

Child's desk

Children love to play, but they also love to work if the surroundings are right and our desk is sure to help.

easy!

You will need:

- [1] 1100 x 531mm 19mm SupaWood - top
- [2] 531 x 531mm 19mm SupaWood - leg panels
- [1] 1100 x 500mm 19mm SupaWood - back panel
- [2] 500mm bracket strips

Round head screws 4 x 17 mm

Flat head screws 4 x 40 mm

Sanding pads 120 – 240-grit

Wood filler

Roller for applying base coat, primer

Tools: Jigsaw, sander, drill, cordless screwdriver, wood drill bits, countersink bit

Here's how:

The desk top rests on two leg panels and is fastened to them with aluminium brackets. The rear panel fastened to the back of the desk is a decorative effect that also reinforces the desk structure.



1. The brackets used to connect the boards should be available in your DIY store. You can cut them to length using a jigsaw or hacksaw. Drill 4mm holes in the brackets. Countersink the holes on the inside of the brackets using the same countersink bit that you use for wood.

Now place one of the sides on the outer surface and position the bracket so it is flush with the upper edge. Mount the bracket in this position using the cordless screwdriver and screws (4x17). Follow the same procedure for the other leg panel.

Visit page 15 to view the construction diagram for this project.



2. Lay one of the leg panels with the attached bracket onto its front side on your work surface. Align the desk top with the relevant side panel on top of the leg panel. Using the screwdriver and screws (4x17), mount the leg panel. Once you have fastened the other leg panel, the desk is already complete without the rear panel, but not yet steady.
3. Using a pencil, draw the chevrons at the upper edge of the rear panel. Using a jigsaw, cut the pattern above the pencil line if possible. The more accurately you cut along the line, the less work you will have to do later with a wood file and sanding paper when straightening.
4. Now place the rear panel with its back face down on your work surface and align the rear edges of the desk on top. Using a pencil, trace the outline of the leg panels and the desk top on the rear panel. Remove the desk and predrill holes for fastening the screws in the centre of the outlines. Remember to countersink the holes on the back of the rear panel. Align the rear panel on top. Using the cordless screwdriver and screws (4x40), fit the rear panel to the desk.
5. Take time to prepare the surfaces so they are in the best working condition possible before starting assembly. Fill in the screw holes in the SupaWood surfaces on display using wood filler. Once dry, sand the area smooth using 120-grit sanding paper. Lightly sand all edges to create a small bevel. Use a sander and 180-grit sanding paper.
6. SupaWood is extremely absorbent. For this reason, apply a base coat or primer, and pay particular attention to the edges (i.e. apply several layers). Ideally, you should first paint the inner edges, then the outer edges and then finally the surfaces; working on these with even, parallel strokes. Use a foam roller for a smooth finish.



TIP FOR SCREWING TOGETHER TWO PIECES OF WOOD

IN THE PIECE WHERE YOU WANT TO INSERT THE SCREWS FIRST, ALWAYS PREDRILL A HOLE THAT IS 0.5 TO 1 MM LARGER THAN THE SCREW DIAMETER; THE HOLE SHOULD BE COUNTERSUNK FOR THE SCREW HEAD. IN THE PIECE THAT YOU ARE GOING TO DRILL SECOND, PREDRILL A HOLE THAT IS ALWAYS 1-MM SMALLER THAN THE SCREW DIAMETER.

This article is brought to you by Bosch Power Tools



BOSCH

working with supawood

SupaWood is perfect for all your DIY projects that involve a painted or faux finished surface.

painting supawood

As supawood is extremely porous, is important to prime the surface before painting. You can use any number of waterbased primers such as an acrylic primer, or a universal undercoat. This base coat of primer will reduce the amount of paint absorbed by the product and give the top coat a truer shade. The primer will also prevent a blotchy, uneven finish due to its porous surface.

When painting solid areas, paint brushes and foam paint rollers work well.

