## Modern Backyard Garden Bench

## Difficulty

Moderate

This modern backyard garden bench is made using pocket joints and simple cuts. It provides sleek extra seating for our patio. The addition of two upholstered patio cushions means these benches are not only sturdy but also comfortable for an outdoor patio or porch.


## Tools

Kreg Tools

Kreg ${ }^{\circledR}$ Pocket-Hole Jig 720

## Other Tools

Jigsaw

Miter Saw
Table Saw

Tape Measure

Drill (corded)
Nail Gun

Sander

Air Compressor

## Materials

Wood Products
6 Board, $2 \times 4,15$
4 Board, $2 \times 4,16.5$
2 Board, 2×4, 48
3 Board, $7 \times 4,96^{\prime \prime}$

Hardware \& Supplies
36 Exterior 2 1/2 Kreg Screws
60 Brad Nails
1 Wood Glue
1 Sand Paper

## Cut List \& Parts

6 Cross Beams For Bench Ends , $15^{\prime \prime} \times 1$ 1/2" $\times 3$ 1/2"
4 Vertical Boards For Bench Ends, 16 1/2" $\times 1$ 1/2" $\times 3$ 1/2"
2 Bench Lengths, $48^{\prime \prime} \times 11 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 31 / 2^{\prime \prime}$
14 Bench Slats, $18^{\prime \prime} \times 3 / 4^{\prime \prime} \times 31 / 2^{\prime \prime}$
1 Bench Seat Cross Support, $15^{\prime \prime} \times 17 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 31 / 2^{\prime \prime}$

Directions

1

## Cut Lumber

Using your miter saw, cut all your lumber with 90 degree cuts. You'll end up with six 15 -inch pieces of $2 \times 4$, two 48 -inch pieces of $2 \times 4$, and four 16.5 -inch pieces of $2 \times 4$.

Page 6 of 15

## 2 Trim One Edge of Lumber

Check that your table saw blade is at 90 degrees, and measure 3.25 -inches from the the fence. Run your lumber through the saw to remove one rounded edge of the wood.


Measure 3 -inches from saw blade to the fence, and trim the opposite edge of your $2 \times 4$ leaving you with squared lumber that appears modern and clean.


4 Set your pocket jig for $11 / 2$ inch lumber, and make two pocket holes on either end of the shortest 15 -inch lengths of wood.


With the pocket holes on the underside of the board, use $21 / 2$-inch exterior kreg screws to attach the two 16.5-inch pieces of wood to either side of the three shorter 15-inch boards

Screw one piece aligned with the top of the 16.5 -inch boards, and one piece aligned with the bottom edge of the same pair of boards. For the middle board, screw it in place so that the top edge is 12.25 inches from the floor.

Repeat these steps for the other bench end


## Assemble Bench

Drill two pocket holes set for $11 / 2$ inches in either end of the 48 -inch piece of lumber. Using $21 / 2$-inch exterior Kreg screws, attach the 48 -inch piece of lumber to either bench end so that it aligns with the top edge of the middle cross piece.


7

## Install Cross Beam

Because this bench was a bit longer, I measured and cut a $2 \times 4$ cross beam to provide some extra support and stability. I made pocket holes in either end of my $2 \times 4$ and then screwed it in place between the longer 48 -inch lengths of wood.


## 8 <br> Install Support Slats

I used simple $1 \times 4$ pine to make the support slats for the bench. I cut my $1 \times 4$ s to 18 inches each and dry fit them onto the bench seat. I used wood glue and a brad nailer to attach the slats to the bench frame.

I notched out the corners of the end pieces to allow for a better bit, but this is optional.


## Sand, Stain/ Paint

Because this bench is going to be outside, I sanded the wood, applied a pre-stain conditioner, and stained the bench to match our existing patio furniture.


Page 15 of 15

