WORKBENCH: PROJECT LEVEL SILVER

The next most important thing in your shed after your Ryobi tools is a flat solid surface to work on – because every good shed needs a good workbench. We're talking sturdy square pine legs, a plywood top, and a handy lower shelf with a handy tool well built-in. Once you've got those bits sorted you can start accessorizing with things like a woodworking vice. And hey, since March is the beginning of the V8 Supercar series, why not chuck a telly on your workbench and tell your other half you're working in the shed.

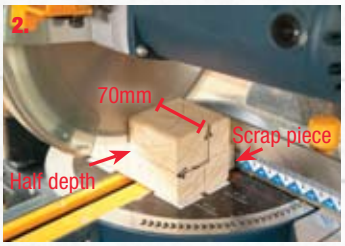
TOOLS YOU'LL NEED

WORKBENCH

PROJECT LEVEL SILVER

1. Marking out

Measure and mark a square line across two perpendicular faces 70mm down from the top of the leg. Set your combination square to 35mm and draw a parallel line to both faces.



2. First cut

Adjust the depth stop on the mitre saw to a depth of 35mm (half of leg thickness). **Ryobi's tip:** Place a scrap piece of timber, minimum 20mm thick, in between the leg and fence of the saw. This will produce a flat-bottomed saw cut. Make the saw cut across the face.

3. Second cut

Rotate the leg 90 degrees and repeat the cross cut on this face without making any adjustments to depth of cut. (Ensure you pull the saw fully out and then make the cut by pushing the saw forward into the material).

4. Remove the waste

Carefully saw along the waste side of the line down to the 70mm crosscut. A good sharp hardpoint saw will make your life a lot easier while making this cut. Secure the leg in a vice or clamped to a bench. Repeat this process for all four legs. See project steps 4 for an alternate method.

5. Rails

Measure and cut side rails, end rails and leg supports to length. Both ends of each piece are mitred. This is best done on your mitre saw. Ensure the material is securely clamped prior to cutting.

6. End frame assembly

Attach legs to the end rails by gluing and screwing through the leg spigot with two 65 x 8g screws. Ensure the outer face of the spigot is flush with the inside of the mitre. Insert one screw, check for square, then insert the second screw. Glue and screw leg supports 150mm up from bottom of leg.

MATERIAL LIST

MATERIAL	SIZE (MM)	NO.	UNIT COST	TOTAL COST
Pine	1800 x 70 x 70	2	18.53	37.06
Pine	2400 x 70 x 35	3	4.50	13.50
Pine	1800 x 67 x 19	1	4.56	4.56
Pine	2400 x 42 x 19	2	3.02	6.04
BC Plywood	1200 x 900 x 17	1		
	900 x 600 x 17	1		
Bullet head nails	40 x 1.6	pkt 150	3.78	3.78
Wood screws	65 x 10 gauge	pkt 100	9.85	9.85
Total				

CUTTING LIST

ITEM	MATERIAL	SIZE L x W x T	NO.
Legs	Pine	850 x 70 x 70	4
Side rails	Pine	1000 x 70 x 35	2
End rails		700 x 70 x 35	2
Centre rail		790 x 70 x 35	1
Leg supports		700 x 70 x 35	2
Tool well - ends	Pine	200 x 67 x 19	2
-sides	Pine	650 x 67 x 19	2
Worktop lipping	Pine	1045 x 42 x 19	2
	Pine	745 x 42 x 19	2
Top	BC plywood	1005 x 705 x 17	1
Lower shelf	BC plywood	860 x 560 x 17	1
Tool well base	BC plywood	690 x 200 x 17	1

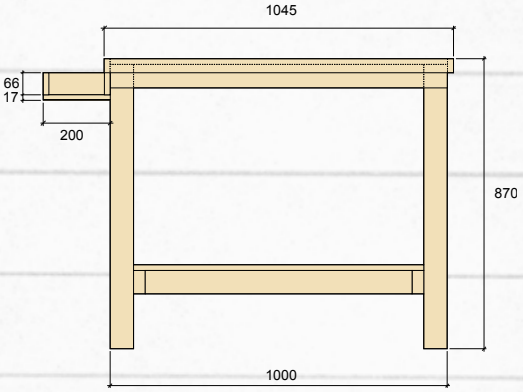
TOOL LIST

Cordless drill driver
Mitre saw
Hammer
Tape measure
3 and 5mm drill bits
Combination square
F clamps
Random orbit sander-
Wood glue
PPE (personal protective equipment)

WORKBENCH

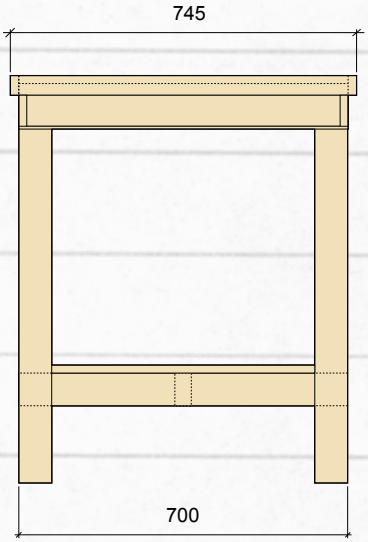
7. Assembly

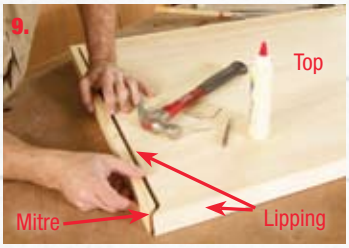
Apply wood glue to both mitres and spigot. Screw into the side rail from the inside of the leg with one 65 x 8g screw. Drill a 5mm clearance hole through the spigot prior to screwing. Repeat this process for opposite side rail.



8. Centre rail

Measure the mid-way point of the leg supports and drill two 5mm clearance holes. Hold the centre rail in position and attach with two 65 x 8g screws. Repeat the same process for the opposite end.





9. A neat finish

Mitre the ends of the lipping material and attach to edge of top by gluing and nailing with 40mm x 1.8 bullethead nails. Punch the head of the nail below the surface. **Ryobi's tip:** Leave the top edge of the lipping slightly proud of the surface of the worktop. This will allow for flushing off with the sander.