Picnic Table

This plan makes a table that features separate benches for unencumbered leg room and ample seating for six to eight adults. The half-lap joints on the legs are easy to create and add a touch of elegance. An easy weekend project, this set will soon become the central gathering point for your backyard.

This plan calls for a table six feet wide, but you can play with the dimensions until you come up with the length and depth you want. Keep the leg lengths the same, but be aware that a table much bigger than this may require use of 2 x 6 legs, and longer benches may require more support – perhaps just another set of legs, braces and cleat in the middle.

BUILD TIME

Cutting parts: 1 – 2 hours
Assembly: 1 – 2 hours
Finishing: 3 – 5 hours
Total: 5 – 9 hours

*Note: Drill pilot holes for all screws
Picnic Table

**TABLE**

**DIMENSIONS**

30" h x 72" l x 34 ¼" w

**TOOLS**

Miter saw or circular saw
Drill/driver
½" drill bit at least 5" long
1" dia. spade or forstner bit
#8 countersink bit (or size appropriate for the screws you are using)
Socket wrench
Combination square
Wood chisel
Damp rag to wipe up excess glue

**SUPPLIES**

(3) 2 x 6 x 12'
(3) 2 x 4 x 8'
(4) ¼" x 3 ½" galvanized carriage bolts
(2) ¾" x 4 ½" galvanized carriage bolts
(6) ¾" galvanized cut washers and nuts
3" deck screws
4" deck screws
Waterproof wood glue

**TABLE CUT LIST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part</th>
<th>Qty.</th>
<th>Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Top Slats</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2 x 6 x 72&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B Cleats</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 x 4 x 33&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Legs</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2 x 4 x 33 ¼&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D Braces</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 x 4 x 24&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Picnic Table

BENCHED (2)

DIMENSIONS

18" h x 72" l x 11 ¼" w

TOOLS

Miter saw or circular saw
Drill/driver
¼" drill bit at least 5" long
1" dia. spade or forstner bit
#8 countersink bit (or size appropriate for the screws you are using)
Socket wrench
Combination square
Wood chisel
Damp rag to wipe up excess glue

SUPPLIES (FOR 2 BENCHES)

(2) 2 x 6 x 12'
(3) 2 x 4 x 8'
(8) ¼" x 3 ½" galvanized carriage bolts
(4) ¼" x 4 ½" galvanized carriage bolts
(12) ¼" galvanized cut washers and nuts
3" deck screws
4" deck screws
Waterproof wood glue

BENCH CUT LIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part</th>
<th>Qty.</th>
<th>Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Top Slats</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2 x 6 x 72&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B Cleats</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2 x 4 x 11 ½&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Legs</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2 x 4 x 18 ¼&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D Braces</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2 x 4 x 15 ½&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BUILDING STEPS

01 Cut all pieces to dimension according to cut lists. For all top slats (A), simply cut two 6-foot lengths from each 12-foot piece of 2 x 6. You’ll want to square both mill-cut ends by trimming ¼” or less from each end before making your measurements and cutting them in half (you should have enough to end up with two 6-foot lengths). On the cleats (B), trim the bottom outside corners off with a simple 45° cut 1” in from the outside edges. For the legs (C), note that lengths are measured from the long points of the parallel angle cuts. For the braces (D), lengths are measured from the long points of the opposite 45° angles. See illustration for more detail.

02 The following assembly steps are identical for both benches and the table. Place legs (C) on an assembly table with their “feet” braced against a square surface (temporary stop block, for instance) and their centers roughly one on top of the other. Spread the legs until you get a measurement of 16 ½” from the top to bottom for the bench legs (28 ½” for the table) and trace on both legs where they intersect.

03 Set your circular saw or miter saw to a depth of ¾” and make several passes between your tracing of the leg intersection and carefully clean out the waste with a sharp chisel to create the half-lap joints. Dry fit and re-measure to make sure everything fits snugly and the “feet” remain square and the correct distance from the tops.

04 Place your slats (A) face side down on your assembly table and insert ¼” spacers between them. Make sure the ends are flush and clamp the slats together. Place cleats (B) 8” in from slat ends and mark locations for pilot holes where the screws will catch the meat of your slats. Drill pilot holes and countersinks and connect with glue and 4” deck screws.

*Note* The steps for building the table and benches are exactly the same. The following instructions are for both assemblies, with differences in measurements noted.
picnic table

building steps

05 Center your dry-fit leg assembly on the cleat and drill ½" pilot holes through both and attach with 3 ½" carriage bolts.

06 Fit the brace (D) between the leg assembly and slat bottoms, making sure the legs remain square to the slats. Toe-screw the brace to the underside of the slats and drill a ⅜" pilot hole through the brace where the legs intersect, countersinking the pilot hole on the brace to provide a flat surface for the washer and nut of your 4 ½" carriage bolt.

