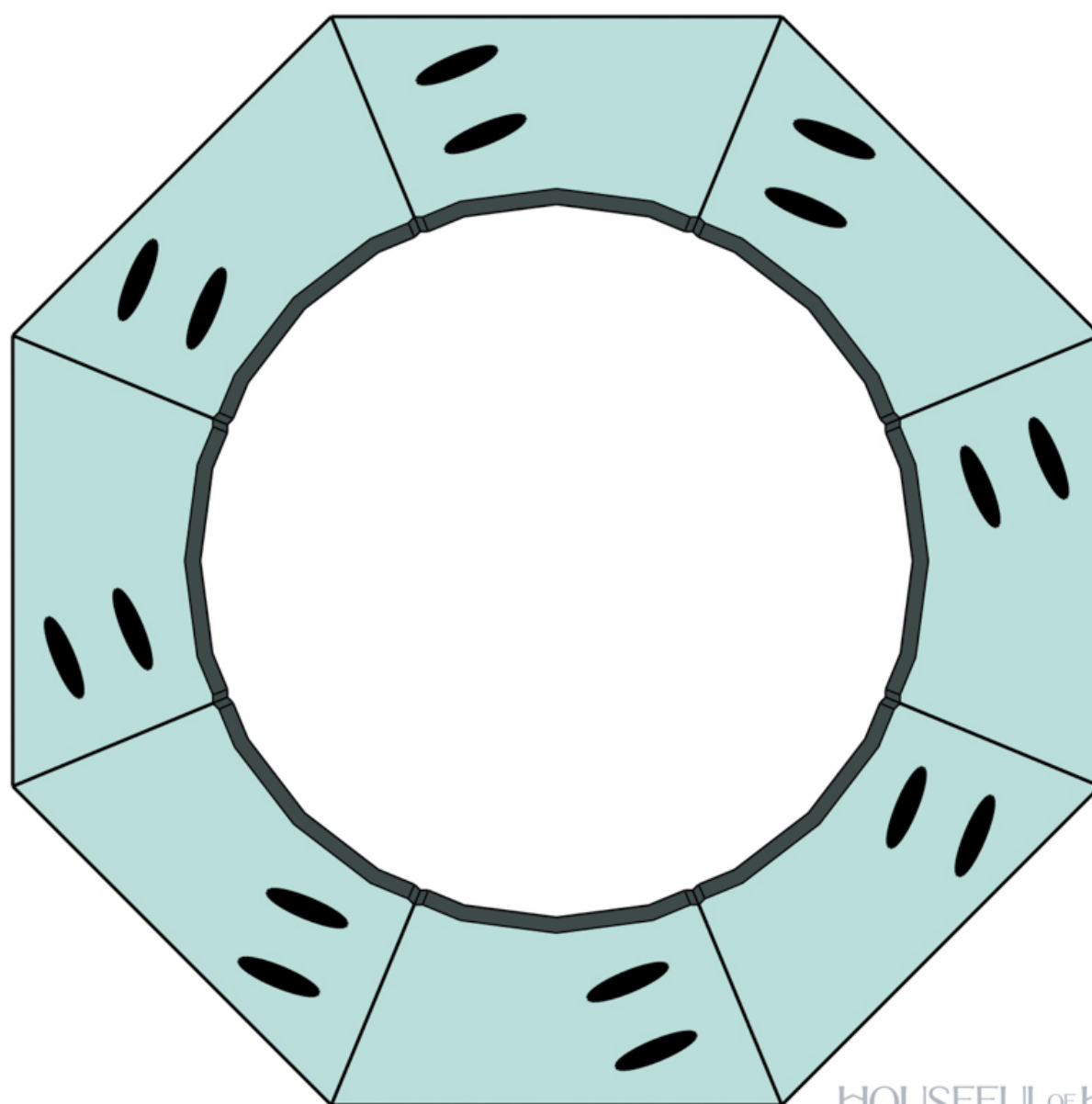
Add glue to the seam and use a face clamp to hold it in place while you secure with 2 1/2" pocket holes screws. Repeat all the way around until all the pieces are attached to each other creating an octagon.



HOUSEFULOFHANDMADE.COM

3**Cut out a circle**

Measure the diameter of the plant saucer under the lip. Draw a circle on the inside of the octagon to match. Then cut it out with a jigsaw. Test fit the saucer in the hole and adjust. You want the lip to sit on the top of the boards.

