Online Extra

Knock-down

Cutting Table

If you're accustomed to using sawhorses for support while making circular saw cuts, I guarantee you'll find that this knock-down table is a vast improvement. The clincher is that it's inexpensive, easy to build, and easy to store when not in use.

The table is essentially an open grid made up of interlocking pieces of ³/₄" plywood, as shown in the main drawing below. The design is simple. Half-width notches or slots cut into the mating pieces allow you to slide them together into a rigid framework. The table can be assembled or disassembled in minutes.

ONE SHEET. If you follow the cutting diagram shown below, you

can get all the pieces needed for the table out of a single sheet of ¾" plywood. You'll need three long "joists," eight cross members, and two base pieces. (The base pieces are clamped to sawhorses to hold the table in place when in use.)

THE NOTCHES. Once all the pieces are cut to size, the interlocking notches can be cut. You can do this with a jig saw, a circular saw, a router, or on the table saw. The key is to size and space the notches accurately. And note that one pair of notches is cut into the lower edge of each joist. This makes assembly of the table easier and the framework will be more stable when moved.



THE BASE PIECES. I cut the slots in the base pieces with a dado blade in the table saw. The assembled table simply rests in the slots, so you don't need to worry about a snug fit. A little loose is better.

