

HOW TO BUILD A DUCKBOAT

By EDSON I. SCHOCK

Sharp all over, including both ends, is this he-man's rugged duckboat. She is designed for building by the man who is interested more in hunting than in boatbuilding and hence is simplicity itself, using standard woods

ASSUMING that the owner of this craft will be more interested in duck shooting than in boatbuilding, she has been designed to be as simple as possible to build, yet to produce a boat that will have good stability and will row reasonably well.

Mold Loft Work

Make a full-size drawing of each frame, three in all.

Make a full-size drawing of the sides, right on the plywood sheet.

Preliminary Construction

Make up the six frames, two of each (she is the same at both ends). The side frames are riveted to the bottom frames and to the deck beams, and their corners are notched for the nailing strips, top and bottom. For added strength glue the joints.

Make the stem and sternpost. These, to avoid cutting a rabbet, are each made in two pieces. You will need the inner pieces first. Since both ends are the same you can make these parts double length and then cut them in two.

Framing and Planking

Cut the two side planks to the pattern, and fasten both of them to the stem. Mark the frame locations on the side planks and screw the frames to one of the sides. Screw and glue the sternpost to the same plank then bend the other side around, the same way you build a skiff, and fasten it to the sternpost, using glue and screws. Plane the ends of the boat smooth, and screw on the outer

stem and the sternpost pieces.

Slide the four $\frac{3}{4}$ " x $\frac{3}{4}$ " oak nailing strips into their notches and glue and screw them to the sides. Seven-eighths-inch screws $2\frac{1}{4}$ " apart will hold them. Screw them until the heads are flush with the planking. Plane the nailing strips so they are square across the bottom, using a straightedge across the boat to test them for flatness.

Mark the outline of the bottom and cut it to shape, then glue and screw it on, using $\frac{7}{8}$ " No. 8 screws, about $2\frac{1}{4}$ " apart.

Install the eyebolt in the stem.

Paint the boat two coats inside before fitting the deck.

Mark the deck by holding it in place and marking all around. Glue and screw the deck to the boat, in the same manner as the bottom.

Fit the coaming and screw it on.

Plane the edges of the deck and bottom. Paint the edges of the plywood with plywood sealer, and set the rubbing strips in white lead paste, screwing them all around, to protect the edges of the plywood.

Have the mill plane the floor boards to the required thickness, then plane and round the edges yourself and put them in.

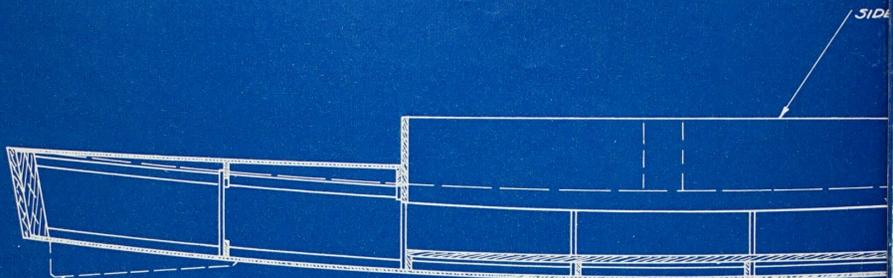
Put on the rowlocks. (Davis pattern is recommended as they cannot get lost.)

Paint the floor and deck with non-skid paint, and the outside with an inconspicuous color of yacht paint or a good deck paint, using three coats. Since she will not be kept in the water all the time, it is not necessary to use copper on her bottom. Copper paint rubs off easily, and is hard on clothes when you haul the boat out.