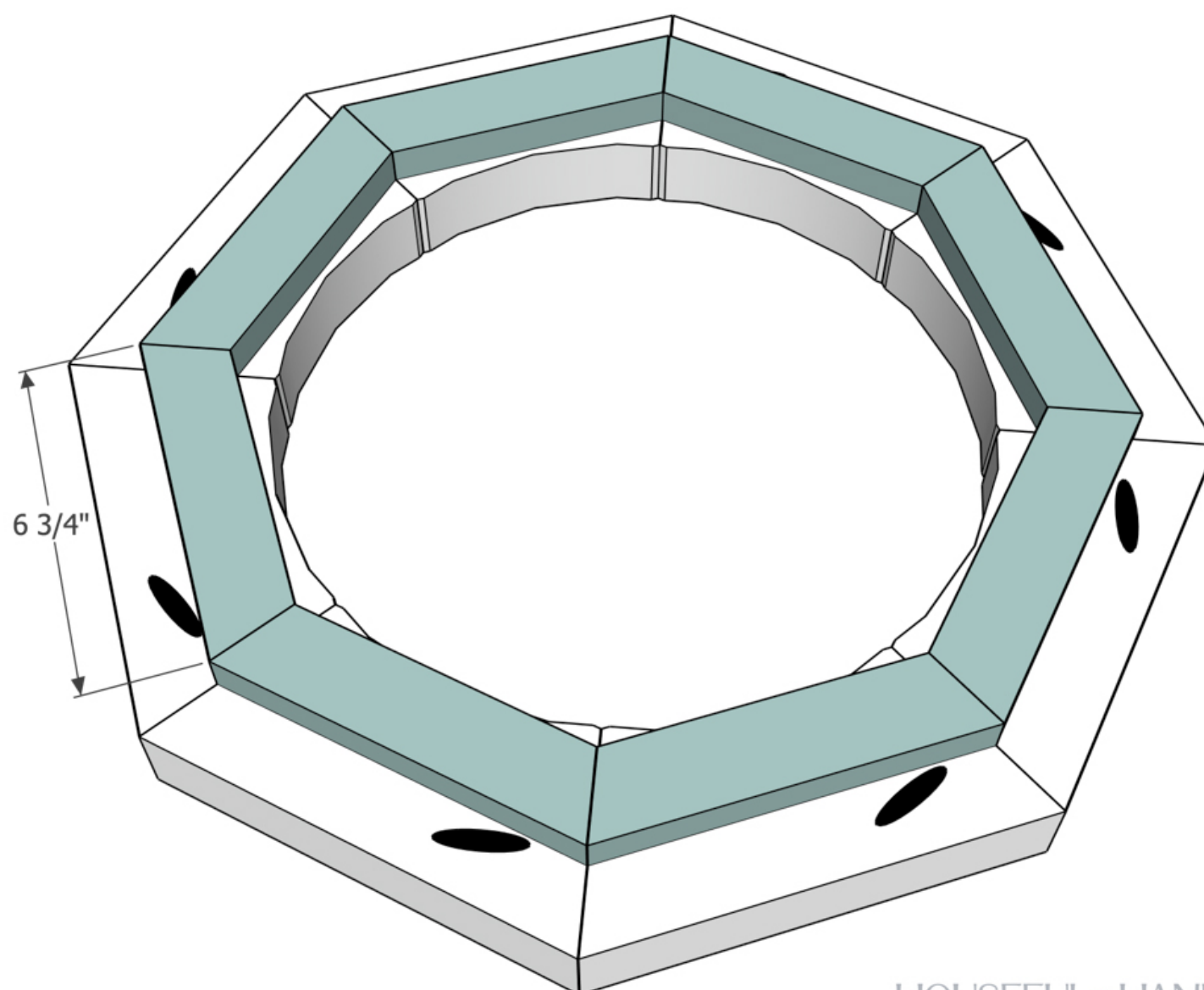


HOUSEFULOFHANDMADE.COM

4

Attach lower octagon

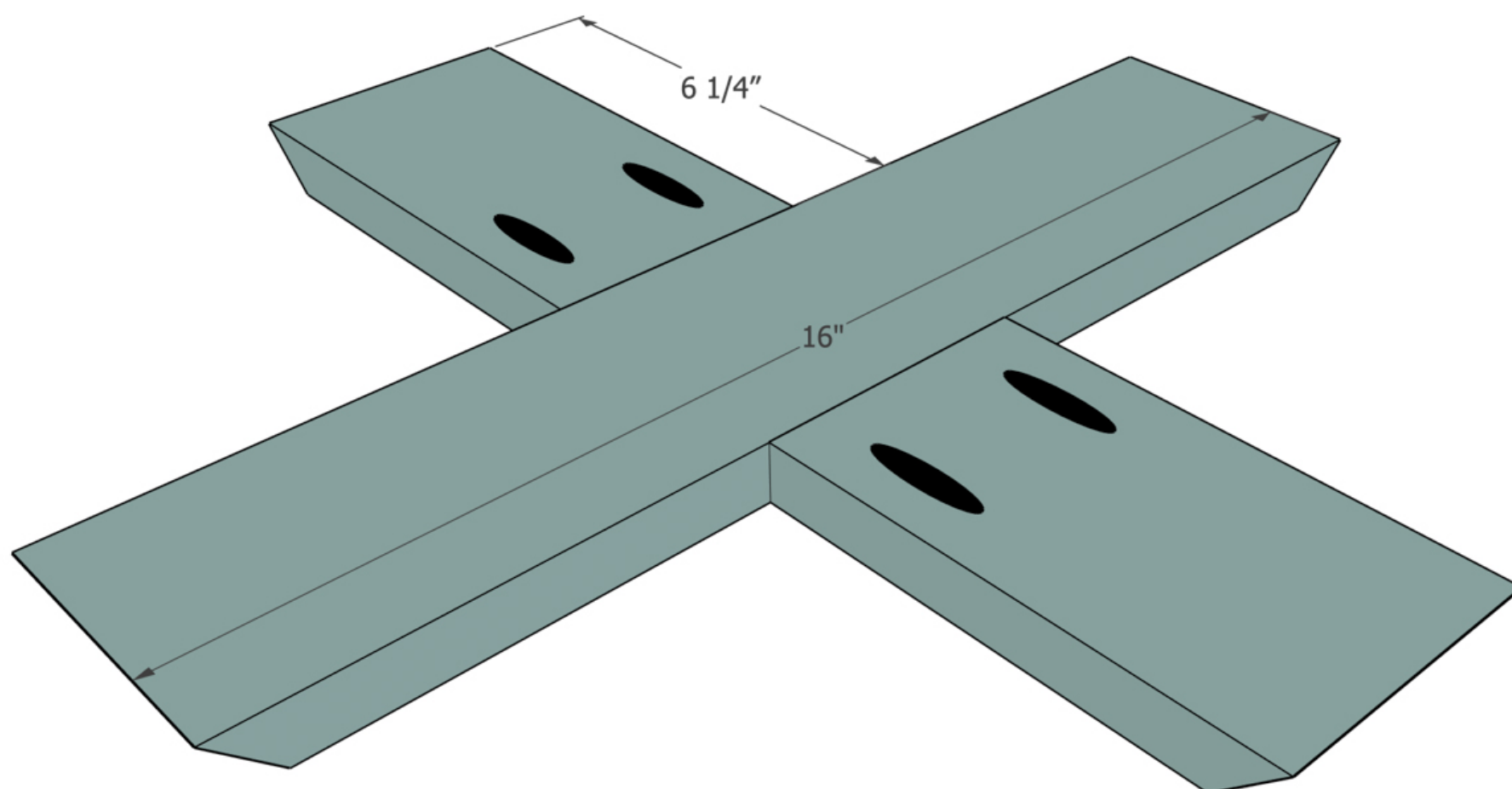
Using glue and 1 1/4" brad nails, attach the lower octagon pieces to the underside of the finished top. Line up the angled edge of the lower octagon pieces with the seams in the top as you attach them. If they are slightly off, don't worry too much, they are well hidden when the birdbath is finished.