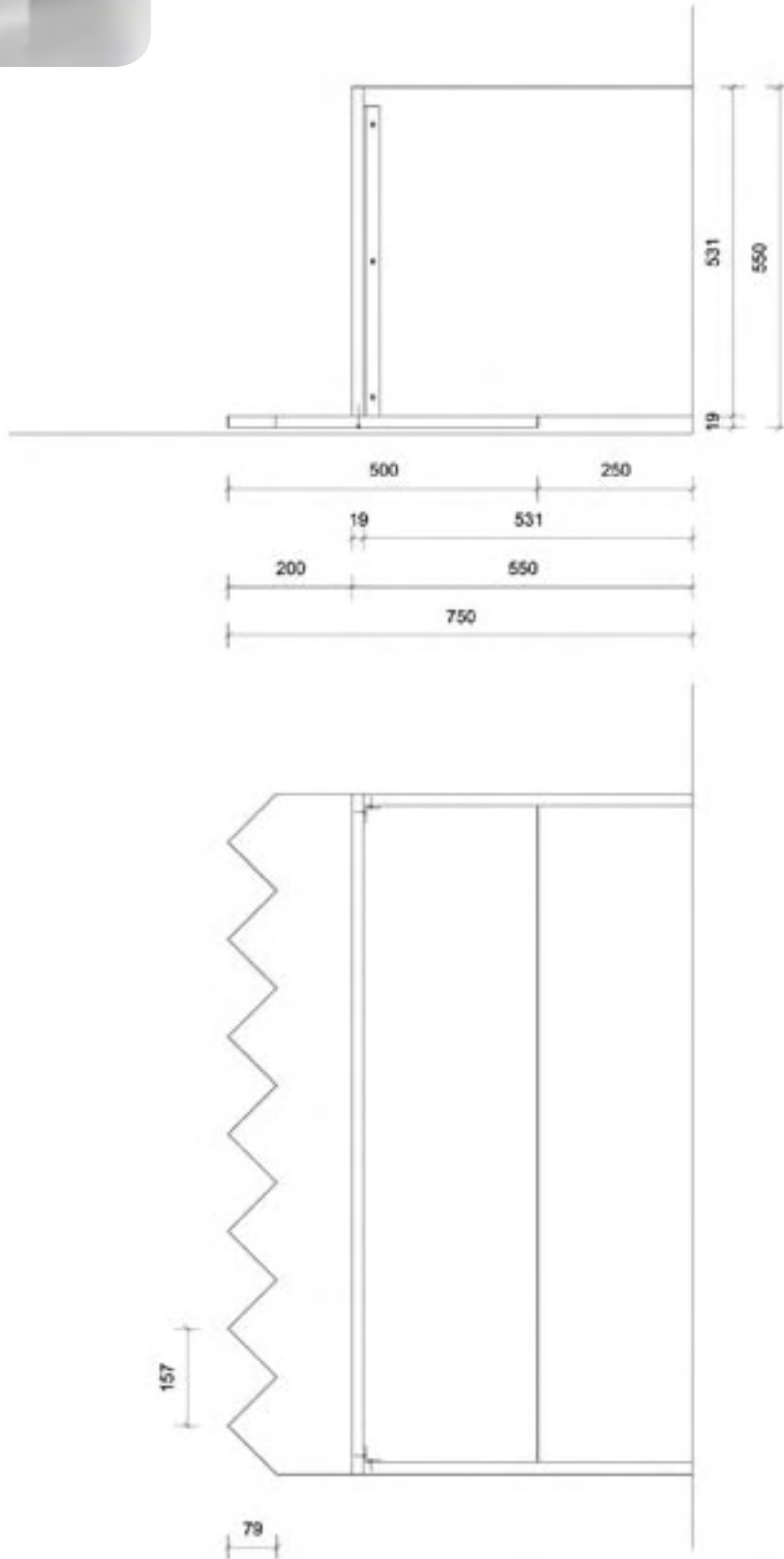
Best results are often obtained by applying two coats of paint and fine sanding the wood in between coats. Any acrylic, waterbased paint will suffice in painting a top coat.

Also, keep in mind that painting both sides of the supawood will help prevent bowing when the paint dries and offer additional protection against moisture.



Cutting Diagram for Child's Desk

Have all your timber cut to size and edged at your local Timbercity. It's very affordable and saves a lot of time and energy.



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