ALDO LEOPOLD BENCH

Aldo Leopold is an internationally recognized figure in wildlife conservation and pioneering author and philosopher on environmental ethics and land stewardship. Born and raised in southeastern Iowa on the bluffs of the Mississippi River in Burlington, Leopold’s land ethic was born from hundreds of hours of careful observation outdoors in Iowa, Wisconsin, the American southwest, and other natural landscapes. Surely many of those hours, especially those outside his family’s “shack” on the banks of the Wisconsin River, were spent on benches just like these, which similarly adorn the trails and fields of natural areas around the Midwest. This plan shows you how to create your own Aldo Leopold Bench where you can experience and enjoy nature. Situate your new bench in your favorite natural area or outdoor spot; visit it often with a book, binoculars, or camera; and enjoy the sights, sounds, and smells of nature.

SUPPLIES

1 45 inch 2x10
1 48 inch 2x6
1 10 foot 2x8
6 3 1/2"L 5/8" diameter carriage bolts, nuts, and washers
10 3" deck screws
Paint/stain (optional)

Circular saw
Drill with 9/32" bit
Tape measure
Straight edge

ASSEMBLY

1 Stain or paint wood pieces.

2 Assemble each leg by aligning the bottoms on a wall or other flat surface. Drill holes and connect A and B with three carriage bolts on each leg.

3 Mount the seat C connecting the legs with three deck screws on each side.

4 Mount the back D to the bench with two deck screws on each side.

CUT SHEET

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY Extension and Outreach

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