HOUSEFUL OF HANDMADE.COM

5**Build under top support**

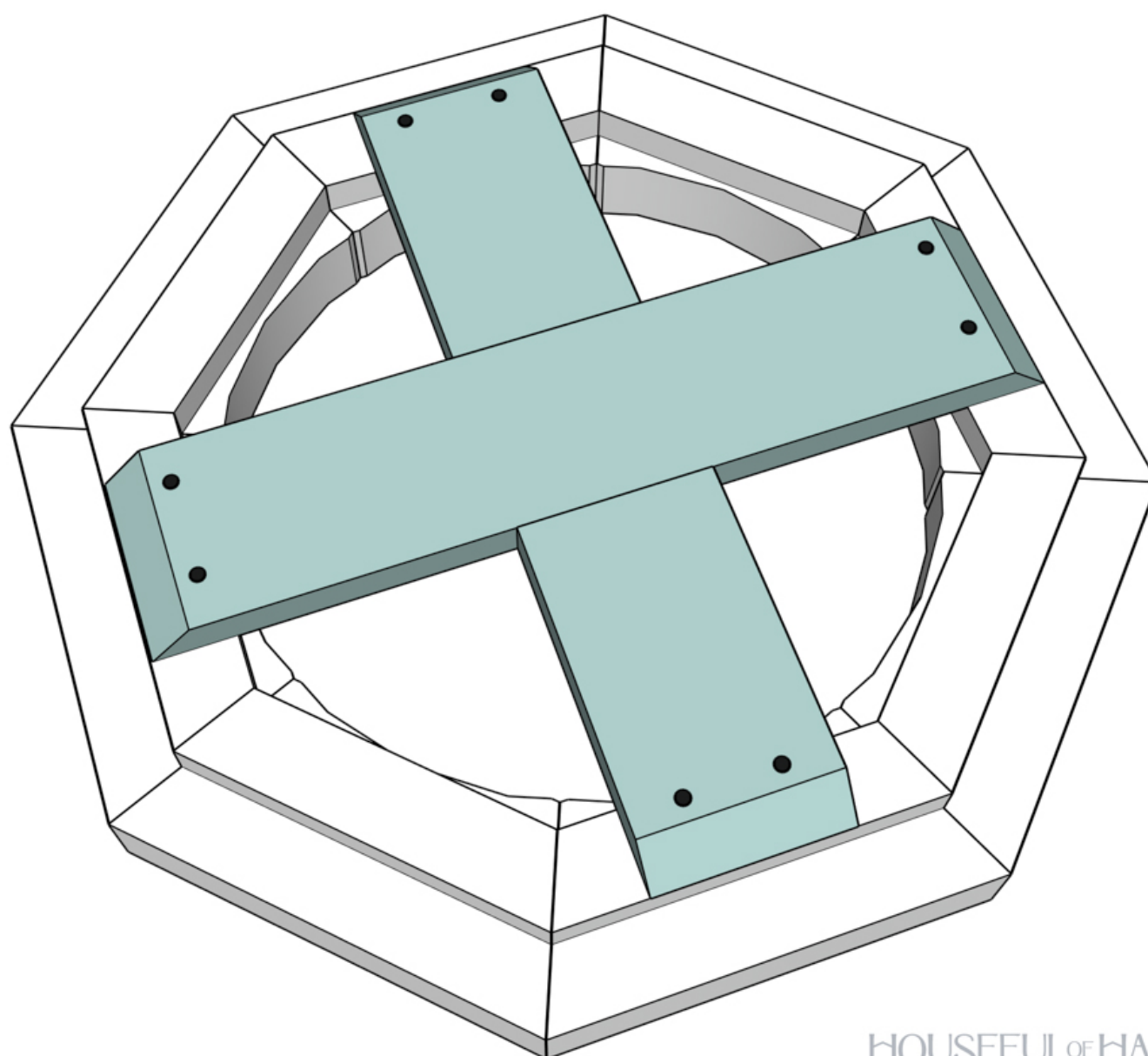
Set your pocket hole jig to drill holes in 3/4" thick material and drill 2 pocket holes in the non-angled end of the top support sides. Attach them to the center of the top support center piece with glue and 1 1/4" pocket hole screws.



HOUSEFUL OF HANDMADE.COM

6**Attach top support**

Center the assemble support on the underside of the assembled octagon. Use the Quick-Flip tool to drill a hole where the support sits on the lower octagon pieces. Only countersink the screw head about 1/4". Secure with 2 1/2" pocket hole screws.



