How to Make a Slit Drum

Instructions

1. Cut two pieces of wood to the same length. The width and thickness depend on the size of the drum you want to make. The wood should be of a type that produces tones, because they are identical length, but they will not produce the same sound. You can use mahogany or cherry, for example.

2. Drill evenly spaced holes 2 1/2 inches in from each short edge. A four-tongued drum would require six holes. Six-tongued, eight holes, and so on. Depending on the size of the drum, you may want to space the holes closer together or farther apart. The more closely spaced the holes are, the shorter the tongue will be. If you are using an 18-inch-long piece of wood with 6 inches wide and 5 inches tall, the holes can be spaced 3 inches apart. Measure and mark guidelines for the tongue locations before you start drilling.

3. Draw straight lines from the center of each hole to the outer edge of the drum. These lines should be parallel to the top of the drum. Use a long straight edge and a sharp pencil to draw the lines. If you use a yardstick or another straight edge, you may need to mark guidelines using a ruler as a guide. If you don't have a yardstick, you can use a long piece of wood to draw the lines. Make sure the lines are straight and level. The tongue should be cut to the same length as the hole, so you may want to mark guidelines for the tongue locations on the straight edge as well.

4. Use a scroll saw to cut out tongues from the wood. You can also use a jigsaw or a coping saw. The tongues should be cut to the same length as the holes. The tongue should be cut to the same length as the hole, so you may want to mark guidelines for the tongue locations on the straight edge as well.

5. Carefully round off the tongues before you stain the wood or attach the top piece to the assembled box. You can use a hand-held saw to round off the tongues. You may want to use a hand-held saw to round off the tongues. You can use a hand-held saw to round off the tongues.

6. After the tongue is cut, the next step is to assemble the box. First, you need to screw the two pieces of wood together. Make sure the tongue is secured in place. The tongue should be cut to the same length as the hole, so you may want to mark guidelines for the tongue locations on the straight edge as well.

7. After the tongue is cut, the next step is to assemble the box. First, you need to screw the two pieces of wood together. Make sure the tongue is secured in place. The tongue should be cut to the same length as the hole, so you may want to mark guidelines for the tongue locations on the straight edge as well.

8. After the tongue is cut, the next step is to assemble the box. First, you need to screw the two pieces of wood together. Make sure the tongue is secured in place. The tongue should be cut to the same length as the hole, so you may want to mark guidelines for the tongue locations on the straight edge as well.

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