07 Sand all edges and surfaces smooth, finish with a waterproofing finish of your choice, place in your favorite picnic spot in your yard, and gather friends and family!
FASTENER AND HARDWARE INFORMATION SHEET

For interior or exterior applications
Use fasteners and hardware that are in compliance with the manufacturer’s recommendations and the building codes for their intended use. As with any good design and construction practices, treated wood should not be used in applications where trapped moisture or water can occur. Where design and/or actual conditions allow for constant, repetitive or long periods of wet conditions, only stainless steel fasteners should be used.

For exterior applications
The following minimum galvanization levels may be used for connectors, joist hangers, fasteners and other hardware that are placed in direct contact with exterior applications of micrized copper treated wood:

- **Fasteners** - nails, screws, etc.
  ASTM – A 153 (1 oz/ft²)
- **Hardware** - connectors, joist hangers, etc.
  ASTM – A 653 G90 (0.90 oz/ft²)

The effects of other building materials within a given assembly, along with environmental factors, should also be considered when selecting the appropriate hardware and fasteners to use for a given project containing treated wood.

Stainless Steel fasteners and hardware are required for Permanent Wood Foundations below grade and are recommended for use with treated wood in other severe exterior applications such as swimming pools, salt water exposure, etc. - Type 304 and 316 are recommended grades to use.

Aluminum building products may be placed in direct contact with YellaWood® brand products used for interior uses and above ground exterior applications such as decks, fencing, and landscaping projects. Examples of aluminum products include siding, roofing, gutters, door and window trim, flashing, nails, fasteners and other hardware connectors. However, direct contact of treated products and aluminum building products should be limited to code-compliant construction applications that provide proper water drainage and do not allow the wood to be exposed to standing water or water immersion.

We recommend you contact the aluminum building products manufacturer for its recommendations regarding use of its aluminum products in contact with treated wood in ground contact applications or when exposed to salt water, brackish water, or chlorinated water, such as swimming pools or hot tubs.

Also check with the aluminum building products manufacturer regarding compatibility with other chemicals and cleaning agents and the use of their aluminum products in commercial, industrial, and specialty applications such as boat construction.

YellaWood® brand pressure treated products are treated with copper and other preservatives (the “Preservatives”) and preservative methods, systems, and technologies of unrelated third parties. For details regarding the Preservatives, methods, systems, and technologies used by Great Southern Wood Preserving, Incorporated, see http://www.greatsouthernwood.com/products/yellawood or write us at P. O. Box 610, Abbeville, AL 36310. Ask dealer for warranty details or visit http://www.greatsouthernwood.com/products/warranties. For important handling and other information concerning our products or for a copy of the YellaWood® brand Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS), please visit us at www.greatsouthernwood.com or write us at P.O. Box 610, Abbeville, AL 36310. YellaWood® and the yellow tag are federally registered trademarks of Great Southern Wood Preserving, Incorporated.

Great Southern Wood Preserving, Incorporated makes no warranties expressed or implied as to the fitness for a particular purpose of this plan.
IMPORTANT INFORMATION

• Consult the end tag to determine which preservative or preservative system was used in the treatment of that particular product. YellaWood® brand products may be used in direct contact with aluminum building products when limited to code-compliant construction applications that provide proper water drainage and do not allow the wood to be exposed to standing water or water immersion.
• Use fasteners and other hardware that are in compliance with building codes for the intended use.
• Do not burn preserved wood.
• Wear a dust mask and goggles when cutting or sanding wood.
• Wear gloves when working with wood.
• Some preservative may migrate from the treated wood into soil/water or may dislodge from the treated wood surface upon contact with skin.
• Wash exposed skin areas thoroughly.
• All sawdust and construction debris should be cleaned up and disposed of after construction.
• Wash work clothes separately from other household clothing before reuse.
• Preserved wood should not be used where it may come into direct or indirect contact with drinking water, except for uses involving incidental contact such as fresh water docks and bridges.
• Do not use preserved wood under circumstances when the preservative may become a component of food, animal feed or beehives.
• Do not use preserved wood as mulch.
• Only preserved wood that is visibly clean and free of surface residue should be used.
• If the wood is to be used in an interior application and becomes wet during construction, it should be allowed to dry before being covered or enclosed.
• If you desire to apply a paint, stain, clear water repellent or other finish to your preservative-treated wood, we recommend following the manufacturer’s instructions and label of the finishing product. Before you start, we recommend you apply the finishing product to a small exposed test area before finishing the entire project to ensure it provides the intended result before proceeding.
• Mold growth can and does occur on the surface of many products, including untreated and treated wood, during prolonged surface exposure to excessive moisture conditions. To remove mold from the treated wood surface, wood should be allowed to dry. Typically, mild soap and water can be used to remove remaining surface mold. For more information visit www.epa.gov
• Projects should be designed and installed in accordance with federal, state and local building codes and ordinances governing construction in your area, and in accordance with the National Design Specifications (NDS) and the Wood Handbook.

Disposal Recommendations:
Preserved wood may be disposed of in landfills or burned in commercial or industrial incinerators or boilers in accordance with federal, state and local regulations.