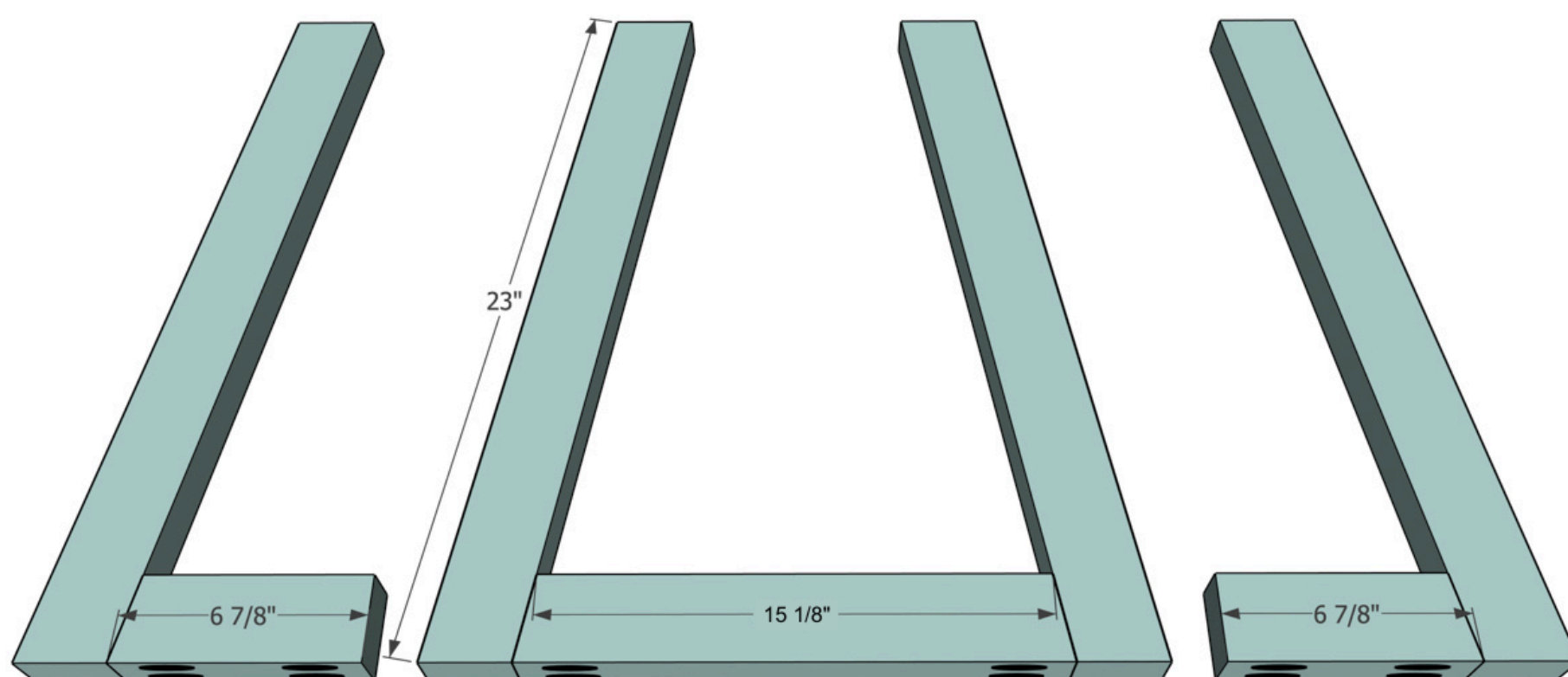
HOUSEFUL OF HANDMADE.COM

7

Start building the legs

On the 1 1/2" wide underside of the 2x3 bottom pieces, drill pocket holes set for 1 1/2" thick material in both ends of the boards.