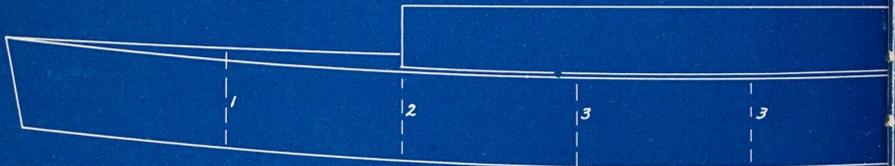
11'-3" DUCKBOAT					
ITEM	LUMBER MATERIAL	NO. PIECES REQ'D	SIZE IN INCHES	LENGTH	
STEM	OAK	1 1	2×4 1×2	19"	
FRAMES	SPRUCE		$\frac{5}{8} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{5}{8} \times 5$ $\frac{5}{8} \times 8$	20 LIN. FT.	
CHINES	OAK	2	$\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{3}{4}$	12'-0"	
RUBBING STRIP	OAK	5 2	$\frac{1}{2} \times 1$ $\frac{1}{2} \times 1$	12'-0" 10'-0"	
DECK	PLYWOOD	1	$\frac{3}{8} \times 4 \times 8$	12'-0"	
DECK BEAMS	SPRUCE		$\frac{5}{8} \times 4$	16 LIN. FT.	
FLOORING	SPRUCE	7	$\frac{5}{8} \times 4$	4'-6"	
COAMING	$\frac{1}{4}$ PLYWOOD W. PINE	2 2	$\frac{1}{4} \times 10$ $\frac{5}{8} \times 9$	4'-6" 2'-0"	
PLANKING	PLYWOOD	2 1	$\frac{3}{8} \times 8 \frac{3}{8}$ $\frac{3}{8} \times 4 \times 8$	12'-0" 12'-0"	

Any lumberyard can take this bill of materials and quickly figure cost of your boat.

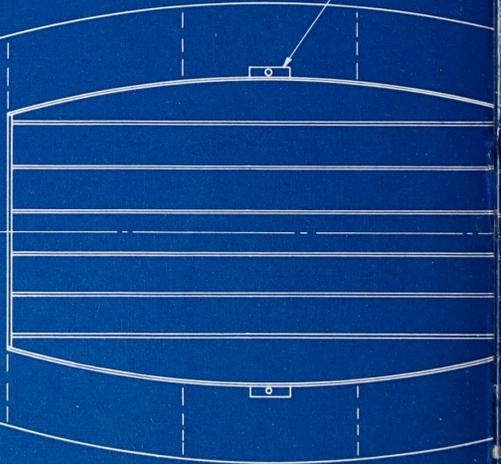
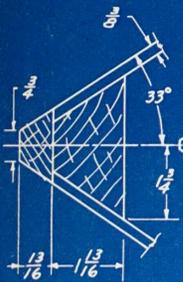
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A SMALL SKEG WILL MAKE IT EASIER TO ROW STRAIGHT, BUT IS IN THE WAY WHEN BOAT IS OUT OF WATER.

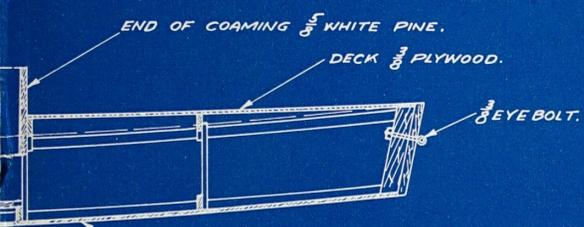


OAK BLOCK FOR ROWLOCK.



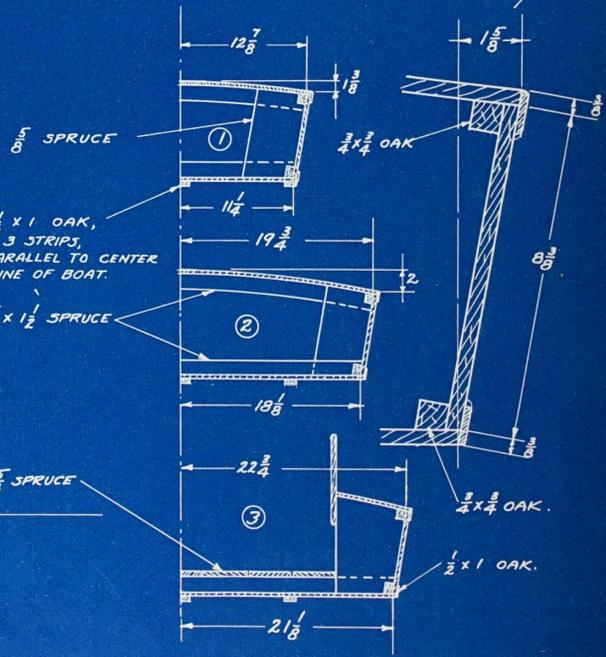


OF COAMING $\frac{1}{4}$ OR $\frac{3}{8}$ PLYWOOD.



SLOPE OF SIDES.
THIS DETAIL IS
THE SAME FOR ALL
FRAMES; SAME
SLOPE AND DIMENSIONS.

BOTTOM OF SIDE
PLANKING $\frac{3}{8}$ PLYWOOD.



-11'3" x 3'11" DUCK BOAT.-