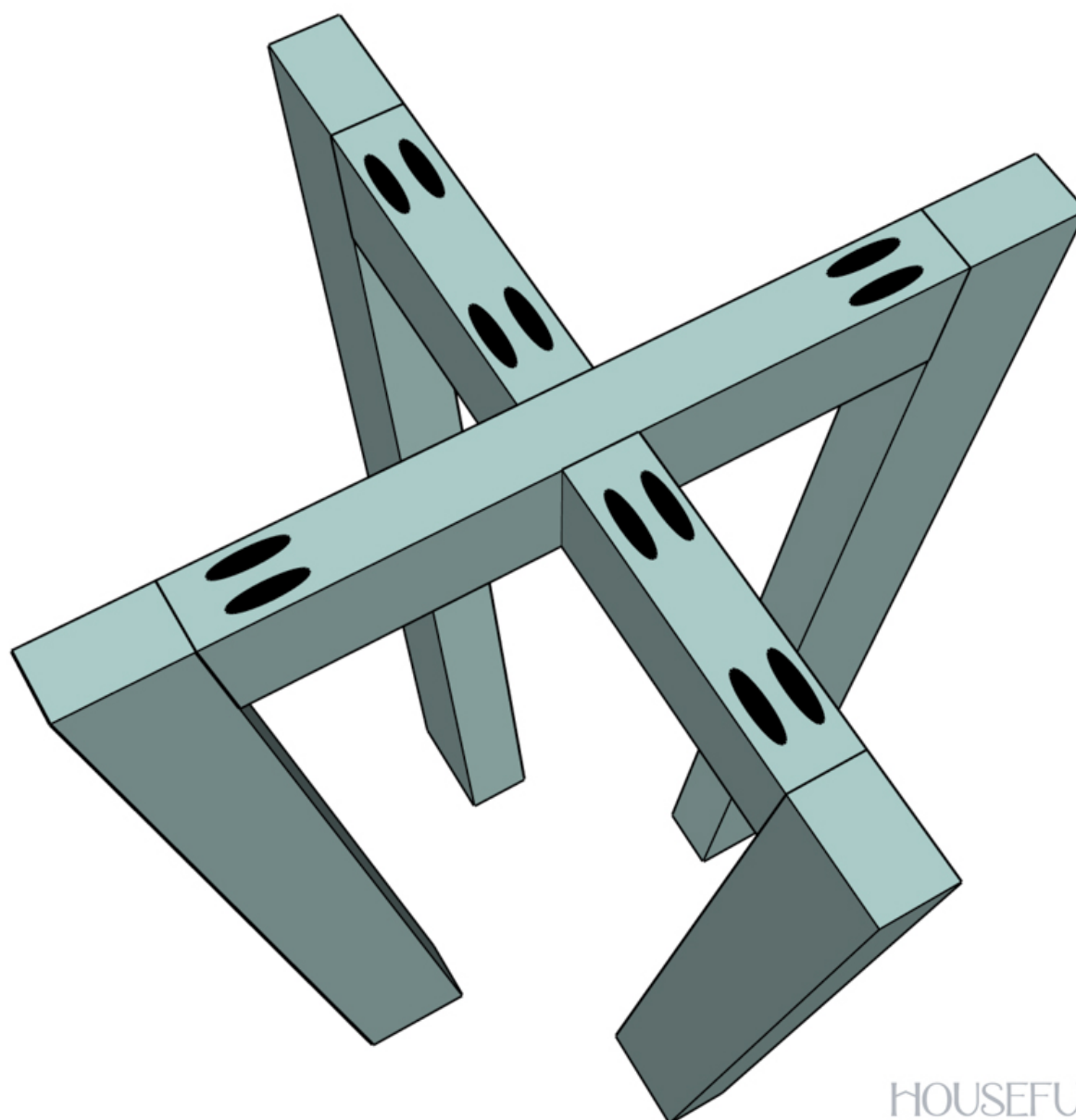
Attach the bottoms to the legs so the center is between 2 leg boards and the angled edge of the sides are attached to 1 leg board. Secure with wood glue and 2 1/2" pocket hole screws.



HOUSEFULOFHANDMADE.COM

8**Attach legs together**

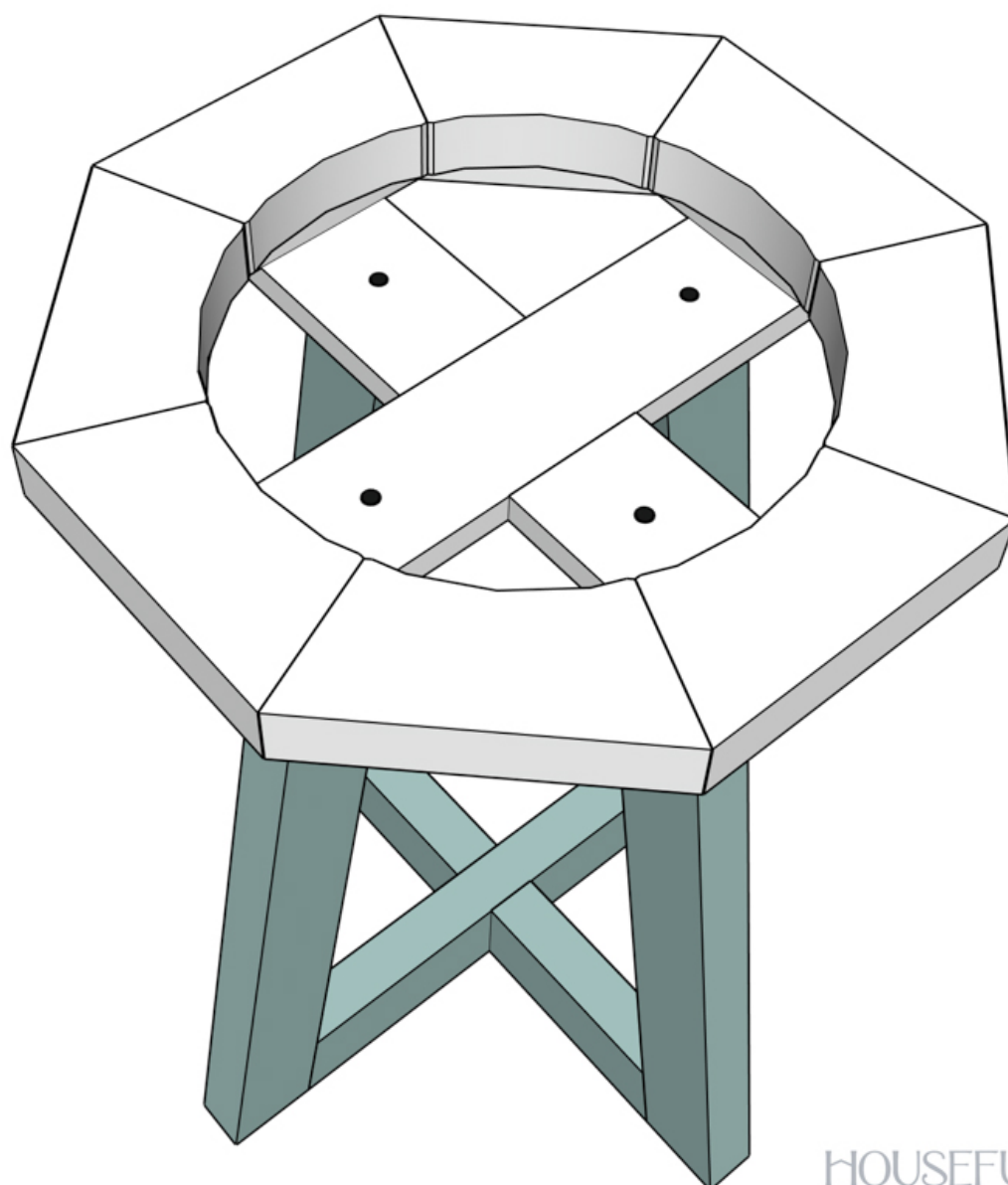
Attach the 4 legs together at the bottom boards so the two sides are centered on the bottom center board. Secure with 2 1/2" pocket hole screws and wood glue.



HOUSEFULOFHANDMADE.COM

9**Attach legs and top together**

Place the top octagon on top of the leg assembly. Center the legs under the support pieces. Use the Quick-flip to drill a hole and secure with 2 1/2" pocket hole screws.



HOUSEFULOFHANDMADE.COM

10**Finish and enjoy!**

Sand and finish the birdbath. Make sure to use exterior sealer or paint. Place the saucer in the top and fill with a couple inches of water. I also added some small rocks and pebbles to one side for smaller birds. Now I just need to wait for them to discover their new bath! And make sure to visit me at housefulofhandmade.com for even more fun things to build for your backyard.

[Houseful of Handmade](http://housefulofhandmade.com)



HOUSEFULOFHANDMADE.COM